

THE EXAMINER.

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THE POLITICAL EXAMINER.

If I might give a short hint to an impartial writer it would be to tell him his fate. If he resolved to venture upon the dangerous precipice of telling unbiassed truth let him proclaim war with mankind—neither to give nor to take quarter. If he tells the crimes of great men they fall upon him with the iron hands of the law; if he tells them of virtues, when they have any, then the mob attacks him with slander. But if he regards truth, let him expect martyrdom on both sides, and then he may go on fearlessly; and this is the course I take myself.—D^r Fox.

MR D'ISRAELI'S EXPLANATIONS.

Mr D'Israeli, like Mercutio, "will speak more in a minute than he can stand to in a month." It is curious to observe how with every fresh explanation the famous Slough speech dwindles away, becoming fine by degrees and beautifully less.

At Slough Mr D'Israeli dwelt eloquently upon the perils past from which his matchless Ministry had saved the country. He gave the Bucks farmers to understand that Lord Palmerston's Government had brought us to the brink of a war with France, and that the preservation of peace was solely and wholly owing to the change of Ministry. Upon this revelation people naturally asked, Can such things be and pass like a summer cloud? Questioned in the House of Commons, however, by Lord John Russell, the Chancellor of the Exchequer referred Lord John to Lord Palmerston for the verification of his statement, and as a corroborative fact, adverted to Lord Palmerston's refusal to answer the question raised by Mr Griffiths, whether Government had required the publication in the *Moniteur* of the Imperial note of apology for the insults of the French colonels? This, together with the departure of the French Ambassador from London, argued, according to Mr D'Israeli, relations with France approaching the worst extremities. Now what was the effect of Lord Palmerston's reply to Mr Griffiths? We remember it well, for we were so much struck with its impropriety and insolence that we made it the subject of remark. The First Minister put it to the House whether it was its pleasure to disturb the friendly relations subsisting with France, and to substitute a spirit of irritation and bitterness. The speech was rude to the questioner, and as regarded the House, which had nothing to do with Mr Griffiths's inquiry, it was uncalled for and overbearing, but that is the worst that can be said of it. Nothing was implied in it to excite alarm. It asserted the existence of a state of amity, and deprecated any disturbance of it. Mr D'Israeli imagines indeed that Lord Palmerston refused to answer the question because war might be the consequence. He expressly refused to answer the question because questions of such a nature were calculated to produce irritation, and to ruffle the good understanding subsisting. He might have done the thing more courteously and respectfully to the House we readily agree, but such and no more than what we have stated was the effect of the words in which Mr D'Israeli's penetration discerned grim-visaged war.

But that is not all. The French Ambassador left London. Was not that a sign and portent. He left, however, only to return, and he did not finally take his departure till after the installation of Lord Derby's Ministry, when he found his expectations disappointed of the passing of the Conspiracy Bill.

The upshot of explanation No. 1 was thus—that the late Administration had left the question of peace or war with France an affair of hours, that Lord Palmerston was conscious that such was the case, and that the facts mentioned corroborated the charge. This did well enough for one night, but it would not serve for more; and when Lord Palmerston came forward with his testimony as to the relations with France it became necessary to change the defence of the Slough speech.

Explanation No. 2 entirely reverses the postures of the two Ministries as to the danger of war. It was the coming in of the present Ministry which brought with it the peril of war. The late Government had been all subservient to France, and compliant with its behests, but when men were taken into her Majesty's counsels who were determined to uphold the dignity and independence of the country, the consequence was a disappointment to the expectations of the Imperial Court, rendering it difficult to maintain relations of peace and amity. Now there is some truth in this view of the circumstances. We always felt, and expressed our opinion, that Lord Derby's Ministry was placed in some difficulty by the concessions proposed by its predecessors, and interdicted by the higher spirit of the country. But why did not Mr D'Israeli plainly tell his hearers at Slough this truth, instead of mystifying them with the notion that Lord Palmerston's Government had driven matters almost to the pass of war? He might fairly have claimed some praise for dealing with a difficulty incidental to the incoming of his Government without the show of concession agreeable to the Imperial Court; but this would not content him, and he must describe the late Ministry as having brought the country to the verge of the greatest calamity that could befall it, and his Government as having saved it. But what was the next step of the new Ministry? It had been brought into power

by a vote intimating that less than enough had been done to uphold the dignity of the country, and more than enough proposed to propitiate the ill temper of France; it was therefore compelled, *bon gré mal gré*, to drop the Conspiracy Bill, but it committed the fault nearest to it in that direction by prosecuting Bernard on the charge of felony, doubtless thinking that the proceeding for the graver offence would be accepted by the Imperial Court as proof of a zeal surpassing that of the previous Ministry, satisfied with proceedings for the minor offence of misdemeanour. The thing failed, as every lawyer with a particle of judgment knew it must fail, and the consequences of the failure are yet to be seen, laid up as they are in the mind of France, whether antagonistic or friendly to the existing régime. The feeling of England upon the Spanish marriages had great part in working out the downfall of Louis Philippe, as we now all well know, and the day may not be distant when a connection may be as traceable between the elation at Bernard's acquittal and another event.

Lord Derby assigns the main merit for the preservation of peace to the Emperor, but if his wisdom has averted a rupture, should not Mr D'Israeli's often-expressed reliance on that wisdom have prevented him from ever thinking it possible that the question of peace or war could be one, not of weeks or days, but of hours? If the Emperor's prudence be the security for peace, why did Mr D'Israeli ever think war so near? But the Emperor's wisdom might and should have excluded all out of which arose questions tending to the estrangement of the two nations. To the repressive policy which came of the terror of Orsini's bombs all the troubles with which we have had to do are referable. The praise assigned to the Emperor now most ominously resembles the strained encomiums that used to be passed on Louis Philippe for his cleverness in getting out of difficulties which his cleverness had not prevented his getting into. Louis Philippe's wisdom was the standing subject of panegyric in our Parliament with both sides of the Houses, Whigs, Tories, and Radicals vying with each other in straining their commendations, till Mr Smith landed at New-haven, when all his glorious attributes vanished like the fabric of a dream. The French Emperor may deserve all the praise Lord Derby awards him for not urging his demands on this country, but his wisdom would have shown itself greater still if he had never made such demands at all, nor had adopted the intolerable coercive system in France out of which they have branched—excess of interference and encroachment at home generating excess of interference and encroachment abroad.

Mr D'Israeli's boast of having triumphantly redressed the wrongs of our two countrymen unjustly incarcerated at Naples is now reduced to this, that nothing more than the principal thing, the compensation, remains to be effected. So when the Magnifico in the *Cenerentola* is endeavouring to introduce his daughter's splay foot into the glass slipper, he exultingly cries out, "It is done! it is done! all but the heel." And the Cagliari affair is triumphantly settled, all but the heel—all but the substantial redress.

Mr Kinglake, too, shows unanswerably that the Ministry would have trod servilely in its predecessor's steps in this affair if it had not been urged on to a more vigorous and decided line of action by the House of Commons.

The assertion that the Government substituted a policy of clemency for one of confiscation and massacre in India is the last subject of explanation. Certainly the direct implication was that Lord Canning's system had been one of spoliation and indiscriminate slaughter, but the explanation reduces the charge to this, that the forfeitures proposed in Oude might provoke a resentment tending to massacre. Strange it is, if such was the meaning, that a master of language like Mr D'Israeli should have talked of putting an end to a system which had not had a beginning, confiscation having only been in contemplation, and not a single act of it having occurred when the secret despatch was penned.

Sir John Pakington deprecated wasting the time of the public in disputing the statements in Mr D'Israeli's speech. He thought it strange and unreasonable that the late Ministers were not content to remain passive and silent under the imputations cast upon them. Why, indeed, should they value their characters more than the public time? "Down, wantons, down! said the wench to the eels, when she put them i' the paste alive and rapped 'em 'o' the coxcombs."

But truth is of some value as well as time, and it was of no little importance to a commercial community, whose first interest is the security of peace, that it should not go forth to the world that the country had had a narrow escape of war without any suspicion of its danger.

Mr D'Israeli sticks to the Cabal, and let him have the full use and enjoyment of it. The Cabal should be the word for every occasion. Whenever the Government is outvoted the Cabal should be at the bottom of the division. If the country be appealed to, it should be against the Cabal which haunts Cambridge House. A Cabal is a frightful thing, a monster of most hideous mien. A Cabal is a sort of vampire, a dead Ministry which has not the

decency to rest in its grave, but rises to circumvent its honest successors, and to suck their life-blood. It is shocking that such things should be suffered in a Christian land, and it is to be hoped that some country member will bring in a bill to put down the Cabal in common with other less dangerous societies. The Cabal is no airy nothing, wanting a local habitation and a name. A name it has, and as bad as one as ever hanged a dog, and for its local habitation it lives in Piccadilly, where a search warrant would be sure to find it.

The Cabal ought to be everything to the Ministry. It should stand in lieu of principles, policy, a majority, what not. It should be to the Chancellor of the Exchequer what the sham fire at Wolf's Crag was to his prototype in shifts, the ingenious Caleb Balderstone. "This fire, besides that it will be an excuse for asking any thing we want through the country, or down at the haven—this fire will settle many things on an honourable footing for the family's credit, that cost me telling twenty daily lees to a when idle chaps and queans, and what's waur, without gaining credence. Guide the fire weel, and it will serve ye for a' that ye suld have and have not,—and, in some sort, a gude excuse is better than the things themselves, for they maun crack and wear out, and be consumed by time, whereas a gude off come, prudently handled, may serve a nobleman and his family, Lord kens how lang!"

So we counsel Mr D'Israeli to guide the Cabal well, and it will serve for all he should have and have not, which is much indeed, and save figments like those of Slough out of number.

DOUBLE GOVERNMENT IN THE ARMY.

The majority of Tuesday night in favour of Captain Vivyan's motion, although small, in a small house, is an event of the greatest significance. It was opposed, of course, with the whole Conservative force of the Government, with their usual brilliant success. The resolution, which the gallant mover introduced with a speech of great ability, acknowledged the improvements that have already been made in the army on the principle of consolidation. It recited that the offices of the Ordnance, Commissariat, and Secretary-at-War had been incorporated together, to the advantage of the service; and recommended that, to carry out still further the same policy, the Horse-Guards and the Department of the Secretary of State for War should be placed under the control of one responsible Minister. Captain Vivyan admitted that, at the period of the war, it would not have been prudent to have carried consolidation further than it was then carried; but even at that time it was strongly felt that the double government of the War Minister and the Commander-in-Chief was a system to which the most serious objections existed. It was felt—and the following few words contain in fact the substance of the argument—that they were leaving two great functionaries in such a position as necessarily to create and perpetuate rivalries between them—one a civilian, the other a soldier, both of them obtaining their authority directly from the Crown, but one of them responsible to that House for his acts, while the other was nominally responsible to the Crown, but virtually irresponsible.

Hence a necessary confusion of functions and jumbling up of duties, with no other security for harmonious operation than the casual terms of cordiality happening to exist between the heads of the rival departments. Ought the efficiency of our army, involved in that of its administration, to rest upon a basis like this? It is observable that nobody in the debate went the length of contending for the absolute independence of the Horse-Guards; but it was said that, in point of fact, or in a sort of a way, the machinery worked satisfactorily; that the Horse-Guards and the War Minister got on tolerably well together, and what more could the public want? General Peel, who while an independent member of the House had a clear perception of the evils in question, appears to have satisfied himself by his short official experience that those evils are more imaginary than real. All that he said, however, told as strongly as possible against his vote. He told the House that his patent did, "in a general way, clearly lay down the duties and responsibilities of the department over which he presided;" that "those of the Commander-in-Chief were laid down with equal precision and clearness in the instrument of his appointment;" he never found "any difficulty in learning what his responsibilities and functions were;" and to crown all, "he was almost every day in personal communication with the Duke of Cambridge, and nothing had occurred to produce any differences between them."

Now to our understandings this is very like a surrender of the whole argument; for not only is the division of responsibility confessed, but the purely personal and flimsy guarantee for the concert of the two functionaries, so indispensable to the public interests, is admitted also. No doubt it is of great moment, as long as the system lasts, that there should be no bickerings between the Horse-Guards and the War Office; but when we are told that the well-working of the system, of

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the efficiency of the army, depends entirely or chiefly upon the heads of the two departments being on friendly terms, let nobody attempt to persuade us that in such a case as this two heads are better than one.

There would still be a Commander-in-Chief if the resolution adopted by the House were carried out in practice; and the control and discipline of the army would be in his province; but he would no longer occupy the position of a great officer, holding directly under the Crown, and irresponsible to Parliament; for as to the existing responsibility, it is a mere name. Mr Sidney Herbert's argument against the resolution was that, in fact, the Secretary for War was omnipotent at present. "In what respect," he asked, "was his authority incomplete?" But if this is to be received, what becomes of the importance attached by General Peel, as well as by Lord Palmerston, to the existence of cordial relations between the War Minister and Commander-in-Chief? It signifies nothing to the public on what terms the Secretary of State for the Colonies, for example, may happen to be with the Under-Secretaries for his department. And why? Because the authority of the Secretary is complete in the latter instance; because there are not two responsibilities, but one responsibility. And the personal consideration would be equally a matter of indifference in the department of War, only that the authority of the War Minister is far from being so complete as Mr Herbert represents it. That completeness, however, is all that Captain Vivyan's motion seeks. The state of things Mr Sidney Herbert considers as existing in substance, the effect of the resolution would be to reduce to form. "He simply wished," said the gallant mover in his reply, "to place the Commander-in-Chief before the public in the position which the right honourable gentleman said he now held; and if in reality he did not hold that position, then it was for the House to say whether he should or not."

How very different the situation of the Commander-in-Chief in reality is, the speech of General Peel abundantly showed. The truth we believe to be, and there is not a day that something does not occur to prove it, that so far from the War Minister ruling the Horse-Guards, the Horse-Guards governs the War Minister, to an extent most prejudicial to the army, and most detrimental to the public. The great officer of the Court, responsible directly and only to the Crown, possesses only too much power over the great officer of the people, responsible to them through the Commons. It is certainly a possibility, in the present state of the matter, that the Horse-Guards might be controlled by a Secretary of State of extraordinary energy, with a sufficient dash of the democratic spirit in his character; but the possibility is a bare one, and even if the phenomenon were to be witnessed, it would leave the argument against the system unimpaired.

Mr Disraeli subsequently stated that it is not the intention of the Government to act upon the decision to which the House came on Tuesday. The question, however, will not be allowed to sleep; and we have no doubt the House will on a future occasion reaffirm by a more commanding majority the principles laid down by Captain Vivyan.

SURRENDER ON THE JEW QUESTION.

There is nothing so constant as man,—as long as he sticks to his resolutions. When Benedict swore he would die a bachelor, "he did not think he would live to be married;" so when Lord Derby vowed he would keep the Jews out of Parliament, he never dreamed of living to let them in. Ministerial irresolution, however, is an excellent thing under such a government as the present. As long as great principles advance steadily, it is comparatively a trifling evil to see the character of statesmanship lowered in the persons of her Majesty's servants. We are very sincerely glad to see that the cause of religious liberty is in a fair way to another conquest in the removal of the Jewish disabilities. Had the proceedings in the House of Lords on Monday last taken place a week before, they would have afforded Mr D'Israeli another jubilant passage for his Slough speech; he would have assuredly claimed another victory for his party; taken credit for the defeat as a triumph; and amidst shouting rustics and rattling beer-cups demanded who after all were the real friends of freedom of conscience?

This mountebank trick, however, remains to be played during the long vacation; it is among the humbugs in reserve for another great day in Bucks, and will tell all the better after the surrender has been ratified by Act of Parliament. Mr D'Israeli will indeed have no small personal share in the glory of the achievement to brag of; he can be no more taunted with neglecting his race; nay, he may liken himself to Moses leading them out of Egyptian bondage, where we devoutly believe Lord Derby, unincumbered with a Hebrew Chancellor of the Exchequer, would have left them till doomsday.

The object of Lord Lucan's amendment was to give both Houses the power of admitting the Jews, by legalising the resolution of either to dispense with the words now excluding persons of that persuasion. This would answer the purpose of the moment, but would obviously not be a satisfactory mode of settling the question, for it would only open the doors of one House of Parliament, and not even those absolutely. The proposal, however, had its value as the first note of retreat. Lord Stanhope, candidly referring to his own former prominence as an opponent of the Jewish claims, commenced an excellent speech by observing—

That when upon a former occasion a Bill similar to the present had been under discussion it was upon his motion that the decisive vote against the admission of Jews to a seat in the Legislature had been taken. Looking, however, to all that had within the last few years occurred, he felt bound to state that, although several of the objections which he had upon the occasion to which he alluded entertained to any such proposal remained still undiminished, yet that his views with respect to the policy of continuing to resist the admission of members of the Jewish persuasion to Parliament were no longer the same.

Lord Stanhope disapproved of the solution proposed: but sensibly determined to be guided as to his vote by the great authority of Lord Lyndhurst.

Lord Derby and Lord Malmesbury were the Ministers who spoke in the debate. The Prime Minister made a vain attempt to conceal his intention to fall back under a shroud of obscure language. Thick as the cloud is, however, the forces of bigotry can be seen in full retreat through the midst of it.

The question, then, arises whether there is any solution of the question to be found. My noble and gallant friend has brought forward a resolution which, although I see that it is open to great and serious objections, I shall not advise your lordships hastily or without full consideration to reject. It has been suggested by a noble and learned lord that proceeding by resolution is not unconstitutional, provided such resolution is founded upon the provisions of an Act of Parliament. I am not altogether prepared to deny the principle thus laid down, but at the same time, before your lordships adopt such a proposition, you should weigh carefully the precedent you will be laying down. It may be, and I think it is, a very obvious and plausible solution of the difficulty, and I do not say I altogether reject it without fuller consideration.

The public will consider Lord Malmesbury's manlier declarations more worthy of a statesman in a dilemma between private consistency and public exigencies.

I have not altered my opinion with respect to the main point at issue; but I am bound to confess that I have for some time thought we were approaching one of those important and solemn moments in our political history, when the principle for which we have so long battled is not all we must consider, but that we must look, however low that ground may be, to the facts of the case, and to the circumstances of the time. It is impossible not to feel persuaded that sooner or later—and rather soon than late—this question will be settled by the admission of Jews to Parliament. What course, then, is it my duty as an independent member of Parliament to take? I desire that the contest which has been carried on for so long a time between the two Houses should close in a manner satisfactory to both. I wish the noble earl (Lord Lucan) had given us more time to consider the question he has raised; but I have heard his proposal to-night with anything but a feeling of opposition. I do not say that I am prepared to vote for it this evening, because I think it is placed before us in a very crude form; but I think his amendment contains elements of a compromise between the two houses.

Let us not dispute about the word "compromise." The question, of course, is one that admits of none, there being no middle term between admitting a man into a room and shutting him out, unless, indeed, keeping him jammed between the door and the post, which is something like the position of the Jew member for London at this moment.

Now that the Government have made up their minds to desert their pious friends and allies all over the country upon this question, they will feel and deserve to feel all the distressing consequences of their previous resistance. Those who took the high Christian ground will find it very hard indeed to bolt the intended "compromise." Lord Derby himself is terribly committed to the Exeter Hall views of the subject; but as to the Chancellor, he might better desert the church for the synagogue at once. Lord Chelmsford would really have a fairer chance of getting some credit for sincerity as a convert to the Jews than a convert to their emancipation, so expressly and enthusiastically did he rest his opposition to the measure upon the interests of Christianity. The world, and especially the "religious world," will assuredly reason with themselves and say, "Either these men"—meaning Lord Chelmsford and Lord Derby especially—"were hypocrites three months ago, or they are renegades now." This comes of taking what are commonly called "high grounds" in arguments of state, when they are not taken with conscience and steadfast purpose. The higher the ground the more disgraceful and the heavier the downcome. As Juvenal has it:

Numerosa parabat
Excelsæ turris tabulata, unde altior esset
Casus, et impulsæ præceps immane ruinæ.

And the worst of it is that the fall, as we said before, is a palpable submission to Mr D'Israeli, who will triumph with all his tribe at the expense of the Christianity of Parliament, the ruin of which, in consequence of Jewish emancipation, has been proclaimed by his own colleagues.

THE PROPERTY QUALIFICATION.

What next?—is the despairing cry of the odd hundred Tories proper, who see their Government either unable to resist Radical movements, or taking a forward and active part in promoting them. The Jews are coming into Parliament; Church Rates are doomed to extinction; the Property Qualification of Members is about to be swept away. And two of these innovations have been strenuously forwarded by chiefs of the Administration, Mr D'Israeli, Sir J. Pakington, and Lord Stanley having voted against the Jewish Disabilities; and Mr Walpole having spoken most admirably against the sham of the Property Qualification. Of course there is great grief and no small discontent in the old Tory camp. The hand-writing is seen on the wall. The glory has departed. Conservatism has followed Protection. The Ports of Parliament are open to all measures. Hear the wail of Mr Drummond:

The House had now adopted one of the five points of the Charter, which had been supported by a Conservative Administration. After this he hoped they would hear no more about the pride of having a

great Conservative party, and that they would arrive at the honest conviction that there was no such thing left.

It is very affecting to see Mr Bentinck's distress upon this occasion. His prophetic vision discovers to him a House of Commons filled with bankrupts, spendthrifts, paupers, and other disreputable characters. He pays electors the delicate compliment of supposing that such are the qualifications which will recommend candidates to their choice. The instant the Property Qualification restraining the national preference for pauperism is abolished, Westminster will insist on being represented by two street-sweepers, that is to say, if the property of a broom may not be thought too much in the nature of a stake in the country. Uncertificated bankrupts will be in immense demand, and for a county no one will present himself on the hustings except in rags. The House of Commons will thus become the great Union Poor House, which you may nose as you go to the lobby. This, the old Tories should observe, will be some set-off to the removal of the Jewish disabilities, poverty being dear to Christianity, while the very name of the Jew is the by-word for wealth—"rich as a Jew." It should be a question for competitive examination for the Treasury how many blessed Christian paupers in Parliament will be equivalent to one Rothschild, or how many Lazaruses will serve as counterpoise to one Dives. According to Mr Bentinck, indeed, it will be as easy for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle as for a rich man to enter the House of Commons. And this assurance should set the minds of the Bishops at ease when the Jew question comes before them. The prelates have indeed done their best to correct the inordinate passion of the country for moneyless men by gilding their mitres, and setting forth the virtues of wealth in their own cases, but all in vain. Mammon has no worship, no honour in this land. The country is enamoured of beggary and bankruptcy, and give it its way, throw down the barriers, and its Representative Assembly will be the Cave of Adullam. This comfort remains, however, that there is no fear of dechristianization by Jews. Lazarus will have his turn at last.

We are surprised that so shrewd a man as Mr Bentinck does not see why Ministers support the Bill for the abolition of the Property Qualification, instead of reserving the question as part and parcel of Reform. The artful Walpole deals with this question separately, because by so doing a larger measure of Reform will ultimately be necessary. For though it is true in nurseries that you cannot eat your cake and have your cake, it is not so in Parliament, and having eaten your cake you clamour for it all the same when cake-time comes again. In 1859 Ministers cannot bring forth a half-penny bun Reform Bill, saying, Gentlemen, remember you have had your Locke King, you have got your no-property, and your county extension, and this small thing is all that remains due, and be content with it. No, that would never do. What is got now is without prejudice to the magnitude of the thing to be demanded next year. We are not to be reminded of what we have eaten, but to have the substantial meal which new appetite requires. And this is the crafty calculation of that arch-Radical in disguise, the Home Secretary.

THE MINISTERIAL APPOINTMENTS.

It cannot be denied that Lord Derby makes the most of his means, and puts his best men forward in his Government. The vacancy in the Cabinet could not have been filled with more ability and reputation than is brought to it by Sir Bulwer Lytton. As for the appointment of Lord Stanley to the India Board, we should have thought better of it if it had been made upon the first formation of the Ministry, and when our expectations of Lord Stanley were higher than they are now, lowered as they have been by his participation in Lord Ellenborough's absurd schemes. For it is pretty notorious that Lord Stanley was a warm approver, if not a concoctor, of that famous India Bill defunct, No. 2. Now the absurdity of a man who finds a mare's nest is surpassed by that of a follower who not only backs the discovery, but vouches for the eggs. It is not till Sancho Panza is carried away by the delusions of Don Quixote that the climax of the ridiculous is reached by Cervantes. When nature, in one of the whims from which she is not exempt, produces a being like an Ellenborough, she in her goodness generally provides that no one shall agree with him, as he can agree with no one, and that thus standing alone among mankind he shall be powerless for any harm. This saving law was contravened when Lord Ellenborough found an approving mind for all his fantastic schemes in Lord Stanley. What can be expected or hoped of one who has chosen such a model? And it is not improbable that he will follow the example of his predecessor in blowing up. And here we must mention the common rumour that when Lord Derby formed his Administration he was perfectly aware of the unsafe nature he was placing at the India Board, but that he had to calculate whether Lord Ellenborough would be most detrimental taken in or left out, and adopted the former alternative, justly relying on his explosive capacity, and that he would go off, not like a pound of powder, damaging all within reach, but like a rocket, leaving the place whence it was discharged *in statu quo*. If he so accurately gauged the explosive energies of his man, he deserves credit for the singular correctness of his calculation, and also for the calm confidence with which he waited the event. One fine day he hears a tremendous noise, and he says, "There 'tis! that's Ellenborough! He has gone off as clean as 'a whistle.'"

EXPENSE OF WARMING THE IRISH GOVERNMENT.

Fish are notoriously cold-blooded animals, but the coldest-blooded animal that we have yet had any knowledge of must be a Chief Secretary for Ireland, in whom to keep up the calorific costs the country annually the price of 300 tons of coals. As this amounts to a consumption of above three-quarters of a ton per diem, it is evident the office can be no sinecure to which the poking of such enormous fires is incident. The duties, in fact, must consist almost entirely in coal-heaving; and that they are not performed by proxy appears from the allowance of 218 tons of fuel to an Under-Secretary, whose situation is therefore little less stirring than his principal's; only some very able-bodied man being capable, of course, of holding either. Naturalists, however, will not fail to inquire how it happens that there is such a difference between the constitutions of Chief and Under-Secretaries that to warm the former requires nearly a hundred tons of fuel in the year more than to warm the latter. The Committee does not seem to have examined this part of the question, though certainly a very curious one. Mr Williams, however, very properly objected to the charge on the public. The Chief Secretary for Ireland has a salary of 4,000*l.* per annum, out of which he might very well keep up his own fires, let him be ever so chilly, or even if the climate of Dublin were as cold as Lapland, instead of being considerably milder than that of London. At all events, before this monstrous allowance of fuel is voted by the House again, there ought to be a return before it of the average range of the thermometer at Dublin Castle in the course of the year, the comparison of which with the range in Downing Street would throw some light on the question. At the rate of consumption in the office of the Chief Secretary for Ireland, it would take 7,200 tons of fuel in the year to warm the whole Cabinet, and the cost would exceed 5,000*l.* a-year, even at the prices of coals in the Irish capital, where they are always much cheaper than in London. Mr Butler observed very justly that there was no more occasion for a Chief Secretary for Ireland than for Scotland, whose affairs go on all the better and smoother without one; and how very fortunate this is, the winters in Edinburgh being so severe that to keep a Scotch Secretary comfortable on the Irish scale would exhaust a colliery.

Mr G. A. Hamilton, however, made a defence of the vote in question, which will certainly help to reconcile the Irish portion of the public to its extravagance. He explained that part of the immense supply of fuel was for the "maintenance of gardens with extensive hot-houses which belonged to the public." This information, on the high authority of the Financial Secretary of the Treasury, will be as agreeable as new to the inhabitants of Dublin. The peaches, grapes, and pine-apples in the Chief Secretary's gardens are not for his use, but for theirs; and they have only to make parties to the Phoenix Park, knock at the garden-gates, walk in, and pull and eat. As the fruit is their own property, we do not see why they should not even carry it away in baskets; Mr Hamilton pronounces them entitled to the run of the garden, and as the same principle applies to the state gardens generally, we have no hesitation to tell the citizens of Dublin that when they have exhausted the Chief Secretary's pineries and graperies they have only to walk into the Lord Lieutenant's and make equally free there.

The Treasury, however, is by no means as merciful towards other pieces of extravagance, as to the Irish state coal-holes. Mr Hamilton, who defends the Chief Secretary's prodigious waste of fuel, had not a word to say for the cost of printing the report of the Irish Endowed Schools Commission, the paper used in which weighed thirty-four tons. No doubt this was enormous in its way; and we only wonder it did not occur to some thrifty M.P. that a great saving of coals might be effected in the Irish offices if they were only to burn their own blue books. At the same time we are satisfied that Mr G. A. Hamilton would not have been so forward to expose and denounce the great expense of the Commission we refer to if it had been an inquiry into Whig abuses, or if its results had been of the kind that political capital is to be made of by a party so much in want of it. He took the pains of weighing the blue books to ascertain the tonnage, but the public would have heard with greater pleasure that some pains had been taken to weigh their contents. The exposure of a little jobbing in printing and stationery, if such there was in the publishing of these volumes, is a very small matter indeed compared with the amount of jobbing in things of higher moment which they have brought to light. Ponderous as they are, they are not as heavy as the charges they contain and substantiate against the interests with which Mr Hamilton is identified. The Commissioners would have done more wisely had they presented the world with their revelations of abuse in a more succinct form. It is certain, however, that if they had, the same government which now taunts them with prolixity would have accused them of publishing statements unsupported by evidence. But this is too serious a subject for incidental discussion; we shall return to it on a fitter occasion.

Another word, however, on the office of Chief Secretary for Ireland, chiefly to present our readers with Mr Horsman's entertaining description of those overwhelming duties which the egregious Mr G. A. Hamilton declares are not sufficiently remunerated with 4,000*l.* a-year and 300 tons of coals. Mr Horsman, who held the office for two years, thus on Thursday night related his experience to the House of Commons. It will be seen that, though there is nothing

to be done but to light and stir the fires for which such immense provision is made, even those duties it is not the system of the office to perform.

The office of the chief secretary to the Lord-Lieutenant was in Ireland. Its duties were performed in Dublin, and he was sure he was under the mark when he said that out of every hundred papers only one came under his eye. The number of letters received by the Home Secretary might be counted, not by scores, but perhaps by hundreds a-day. But it was a very high average to say that half-a-dozen letters came from Ireland to the Chief Secretary daily. There were about thirty clerks in the office of the Home Secretary. The number of clerks in the office in London of the Irish Secretary was one, and that one was very insufficiently employed. In the interview which he had with his predecessor on taking office, he expressed his great amazement that there was only one clerk. The answer was—"And he has not half enough to do," and his own experience very soon satisfied him of that fact. The day after his appointment, full of new official ardour, he went to the office at ten o'clock in the morning. His reception was such as gentlemen might have met with when they had arrived at an inn early in the morning and there was no one up but the "boots." The fires were not lighted, the rooms were not swept, and when he asked where was his one clerk, he was told that the clerk might appear about twelve or one o'clock. He felt that all this required great reform. He gave strict injunctions that official hours should begin at ten o'clock, and he showed indications of such a revolution in the office that he believed every one connected with it began fervently to pray for a change of Government. It went on for two or three weeks, but he found that until the arrival of the Irish post in the afternoon there was no correspondence, and that until the Irish members began to move down to the House between three and four there were no interviews, and he got positively ashamed of the cruelty he was practising on the clerk in making him do penance from ten in the morning, sitting in solitude with no business to occupy him.

Lord Naas gave a general contradiction to these definite statements, and spoke of reports to be read and bills to be prepared; as if there were no reports and bills to be read and prepared in the days of his predecessors. There is no getting over the broad fact that all the business that is to be done is done in Ireland; and the Chief Secretary gets his 4,000*l.* a-year with the perquisites for doing something between which and nothing only a Gladstonian intellect could distinguish. The office is twin-brother in point of duty to that of the Privy Seal; at least, it creates for itself whatever business there is to be transacted. However, as we said on a former occasion of the Lord-Lieutenancy, John Bull is a rich man, so "Vive la bagatelle!"

THE CONDITION OF LANDED PROPERTY IN INDIA.

The notion that in India the sovereign is the sole proprietor of the soil first received currency, we imagine, in Europe through the travels of the celebrated Bernier, a writer of the time of Louis the Fourteenth, who visited India during the reign of our merry king, and whose twelve years' experience of that region was confined to the court of the powerful and arbitrary monarch Aurungzeb, a locality where such a notion is likely enough to have been imbibed. He repeatedly enunciates the doctrine, and in his letter to the minister Colbert, for example, he thus expresses himself on the subject: "The king being proprietor of all the lands in the empire, there can exist no dukedoms or marquises, nor can any family be found possessed of wealth arising from a domain, and living upon its own patrimony."

In one sense, indeed, the sovereign may be said to be the proprietor of the land, that is, when he seizes nearly the whole of its rent in the shape of tax. When, for example, in Bengal, the land-tax sixty-five years ago was limited in perpetuity, it was determined at nine-tenths of the nett rent, or at eighteen shillings in the pound. The state was in this case the virtual proprietor, or at all events the chief one, since the nominal private proprietor was left but two shillings of the rent, or a mere tithe of it. In the north-west provinces of Bengal the land-tax is computed to be at the rate of about fifteen shillings in the pound, but this is only on a thirty years' lease. In this instance the private proprietor is left but five shillings in the pound of the rent, and this a mere leasehold. The main proprietor here, too, is therefore the state. Applying such rules to English landed property, his Grace the Duke of Bedford would lose nine-tenths of his estate according to the first example, and his Grace of Devonshire three-fourths of his, enjoying the remaining fourth only on lease. Queen Victoria would in these cases be the real proprietor of the fee simple, and the dukes but a kind of small copy-holders. Such is the state of land tenures in those parts of our dominions that are considered to be most liberally administered, and elsewhere it is far worse.

But in India, as in every other part of the world, a private right of property in the soil must originally have existed, or the land most assuredly never would have been reclaimed from a state of nature. Traces of it have, accordingly, been found throughout,—more or less distinct in proportion as the people have been more or less able to oppose resistance to the arbitrary imposition of a land-tax, the main source of the public income with all rude people, as it once was with ourselves. In proportion to the extent to which this impost has been pushed has a private property in the land diminished, until in a few cases it has been obliterated altogether, the sovereign standing the confessed proprietor, while the original owner has been reduced to the condition of a mere hereditary occupant and cultivator.

The operation of the land-tax in diminishing or extinguishing the private right of property in the land will be best illustrated by example. We have a very curious one in the history of the tax in the province of Canara, on the western coast of India, and within the territory of Madras. The account is by the late Sir Thomas Munro. The province has an area of 7,720 square miles, is mountainous,

and has a warlike and armed Hindu population, which at the close of the last century, when it came into our possession, contained the meagre population of half a million, or sixty-four to the square mile. A private right of property always existed in Canara, and still exists there, although in somewhat microscopic dimensions. About the middle of the fourteenth century its native prince determined the amount of the assessment, making the following apportionment of the gross produce of the land—fifty parts in a hundred, or one-half to the actual cultivator, twenty-five parts or a fourth to the owner of the land, and a like amount to the state, from which last, however, was deducted certain shares to the temples and the brahmins, so that in reality the sovereign really received but one-sixth part of the gross produce, which is conformable to the laws of Menu.

In 1760 the land-tax of Canara was, in round numbers, 100,000*l.* Hyder Ally conquered the country in 1763, and at once added thirty per cent. to it. In twenty years' time he had raised the tax to better than 200,000*l.*, or more than doubled it. His son Tippoo, chiefly by seizure of charity and church lands, raised the tax to fourfold the original amount, but succeeded in realizing no more than 250,000*l.* "However much," says Sir Thomas Munro, who made the revenue settlement in Canara, "I disapprove of the numerous additions made to the annual assessments of Hyder and Tippoo, I did not think myself at liberty to depart widely from the system which I found established." And so the finance of Hyder and Tippoo was the model followed by the Honourable East India Company, for the Home Government confirmed the assessment of Sir Thomas Munro!

However, such is the virtue of a moderate and to a certain extent a fixity of tax, that Canara has continued to flourish, and to constitute, with the neighbouring and similar province of Malabar, the only provinces out of twenty in the government of Madras that have done so. A most remarkable and striking illustration is afforded in the Report of the "Torture Commissioners" of 1854, which is worth referring to. These gentlemen state that Canara and Malabar were the only two provinces out of the twenty of the Madras Government in which torture for revenue or police purposes was not practised. In these they say:

We learn that the land-tax is generally light, that the people are flourishing, the assessment easily and even cheerfully paid, the struggle more often being who shall be allowed than who shall be made to pay the land-tax. Land has acquired a saleable value, and allotments of waste are eagerly contended for.

What a fact is this, that "land had acquired a saleable value" after a British dominion of five-and-fifty years! What a bitter satire upon the Company's raj!

In the north-west provinces of Bengal and in the Punjab a right of private property in the soil is easily discovered vested hereditarily in certain of the inhabitants of the village corporations. Even in Bengal Proper the right of private property in the soil, independent of that conferred by the Marquis Cornwallis in perpetuity, is occasionally discoverable in certain cultivators, whose name, a Persian one, the learned and judicious Professor Wilson in his valuable Glossary translates "a cultivator of his own hereditary land." The reason why it has been almost obliterated among the Bengali nation, whose numbers amount to twenty millions, is, that this people is the most effeminate, unwarlike, and unresisting of all the Indians.

Before we conclude this brief sketch, let us take the opportunity of explaining three terms which are of frequent occurrence in our Indian correspondence in reference to the tenure of land. These are a Jagheerdar, a Zemindar, and a Talookdar. All these are words of the Persian language, that of the Mahomedan conquerors, and not native terms. Their terminal portion signifies holder or possessor. Jagheerdar is the holder of an appanage or assignment of land, which is usually for the life of the holder, but sometimes in perpetuity. Zemindar literally signifies "land-holder," and Talookdar the possessor of a dependency. These two parties, although differing in name, practically the same, held their assignments under patents from the Mogul, and their chief public duty was the collection of the revenue, receiving a tithe of it as a commission for their services. Their offices were usually during the pleasure of the sovereign, but very frequently became hereditary. Some of them were no doubt mere officials, while others were certainly small Hindu Rajas, reduced to dependency by the Mahomedan sovereigns.

MR ROEBUCK AND THE PRESS.

When Mr Roebuck holds forth in defiance of the press, he gives us the idea of a boy quaking and whistling in a churchyard. Why should he talk so much of what he does not fear? He does not care what the press says of him, forsooth. He would not mind if it charged him with murder. No doubt. But what if it imputed a silly speech to him, or a splenetic vote? He has no mercy on writers who make charges which they cannot support. Yet few men have made more free with such charges both by pen and word of mouth than Mr Roebuck. It was but the other day that he preferred charges against a brother member, Mr Butt, which were not proved, and he made no reparation that we are aware of for the wrong he thus did to the gentleman accused. Perhaps he remained of opinion that the charges, though not sustained by the evidence before the committee, were nevertheless well grounded. If so, how does his conduct differ from that of Mr Wilkes, in the custody of the House for the breach of privilege of imputing

corrupt partisanship to Mr Clive, characterised by Mr Roebuck as follows?

It behoved that House to consider whether it was allowed these impudent persons to come forward and make accusations of which they had no proof—because at the bar this man was given the power of saying he could prove his accusation. The press was a powerful instrument. There might be people not so thick-skinned as he (Mr Roebuck) who cared not about the press. But the press came forward and said that the hon. member for Hereford, in his character of chairman of a Committee of that House, had been a partisan, because he was corrupt. That was a grave offence, unless the accusation could be proved. Suppose you charged a man with being a thief, and you had no ground for the accusation, was it not right that an action should be brought against you? This man had been morally guilty—and he hoped that he would state in his paper to-morrow that he had said so—of an accusation against an hon. member of that House, of which accusation he had no proof. He was therefore a coward, as well as a malignant calumniator.

Now surely Mr Butt might apply and misapply all these hard words to Mr Roebuck, the latter having come to the conclusion that Mr Butt was guilty of a breach of privilege upon evidences satisfactory to his mind, but not to the Committee of the House appointed to investigate the charge. And how would Mr Roebuck feel if Mr Butt were to call him an impudent person, a coward, and malignant calumniator, for adhering to his opinion and refusing a retraction?

DRESS OF OUR TROOPS IN INDIA.

It would be a mistake to assert that experience and common sense are utterly disregarded by our military authorities; they could not possibly go so systematically wrong as they do, except by taking counsel of both; consulting them, however, only to act in the teeth of their suggestions. Whatever we might reckon to a certainty upon men of ordinary intellect doing under any given combination of circumstances, we may reckon with the same confidence upon the rulers of the British army not doing; or at least upon their not doing until grievous losses and calamities have opened their eyes, or, we should rather say, opened the eyes of the public, whose voice, raised to a certain pitch, commands obedience even in camps.

It probably costs the nation at least the lives of a thousand men to drive the idea of the minutest improvement into the military mind. And it is a peculiarity of that mind that it is utterly incapable of the simplest generalisation. The lesson of one war has to be learned over again in another. The experience of our disasters in the Crimea, instead of being treasured up to the advantage of our troops on the next occasion of their employment in the field, is now to be refreshed, or acquired over again at the same or greater expense in India. We all remember how the Russian war drew attention, among many other things, to the preposterous peculiarities in the dress of the British soldier, which sacrificed not merely his ease and convenience, but his actual professional serviceableness, to considerations of mere appearance and parade. Of course every detail of the regulation costume was obstinately defended for a time; but at length common sense, speaking through the public organs, prevailed, and some few changes were effected, which, as far as they went, contributed to the efficiency no less than to the comfort of the men.

At least they seemed to admit the principle that the soldier's dress was a secondary consideration to the well-being of the soldier himself; and so far we fondly imagined that reason had made some progress where she has always the hardest battles to fight. We never were, however, more completely mistaken. The principle was never grasped at all. The faculties of the centurions were utterly incapable of extending to the Ganges the lessons learned on the shores of the Euxine. With all our experience of the pigheadedness characteristic of our military dignitaries, we confess that we read with amazement the following statements by a correspondent of the *Daily News* respecting the clothing of our troops in India.

Then as to the summer dress, it is made of brown holland, a thin linen material, quite unsuited to this country. Dress is very intimately connected with health in India: is it with the consent of the army medical men that this dress has been selected? No native, rich or poor, wears linen; if a native is very rich, he wears a fine quality or greater quantity of cotton—"vegetable wool" as it has been designated—but never linen. It is not because it is the staple growth of his country that the East Indian wears only cotton. He has learned by experience that when the sun is powerful cotton is the coolest material he can put on—when the air is cold and damp it is almost the warmest. A cotton covering conducts heat more slowly from without to our bodies, and of course therefore more slowly from our bodies, than linen. The ample muslin turban, the ample folds of muslin round the waist, as well as the general loose muslin dress of the inhabitants of India, are in accordance with the most sanitary and scientific principles, as well as constituting a costume recommending itself on account of its personal comfort, and we may add, therefore, perhaps of appearance. But the non-conducting properties of cotton are not its only advantages. It possesses a peculiar sponge-like quality of absorbing and diffusing moisture. Look at any one of the soldiers in his brown holland tunic and trousers: on the slightest exertion he exhibits about his shoulders, about his knees, about various parts of his person, according to the tightness of the dress and other circumstances, patches of a darker brown, where the perspiration, oozing through, saturates his dress as if it had been there steeped in water. Any one who has been in a tropical atmosphere of 90 deg. Fah. to 115 deg. Fah. will comprehend this state. A cotton dress will not exhibit these detached patches of moisture; the perspiration will be more generally diffused. But now let the soldier, wet with perspiration, stand to inhale a breeze, with his linen coat, wherever the wet portions of his dress meet the advancing wind and evaporation rapidly takes place there he feels wet and chilly, and will often be warned by a shiver to turn away. Common sense ought to be doctor enough to know in what way and how often this must lead to fevers, dysentery, and other evils. But the brown holland uniform, it will be said, recommends itself from its colour, and from being stronger than most articles made of cotton. As to the colour, I presume any colour may be given to cotton, and the dust, though not readily seen, must cause a great

quantity of dirt by mixing with the wet linen. Even its superior strength of texture under ordinary circumstances does not apply to the circumstances of this country. No one here thinks of using damask table linen, or only new comers and very reckless persons do; for though undoubtedly originally stronger in texture than the cotton tablecloths and napkins in common use, experience soon teaches that, from some hard or brittle quality, they will not resist the mode of washing, or beating out the dirt against stones, as cotton fabrics will. Cotton, from the softness and flexibility of fibre, seems to bear with more impunity the violent usage to which the dhobees, or washermen, universally subject all articles in the process of being cleaned. The soldier has now to pay about 10s. for one suit of brown holland here. I presume the sudden demand for this imported article has caused the price to be raised, and it will very shortly be proved what an expensive article in a money point of view, much more so in a hygienic aspect, this summer costume is, as the dhobees cause more refits to be required. There are some kinds of cotton materials—I don't profess to know their names, twills or twists—in use here, one suit of which would outwear two thin linen suits, not to mention all the other advantages connected with such fabrics. The men in their summer dress still wear their leather stocks. Ask how this is, and the reply is, that no order countermmanding the use of the stock, a regular part of the soldier's dress, has been given, and therefore its use is of course continued. The throat, where the portals of the breathing apparatus have been placed—where the all-important channels of communication between the centre of the circulation and the organ of sensation and mind, the heart and brain, are—the throat, which nature has left free, in order that in every position of the body, and with every movement of the head, these delicate and vital structures should be able to adapt themselves without injury, or risk of injury—this throat, to be constricted and fettered in such a country as this, and by persons, too, who are supposed to have but one object, the health and preservation of the soldier for service—what hope can there be, seeing such things, for the exercise of good sense and prudence in other less essential matters, such as whether, in a hot season, cool clothing is ready for him, or whether that clothing is made of a suitable material or otherwise?

After reading this we feel that we owe some apology to Lord Ellenborough, or Mr D'Israeli, for ridiculing the scheme of giving Belfast a share in the government of India, on the score of her trade in linen, which we knew to be a commodity universally eschewed by the native populations. Obviously, however, there must be a brisk linen trade kept up between Ireland and India, for the mere supply of our Indian army with a clothing so thoroughly to military taste, inasmuch as it unites the conditions of being the most uncomfortable, the most expensive, and the most unhealthy. If India were a flax-producing instead of a cotton-producing country, there might be some palliation for this folly in the convenience and economy of using the indigenous fabric; but to circumnavigate the globe in search of the materials most unsuitable to the climate, while those best adapted to all its changes are at their hands cheap and abundant, is a depth of folly to which only British centurionship is capable of sinking, and which we have no plummet to sound.

M. DE LAMARTINE.

The misfortunes of an eminent man of letters are a title to sympathy, which, if we know our countrymen, will not be weakened by the circumstance that the claim is made on behalf of a foreigner, and especially a Frenchman whose works are so justly popular in England as M. De Lamartine. What Ovid says of heroes is surely at least as true of poets, that their country is everywhere, their home under every meridian. In the present instance, the claims of a writer whose works have delighted thousands are reinforced by the recollection that in honouring him we shall honour a man of public virtue not inferior to his genius. We are satisfied, however, that simply to mention indigence in connexion with such a name is to do all that is to be done by advocacy; we shall therefore content ourselves with trusting that the fund raised will be worthy both of the illustrious stranger and ourselves; for which, indeed, we have no slight guarantee in the following list of noblemen and gentlemen who have formed themselves into a committee to receive the contributions of the public: Lord John Russell, M.P.; Viscount Goderich, M.P.; Lord Harry Vane, M.P.; Lord Monteagle; Right Hon. Sidney Herbert, M.P.; Right Hon. Edward Ellice, M.P.; Sir Robert Peel, Bart., M.P.; Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton, Bart., M.P.; H. Danby Seymour, Esq., M.P.; George Tomline, Esq., M.P.; A. W. Kinglake, Esq., M.P.; R. Monckton Milnes, Esq., M.P.; Charles Dickens, Esq.; W. M. Thackeray, Esq.; Henry Vincent, Esq.; A. Hayward, Esq.—Le Marquis De Ribeyre, Hon. Sec., 2 St James's terrace, Regent's park.—Bankers, Messrs Coutts and Co.

DESCRIPTION OF PIEDMONT.—Piedmont is not in the plain, not wholly in the plain, but rather on the slope, "at the foot," of the mountain (*a piè del monte*). The valley of Aosta, those of the Orco, of the Cervo, and Sesia, are only a part of Switzerland, the outskirts of Helvetia, with a gleam of Italian sunshine. They are above all things wine-growing countries; and for the last six or seven years neither these nor any of the richer provinces of Pinerolo, Saluzzo, Cuneo, and Mondovi, nor any part of the Riviera of Genoa, have had a drop of wine. The lands of Asti and Montferrat have to some extent been free from the great scourge of the grape-disease, and last year especially they sold at a very high price what other people lacked. I saw, two years ago, such desolation in the Gulf of Spezia—which is little else than a great vineyard—as I could hardly have expected to witness even in this poverty-stricken "Garden of Europe." This year there was, all over Piedmont, but unfortunately not in Genoa, great hope that the disease was at an end; the grape was sound, though scarce, and the vine-stock—or the wood, as they call it here—was recovering its fresh, healthy appearance. The vintage however, is of the very scantiest, and the most blooming districts of the Canavese and Biellese were about a month ago visited with such a terrific wind and hailstorm that the country still bears a look of utter devastation. After tantalizing months of slow ripening, the grapes have been dashed from the people's lips by half an hour's conflict of the raging elements.—*Gallenga's Piedmont.*

The Queen, as a mark of her appreciation of the distinguished scientific acquirements of Professor Faraday, has presented him with a residence at Hampton Court, which is to be furnished at her Majesty's expense.

THE LITERARY EXAMINER.

Cosmos: Sketch of a Physical Description of the Universe. By Alexander von Humboldt. Vol. IV. Part I. Translated under the superintendence of Major-General Edward Sabine, R.A., D.C.L., V.P. and Treas. R.S. Longman and Co. Murray.

The two first volumes of this work, which sets a crown to Baron Humboldt's labour, and in some sense also to the science of our day, contained a general view of the harmony of nature throughout the material world, comprehensive, and to a remarkable degree simple by reason of the profoundness of the knowledge on which it was based. So practical and lively is the interest which Baron Humboldt, during a long life, has taken in active search among the secrets of the universe, and so fresh and clear are to the last all the impressions made upon his mind, that his view of the Cosmos contained in those two first volumes was read with delight by a large public that had received no training in science. Thousands were thus taught who had little power of observing how much travel through many books and many lands, and that always with a ready skill in seeking truth possessed by few men and by fewer still put to as good use, had gone to the formation of their teacher. In its third and fourth volumes it was the design of its author that *Cosmos* should pass from exact but rapid generalities, to closer study of the more essential particulars of physical science. Dividing the visible Universe into the Heavens and the Earth, Baron Humboldt has devoted his third volume to the Heavens—the Sidereal portion of his account of the Universe, and now give his fourth volume to the Telluric portion, to the Earth. The secrets of the Heavens were to be reached only by the use of one sense, that of sight. All the five senses help us in a study of the Earth. The subject is large and falls necessarily into two subdivisions, corresponding with the two great domains of nature on our globe, the inorganic and organic. Thus there are two parts to the fourth volume of *Cosmos*, and the consideration of each part must occupy so much space, that the matter which belongs philosophically to the fourth volume falls practically into a fourth and fifth.

The first part of the fourth volume, now before us, treats, therefore, of inorganic nature upon earth. It discusses the earth's size, figure, and density, its internal heat, and electro-magnetic activity, its minerals, the changes and convulsions in its substance, earthquakes and volcanoes, the parting of the waters, coast outlines, and the action of the atmosphere. In the part yet to be published, all that is now needed to complete the work, there will be a consideration of the geography of plants and animals, and of the natural history of man.

It is precisely with that part of Baron Humboldt's subject, which is discussed more at large in the part just published, that General Sabine's name is the most intimately associated. If we leave out of account Faraday's discovery of diamagnetism, and the research made in relation to that subject by our great chemist during the last twelve years, we may fairly say that we have no philosopher among us who has investigated telluric phenomena with so much patience and success, or who has made for himself so many opportunities of studying them effectively, as General Sabine. Therefore it has been urged by Baron Humboldt with especial emphasis that the English editor should make many insertions and additions in dealing with this portion of his work, for subsequent incorporation of their substance in a new edition of the German text. Much of the new part, written three or four years ago, receives correction and elucidation by the mere advance of science, but the whole volume being one especially according to the editor's own heart, has been very liberally illustrated by him, so that in this part especially the English version has a great advantage over every other.

We quote from the new volume a few paragraphs on a subject still obscure, in which M. Humboldt simply brings together as guides to inquiry the different kinds of manifestation of the same volcanic activity.

We have everywhere beneath our feet that which may produce earthquake shocks; and the consideration that almost three fourths of the earth's surface are covered by sea, and (omitting a few sporadically scattered islands) without any permanent communication between the interior and the atmosphere (*i. e.* without active volcanoes), sufficiently refutes the erroneous but widely-spread belief, that all earthquakes are to be attributed to the eruption of a distant volcano. Continental earthquakes are indeed often propagated over the bottom of the sea, and the agitation communicated from the coast, causes those formidable sea-waves of which the earthquakes of Lisbon, Callao, and Chili have given such memorable examples, when, on the other hand, the earthquake proceeds from the bottom of the sea, from the dominions of the earth-shaking Poseidon (*σεισχιθων, κυνηχιθων*), and is not accompanied by an upheaval producing an island (as in the ephemeral existence of the Island Sabrina or Julia), there may be remarked at points where yet the mariner would not feel any shock, an unusual heaving and rolling of the waves. The inhabitants of the Peruvian coast often directed my attention to this phenomenon. In the harbour of Callao, and at the Island of San Lorenzo which is opposite to it, in perfectly calm, windless nights, in this exceedingly tranquil part of the Pacific, I have myself seen suddenly wave rise upon wave to a height of eleven to fourteen feet, continuing for a few hours. Nor can we, in these latitudes, as we might do elsewhere, explain the phenomenon by the supposition of a violent storm having occurred far out at sea.

To begin with agitations of the earth limited to the smallest space, and obviously owing their origin to the activity of a volcano, I will mention first what I observed when seated with my chronometer in my hand at night in the crater of Vesuvius, at the foot of a small cone of eruption; it was after the great earthquake at Naples, on the 26th of July 1805, and after the eruption of lava which followed seventeen days later. I regularly felt the ground of the crater shake every twenty or twenty-five seconds, immediately before each eruption of glowing scoriae or cinders. Of these, which were thrown to a height of fifty or sixty feet, part fell back into the opening from which they had issued, and part covered the sides of the cone. The

regularity of the phenomenon rendered the observation free from danger. The repeated small shocks which I felt were not sensible beyond the crater, i. e. at the Atrio del Cavallo, or at the hermitage del Salvatore. The periodicity of the shaking showed that it depended on a definite degree of tension, which it was necessary that the vapours should reach before they could burst through the molten mass in the interior of the cone of cinders. Just as in the case described, in which no shocks were felt on the sides of the cinder cone of Vesuvius, so in a quite analogous phenomenon, though on a far grander scale, on the cone of ashes of the volcano of Sangai, which rises south east of the city of Quito to a height of 17,100 English feet, a very distinguished observer, Herr Wisse, having (in December 1849) approached within a thousand feet of the summit and crater, perceived no quaking of the ground, although 267 explosions (eruptions of scoria) were counted in the course of a single hour.

A second, immensely more important, class is the very numerous one which consists of earthquakes usually accompanying or preceding great eruptions, whether of volcanoes which, like our European ones, pour forth streams of lava; or of volcanoes, which, like Cotopaxi, Pichincha, and Tunguragua in the Andes, send forth only scoria, ashes, and vapours. It is especially in regard to this class that volcanoes may be viewed as safety-valves, or vents, according to the early remark of Strabo on the fissure from which lava flowed, near Lelante, in the island of Eubœa. The earthquakes cease when a considerable eruption has taken place.

The most wide-spread devastations are those occasioned by earthquake waves which traverse partly non-trachytic and non-volcanic countries, and partly trachytic and volcanic ones, as the Cordilleras of South America and Mexico, without exercising any influence on the neighbouring volcanoes. These form the third class or group of phenomena, and it is that which points most strongly to the existence of a general cause in the thermic constitution of the interior of our planet. To this third group belongs also a case of rare occurrence in which, in countries non-volcanic and rarely visited by earthquakes, the ground trembles uninterruptedly for several months, on a very restricted space, seeming to presage an upheaval, and the formation of an active volcano.

We now look forward with certainty to the completion of this noble summary of a life's study, planned and achieved at an age when the faculties of ordinary men grow dull, a work which must always rank among the treasures and not less among the curiosities of scientific literature.

Memoirs of Rachel. By Madame de B——. 2 vols. Hurst and Blackett.

We read in the last chapter of this book, that a week before her death Rachel replied to the request of a distinguished visitor for her autograph, by writing for him on a sheet of paper "In a week from now I shall begin to be 'food for worms and for writers of biographies.' Rachel." When she wrote those words, three-fourths of this biography had been already written, Madame de B. was already working at the artist's reputation. To what purpose have these memoirs been written? Upon the great scandals attributed by rumour to the private history of the impassioned actress, we can conceive that some Jeremy Collier of our century might base an attack upon the playhouse, but Madame de B—— simply hints at these in her preface, and excludes the discussion of them from her book. A sound critic might dwell usefully and genially on Rachel's artist life, and define to posterity the nature and the power of that genius which only lived upon the breath and in the moving form of its possessor. But what critical judgment can we expect to find in a writer who delights in the small, sour tattle, and the petty sneering of which these volumes are full? They are the work of an admirer indeed, but of an admirer without judgment; of a friend, but of a friend without good will.

To the world, Madame Rachel is an artist who heaped gifts of genius upon it, who kindled for it life in grand and noble thoughts, who exalted thousands to at least a brief perception of the depths of their own spiritual nature. Surely it is not much return for service so great and so rare, to bear it faithfully and simply in remembrance, and to forbear from miserable carping over the grave of one who can receive from us no other return for her great service than the estimation that survives her. To us she is an artist who has earned, if ever woman did, an artist's fame. We will not tolerate Memoirs of her that represent her as a Jew with a Jew's nature of the old traditional sort, that put the pettiest and most ungenerous interpretation upon little acts in which even an enemy might see only the working of an eager and impulsive spirit, that repeat glibly unauthenticated tales of meanness, and throw out wretched suggestion against the motive of undoubted acts of generosity. Thus with the warning that it is not vouched for, Madame de B—— tells with relish some story of Rachel's having presented as her own gift to a superannuated call-boy a snuff-box, for which the whole company of the theatre had been subscribing. But when we are told how at Lyons she rescued from utter destitution a poor Jewish family, the fact is given as "worthy of note, whatever may have been the motives that influenced the action."

These volumes contain waifs and strays of interesting matter, but for the sake of these they are not worthy to be read. Their whole spirit is narrow, and their substance meagre.

Sermons. By the Rev. John Caird, M.A., Minister of the Park Church, Glasgow. Author of 'Religion in Common Life.' Blackwood and Sons.

Preachers and Preaching. By Henry Christmas, M.A., F.R.S. Lay.

Mr Christmas having read the letters in the *Times* of Habibans in Sicco, and considering within himself the dryness of the pulpit as a well of truth, resolved to write a little book of inquiry into this matter, make out before the public what ought to be preached, if congregations are to be held, and by what manner of preaching, in all ages, the more popular divines have held them. The plan of the

little book is better than its execution. Mr Christmas sets out by showing, in good orthodox way, that the thing to be preached is the gospel, and that the gospel is the doctrine of man's sin and Christ's atonement. What, then, does Mr Christmas say of Mr Caird? Nothing at all, though surely the attention paid by Queen and people to that preacher's sermon on 'Religion in Common Life,' is a significant fact in the argument he undertakes. But he regards that sermon doubtless as a moral essay, and, he says, moral essays are not preachings, as he would, no doubt, also deny that work is worship.

In the volume of Sermons now published by Mr Caird, there is enough exposition of what Mr Christmas would account essential doctrine to redeem his character with one section of the religious public, and enough of the practical spirit to sustain the credit that his former published sermon earned. His eloquence is as calm, his illustrations are as apt and clear as ever, though the last sermon in the book, that upon 'Character and Doctrine,' is the only one which Mr Christmas could find to be no preaching, but a moral lesson only.

Of Mr Christmas's book the greater part contains selected extracts from the sermons of great preachers, to illustrate the secret of their power, but with a few exceptions these extracts are not very illustrative, and they too frequently discredit the critical sense that prompted their selection. The chapters on eccentric texts and sermons, considering the wealth of the field, contain very few gleanings, though one may always be amused at hearing of Paley's text when preaching before the dons of Cambridge, on a day when Pitt, then Premier, happened to be present:—"There is a 'lad here which hath five barley loaves and two small 'fishes; but what are they among so many.'" There is a good story, too, of a clergyman who having hated especially a deceased member of his congregation, refused obstinately to preach his funeral sermon, but being hotly pressed, at last consented. "When the time came for the delivery, to 'the astonishment of the congregation, the text was 'announced with some vehemence, and with a strong 'accent on the offensive word, 'And the beggar died!' Luke xvi, 22."

The Butterfly Vivarium; or Insect Home. Being an account of a New Method of observing the Curious Metamorphoses of some of the most beautiful of our Native Insects. Comprising also a popular Description of the Habits and Instincts of many of the Insects referred to; with Suggestions for the successful Study of Entomology by means of an Insect Vivarium. By H. Noel Humphreys. Illustrated with Coloured Engravings. Lay.

With the snails and little fishes we may now place caterpillars among ornaments of the British drawing-room. Mr Noel Humphreys, who has already taught us pleasantly how best to cultivate sweet and salt water gardens, develops as an independent notion of his own the plan of a butterfly vivarium. In their own rude way, boys exist who have kept creatures of this sort under glass, but Mr Humphreys shows precisely what modification of a Ward's case would make an Insect home, in which the grub might say to himself with some content 'I'd be a butterfly. Of course the mutations in the life of insects are of all natural phenomena that can be got into a parlour, the most obvious and the most likely to interest a child. We welcome, therefore, the suggestion of the Butterfly Vivarium, and the little book with its clear text and bright pictures that, at precisely the right time of year, tells how the little glass palace is to be built, and by what sort of gnomes and fairies it may be inhabited.

FINE ARTS.

THE ROYAL ACADEMY.

(Third Notice.)

Our previous notices of this year's Academy exhibition were simply the mechanical division of a single record of the impression made by the first rapid glance over the rooms on the day of the private view. Anything set down in that record is set down always with reservation, as being liable to whatever change may come of a better acquaintance and a closer scrutiny. This year we find change of impression only on one point; we see that what Mr Egg's picture in three parts tells to a glance it does not tell to the close reader. The spirit of the work is unmistakable, no haste can overlook it,—but the story told by the three pictures tells to a glance something that is more tender than harsh in its pathos. The centre and pith of the conception is a woman lying as a prostrate ruin at the feet of a man, it is a worldly-featured man with a clenched fist and face sternly set. All natural sympathy is with the woman instantly. Nothing can easily suggest at the first instant that a man is an injured husband when he is shown in the act, not of receiving, but of giving pain. We see on either side under the same moonlight the despair of the abandoned and the grief of two fair girls in a little country home, if we please we may take them all to be three sisters, it needs scrutiny to tell us that the children of one picture have grown up and are the women of the next. Less sympathy is excited by the ruin of an adulterous wife than by that of a tempted woman simply trusting and betrayed; and we could almost wish still to abide by our first interpretation of the picture, if we might. But its intention is defined too clearly by details. We could ask of the French novel on

which the foundation was laid of the tumbling card house^o that the children built, whether it was not the forbidding man who bought it for the outcast woman once upon a time, when they were friends together. We could read other details out of their intended sense, and even make man's cruelty, not woman's perfidy, the object of the sermon in that woful burden we see at the forlorn woman's heart as she sits by the ghastly river, and her scanty shawl cannot hide all the cause of her last utter despair. The rigid feet of the dead child will thrust themselves out into the moonlight. But when we observe that the two mourning girls hang up in their chamber the same pictures of father and mother that had honourable place upon the walls of their old home, those pictures all that remain to them out of the wreck, we find one of the few touches in which there is the meaning of the work defined beyond all possibility of misinterpretation.

We have to add Mr O'Neil's *Eastward Ho* to the number of works which must be ranked with the best pictures of the season. It is full of that homely feeling to which our painters are now every year more ready to appeal. Our soldiers are embarking, and by the rough and sturdy side of the ship that will take them to the distant wars, the girl who has put on her little finery to make one last pleasant picture of herself in her sweetheart's eye, yields to his public kiss and sees no world beside him. The widow's son, after their parting, strains his hand down for a last touch of the mother and the sister, who remain at home to search the papers for news of his regiment, and watch the posts for letters from the east; the young mother parts with wet eyes from the husband, through whose loving looks there shines a faith in her that almost kills the pain of separation. Such incidents are blended dexterously into a natural and simple scene, an every-day scene, with no visible trick of art in the presentment of it.

There is a picture of a *Stone-breaker*—certainly not the dead stone-breaker of Mr Wallis, but a better and more unpretending work, which combines marvellous patience in the execution of detail, with a complete freedom from affectation. We hope that its painter, Mr Brett, will always be as ready as he has here shown himself to paint the breezy chalk downs and the far perspective of green fields, as to paint each particular flint in a heap, and the bruise of the hammer on the stone that has yet to be broken. We admire nice finish of detail, when it is not the one thing forced upon our notice.

Mr Paton's picture of the death approaching in the shambles of Cawnpore, *In Memoriam*, is less horrible than the same scene as every man conceives it for himself, and yet to English eyes and in these days more horrible than anything that should be set forth in the mimicry of paint. Mr Paton's *Bluidy Tryst* is a preraphaelite picture not less foppish in aspect than the slain lover who is its hero. The *Nativity* by Mr Hughes gives us unquestionably spiritual beauty in the faces of the angels, but considering how very sunny they all are, clothed in rays of every hue, was it requisite that one of them should hold a rushlight to the virgin? Moreover, to say nothing of the determined eccentricity of the whole picture, what point is made by representing the holy infant as a babe no bigger than a guinea pig, wearing a nimbus that resembles the straw hat of an American planter? Mr M. C. Stone's *Rest* is that of Ms Millais' Sir Isumbras, who after the fatiguing ride on his long horse thinks he can eat an apple. Such treatment of sacred and heroic subjects gives a double zest for quiet little home pictures like Mr J. Clark's *Doctor's Visit*. Here there is no grimace of art declaring itself absolute nature. We are shown simply the old doctor in the cottage, too familiar a guest there, kind as he is, for the cat chooses his leg as a rubbing-post; the sick boy is in his chair listlessly fingering a pictured spelling-book, the homely woman is telling fifty times more than is needed, and yet but a fiftieth of what is in her love to tell, and her loquacity and her just sense of her own medical attainments; the young sister looks up from her needle-work, soberly watchful of her sick playfellow, and everybody's head is of the right size, everybody's arms are of the right proportion. The preraphaelite is happiest, we half suspect, when he has put a pair of woman's legs on a little girl's body, coloured a rainbow upside down, made a man's arm as long as a baboon's, painted a horse with a whale's back, or a goat several times bigger than a mountain.

THE PICTURESQUE NEGLECTED BY THE ITALIANS.—The Italians have no eye for the beauties of nature, and seldom affect any love for them. There is not a single landscape description in the whole range of Italian literature, unless we take as such the stiff and formal gardens of Alcina and Armida by Ariosto and Tasso, which are no more landscapes than the Tuileries garden is a park,—no landscape-picture from Dante to Manzoni, and this latter had all the models of Germany and England before him. The Italian is no lover of the country; he dreads of all things an isolated dwelling. If he cannot live in the capital, then in a provincial city; if not, in a country-town; then in a village; only not in a country-house; they huddle together in their squalid boroughs and hamlets, and the happiest man is he whose forefathers have built their home in the narrowest, closest court or alley hard by the market-place. Every man owns a vineyard, and every vineyard has a hut; but that hut is no man's abode, or only the luckless hind's who digs and prunes it: for the rest, no man deems it a pleasure to live in the country, unless there be harvest or vintage to be gathered in. I remember a lady with luxuriously fair, rich complexion, melting blue eyes, and a great display of tender sentiment, whom I had one day coaxed into a walk even beyond the Place d'Armes, the world's end for the little world of Turin. It was in the witching month of May, and I asked her if she would not at that season rather be in the country. "In the country!" ejaculated the fair one, with a half-astonished, half-terrified look. "What on earth should one go to the country for now? surely there is no fruit to eat."—*Gallenga's Piedmont.*

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.—OVATION TO THE MILITARY HYENA.—People in Paris are becoming alarmed at the proportions which the quarrel between the military and the civilians has now assumed. The backers of M. Hyène and his fellow conspirators seem to intend goading their opponents to retaliate. It appears that on Thursday week Hyène, and Rogé, his second, and the writer of the characteristic article, which was published by the 'Industriel de St Germain,' last week arrived at Versailles from their quarters at Abbeville, in order to be examined by the Juge d'Instruction. Their comrades in that town determined upon giving them an "ovation." On their leaving the office of the judge, MM. Hyène and Rogé found a number of officers waiting for them in the street, with a regimental band, and they were played and escorted in state to the neighbouring cavalry barracks. There an entertainment was prepared for De Pène's second opponent, what in French military parlance is called a "Ponche," the refreshments consisting exclusively of that beverage and cigars. What took place there is variously reported, but all the accounts agree in representing Hyène's atrocious brutality as having been the theme of universal commendation. The "license of the press" was loudly inveighed against, and the assemblage pledged itself to treat all who cast reflections on the cloth in the same way as De Pène had been treated. It is needless to say that the health of M. Hyène was drunk with all the honours. One gentleman proposed a toast to the speedy extinction of journalism and the annihilation of journalists throughout Europe. This liberal sentiment was received with thunders of applause.

MISCELLANEOUS FACTS.—The sittings of the Conference are likely to be protracted till the middle of July, and their deliberations will be confined to the points already set down for them.—The inauguration of the railway from Besançon to Belfort will take place tomorrow.—The 'Patrie' contains an article on the butchers' trade, from which it appears that since the suppression of the monopoly only twelve new shops have been opened in Paris for the sale of meat.—By the death of the Duchess d'Orleans the French budget saves 300,000*fr.* a year, which neither the Republic nor the coup d'état attempted to withdraw, it being the national dowry settled by France, but there is no roversary interest in the Count de Paris.—The 'Moniteur' publishes an account of the receipts of the French lines of railway for the first quarter of 1858. They are not by any means satisfactory, as, with an average distance open for traffic of 7,554 kilometres (4,721 miles), to only 6,249 (3,893 miles) in 1857, the receipts give a falling off of 1,333,313*fr.* in the first three months of 1858.—An experimental railway trip from Paris to Cherbourg was made for the first time on Saturday. The public inauguration of this important line is fixed for July 23.—Marshal Narvaiz has arrived in Paris, on his way to take the waters of Vichy.—The trial of the Socialist Proudhon has commenced before the Police-court of Paris. He is accused of having published a work entitled, 'Of Justice in the Revolution and the Church,' and a pamphlet entitled 'A Petition to the Senate,' containing "attacks on the religion of the majority of the nation."—The Emperor, during his stay in Paris on Wednesday, arranged with his architect the improvements to be made in the Palace of the Tuileries, which is to be raised a story.—All doubt about the commutation of Lieutenant de Mercey's sentence is at an end. The 'Moniteur' announces that the Emperor decided on May 28th on the remission of the capital punishment pronounced by two courts-martial. He will be imprisoned for life, and degraded from his rank.—Rudio and Gomez, who had been sent to Toulon, the latter after the decision of the jury of the Seine, and the former after the close of the trial of Bernard in London, form part of the band of convicts now being conveyed to Cayenne by the Loire steam screw transport, which lately took her departure. The wife of Rudio applied for permission to accompany her husband, but was refused.

TURKEY AND MONTENEGRO.—Letters from Ragusa state that six Turkish steamers, having on board 3,600 men, with twelve pieces of artillery, arrived on the 31st May at Gravosa. The latest intelligence from Constantinople says that a whole division had there embarked for Montenegro. The 'Pays' contradicts, on authority, a statement in the German papers to the effect that Prince Daniel has agreed to acknowledge the suzerainty of the Sultan provided Grahovo is surrendered to the Montenegrins. The 'Pays' says the basis of the arrangement about to be concluded between the Turks and the Montenegrins is the *status quo* of the year 1856. Grahovo is to remain in the possession of the Montenegrins, and there is no question of suzerainty.

UNITED STATES.—Accounts received on Monday are of the 20th ult. The action of British cruisers (several new cases having come to light), in firing at and searching American vessels in the Gulf of Mexico, had attracted attention, and had given rise to considerable excitement at Washington. Both Houses of Congress had called on the executive for information on the subject, and it is said the President in his turn had asked for explanations from the British and Spanish Ministers. A Washington telegram of the 18th says that "neither the United States Government nor Lord Napier has accurate information concerning the recent violations of American vessels by British cruisers. It is supposed the latter have exceeded their instructions, or that the published accounts have been very much exaggerated. If the transactions are as alleged it is not believed that they will be justified by Great Britain. Our Government has addressed a letter to Lord Napier, and will by the next steamer forward instructions to Mr Dallas on the subject. The Senate committee on the foreign relations, who have the matter under consideration, will further all the measures necessary to prevent the repetition of such outrages. The President will shortly send to Congress the few documents in possession of the Government." The bill admitting Oregon to the Union as a State had passed the Senate. A telegram from St Louis says that an express had reached Port Leavenworth from Utah with news that the Mormons were abandoning Salt Lake City to find a new home in Mexico, and that Governor Cumming had entered the city, on the invitation of Brigham Young, without an escort. A Washington despatch, dated the 18th, says that Government intends keeping a large military force in Salt Lake Valley, and will make Salt Lake City a depot of stores, equipments, &c. Even if the late intelligence prove true, the supply trains will be pushed on, and communication must be established and maintained between Fort Leavenworth and Salt Lake. A telegram from New Orleans reports no abatement in the overflow of the Mississippi, and estimates the damage in that locality by millions of dollars. Henry W. Herbert, better known as an author under the *nom de plume* of Frank Forrester, has committed suicide in New York, owing to domestic difficulties with his wife, to whom he had been married three months. He shot himself with a pistol, and left letters explaining his motives. Herbert was a son of the late Dean of Manchester. The Vanderbilt has since brought advices to the 22nd ult. A very angry feeling still existed at New York on the question of the alleged outrages on American merchant vessels by British men-of-war. President Buchanan had responded promptly to the resolutions of Congress asking for information about these outrages, and sent to that body on the 19th a short message, with copies of letters to Lord Napier and Mr Dallas, the United States Minister in London. These documents comprised the correspondence between Secretary Cass and Lord Napier, and the instructions of the President to Mr Dallas, together with the requisition on the Naval Department for a reinforcement of

the home squadron, and the response of the Secretary of the Navy thereto, and also a communication from the United States Consul-General at Havannah, detailing some particulars of the aggressions complained of. Mr Dallas is instructed to lay the facts before the British Government, and to demand satisfaction for the insults to the American flag, and indemnity for whatever damages have resulted from the visitations of the British cruisers. The Secretary of the Navy reports that the steam-frigate Wabash, the razez Savannah, and the brig Dolphin had been ordered to the Gulf. These vessels, with the Colorado, Fulton, and Jamestown, will make a strong force in those waters. The steamship Black Warrior had arrived at New York from Havannah, with advices to the 15th ult. She reported the fact of a gross outrage having been offered to the Spanish flag by the British naval force which surrounds the Island of Cuba. A few days before the Black Warrior sailed a party of English marines were landed from the steamer Styx, east of Cardenas, and proceeded to hunt the plantations in the neighbourhood for negroes. They found none, and retired, after exciting great indignation and some alarm by the invasion. The Spanish captain in command of the district had been ordered to Havannah, to take trial for a neglect of duty in not resisting by force this insolent aggression on private property and national rights.

CANADA.—The Anglo-Saxon has brought Quebec dates of the 22nd ult. The estimates of the Inspector-General of Canada for the year 1858 had been published. The total expenditure is placed at 5,261,411*dols.*, and the total revenue at 5,866,400*dols.* Resolutions were pending in the Canadian parliament on the seat of government question; the first thanks her Majesty for choosing a seat of government, and regrets that the choice is not in accordance with the views of the majority of the inhabitants of Canada; the second requests her Majesty to reconsider her choice and make Montreal the capital of the province. The supporters of these resolutions were in opposition to the government. The House of Assembly, by a vote of 41 to 38, had decided to hear at the bar Mr Gournay, who was unjustly banished from the country in 1817, but subsequently pardoned and offered a pension. He refuses to accept the pension, and claims that the sentence should be declared null and void.

FOREIGN GLEANINGS.

The inauguration of the Alicante railway took place on the 25th ult., and was a complete success. Four ministers were present. The Federal Council of Berns has decreed that the opening of the International Telegraphic Congress shall take place on the 23rd of August next.

Letters from Rome announce that, owing to the intervention of the Pope, Dom Miguel accepts the basis of the propositions made to him by his nephew, the King of Portugal, and that a reconciliation is about to take place between the two chiefs of the house of Braganza.

It is stated that Mr Murray, Minister of England at Teheran, has proposed as basis of a treaty to be concluded with the Shah, that Persia should cease to occupy Merswoud. The Persian Government has refused to yield to that pretension.

The postal treaty between Spain and England had been signed at Aranjuz by M. Isturitz, President of the Council, and Lord Howden.

A member of the Canadian House of Assembly had been unanimously expelled from his seat for election frauds, and the county which returned him was disfranchised.

At Havannah, on the 15th, a party of marines from a British cruiser ransacked plantations at one of the Cuban outposts in search of negroes. The captain of the port is to be tried for not resisting the search.

The 'Official Gazette' of Milan, of May 28, announces the premature death of Gaetano Motelli, one of the most celebrated sculptors in Italy.

INDIA AND CHINA.

THE BOMBAY MAIL.

We have received by the Overland Mail papers and advices from India. The dates are—Bombay, May 8; Calcutta, April 26; Madras, April 30.

The following summary of news is from the 'Bombay Standard' of May 8:—

The languor prevailing at the date of our last has been followed by all the vivacity and excitement of a hot-weather campaign. The commander-in-chief is by this time under the walls of Bareilly, in which direction four powerful columns have for the past fortnight been advancing—one under Walpole from Lucknow, a second under Jones from Roorkee, a third from the northward under Colonel Horsford, and a fourth from the southward, the name of whose commander has escaped us. The whole will probably amount to 16,000 men, with thirty or forty pieces of artillery. Generals Rose, Whitlock, and Penny, advancing from different directions, are by this time in all likelihood bombarding Calpee. Brigadier Reid, with a portion of Roberts's Kotah Force, covering Rose's left flank and rear. Brigadier Macduff, advancing from the south westward, supporting Whitlock. General Sir Hope Grant has just returned from a fruitless expedition to the Oude frontier, in hopes of overtaking the Moolvee and the Queen. General Sir Edward Lugard, having relieved Azimghur, is now pressing Kooer Singh on the one side, while Brigadier Douglas hems him in on the other. Colonel Rowcroft continues to perform gallant feats of arms on the Goruckpore frontier.

We have thus ten several columns, all lately acting independently, some only now in concert, engaged in difficult siege and field operations at a season of the year usually deemed unsafe for European troops to quit their barracks. Setting aside three reverses, the fortnight reckons up twelve several encounters with the enemy, in all of which we have been successful, having captured some forty guns, with an aggregate slaughter of little less than 2,000 men. Particulars will be found under their respective heads. The operations of the past fortnight will probably appear insignificant compared to those we shall have to chronicle by next mail.

We regret to say that the policy which the Governor-General is pursuing in Oude threatens to be unsuccessful. The country is not becoming tranquillised, and we shall require another 40,000 troops from England within the next two years.

We have had some severe disturbances with the Bheels in Khan-deish, and Mahee Caunta field force is still actively engaged in the Satpooa defiles and jungles.

We have had three heavy calamities within the fortnight to deplore. On April 16 a detachment, sent by Brigadier Walpole without guns or supports to attack a fortified town, were defeated, four officers and fifty men being slain. On the 23rd Captain Le Grand, sent to protect Arrah, had permitted himself to be drawn into the jungles and was surrounded, when the party was put to flight, with the loss of their guns and ammunition, three officers and 130 men having been left dead upon the field. An event occasioning greater grief than even these is the demise of Sir William Peel, cut off at Cawnpore by small-pox on the 27th. The hot weather has set in with great violence, accompanied by the customary hail and thunder storms. The governors of the various residencies are at the seats of their respective administrations.

We extract from the private correspondence by this mail some details of the reverses in Oude and Behar, with the present state of Bareilly.

THE DISASTER AT ARRAB.

"I mentioned in my last," says the Bombay correspondent of the 'Times,' "the relief of Azimghur by Sir E. Lugard, who dissipated the besieging force commanded by the well-known rebel Kooer Singh. This active enemy, beaten upon his new ground, bethought himself of retiring to his old haunts across the Ganges in the neighbourhood of Arrah, the scene of his former temporary success and subsequent defeat by Vincent Eyre, with the handful of Artillery and the 6th Fusiliers. Accordingly, with such of his men as remained with him—2,000 Sepoys, it is said, and a swarm of rabble—he moved downwards towards the Ganges. He was vigorously pursued, and it was hoped that he would be caught in the angle formed by the confluence of the Gogra and the Ganges. Brigadier Douglas pressed him on the east, Colonel Cumberlege, with his two Madras regiments of cavalry from Cossicabad, on the west. The former officer brought him to action at a place called Bansdeh, and drove him from the field severely wounded. Still his craft and skill did not desert him. Turning Colonel Cumberlege's line of march, he struck the Ganges in his rear at the Bulleah Ghât, previously guarded by the Colonel, but now abandoned for the onward movement which was to complete the cordon round the rebel leader. Thence Kooer Singh crossed in boats to the southern side of the river, just escaping steamers sent with troops from Dinapore and Ghazepore directly it was known that he had eluded his pursuers. Once across the river, he made for Jugdespore, near Arrah, an old lair of his, lying in thick jungle, but blown up last year by Eyre. The neighbouring garrisons were at once on the alert, and to strengthen them the 6th Foot was sent up from Calcutta by rail to Raneeungee, and the Naval Brigade on its way down was halted at Sasseram. Arrah was held by some three companies of the 35th and some Sikhs. It was on the 20th or 21st of April that Kooer Singh's force reached the jungles of Jugdespore. On the night of the 22nd part of the Arrah garrison moved out to seek and attack him. Captain Le Grand, of the 35th, commanded, having with him 150 of his own men, 52 sailors, and 100 of Rattray's Sikhs, with two 12-pounder howitzers. His expedition was unsuccessful. Overpowered by numbers, and attacked in the thick jungle, the party was repulsed, losing their two howitzers, Le Grand himself, Lieutenant Massey, and Dr Clarke killed, and about 180 men and officers wounded. This was on the 23rd. Meanwhile Brigadier Douglas was preparing to pursue. He began to cross the Ganges on the 25th. On the 29th two companies of the 84th and two Horse Artillery guns reached Arrah, and on the 1st of this month came in the rest of the 84th, and 100 Sikh Cavalry. Sir E. Lugard, with the rest of his division, was to commence the passage of the river on the 3rd. The enemy were by this time estimated at 7,000 men, and were intrenching themselves and getting in supplies. Most of them, however, were villagers, and they had but one small gun in addition to the two howitzers taken from Le Grand, and, more encouraging still, Kooer Singh is no more. So, at least, we are assured by telegrams from Allahabad and Calcutta—'there is no doubt that Kooer Singh is dead.' He was badly wounded, as I have said, in his engagement with Douglas, and probably succumbed during his hasty flight. More fortunate than others of his kind, and than his treason, if not his capacity, deserved, he has died the death of a soldier. A formidable opponent is thus removed. 25,000 rupees had been set upon his head. Nuttee Singh, his brother, commands in his stead." Notwithstanding the information conveyed by the telegram alluded to, it is by no means certain that Kooer Singh is dead, though there is no doubt of his having been severely wounded.

GENERAL WALPOLE'S CHECK AT RHODAMOW.

The same correspondent writes:—"General Walpole's column left Lucknow on the 8th of April, marching for Rohileund, on the left or Oude bank of the Ganges. Thus, his march lay through the latter province. He appears to have met with no opposition till the 15th, early on which day he assaulted the fortified town of Rhodamow, fifty miles west of Lucknow and ten distant from the bank of the Ganges. The place was assailed, as is asserted, by infantry alone and without any reconnaissance. A high leap-holed wall and ditch were defences that were not thus to be overcome. The 42nd Highlanders, supported by the 4th Punjab Rifles, formed the attacking party, and advanced with a desperate but unavailing gallantry. A retreat was, of necessity, ordered, amid the yells of the triumphant rebels—400 only in number—who, satisfied with their success, evacuated the town during the succeeding night. In this memorable affair fell Brigadier Adrian Hope, 'the most gallant and the best beloved soldier in the army,' writes one from the camp; and out of the 42nd and Punjabees nearly a hundred men and officers were killed and wounded. Of the killed were Douglas and Bramley, of the 42nd, and Harrington, of the Artillery. Serving with the Punjab corps was a young officer of the Bombay Army, Edmund Willoughby, who in the desperate fight at the Secunder Bagh during Sir Colin's first attack on Lucknow, when he brought the corps out of action in the repulse of the Gwalior Contingent at Cawnpore, and on various minor occasions, had commended himself by his courage and conduct to the notice of his superiors. On the morning of the 15th he was on the sick list, but left his doolie to join in the fight. While advancing with his corps in support of the 42nd a musket-ball struck him in his throat, but, though mortally wounded, he still pressed on, and reached the glacis, where he dropped and died—'As brave a boy as ever stepped,' writes one who served with him. Advancing from the scene of this untoward affair, Walpole encountered the enemy on his road at Sirsa on the 22nd, and drove them from the field with his cavalry and horse artillery, capturing four guns, and killing and wounding 600. The next day he occupied Allehunge, and opened communications with the Commander-in-Chief at Futtyghur."

It turns out that there were not 300 of the enemy in the fort. The attack was mismanaged—officers and men were uselessly sacrificed, and their loss was not avenged. At the very moment that the Sikhs and the 42nd were desperately clambering up the walls of the fort, helping each other up by hand and leg and firelock, and just as they were getting at the enemy, they were recalled, and in their retreat they suffered as much as in the attack. It is stated that there was a passage where the cavalry could have got in, but that they were not permitted to make the attempt. The men were furious at the repulse, and clamoured loudly to be led to the assault. The Sikhs had lost Willoughby, and Cope was wounded. The 93rd had lost Adrian Hope. The 42nd left the bodies of Bramley, Douglas, and many gallant comrades behind them. In the middle of the fight Adrian Hope, ever regardless of his own life where the lives of his soldiers were concerned, rushed to the wall of the fort to withdraw the men. His aide-de-camp Butter said to him, "The fire is very hot, General." As he spoke the Brigadier fell, shot from above through the neck, shoulder, and lungs. He said, "They have done for me. Remember me to my friends," and died in a few seconds. At the funeral, which was most affecting, the 93rd wept like children for their beloved Colonel. There was not a dry eye in Bramley's company as his body was borne to the grave. His body and that of Douglas were recovered by the most daring gallantry, which will not, I trust, go unrewarded. When the men retired, Simpson, the quartermaster-sergeant of the regiment, hearing that two officers were left on the ground, rushed out to the ditch of the work, and, seizing the corpse of poor Bramley, brought it in on his shoulders. He next started out, and recovered the body of Douglas in the same way, and then, undeterred by the incessant fusillade of the enemy, this gallant soldier again and again renewed his labours, and never ceased till he had carried in the bodies of five more of his comrades. Two men

were killed in attempting to imitate this noble soldier. Does he not well deserve the Victoria Cross? Walpole's subsequent march was more successful, for on the 22nd the artillery and cavalry had a fight of their own with the enemy, and took four guns and their camp, inflicting on them such loss that they fled across the Ramgunga at Allygunge, without attempting to destroy the bridge they had constructed across the river, so that we not only secured Allygunge, but the means of sending our siege train over the Ramgunga at the very spot where it was desired to do so.—The 'Times' Special Letter.

THE REBELS AT BAREILLY.

By the latest accounts from Bareilly we hear that Khan Bahadour Khan is fast losing the little intellect and influence which he and opium had left him, and that he is falling into second childhood. Under such circumstances the activity and energy of the Nana have secured to him a preponderating control, which he seems to be exercising most injudiciously for the common interest of the enemy. He has in the Mahomedan city of Bareilly forbidden the killing of cows, and he has hurried four amulets at each corner of the city, with rites strictly Hindoo, to assure his followers of success. One of his emissaries was lately found near Indore with letters to persons of influence in Bundelcund and in the Mahratta country, advising them to murder all the English, to hold out till the rains, and to organise a general rising, which will give a death-blow to our raj before the year is over. The cowardly assassin, who never yet has headed troops in the field, exhibits fertility of resources and power of combination beyond any of the leaders of the insurrection. But it is beyond his power to resist the force which will be brought against his troops, although the Rohillas are famous horsemen, and Rohilcund is said to swarm with their cavalry.—The 'Times' Special Letter.

CHINA.

The intelligence from China, the latest Hong Kong date being April 13, relates almost entirely to the movements of the diplomatists. The Russian envoy, Count Putiatin, arrived at Shanghai in the steamer America, on the 22nd of March; the United States commissioner, Mr Reed, by the steam frigate Minnesota, on the 24th; the Earl of Elgin, in her Majesty's steamship Furious, on the 25th; and the French ambassador, Baron Gros, in his Imperial Majesty's steam-fragate Audacious, on the 30th. Shanghai advices are to the 6th inst. The news is important, and our diplomatic relations with China are now taking a turn which it was no doubt expected by the ambassadors of the allied Powers would be avoided. Replies, it is understood, have been received by the foreign ambassadors to their communications with the Court at Peking. The course said to be proposed for the settlement of the existing difficulties—viz., to discuss the question at Canton, has, of course, not been approved by the Plenipotentiaries, and has decided Lord Elgin, Baron Gros, and the Russian and United States Ministers to proceed at once to Teen-tsin. Lord Elgin was to leave Shanghai on the 7th or 8th inst. in her Majesty's steamer Furious, and would not wait for the arrival of Sir Michael Seymour, who would be requested to follow. On the policy that has dictated Lord Elgin's actions up to this time we are in a measure informed by his reply to an address presented to him by the merchants of Shanghai. On the 29th of March a deputation from the British mercantile community there waited by appointment on his Excellency at the British Consulate, to present an address to him, on his arrival at that port. In reply to the address he said he never had and never would prefer a demand which he did not believe to be both moderate and just, and that from a demand so preferred he would never recede; and he intimated that the removal of the barriers which prevent free access to the interior of the country was one of the demands upon which he would insist.

THE EAST-INDIA COMPANY AND LORD CANNING'S PROCLAMATION.

On Thursday was issued, as a return to parliament, the following copy of a letter from the Court of Directors of the East India Company to the Governor-General in council, dated the 18th day of May last:

Political Department, 18th of May (No 20), 1858.

Our Governor-General of India in Council.

Paragraph 1. The Secret Committee has communicated to us the Governor General's secret letter, dated 5th March (No 9), 1858, with its enclosures, consisting of a letter addressed to the Chief Commissioner of Oude, dated 3rd of March, and of the proclamation referred to therein, which was to be issued by Sir James Outram to the chiefs and inhabitants of Oude as soon as the British troops should have possession or command of the City of Lucknow. 2. We have also received communication of the letter addressed to your Government by the Secret Committee, under date the 19th of April last, on the subject of the draft of proclamation. 3. Our political letter of the 5th of May has apprised you of our strong sense of the distinction which ought to be maintained between the revolted Sepoys and the chiefs and people of Oude, and the comparative indulgence with which, equally from justice and policy, the insurgents of that country (other than Sepoys) ought to be regarded. In accordance with these views, we entirely approve the guarantee of life and honour given by the proposed proclamation to all talookdars, chiefs, and landholders, with their followers, who should make immediate submission, surrender their arms, and obey the orders of the British Government, provided they have not participated in the murder "of Englishmen or Englishwomen." 4. We are prepared to learn that in publicly declaring that, with the exception of the lands of six persons who had been steadfast in their allegiance, the proprietary right in the soil of the province was confiscated to the British Government, the Governor-General intended no more than to reserve to himself entire liberty of action, and to give the character of mercy to the confirmation of all rights not prejudicial to the public welfare, the owners of which might not, by their conduct, have excluded themselves from indulgent consideration. 5. His lordship must have been well aware that the words of the proclamation, without the comment on it which we trust was speedily afforded by your actions, must have produced the expectation of much more general and indiscriminate dispossession than could have been consistent with justice or with policy. We shall doubtless be informed, in due course, of the reasons which induced the Governor-General to employ those terms, and of the means which, we presume, have been taken of making known in Oude the merciful character which we assume must still belong to your views. In the meantime, it is due to the Governor-General that we should express our entire reliance that on this as on former occasions it has been his firm resolution to show to all whose crimes are not too great for any indulgence the utmost degree of leniency consistent with the early restoration and firm maintenance of lawful authority.

We accordingly have to inform you that, on receiving communication of the papers now acknowledged, the Court of Directors passed the following resolution:—"Resolved,—That, in reference to the despatch from the Secret Committee to the Governor-General of India, dated the 19th ult., with the documents therein alluded to, and this day laid before the Court of Directors, this court desires to express its continued confidence in the Governor-General, Lord Canning, and its conviction that his measures for the pacification of Oude and the other disturbed districts in India, will be characterised by a generous policy, and by the utmost clemency that is found to be consistent with the satisfactory accomplishment of that important object."

We are, &c.

(Signed)

F. CURRIE,
W. J. EASTWICK,
&c., &c.

London, May 18, 1858.

STATE AND CHURCH.

THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO BIRMINGHAM.—The day fixed for the visit of her Majesty and the Prince Consort to Birmingham is Tuesday week, the 16th inst.; and the preparations which are being made are upon a scale of more than ordinary splendour. The municipal authorities have voted 3,000*l.* towards the necessary expenditure, upwards of 1,500*l.* of which will be devoted to the decoration of the Town-hall alone. The Queen and the Prince Consort will proceed to Stoneleigh Abbey, Warwickshire, the seat of Lord Leigh, the Lord Lieutenant of the county, on Monday the 14th inst. There they will remain overnight, and make their entry into Birmingham on the following day at noon. After receiving the corporation address, her Majesty and the Prince Consort will be escorted to Aston-hall, a fine old baronial residence, at which Charles II halted on his way to Worcester. Aston-hall, with thirty-five acres of the adjacent land, has been recently purchased at a cost of 35,000*l.*, raised by subscription among the inhabitants of Birmingham and its immediate neighbourhood, with the view to the hall being dedicated to the purposes of a museum, library, and picture-gallery, and the land to a park for public recreation. The park will be opened by the Queen on the occasion of her visit, and thenceforth devoted to the public use. From Aston hall the Royal visitors will return to Stoneleigh Abbey, where they will stay over Tuesday night, and proceed to town on the following day, paying a visit to Warwick Castle, the seat of the Earl of Warwick, on the way.

THE MINISTERIAL RE-ELECTIONS.—We are informed at the last moment that there will be no contest in Hertfordshire; Sir E. B. Lyton will consequently be returned on Tuesday.—Lord Stanley's re-election for King's Lynn takes place to-day.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—The deaths registered in London, which in the two previous weeks were successively 1,057 and 1,082, rose in the week ending last Saturday to 1,106, of which 576 were deaths of males, and 530 those of females. This rate of mortality agrees with the average. The births of last week exceed the deaths in the same period by 586. Of four nonagenarians whose deaths were registered, the two oldest were widows, one of whom died at the age of ninety-six in Fulham workhouse, the other at ninety-seven in St Luke's workhouse. Last week the births of 904 boys and 788 girls, in all 1,692 children, were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1848-57 the average number was 1,527. The mean temperature of the week was 53.9 deg. The highest point attained by the thermometer in the shade was 75 deg. on Saturday; the lowest point was 38.9 deg. on Wednesday; the extreme range of temperature in the week was therefore 36.1 deg.

Obituary.

CAPTAIN SIR W. PEEL, of the Shannon, and Commander of the Naval Brigade serving in the Bengal Presidency, died of smallpox at Cawnpore, on the 27th of April. He was third son of the late Sir R. Peel, and was born in 1824. He entered the navy in 1838, and took part in the bombardment of St Jean d'Acre, and afterwards served in the China seas. In 1844 he passed his examination in such a brilliant manner that he called forth the warm eulogiums of Sir T. Hastings and Sir C. Napier, and was forthwith promoted to the rank of lieutenant. In that year he was appointed to the Winchester, on the Cape of Good Hope station, and shortly after removed to the Cormorant steamship, in the Pacific, and subsequently to the Thalia, on the same station. He was promoted to the rank of commander in 1846, and was appointed to the command of the Daring, on the North American and West India stations. He held several minor commands until the outbreak of the late war with Russia. He was captain of the Diamond, in the Black Sea fleet, and distinguished himself greatly with the Naval Brigade in the Crimea. Captain Peel was compelled, from wounds and over-exertion, to return to England before the fall of Sebastopol, but at the commencement of the differences with China in 1856 he was appointed to the command of the Shannon screw-frigate, ordered on the China station. He had scarcely reached the Chinese waters before he was ordered by the Earl of Elgin with spare troops to Calcutta to afford assistance in the suppression of the mutiny of the Bengal army. He made, with his men, a most rapid progress to Allahabad and Cawnpore, and was severely wounded at the capture of Lucknow, under Sir C. Campbell. He was made a Companion of the Order of the Bath for his services in the Crimea, and for his recent services in India was nominated a knight commander. He was also an officer of the Legion of Honour of France and of the Imperial Order of the Medjidie, and had received the Sardinian war medal.

THE RIGHT HON. WILLIAM YATES PEEL died on Tuesday, at Baginton-hall, Warwickshire. He was second son of the first baronet, and was born in 1789. He married in 1819 Lady Jane Eliza Moore, second daughter of the Earl of Mountcashel, by whom he had a numerous family. The deceased was for a long series of years a member of the House of Commons. He held the same Conservative politics as his brother, Sir Robert Peel, and was a willing supporter of that eminent statesman's free-trade policy.

BRIGADIER-GENERAL THE HON. ADRIAN HOPE, C.B., of the 93rd Highlanders, was killed in the attack on the fort of Rowan on the 15th of April. He was one of the most able of the young officers whom the warfare in the Crimea and in India has brought into prominence. Colonel Hope was the youngest brother of the late Earl of Hopetoun; he was born in 1821, and entered the army as second lieutenant 60th Rifles in 1838. With the second battalion of that regiment he served as captain through the Caffre campaign of 1841-52-53, and received the brevet rank of major for his services. On the formation of the army of the Eastern expedition in 1854 Major Hope was appointed brigade-major to the Highland Brigade, then commanded by Sir Colin Campbell, and in that capacity served at the Alma and the other operations up to the month of April, 1855, when his promotion to a regimental majority in the 60th compelled him to relinquish his staff appointment, but in a few months afterwards he rejoined the army in the field as second Lieut.-Colonel of the 93rd. After the return of the army from the Crimea, he was placed on half-pay, but on the 93rd being ordered to China he was re-appointed to the regiment, and with it sailed to India, where he was placed in command of a brigade, consisting of the 53rd, 93rd, and a corps of Punjab Rifles, which he led to the relief of Lucknow and the subsequent readvance to that place in a manner that gained him the warmest approval of his chief. Colonel Hope's death was caused by a shot from a Sepoy, who fired at him from a distance of about twenty yards as he was out reconnoitring.

MILITARY AND NAVAL INTELLIGENCE.

THE ATLANTIC TELEGRAPH EXPEDITION.—Captain Hudson, of the United States steam-frigate Niagara, and his officers, were entertained by Captain W. H. Stewart, C.B., and the officers of the Impregnable, 104, flag of Port-Admiral Sir B. Reynolds, on board that ship in Hamoaze, yesterday week. The Niagara and the Agamemnon left Plymouth Sound on Saturday evening for the west coast of Ireland, attended by the paddle-wheel steamers Valorous and Gorgon, for the purpose of testing machinery, and rehearsing various operations connected with the laying of the cable. The squadron returned to Plymouth Sound on Thursday evening. The experiments were quite satisfactory. The Agamemnon and Gorgon arrived in latitude 47.12 N., longitude 9.32 W., about 200 miles from Ushant, on Mon-

day afternoon, and left on Wednesday, having made several successful experiments. The weather was fine; depth of the sea, 2,530 fathoms, or about 2½ miles. The cable was spliced four times, and the Agamemnon and Niagara separated on one occasion nearly four miles. The ships were put at various speeds, and by the aid of the new apparatus the cable withstood the strain in a satisfactory manner. Since the last trial the power of hauling in has been greatly increased and improved. The cable was payed out from the Niagara on one trial at the rate of seven knots, and from the Agamemnon at the rate of eight knots per hour. Buoys were occasionally attached to the cable, which also passed from the stern to the bow, and sometimes rested in a vertical position. Electrical messages were sent through the wire when in various positions. The expedition is appointed to start from Plymouth finally on Wednesday the 9th.

BANQUET TO GENERAL WILSON.—On Wednesday the members of the Oriental Club entertained Major-General Sir Archdale Wilson, K.C.B., the conqueror of Delhi, in their banqueting hall, Hanover square. General Sir R. Vylian presided. In acknowledging the toast proposing his health, General Wilson thus referred to the operations of the force under his command before Delhi: "That force," he said, "for four months of the most trying and unhealthy season endured such fatigue and exposure as were probably never known by soldiers before; and although they were reduced daily in numbers by the continual attacks which they had to repel, and though one-third of their available strength was paralysed by sickness, yet they bore every hardship with the greatest patience, and the only difficulty was to restrain their ardour till the moment arrived when they could be let loose on the enemy with some chance of success. Not the least noble part of their conduct, in my opinion, was, that though flushed with victory, and their blood roused to the highest pitch, they still obeyed the call that was made upon them, and not a single woman or child was ill-used or ill-treated either by a European or a native soldier belonging to our force. It has been stated in the public prints, and also, as I am told, in Parliament, that such was not the case, and that women had actually been recklessly murdered. That I most emphatically deny. Not one single instance, I repeat, of any woman or child having been ill-treated ever came to my knowledge, and I took great pains to inquire into this matter."

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.—Major-General Sir J. Inglis landed at Dover on Saturday from Calais, and arrived in London the same day.—By the decease of Captain Evans the appointment of Captain of Invalids at Chelsea Hospital has become vacant.—Mr Francis, the inventor of the new mode of transporting troops across rivers by means of an apparatus which is a large boat when afloat, and serves as a baggage-wagon on shore, has disposed of his patent to the French and English Governments.—The 'Hampshire Advertiser' contradicts the statement that Portsmouth is being strongly fortified and asserts that "the old forts are not worth the mud they consist of."

In a very few months Wellington College will be able to receive 100 boys; the college is calculated to accommodate 240; but with every effort that has been made, the funds are at present insufficient to maintain so large a number.—On Saturday orders were issued for the following reinforcements of her Majesty's troops to embark for India between the 24th of June and the 2nd of July, viz., for Calcutta, 2,930 men of all ranks; for Kurrachee, 790 men; for Bombay, 1,130 men; for Madras, 820 men; total, 5,670 men, belonging to various cavalry and infantry corps.—Her Majesty's steam-frigate Forte, of 51 guns, was launched at Deptford on Saturday. The Forte is sister ship to the Impérieuse, and measures 212 feet in length, and breadth fifty. Her burthen in tons, old measurement, 2,355; new measurement, 1,749.—The statement that Lord Lyons had proceeded with his fleet to the Adriatic was an error. Lord Lyons is still at Malta, waiting the arrival of his successor in the Mediterranean command.

The Duke of Cambridge and Sir B. Airey inspected Hurst Castle, Cliffend Fort, and Fort Victoria on Tuesday.—The Rolla, 6-gun brig, tender to the Victory, for the training of apprentices to the fleet, under the command of Lieut. Nelson, was moored off Osborne on Tuesday evening for the Queen's inspection. Prince Alfred (who takes frequent cruises in the Rolla) showed her Majesty his progress in seamanship by two or three movements, such as tacking, putting the vessel before the wind, &c.

IRELAND.

RIOTING AT BELFAST.—Further riots in Belfast broke out on Sunday afternoon, on the occasion of the burial of a woman, the daughter of a member of the Roman Catholic gun club. The mourners seemed to have walked in procession, and some of them carried green boughs, an emblem of offence to the Protestants. Many persons were injured with stones, the constabulary and the magistrate having suffered severely. The brutal rioting of Sunday was renewed on the following evening, another funeral procession to the burial-ground at Friar's Bush affording the opportunity for the recommencement of hostilities between the two ferocious factions. There was the same stonethrowing and the same smashing of windows as took place on the first day. Again on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings the riots were renewed with increased violence; the rioters visited the more populous parts of the town, several places of worship of different denominations and private houses were attacked, and a considerable amount of property destroyed, making it necessary for all the disposable military and police to parade the streets.

O'CONNELL'S ASSETS.—A curious motion which came before the Court of Chancery on Monday brought to light for the first time the pecuniary position of the late Daniel O'Connell at the time of his death, eleven years ago. It appears that the recipient of almost countless tributes—commencing at 50,000*l.*, and scarcely ever falling below 10,000*l.* annually—died in straitened circumstances. The gross amount of the assets is not equal to two years of Mr O'Connell's income while a practitioner at the bar.

TRINITY COLLEGE VISITATION.—The adjourned meeting of the visitors was held on Monday, when the Vice-Chancellor delivered judgment on the appeals of Dr Shaw and Mr Carmichael from the censures passed on them by the governing party for discussing matters connected with the college in the public press. The Vice-Chancellor declared that Dr Shaw's conduct was subversive of the peace and discipline of the college, and that he had directly charged the board with a wilful breach of trust. He was therefore of opinion that Dr Shaw's appeal should be dismissed. He did not, however, concur in the censure passed on Mr Carmichael in his case. The board should only have administered a mild reproof. The censure on this gentleman is therefore reversed.—The Visitorial Court resumed its sitting on Thursday, when, the arguments of counsel having been concluded in the case of Dr Shaw's complaint of misdirection of collegiate funds, the Vice-Chancellor announced the decision of the Visitors, declaring that the complaint could not be supported; the usage of sixty years affording to the Court sufficient evidence of the legality of the present application of the revenues. The proceedings then terminated.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.—A daily mail communication recommenced on June 1st between Milford Haven and the South of Ireland, via Waterford, by powerful steam-packets. The South Wales railway terminates at Neyland, on the shores of the Haven, and letters are thus transmitted with such celerity as to reach Waterford, Cork, and the south and west of Ireland quicker than by any other route, and with much more certainty.—Another murder is reported from Tipperary. On Sunday night an inoffensive man, named Larkin, was stabbed with a knife, in the town of Borrisokane. His death was instantaneous. This deed was perpetrated whilst the police were still engaged dragging the river in which the body of Greene was found, in search of the instrument used in his murder.—Thomas

Cooper, charged with the recent murder of Michael Hogan, near Ennisworthy, has been fully committed to take his trial at the approaching assizes.—Mr R. S. Cusack, J.P., has been appointed by the Lord Lieutenant clerk of the Hanaper, vacant by the death of Mr J. O'Connell.—A public subscription has been opened for the family of the late Mr O'Connell. The first steps towards it were taken at a meeting held at the ceremony after the funeral, when 1,000*l.* was put down on the spot.—Instructions have been given to the Post-office authorities to make up and forward a mail by the steamer now about to make the first great trial trip between Galway and America.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Monday, May 31.

THE OATHS BILL.

The reason given by the House of Commons for disagreeing from their lordships' amendments to the oaths bill were considered; the fifth clause of the original bill having been read at the table, the Earl of LUCAN proposed the amendment of which he had given notice; it empowers both houses of parliament to modify the form of oath at present required by a special resolution. The House of Commons could thus order the portion of the oath to which the Jews object to be omitted. He had brought forward the amendment without consultation with any party, and, believing that the time had arrived when the question must be settled, he proposed it as a compromise. Since 1833 ten bills for removing the Jewish disabilities had been sent up to their lordships; the majorities by which they had been carried had constantly increased, and it was impolitic longer to resist a principle so strongly supported. The present position of the House of Lords on this question was untenable; it was not one on which they could continue a resistance to the House of Commons; and he believed it would be at last settled by some such compromise as he proposed.—Earl STANHOPE admitted that his opinions on the policy of continuing to resist the decision of the House of Commons had undergone a change. In two years the majority in the House of Commons in favour of admitting Jews to parliament had trebled, and since 1848 an annual bill had been sent up to the House of Lords. He doubted whether, in continuing to resist the other house on this question, they were really acting constitutionally; and he apprehended that if the house of lords persisted in this course the House of Commons would settle the controversy by its own act. He advised concession, but could not support the amendment.—The Earl of CLANCARTY opposed the object of the bill.—The Earl of DERBY thought the amendment contained a novel and important principle, which could not be properly discussed without longer notice and more deliberation. The reasons given by the House of Commons for rejecting the amendments to the oaths bill contained nothing that had not been often repeated and answered in former debates. He then examined the reasons in detail, briefly stating the several arguments so often used against them. He recognized the difficulty of the subject arising from the repeated large majorities of the House of Commons; and, if it were a mere question of expediency, he should think it their duty to waive their own opinion upon it, but he denied that those increased majorities indicated any increased feeling in the country. The admission of Jews to parliament had never been made a public question; it was not put forward at the last election by any constituency; he believed the great mass of the nation was quite apathetic upon it, and even the Jews themselves had not evinced any deep interest in it. He hoped the House of Commons would never engage in any unconstitutional course of proceeding, or attempt by a mere resolution to break through the law of the land. Be the resistance of the House of Lords long or short, he felt confident the House of Commons would never do themselves and the country such an injury. Alluding again to Lord Lucan's amendment, he said he did not object to it altogether; he would carefully consider whether some compromise could not be adopted; but he would not ask their lordships to recede from the position they had taken on the measure.—Earl GREY was ready to concur in any compromise on this question. The amendment involved a novel principle, which would be better discussed if embodied in a distinct bill. If the debate were adjourned for a fortnight such a bill might be drawn up, founded on the principle of the amendment, and sent down to the House of Commons with the oaths bill. He moved the adjournment of the debate to that day fortnight.—The Earl of DERBY was not prepared to waive their amendments to the oaths bill.—A long discussion ensued on the question of adjournment, which was supported by the Duke of NEWCASTLE and Lord CAMPBELL; Lord LYNDHURST assented to it; but the Earl of MALMESBURY hoped Earl Grey would not press his motion. He had not changed his opinions on this subject, but he believed they were approaching a solemn moment in their political history. Sooner or later—and rather soon than late—the question would be settled by the admission of Jews to parliament. The amendment, in its present form, was crude and imperfect; but it contained the elements of a compromise; he thought the house ought to adhere to its amendments, but he would not exclude the prospect of a reasonable compromise.—Earl GRANVILLE supported the adjournment, which would give time to prepare a conciliatory measure.—The Earl of DERBY thought, if they consented to an adjournment of the discussion, it would be liable to misconstruction. They ought to declare their adherence to their own views, and leave any question of compromise to after consideration.—Their lordships then divided on the adjournment of the debate; the numbers were—content, 68; not content, 80; majority against the adjournment, 12.—Lord LYNDHURST then commenced the discussion on the main question, by moving that their lordships do not insist on their amendments to the oaths bill. His speech repeated most of the chief arguments he employed in the former debate, the main point being that Jews were excluded from parliament by the words of an oath never directed against the Jews at all.—Lord DE ROS justified the exclusion of the Jews from parliament by their refusal to enter the military and naval services of the country.—The LORD CHANCELLOR again defended the principle and object of the amendments to the oaths bill; but remarked on the nomination of Baron Rothschild to the committee appointed to conduct the conference on the bill with their lordships, that if it were a piece of pleasantry it might be forgiven; but if intended to make a serious impression on the house it had failed, for it had been received with perfect indifference. He justified the denial of political rights to the Jew as a measure, not of religious persecution, but of self-defence; and contended that the repeated majorities of the House of Commons in favour of removing their disabilities were no more to be considered, because repeated, than the similar majorities in favour of the bill legalizing marriage with a deceased wife's sister.—Earl GRANVILLE urged Lord Lyndhurst not to divide the house; the opposition had not strong enough to bear him through; but the question had that night made an immense advance; virtually, he regarded it as settled, by the conciliatory tone and the readiness shown by the government to offer a compromise. He suggested that Lord Lyndhurst should apply his powers to framing a measure like the one hinted at during the evening, which would settle the question for ever.—Lord LYNDHURST, thus appealed to, would not divide.—The motion that their lordships insist on the amendments to the oaths bill was then agreed to without a division.

Tuesday, June 1.

LORD CANNING.

Lord GRANVILLE expressed himself as by no means either certain or satisfied in regard to the position of Lord Canning with the present government. Something had been said of a telegraphic message assuring Lord Canning of Lord Derby's support. He wished that message to be produced before their lordships, and also the vote of confidence passed by the court of directors in the policy of Lord Canning.—The Earl of DERBY said that was not the first time that an assurance of cordial support had been sent by them to Lord Canning. A despatch of the 24th of March conveyed a similar assurance, so long as his then policy was continued. The proclamation was a discontinuance of that policy. The only communication which had taken place with reference to the promised support of the government was contained in a telegraphic message which he (Lord Derby) had despatched as a personal communication, on the resignation of the noble earl (Earl of Ellenborough), which was sent off on the 12th, to overtake the mail of the 10th of last month. As the communication was of a private character, he did not think it would be possible to lay it before their lordships, but with respect to the production of the vote of confidence of the court of directors to Lord Canning he had not the slightest objection, and that document had been laid on the table of the other house.

THE EARLDOM OF SHREWSBURY.

Lord REDESDALE brought up the report of the committee of privileges, who had come to the conclusion that the Earl of Talbot had made out his title to the Earldom of Shrewsbury.—Lord CAMPBELL said he entirely agreed with the result the committee had arrived at. It had been clearly shown that Earl Talbot was a descendant of the first Earl of Shrewsbury.

THE SPEECH AT SLOUGH.

The Earl of CLARENDON called attention to the speech recently made by the Chancellor of the Exchequer at Slough. He alluded first to the statement that when the present government entered office war with France was not a question of weeks or days, but of hours. For that statement Lord Clarendon declared there was not a particle of foundation, and before their lordships and the country he gave it a direct and unqualified denial. At the moment he quitted the Foreign-office the relations between France and England were as cordial and confidential as they had been at any previous period. It was necessary to deny the statement of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, as it might be believed in the country, though in London it was at once received as a fiction, and caused no alarm. Lord Clarendon noticed the contradictions between the two defences made by the Chancellor of the Exchequer in the House of Commons, and the colour he gave to the departure of the French ambassador from London, though he knew it was merely caused by important private business. Lord Clarendon then defended the policy of the late ministry in introducing the conspiracy bill, not at the dictation of the French government, but by the advice of the law officers of the crown, for the purpose of remedying an evident defect in the English law; and the object and principle of the bill were strongly advocated by Lord Derby himself when in opposition. Lord Clarendon did not wish to deprive the present government of any credit for its conduct in the affair of the Cagliari; but he reminded the house that the late ministry, up to a late period, was kept in ignorance of the real state of the case. He denied that the two engineers were neglected; it was in consequence of strong remonstrances from the late government that their friends and the consul were allowed access to them. The Chancellor of the Exchequer would have done well not to indulge in a "song of triumph" till he had ascertained whether the Neapolitan government would consent to an arbitration, and grant the demanded indemnity. The allusions in the speech to a policy of "massacre and confiscation" Lord Clarendon denounced as an ungenerous attack on Lord Canning, made as they were four days after the despatch explaining his proclamation had been published, and after the conduct of Lord Ellenborough, in giving publicity to what was very far from a message of peace, had compelled that minister to an act of self-immolation. He warmly eulogised the courage, ability, and moderation of Lord Canning, and denounced the repeated official misrepresentations of his policy in India as calculated to confirm the worst opinions of the enemies of this country, by representing it as habitually cruel, unprincipled, and despotic. As to the assertions of the speech that the House of Commons had defeated the intrigues of a cabal, conspiring against the government, and possessing "sources of information" that were not "constitutional," if a mere *post prandial* pleasantry it might be passed over; but the word and the comparison were drawn from the very worst period of English history, and the public mind ought to be soothed by a frank avowal of what was intended by them, and who were the parties binted at; the government ought to release the *corps diplomatique* from the charge implied. In concluding, Lord Clarendon disclaimed any intention of embarrassing the government by calling attention to the speech of the Chancellor of the Exchequer.—The Earl of DERBY thought if the speech of his colleague had been deemed indiscreet, Lord Clarendon had committed a much greater indiscretion in his present address, by which he had revived topics that were better forgotten. He would not criticise every word and phrase in the speech at Slough, but all its main points he was prepared to defend. The allusion to the danger of war with France he explained only meant that peace between the two countries was endangered, when the present government took office, by the impossibility of passing the conspiracy bill, as a concession to the just irritation of the French people at the attempt on the life of the Emperor; and he asked whether the peril of a war with France, in case Mr Milner Gibson's motion were carried, was not held out to deter members of the House of Commons from voting for it. The preservation of peace he attributed in a great degree to the Emperor of France, who, having a more intimate knowledge of England than most of his countrymen, abstained from pressing claims to which he felt the English government could not accede. He compared the results of the action of the present ministry in the case of the Cagliari, with the very slight concessions obtained by Lord Clarendon, stating that the cabinet had made the claim for indemnity, and intended to support it. He thought if such speeches were to be made the subject of debates, equivalent to motions in both houses of parliament, the members of the late ministry were not justified in complaining of the language of a minister of the crown, even on *post prandial* occasions. He taunted Lord Clarendon with omitting all allusion to the description of the break-up of the opposition in the House of Commons, which, though exceedingly graphic, was also exceedingly true; and with having equally forborne any reference to the explanation of the financial policy of the ministry and the budget. He refused to go into the question of the "cabal," and passed to the Indian policy of the government, which he described as one of moderation and clemency, as opposed to the violence counselled by some of those by whom Lord Canning was surrounded. He would not defend every phrase of the speech of the Chancellor of the Exchequer; but though some of its language and expressions might deserve a passing notice from those who disapproved them, he thought more had been made of the incident than was consistent with the dignity of either house of parliament. He did not shrink from defending an absent friend, who had been attacked on two successive evenings in the House of Commons, where he had replied for himself, and had given those opponents such an explanation as neither they nor the country would speedily forget.—Earl GRANVILLE justified the notice that had been taken of the speech, and characterised the reference to the budget as vainglorious, since the financial policy of the government had only been the negative one of not "muddling away money in paying debts," but

postponing liabilities they had better have met in a bolder manner. To the charge of conspiracy by a "cabal" no answer whatever had been given. As to India, Lord Canning was supported by the opinion of the country, and required no aid from such speeches as that delivered at Slough. Lord Clarendon was entitled to their thanks for the able and conclusive manner in which he had criticised that address, and cleared up many points on which serious misconceptions existed.—The Earl of MALMESBURY thought it absurd for any one to ask explanations of a speech from those who never heard it. He thought the address compared advantageously with that of Lord Palmerston at the Mansion-house two years ago.—After a few observations from the Earl of CLARENDON, their lordships adjourned.

Thursday, June 3.

The chancery amendment bill was, after some discussion, read a second time, and referred to a select committee.—In answer to Earl Powis, the Earl of CARNARVON stated that the arrangements for dividing the diocese of New Zealand were nearly completed.

Friday, June 4.

SALE OF POISONS BILL.

The Earl of DERBY moved the second reading of this bill. Its object was to increase the difficulty in obtaining poisons for criminal purposes, and to prevent the lamentable accidents which arise partly from ignorance and partly from carelessness on the part of persons selling drugs. It was provided in the bill that certain poisons specified by name should not be sold to a person unknown to the seller, unless in the presence of a person of full age who was known to him, and the names of both witness and purchaser, and the poisons bought should be inserted in a book kept by the druggist for the purpose. The persons engaged in the sale of poisons were to possess a license granted by properly authorised persons, called examiners—one to be appointed by the Pharmaceutical Society, one by the College of Physicians, and a third by the College of Surgeons. Any person wishing to engage in the trade should pass an examination before those authorities to obtain a certificate of competence; but persons already in the trade might obtain a license for five years to continue the business, in order to secure them from loss. After the lapse of five years, however, they should take out a certificate in the usual way.—The bill was read a second time.

INDIA.

The Marquis of BREADALBANE put a question of which he had given notice, as to the relations in military matters between Lord Canning as Governor-General of India, and Sir Colin Campbell as Commander-in-Chief of the army. He believed that an unwise interference by civilians in military affairs in India had been one of the causes of the rebellion. He quoted a passage from the letter of the Special Correspondent of the 'Times,' published on Thursday last, to show there was a general impression in the Indian army that Sir Colin Campbell did not possess unlimited authority and control of the military operations. Did they wish to go back to the days of the Aulic Council of Austria, when campaigns in Italy were planned in Vienna? If the statement in the 'Times' was correct, the great professional experience of Sir Colin Campbell was lost to the country by the interference of a civilian.—The Earl of DERBY had never yet heard the Indian rebellion attributed to the interference of civilians in military affairs. As to the relations between the Governor-General and the Commander-in-Chief, the former must necessarily be supreme; but his natural policy would be, on purely military questions, to defer to the military authority; and that, no doubt, was the course pursued by Lord Canning. But some military operations, it was evident, had to be decided by other than military reasons. He had no doubt that on such operations the Governor-General and the Commander-in-Chief had a full understanding with each other.—The Earl of ALBEMARLE was glad the rumours, which certainly existed, of a control exercised over the movements of Sir Colin Campbell had been contradicted.—The Marquis of LANSDOWNE hoped the House and the country would receive such reports with great caution. When Sir Colin Campbell arrived in India rumours were raised of differences between him and the Governor-General, and those statements proved wholly unfounded. No document or communication from the Commander-in-Chief or the Governor-General gave any support to the rumour, and from the character of both those high officers he did not believe that such differences existed.

On the motion of Lord REDESDALE the Property Qualification (of members of Parliament) Bill was read a first time.

NOTICE OF MOTION.

THE RIOTS AT BELFAST.—Viscount DUNGANNON gave notice that he would, on Monday next, ask the First Lord of the Treasury whether he had received any information relative to the recent riots at Belfast.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Monday, May 31.

NEW WRITS.

New writs were ordered to issue for the borough of King's Lynn in place of Lord Stanley, appointed President of the Board of Control, and for the county of Herts, in place of Sir E. B. Lytton, appointed Secretary for the Colonies.

THE ENGINEERS OF THE CAGLIARI.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said, in reply to Mr Headlam, that the engineers Watt and Park had been unconditionally released. No compensation had yet been granted them, but a demand had been made—it was a just demand—and he therefore believed that it would be acceded to.

VACCINATION.

Mr ADDERLEY said, in reply to Mr Monsell, that the smallpox was making great ravages in some districts, which was due, not to no vaccination, but to bad vaccination. The state of vaccination in the country was disgraceful, though he hoped that it would be improved by the provisions of the public health bill, which stood for discussion that evening.

BREACH OF PRIVILEGE.

Mr MILNER GIBSON presented a petition from Mr W. Wilks, retracting the insinuations against Mr Clive, the member for Hereford, published in the 'Carlisle Examiner,' in consequence of which Mr W. Wilks was in custody of the Sergeant-at-Arms, and apologising for the same. It was agreed that the petition be printed and taken into consideration on Tuesday.

COUNTY FRANCHISE.

The discussion on the bill for the extension of the county franchise was fixed for Thursday, the 10th of June, while the Indian resolutions were postponed till the new President of the Board of Control was able to take his place.

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER'S SPEECH AT SLOUGH.

On the order for going into committee of supply, Lord PALMERSTON said that, as the Chancellor of the Exchequer, on Friday, in his absence, had made an appeal to him, he felt it to be his duty to take the earliest opportunity of answering the appeal. In the speech made by Mr Disraeli on Wednesday before some of his constituents, which bore evidence of studious deliberation, he had stated that Lord Derby, when he took office, succeeded to innumerable difficulties: a statement, contrary, he observed, to the declaration of Lord Derby himself, who had said that he found the country in a satisfactory condition. Mr Disraeli had further stated that the question of peace or war was a question not of weeks or days, but of hours. As far as he (Lord Palmerston) was informed, that statement, as regarded our relations with France at that period, was utterly and entirely groundless, and opposite to the truth. Had it been true, and had it been

necessary to make it known, it should have been published in that house on the army or navy estimates. He denied that the answer he had given to Mr Griffith, to which Mr Disraeli had referred, bore the construction he had put upon it. Such a statement he considered to be most injudicious and indiscreet on the part of a minister of the Crown, and calculated to affect the public credit of the country, and to disturb the commercial as well as the political relations of the two nations. He called upon Mr Disraeli to explain this assertion, as well as that intrigues had been carried on (by the late government, he supposed) to involve Sardinia in war with Naples for party objects,—an assertion he utterly denied. With reference to India, Mr Disraeli, he said, had been guilty of a libel upon her Majesty's late advisers; he had accused them or Lord Canning of intending to act upon a policy of unmitigated vengeance and massacre. In speaking of the state of parties in this country, Mr Disraeli had talked of a cabal on the opposite side of the house in order to upset the present government. A cabal meant a body few in number; but he should like to know, he said, to whom Mr Disraeli alluded when he spoke of intrigues and cabals. The late government had acted towards their successors with uncommon forbearance, and he denied that they obtained information on foreign affairs, as seemed to be implied, by unconstitutional means. He wished to know who the foreign intriguers were who caballed with the late government to eject their successors—a charge he entirely repudiated. Mr Disraeli, he remarked, had attacked the press; he (Lord Palmerston) left the press to defend itself; but when he said that there were some candidates for office under the late administration who contributed to the press, he (Lord Palmerston) would like to know whether there were none on the other side of the house who had contributed to 'The Press' for the purpose of getting into office. He concluded by reiterating his denial of the charges against the late government, which he characterised as carrying the factious proceedings of an opposition into an administration.—The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said that he had last Friday to fight one duel, and now he was called upon to fight another on the same quarrel. How many more he might have to fight he did not know. He had never said or implied that when he came into office the country was on the verge of a war. It was very easy for the late government to maintain peace by leaving unanswered an insulting despatch, or by altering the laws of England at the recommendation of a foreign power. But the issue was greatly altered when the despatch had to be answered, and the proposed alteration of the law to be refused. The government had done this, and yet maintained amicable relations with France by trusting to the good judgment of the Emperor of the French. Since that time those relations had become more and more satisfactory. Admitting, therefore, that war was not threatened when the present government came into office, peace was only preserved upon shameful conditions, and in pursuance of a truckling policy. He was therefore justified in saying that they had vindicated the honour of the country without forfeiting the alliance of France. He had never meant to say that there was any danger of France suddenly attacking us, but he did say that in the hazardous policy the government were pursuing there was at all times danger that our relations might be broken. He denied that his statement could in any way be said to affect the public credit of the country. Adverting to the case of the engineers at Naples, he declared that Lord Palmerston was mistaken in asserting that one of them had been freed during his administration; both were in prison when the noble lord left office, having been left to languish for nine months through the negligence of the administration; and he again claimed for the government to which he belonged the honour of having obtained their unconditional release. As to the statement respecting Sardinia and Naples, there could be no doubt that there was a strong attempt made to disturb the peace of the world by forcing those two powers to take up arms. His observations respecting India had no reference to a previous policy pursued by any government, but to the policy of confiscation, which must inevitably bring with it vengeance and massacre. He had spoken of a cabal. Now, a cabal must be a secret society, and therefore could not refer to any party or any proceedings in the House of Commons. He then attacked the late government as having forfeited all claims to be the representatives of the great liberal party. They uniformly opposed all liberal measures; and, if economy was a liberal feature, they were the advocates of a reckless and profuse expenditure. He protested against these attempts night after night to interfere with the progress of public business, now in so backward a state. The opposition proclaimed no policy; they looked merely for place, and had thus forfeited the esteem and support of the country. He could not wish anything better than the continuance of his opponents in their present course. One bond at least united the party to which he belonged—they would not be the tools or the victims of an obnoxious oligarchy.—Sir G. GREY said that it was the duty of the head of the late government to call the Chancellor of the Exchequer to account for the charges he had brought against it. The simple yeomen of Bucks would be astonished at reading the gloss now put upon the extraordinary statements of his speech, which he had explained at different times in a manner altogether contradictory and inconsistent. He had defended the other night his assertion that war was a question of hours, by quoting a speech of Lord Palmerston; and now he took a totally different ground, and declared that he alluded to the truckling of the late government to that of France. He protested against any man in such a position resorting to such shifts. Adverting to the Indian policy of the government, he declaimed against the conduct of the government, who sought a temporary popularity by heaping undeserved obloquy on the Governor-General. How could Mr Disraeli charge the late government with neglecting economy, when they were going into committee of supply on the very estimates prepared by that government?—Sir J. PAKINGTON protested against the waste of public time caused by the mode of procedure now adopted. He repelled the charge brought against his right honourable friend, that he had used different explanations at different times. He declared, from what he himself knew, that all the phrases of the speech were substantially true, and that when the present government assumed office war with France was imminent, from the state of feeling existing between the two countries. Count de Persigny had protested against the policy of this country, and declared that if it was continued friendly relations could not be maintained. The present government had brought about a better state of feeling. In presence of the state of things now reported from India, let them waste no further time, and let the government proceed with the business of the country.—Lord J. RUSSELL denied that the present discussion was waste of time. When imputations were unjustly made, and credit unjustly assumed, it behoved those whom it concerned to demand an explanation. Were they to be asked—as had been done by the last speaker—to sit down quietly under such imputations? It was an injustice to the Emperor of the French to declare that the country was within a few hours of war—a declaration of which Mr Disraeli had offered two different and conflicting explanations. He contended that in other matters the explanation of Mr Disraeli was totally different from what might be expected from the words themselves. He entered at some length into the conduct of the government and opposition with regard to the late measures and motions relative to India.—Mr WHITESIDE very generally defended the conduct of the government on European and Indian questions.—Mr J. A. KINGLAKE contended that Lord Clarendon had been the cause of the release of the engineer Watt, and that no demand for liberation of either was made by the present government.—Mr S. FITZGERALD asserted that the present government had at once obtained the release of the prisoners, after they had been neglected for nine months by the late government.—After some further discussion, the house went into committee of supply.—Several items were voted on the civil estimates.

The public health was read a second time.

NOTICE OF MOTION.

SMOKE NUISANCE.—Mr AYRTON gave notice that on the 15th of June he should move for leave to bring in a bill for the purpose of abating the nuisances resulting from smoke from steam furnaces.

Tuesday, June 1.

STAMPED CHEQUES.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, in answer to Mr Caird, stated that drafts on a hanker, made payable to "self" or "on my account," if presented by the drawer in person, would not be liable to the stamp duty.

BRITISH CRUISERS AND AMERICAN MERCHANTMEN.

Mr LINDSAY inquired if it was the case that several merchant vessels belonging to the United States, engaged in the trade with Havannah, or with the West Coast of Africa, had been fired into, boarded, searched, and detained by British cruisers and, if so, by what authority, or under whose instructions did the commanders of these ships so act.—Mr S. FITZGERALD replied that no official information on the subject had reached the government. The commanders of all vessels engaged in cruising against slavers had been instructed to exercise their duties with all possible caution.

BREACH OF PRIVILEGE.

Mr M. GIBSON, adverting to the apologetic petition presented from Mr W. Wilks, the proprietor of the 'Carlisle Examiner,' moved that the petitioner should be discharged from custody.—Mr ROEBUCK considered the retraction contained in that petition insufficient. The accusation brought against the committee of that house had alleged partiality as well as corruption, of which charges only the latter was withdrawn.—Mr CLAY also deemed the retraction insufficient.—The SOLICITOR-GENERAL, concurring in this view, moved as an amendment that the order for taking Mr Wilks' petition into consideration should be discharged.—After some considerable discussion, the amendment was agreed to.

ORGANISATION OF THE ARMY.

Captain VIVIAN called attention to the necessity of more clearly defining the responsibility and duties of the various military departments, and moved the following resolution:—"That, although the recent consolidation of the different departments of Ordnance, Commissariat, and Secretary-at-War has, to a certain extent, improved the general administration of military affairs, a divided responsibility still exists; and that, in order to promote greater efficiency, the departments of the Horse-Guards and War-office should be placed under the control of one responsible minister." After adverting to the old system of military administration, and to the suggestions made by the royal commissioners in 1837, he described the alterations effected in our military organization in 1855, by the consolidation of departments, which, he contended, did not go far enough, having left the great office of Commander-in-Chief intact. He entered into details to show that functions properly belonging to this office were performed by the Secretary for War, while others of a civil character were executed by the Commander-in-Chief, so that the duties of the two departments were so jumbled up that there was a divided or uncertain responsibility, and great public inconvenience as well as expense were the result of such a system and the want of one head to control the whole,—a minister who, in his opinion, should be immediately responsible to parliament.—General PEEL admitted the importance of the subject, and the expediency of defining the responsibilities of public officers; but the several duties and responsibilities of the two War departments were clearly defined; he had never found any difficulty in discovering what they were. He could not agree with the proposal that they should be both placed under a single responsible minister. At present the discipline, government, and patronage of the army were exercised by the Crown through the Commander-in-Chief, and he pointed out the evils which would ensue if these functions were to be conferred upon a minister responsible to parliament, who must change with every administration. He must, therefore, oppose the resolution.—Lord A. VANE TEMPEST believed that that house would not sanction the placing the army under a single military man, and considered that it would not be safe to place it under the control of a civilian, although evils he knew arose from the double government of the army. The best course, in his opinion, was to assimilate the administration of the army to that of the navy.—Mr HORSMAN observed that this was no longer a military question, affecting as it did the heaviest item of our expenditure. Within the last few years there had been a great change in the public feeling towards the army; it inspired a greater sympathy and a desire to improve its administration. The changes in 1855, it was admitted, had increased the efficiency of the military system, and Captain Vivian asked the house to extend the changes somewhat further. Efficiency depended upon responsibility; but the present system, which was the worst form of double government, did not attach responsibility where it ought to attach. It was acknowledged that it was unsatisfactory. There was a general desire to apply a remedy, and he was not aware of any person of experience and authority who had lent the weight of his name in opposition to that proposed in the resolution.—Mr BUTLER-JOHNSTONE supported the motion. Divided responsibility was, he said, the worst thing that could happen, especially in military affairs.—Sir F. SMITH opposed the motion, believing that the affairs of the army were well administered.—Mr S. HERBERT denied that there was at present a divided responsibility in the army. He thought there was too much consolidation, but not a divided responsibility. The Secretary of State for War was responsible for everything the Commander-in-Chief did; he was the supreme authority, and his responsibility was complete. He thought that the abolition of the office of Commander-in-Chief and the placing the army under a civilian would be revolting to the popular instinct of the country. He blamed the abolition of the office of Master-General of the Ordnance, to whom, he thought, should have been left the immediate control of the matériel of the army. He could not support the motion.—Colonel NORTH likewise opposed the motion, as well as Sir W. CODRINGTON, who admitted that the economical theory of Captain Vivian was good, and desired that the responsibility of the two offices should be well defined; but he could not consent to place the army under the control of a single minister, and bring all the concerns of the army into discussion in that house.—Lord PALMERSTON could not concur in the resolution. As our military system now stood, everything which regarded the civil service of the army was under the Secretary of State for War, and the Commander-in-Chief had the sole management of its discipline. If we could not have, as in other countries, a Minister of War to be the paramount authority, the present system was the only one that could be properly established, and the line of separation of the duties and responsibilities of the two departments was sufficiently defined. He doubted whether the two offices could be merged into one consistently with the public interests. A civilian could not be placed at the head of the army, and the habits of a military man did not fit him, by a general knowledge of public affairs, to be a member of the cabinet. He objected to a board, as not being a good instrument of administration. The result was that the present arrangement, in his opinion, was that which, upon principle, it was most expedient to maintain.—Upon a division, the motion was carried by a majority of 2, the numbers being—ayes, 106; noes, 104.

THE SUZ CANAL.

Mr ROEBUCK moved a resolution that in the opinion of the house the power and influence of this country ought not to be used in

order to induce the Sultan to withhold his assent to the project for cutting a canal across the isthmus of Suez. This project, he contended, was calculated to benefit the world. Government influences had been set in motion at Constantinople to frustrate it by Lord Palmerston, which he believed to be derogatory to the honour and injurious to the interests of England. The political perils which had been apprehended from the execution of this scheme were, in his opinion, altogether imaginary, while in its advantages the country would obtain by far the largest share.—Mr GRIFFITH, who supported the resolution, proposed an addition by way of amendment, that in any course which the house might sanction in furtherance of the construction of the canal care should be taken that the despotic powers of the Egyptian governments should not be allowed to be made use of by the promoters of the project to obtain the required labour from the "Fellahs" at an inadequate remuneration by those compulsory means familiar to that government, so as to produce the effects of slavery under the guise of paid labour.—Lord HADDON supported the motion.—Mr STEPHENSON denied that the execution of the canal was physically possible, and questioned whether, if constructed, it would really facilitate intercourse between Europe and the East.—Mr S. FITZGERALD admitted the importance of the question and its fitness for discussion in the House of Commons. The practicability of the project or its commercial advantages were matters not then at issue. Those who undertook the work should ascertain whether it was possible it would pay. But he opposed the motion partly on political grounds and partly because he believed that the proposed canal might, under many possible contingencies, actually interpose a barrier between England and the East. The opening of this channel would place other European nations nearer India than ourselves, and oblige us to observe precautions and maintain armaments with which we could now dispense. That the project had obtained no support in England, the great centre of commerce and enterprise, was, he contended, sufficient indication of its commercial merits.—Lord PALMERSTON adhered to the opinion he had more than once enunciated that the Suez Canal scheme was one of the greatest bubbles ever presented to English capitalists. It might not be impracticable; but he was convinced that it would never be remunerative. With regard to the alleged influence exercised at Constantinople, he stated that the Turkish government were on their own part strongly opposed to the project, and aware of its disadvantages. Among other consequences from the completion of the work might be the dissolution of the integrity of the Turkish empire. The frontier of Egypt had been fortified and sealed up in various directions, and the proposed canal would create a barrier across the isthmus of Suez. England was also interested in the defeat of an enterprise which might place the nearest route to India in the hands of an enemy.—Mr J. C. EWART declared that the scheme had been pronounced a bubble in Liverpool.—Mr GLADSTONE protested against the improper and illegitimate employment of political influences to frustrate a commercial enterprise. The house, he observed, was now asked merely to repudiate that obstructive practice, and not to oppose any particular scheme. In opposing the project, the English government had placed itself in antagonism to the general opinion of Europe. He altogether denied the existence of any prospective peril to the integrity either of the Turkish or British empires from the construction of the Suez canal; and in any case deprecated any interference, on political grounds, with the execution of a commercial undertaking.—The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER remarked that the resolution seemed to infer the fact that the executive government had employed some improper influence to prevent the Sultan from granting a concession for the Suez canal. Of this supposed fact no evidence had been afforded. If the motion were adopted, it would imply an approval of the project, and he called upon the house to pause before it sanctioned an enterprise which high authorities had declared to be delusive, if not pernicious. The commercial advantages of the scheme were problematical, while the political dangers it would involve were real. The house and the government were bound to consider whether the peril should be encountered for the sake of fostering a speculation.—Lord J. RUSSELL observed that the commercial questions and the engineering questions might be left to take care of themselves. As a political and national question, he maintained that the opening of a more accessible channel of intercourse with India must be beneficial to England, either in peace or war.—The amendment was negatived without a division, and the house divided on the resolution. There appeared—ayes, 62; noes, 290: majority against the resolution, 228.

CHURCH RATE ABOLITION BILL.

Sir J. TRELAWNY moved the third reading of this bill.—Mr DRUMMOND moved the adjournment of the debate.—After some discussion the motion for adjournment was negatived, on a division, by a majority of 150 to 103—47.—The opponents of the bill, however, renewed the motion for adjourning, which was ultimately agreed to, and the discussion postponed.

Wednesday, June 2.

THE CASE OF MR WILKS.

Mr W. Wilks having presented a further petition, Mr MILNER GIBSON moved that he be discharged from custody.—Mr G. CLIVE said, as far as he was concerned, he cheerfully consented to the liberation of Mr Wilks, declaring at the same time that there was not one word of truth in the charge of partiality on the part either of himself or the committee.—Mr WALPOLE thought the house must be satisfied that Mr Clive was completely exonerated from the charges of corruption and of undue partiality, and, as these charges were now withdrawn (as he understood the petition), and the petitioner had expressed his regret that he had appeared in his paper, the retraction was now full and complete.—Mr Wilks was then ordered to be discharged from the custody of the Serjeant-at-Arms, on payment of his fees.

MEDICAL REFORM BILLS.

The first three orders of the day were for the second reading of the Medical Practitioners bill, the Medical Profession and Medical Corporations bill, and the Medical Profession bill, and the debate upon the first unavoidably extended to and embraced the others.—Mr COWPER, in moving the second reading of the first-named bill, explained its principle and details.—Mr BLACK, who was hostile to all the three bills, having missed the opportunity of calling for a division at this stage, and the bill having been read a second time, moved to defer its committee for six months.—Mr BRADY supported the bill.—Mr WALPOLE, premising that all the bills contained principles worthy of consideration and of adoption, and that the subject was encumbered with difficulties, said he thought the best thing he could do was to point out the evils and anomalies, and the remedies required, and to consider how far those provided in the several bills were sufficient; and this led him to a critical examination of the three bills, and to a comparison of their objects and provisions. He concluded by laying down certain leading principles which, in his opinion, should guide legislation in this matter, and recommended that the bill immediately under discussion should be made the basis of a measure that would meet the objects which all had in view. For this purpose he offered to prepare clauses to be introduced into the bill in committee. Ultimately, after a long discussion, the amendment was withdrawn, and the bill was ordered to be committed on the 8th of June.—Mr T. DUNCOMBE then postponed the second reading of his bill, the Medical Profession and Medical Corporations bill, and the other bill was withdrawn by Lord ELCHO.

PROPERTY QUALIFICATION BILL.

The adjourned debate upon the order for going into committee upon this bill was resumed by Mr BENTINCK, who objected to the

principle of the bill, but his chief objection, he said, was that it was part and parcel of a reform bill, and that it was not fair to call upon the house to deal with only a portion of such a measure. He justified the retention of a property qualification, in the absence of which, he observed, there was no reason why any number of bankrupts might not obtain admission into the house. He cited the recorded objections of leading members on both sides of the house to the abolition of this qualification, including Lord Palmerston, Sir G. Grey, and Mr Henley, and moved to defer the committee for six months.—Mr K. SEYMER, looking at the example of Scotland and the working of the principle of non-qualification there, and believing that our qualification laws were really a snare, while they were nugatory for their intended object, supported the bill.—Mr DRUMMOND said he regarded this as the first attempt to separate power from wealth, and if property was dissociated from power, it would be impossible to preserve property.—Sir G. LEWIS said, the view he took of this measure was diametrically opposite to Mr Drummond's. The real security for the social position of the members of that house, in his opinion, consisted in the power of coming forward as candidates, and submitting to the ordeal of an election. The substantial property qualification for a seat in that house would, after the passing of the bill, remain as it was; while pitfalls, and those objections which were a scandal to their proceedings, would be removed.—Mr NEWDEGATE said, his main objection to the bill was that a measure of reform should be submitted to the country as a whole. Mr HENLEY said he retained the opinion he had formerly expressed, that this question belonged to a larger subject.—Upon a division, the amendment was negatived by 222 to 109.—The house then went into committee upon the bill, when the principle and policy of the measure were re-discussed, but the clauses underwent no alteration.

The Public-grounds and Playgrounds bill was read a second time, on the motion of Mr SLANEY.

The Marriage Law Amendment bill was committed *pro forma*, on the motion of Lord BURY.

Thursday, June 3.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE ARMY.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said in answer to Sir J. Walsh, that the resolution of Tuesday, recommending the consolidation of the offices of the Commander-in-Chief and Secretary for War, referred to a matter of great importance; it was passed by a small house and by a very small majority. It was not, therefore, the intention of the government to take any steps in consequence.

INDIA RESOLUTIONS.

In answer to Mr Roebuck, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said he had every reason to believe that they would be able to proceed with the India resolutions on Monday, and that the President of the Board of Control would be then in his place.

NEGOTIATIONS WITH CHINA.

In answer to Mr Kinglake, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said that the negotiations with China were not broken off, but a message had been sent from the Emperor stating that a minister of state would be despatched to Canton as soon as Lord Elgin arrived there, who had at present gone towards the north.

THE PAPER DUTY.

Mr M. GIBSON gave notice that when the votes on education were taken in supply, he should move a resolution to the effect that the paper duties were inconsistent with the progress of education, and ought not to form part of the permanent taxation of the country.

THE DUTIES OF THE IRISH SECRETARYSHIP.

On the report of the committee of supply, Mr HORSMAN took occasion to vindicate himself from a charge made against him during his absence on a preceding night by Mr M'Mahon, of having, in the two years he had held the office of Chief Secretary for Ireland, neglected its duties, affirming that not only were the facts stated not consistent with the truth, but that they were (not meaning thereby any personal offence to Mr M'Mahon) diametrically opposite to the truth. In the course of his vindication Mr Horsman gave a pleasant description of the duties of the Irish office in London, which, it appeared, were not sufficient to employ a solitary clerk.—Mr M'MAHON, in replying to Mr Horsman, made some rather strong remarks upon that gentleman's parliamentary conduct.—Sir G. GREY bore testimony to the efficient manner in which Mr Horsman had filled the office of Chief Secretary.—Lord NAAS gave the most unqualified contradiction to his representation of the amount of business appertaining to that office.—The matter, after some further discussion, was allowed to drop, and the report was agreed to.—The house then went into a committee of supply upon the civil contingencies, and was occupied with the discussion of the various votes until midnight, when the Chairman was ordered to report progress.

On the order for going into committee on the joint-stock banking companies bill, moved by Mr HEADLAM, Mr BUCHANAN moved that the debate be adjourned; but this motion was negatived upon a division.—Mr WILSON then moved that it be an instruction to the committee that they have power to extend the provisions of the bill to insurance companies; but after some discussion this motion was withdrawn on the ground of irregularity, and the committee was postponed.—The ecclesiastical corporations leasing bill was read a third time and passed, as well as the property qualification bill.

Friday, June 4.

RAILWAY LEGISLATION.

Mr HENLEY stated, in reply to Colonel Patten, that the government had no intention of introducing a bill for the purpose of altering the present system of railway legislation. But he should have no objection to a committee appointed for the purpose of examining how far the recommendation of the commission, known as Mr Cardwell's commission, had been carried out.—Colonel W. PATTEN said that on Monday he should move for such a committee.

OUR RELATIONS WITH CHINA.

Lord J. RUSSELL inquired what was the present state of our relations with China; what were the terms which Lord Elgin had demanded from the Emperor; and what answer had been received from the Chinese government? He did not wish, he said, for any communication that it would be injurious to the public service to give, but as Lord Elgin, by proceeding to the north, had appeared to have opened larger questions, the House of Commons was entitled to ask for what purpose he had proceeded thither, and for what objects our large naval force was employed. If there was any convention with foreign powers it should be communicated to the house; but, at all events, parliament had a right to have a general statement of the policy we were pursuing in China.

THE DEANERY OF YORK.

Mr W. EWART inquired for what special reasons the recent appointment had been made to the Deanery of York?—The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, in answer to Mr Ewart's inquiry, said, he was not prepared to state what were the "special" reasons which induced her Majesty to make the appointment, but the general grounds were, that the appointment was one which it was advantageous to the country to make, and that it had been made with a view to the public welfare, the individual selected, on the whole, uniting all the qualities required for the appointment. In reply to Lord J. Russell, he said that, owing to the distance of the transactions, it was not in his power to give any further information upon the subject of the proceedings in China. The instructions originally given to Lord Elgin included a wide discretion, and the present government had confided to him the same wide discretion. He had

no doubt that Lord Elgin had acted wisely and properly in proceeding to the north, and not returning to Canton. He could not say what answer had been received from the Chinese government, or what were the specific terms Lord Elgin had demanded. He was acting in complete concert with France; the United States had since joined us, and, to a certain extent, Russia; and our allies had given a discretion to their officers. All he could say, therefore, was, that the government had impressed upon Lord Elgin the importance of as speedy a termination as possible to the present unsatisfactory state of things.—Mr BRIGHT observed that there was one point in this matter which it behoved the house to consider—namely, the complication in which the government had been plunged by the course taken by their predecessors in co-operating with other governments in the settlement of a dispute which was confined to this country. The insult offered by the Chinese, if it was any insult at all, was offered to England, and the power of England was amply sufficient to vindicate the honour of England. He wished to impress upon the house that the moment this country took into partnership other powers in such a quarrel two consequences followed:—first, that the course of the negotiations was, to a large extent, taken out of the hands of the English government; secondly, that the House of Commons could not know anything about the matter.—Sir J. PAKINGTON observed that the amount of our naval force in China had been exaggerated. We had only between 10,000 and 11,000 men in that force for the whole East, and that force it was intended to reduce.

OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE UNITED STATES.

In reply to Mr Horsfall and to Mr Wilson, Mr S. FITZGERALD stated that the government had not received any official information of the arrest of Captain Judkins, of the Royal mail steamer Persia, and that, with reference to the correspondence between the British government and that of the United States on the subject of the suppression of the slave trade, there was not the slightest disinclination to lay before the house the fullest information at the earliest possible moment; but within the last two or three days communications had been made to the government from the American minister, involving grave charges against officers of the British navy, in relation to transactions in the waters of Cuba; that orders had been sent out to investigate the matter, with instructions to the commanders of our ships of war to exercise the greatest caution.

THE RIOTS AT BELFAST.

Mr J. D. FITZGERALD called attention to the late disgraceful riots at Belfast, and demanded if the government did not intend to legislate on the subject. There was a constabulary bill proposed by the government, but a larger measure was demanded to meet the case, and put an end to the recurrence of such scenes.—Lord NAAS said that the government, on receiving news of these disturbances, had taken every possible precaution to suppress them. He believed that the ordinary law of the country was sufficient for the purpose, if it were properly put in force. He believed that the disturbances would shortly cease, and was convinced that they could not be of the same serious character with those that occurred last year.

SALE AND TRANSFER OF LAND (IRELAND) BILL.

On the motion for going into committee on this bill, Mr J. D. FITZGERALD moved that it be referred to a select committee. He entered at great length into the history of the encumbered estates court, and into the details of this bill, by which its provisions were extended, with the view of showing that it required the minute investigation which a select committee could afford.—The SOLICITOR-GENERAL opposed the amendment, which would lead to delay, and prevent the present passing of the bill. The principle was admitted, and the details had in great part been already discussed and agreed to.—Sir R. BETHELL supported the motion of Mr Fitzgerald. The bill contained such a multitude of detail, that in the interest of the measure, of which he fully approved the principle, he recommended that it should be subjected to the examination of a select committee.—The ATTORNEY-GENERAL argued at some length on the advantages which would be secured by the enactments of the bill to Ireland, especially as regarded the establishment of a registry of property and the extending parliamentary titles to unencumbered estates. He denied that there would be any conflict of decision between this court and the court of Chancery. The bill itself contained provisions intended to prevent any collision.—Lord J. RUSSELL objected to diminish the judicial forms of the court, when they so greatly enlarged its jurisdiction. He approved the motion for a select committee.—Mr MALINS urged the immediate committal of the bill. It had worked so well that there could be no doubt of the policy of further extending its principle.—Mr BUTT objected to entrusting the power of granting titles to a court having contentious jurisdiction. There were many difficulties in the details of the bill which could only be properly discussed in a select committee.—Mr ADAMS thought that two judges would be enough for the business of the court; if not, it would be easy to appoint a third at a future time. At present fictitious encumbrances were got up for the purpose of bringing property within the scope of the court. All were agreed as to the admirable working of the system, which ought to be extended at once to unencumbered property.—Sir S. PERRY said that the Encumbered Estates Court was the most successful legislation carried out in the present generation.—Mr MONSELL hoped that the government would proceed as quickly, and make as few alterations in the bill as possible.—Colonel GREVILLE could not see the object of referring the bill to a select committee, when they had already had a commission and a committee.—Mr WHITESIDE defended the details of the bill, which were universally approved in Ireland. He urged the house to go into committee at once.—Mr FITZGERALD withdrew his motion, and the house went into committee on the bill *pro forma*, and immediately resumed.

SUPPLY.

The house having resolved itself into a Committee of Supply, Lord J. RUSSELL moved the British Museum Estimates, prefacing the motion with the usual explanatory statement of the condition of the Museum, the additions made to it, the number of visitors, &c., and concluding by asking for a vote of 79,276l.—In the discussion to which this vote gave rise various suggestions were offered for relieving the Museum from the superabundance of its scientific and art treasures by a separation of some of the collections; for the establishment of popular lectures at this institution; for opening it on Sundays and on evenings, and for enlarging the building.—The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER likewise announced the compromise which the government had made or proposed to make with the Royal Commissioners on the subject of the Kensington property and the site of a national gallery, reserving the details for a future occasion. The vote was ultimately agreed to, as well as other votes for the same object.

NOTICE OF MOTION.

Mr GLADSTONE gave notice that when the Indian Resolutions were brought forward he should move as an amendment to the third resolution that the present Court of Directors should be constituted into a council, to be placed under a minister of state, till the end of next Session; such council to have the same powers as those now possessed by the commissioners for the affairs of India.

PARLIAMENTARY REFORM.—Mr Berkeley's ballot motion stands for Tuesday, the 8th; and the Chancellor of the Exchequer has granted Thursday, the 10th, to Mr Locke King, for his bill for the extension of the county franchise.

Latest Intelligence.

SATURDAY, JUNE 5.

Among the *on dits* current for several days past is one that Marshal Pelissier has been recalled from his post of Ambassador at London, in consequence of the courtesies exchanged between him and the Duke d'Aumale, and, in particular, his having met the Prince at a private dinner party. It is denied, however, that the Marshal is recalled, though it is not unlikely that remonstrances were addressed to him by the Foreign-office on the necessity of always placing public above private feeling, however respectable that might be; and that the Marshal replied to the admonition in a rough and laconic style, which is not always found in diplomatic correspondence.

The Emperor is expected to arrive in Paris on the 20th or 25th. He will probably remain but a short time. He goes to Brest, and thence to Cherbourg, after which he will proceed to Plombieres for the waters. About his ulterior movements nothing is positively stated, but it is probable that his Majesty will accompany or join the Empress at Biarritz, where his stay will be of the usual length.

A rumour circulated on Wednesday that another attempt at assassination had been made at Fontainebleau, and that several Italians were arrested. The origin of the report appears to be this:—Lord Henry Seymour being in treaty for the purchase of a carriage, had ordered his servants to test the solidity of the springs. They loaded the carriage with several pieces of cast iron, and drove it outside the Barrier de la Villette, which is on the road to Fontainebleau, in order to look out for some rough ground over which the carriage might get a good jolting. On passing the barrier the coachman said to the octroi officers, "You will please to observe that we have got some cast-iron bars, and you will not make us pay on them when we come back." The officers said it would be all right, and the carriage went on. But presently, as the officers talked amongst themselves at the station, it struck them as suspicious that a carriage bearing hollow metallic tubes should have been driving at a rapid rate on the road to Fontainebleau. Visions of Orsini bombs arose before the eyes of the most imaginative; a force of gendarmes was sent for to the barrier, and when the carriage came back the servants were arrested and the cast-iron ballast seized for inspection. How soon the error was discovered is not known, but in the meanwhile the rumour spread all over Paris that a new plot had been discovered.

A duel was fought on Wednesday between M. Odier, the son of the banker and a brother of Madame Cavaignac, and a fashionable man about Paris, named Sicot. The quarrel arose at the Café Foy, where the parties were dining together with some friends. In the course of a discussion upon a subject of no importance, M. Odier expressed a difference of opinion with M. Sicot, in terms which the latter thought offensive. A challenge ensued. The duel was fought with swords. M. Sicot speedily received a wound in the arm, but it was not severe enough to prevent him from continuing the combat, and he subsequently wounded his adversary in the body in three places. M. Odier is confined to his bed, but his state is not thought to be dangerous.

The trial of the Socialist Proudhon for the publication of an immoral work, entitled 'Justice in the Revolution and in the Church,' and for having published a pamphlet called 'A Petition to the Senate,' without having deposited a copy with the Attorney-General, according to the new law, is concluded. The Court having heard the Imperial Attorney for the prosecution, and M. Gustave Chaudey for the defence, and without retiring to consider their judgment, sentenced Proudhon to imprisonment for three years and to pay a fine of 4,000f. M. Garnier, the editor, was sentenced to imprisonment for one month and a fine of 1,000f.; M. Bourdier, the printer of 'Justice in the Revolution and in the Church,' to imprisonment for 15 days and a fine of 1,000f.; and M. Bry, the printer of the 'Petition to the Senate,' to imprisonment for 15 days, and a fine of 100f.

The proprietor of the 'Figaro' is said to have sold his paper for the sum of 250,000f. M. de Pene is rather better than otherwise, and his medical attendants think that if he continues in his present state he may be brought in a week or so to Paris.

On Monday evening last a fearful railway accident occurred upon the line from Mons to Manage, between the Louviere and Bois de Luc, by which eleven passengers were killed and fifty wounded. It appears that the train carried a large number of passengers, and while proceeding at its utmost speed came in contact with two waggons laden with coke, and a third filled with merchandise. The shock was terrible. The locomotive was thrown on top of the waggons, and the two carriages which followed it were smashed into pieces, and the third greatly crushed and broken. The railway guard and the engineer were jerked from their places to a considerable distance, but without sustaining any material injuries. The train was a heavy one, being crowded with persons returning from the fête of Mons. The 'Journal de Mons,' of the 2nd inst., gives the following account of the accident:—"Two coke waggons were detached from a goods train at the Louvre station. When the goods train moved on they began to move backwards down an incline. One of the officials in vain endeavoured to put on a break. There is a curve in the line at this point, and an excursion train from Mons coming up did not perceive the obstacle on the line till within 200 yards. The man on the coke waggons jumped off and a fearful collision took place immediately afterwards. The first two carriages were smashed to atoms, and the third much damaged. Seven persons were killed on the spot, and a great number wounded." The 'Journal de Charleroi' says: "The number of killed by the recent railway accident now amounts to 21, including the seven who were killed on the spot. The number of wounded is 52. The wounded are in the hospitals of Mons and Manage. The wounds of some were dressed on the scene of the accident. Two medical men in the train rendered all the services in their power. The greatest consternation has been caused by this terrible accident."

The 'Courier de Charleroi' says:—"The train consisted of sixteen carriages, full of passengers. Only the two first carriages were smashed. The shock was terrible. Some of the bodies were completely flattened. A young girl, whose legs were cut off, pointed to a ring on her finger, and then expired. Some of the passengers jumped out and were saved. A baby was found on the rails unhurt. Its mother was killed. A man named Marchiennes was picked up covered with blood. He was not injured; the blood came from a woman sitting next to him, who was smashed to pieces. To give an idea of the violence of the collision it will suffice to say that the clothes of some of the victims were cut to pieces as cleanly as if with a pair of scissors."

The decoration of the Victoria Cross has been conferred on the undermentioned officers, and non-commissioned officers, on account of acts of bravery performed by them in the Crimea during the late war, viz.:—Serjeant H. Ramage, 2nd Dragoons; Brevet-Major M. Walker, 3rd Regiment, late of the 30th Regiment; Colour-Deputy G. Gardiner, 57th Regiment; Surgeon J. Moutat, C.B. (now Deputy-Inspector-General of Hospitals), late of 6th Dragoons; Captain H. C. Elphinstone, Royal Engineers; Colour-Serjeant H. M'Donald, Royal Engineers; and Colour-Serjeant R. Leitch, Royal Engineers.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.

MILITARY BLUNDERING IN INDIA.—The hot-weather campaign has commenced with a reverse, which we owe to the rashness and folly of General Walpole. We want to know how long the patience of the public is to be tried by the impunity allowed to such mishaps. Are the reproaches of conscience and the anxiety caused by defeat to be the only penalties of bad generalship? Are the errors and follies of leaders to be palliated and excused under such plea as age, untoward circumstances, bravery, and the like? We don't advocate that form of punishment which was so common in the days of the French Convention, when partial success was considered failure, and ill-fated generals paid the penalty on the scaffold. But, while we should deprecate undue severity, we do advocate the necessity for punishment in some form. It is not sufficient to mark official displeasure merely by removing a rash or incapable general from active service in the field, and depriving him of prospective honours from bravery in action. Lenity begets disaster. We see the result in the case of General Walpole. We feel confident that if the supineness of General Hewitt at Meerut, which led to the fatal massacre of Delhi, had been visited by some more marked symptom of dissatisfaction than is to be discovered in the mere act of sending him home, the lesson would have served to deter other generals from similar inactivity. Can it be doubted that if slowness and incapacity had been held to constitute a grave offence in the case of General Hewitt we should not have had to deplore the disaster of Dinapore? That disaster, which we owe to the age, incapacity, and gouty legs of General Lloyd, has not ceased as yet to yield melancholy fruits. Eight months have elapsed since the "fighting Sepoys," as they call themselves, marched out of cantonments unopposed, and they are still in the vicinity of the Ganges, harassing our troops, besieging towns, and holding difficult passes against our bravest soldiers. Will any one say General Lloyd's removal was a sufficient example to deter others from imitating his cruel errors? Hewitt's and Lloyd's are faults of inaction. Others have erred through the contrary fault. General Windham commits a breach of orders and an error in judgment at Cawnpore. Is it a grave mark of dissatisfaction to send him to enjoy the ease of garrison life in Sirhind? When the colonel of the 2nd Bays makes an imprudent charge at nothing at all, as at Chinhut, and gets his regiment well peppered from stone walls which he should never have approached, the bravery that prompted the foolish act saves him from reprimand. We know of one instance only where inattention to orders was visited with any reproach. General Franks had orders to use heavy artillery when he could do so with advantage. But his contempt of danger made him despise those orders. He took light pieces into action, substituting the bayonets at close quarters for distant cannonade. The consequence was the loss of valuable lives, and Sir Colin, instead of intrusting the trans-Goomtee column to General Franks, gave it to Sir James Outram. But even this example was insufficient to act as a check to the headlong ardour of General Walpole, who, with the contempt of a Wheeler for his enemies, attacks stone walls in skirmishing order, and a jungle without a previous cannonade.—'Bombay Gazette.'

THE DEAD ALIVE.—We learn from a private letter, written from Simlah, that Captain F. D. Bignell and Ensign R. S. Byrne, of the 10th Native Infantry, who were supposed to have been massacred by the mutineers at Cawnpore, are still living. It appears that they were delivered by Maun Singh to Jung Bahadoor, who sent them, with other refugees, to Nepal, the road to the British camp having at the time been considered unsafe. This will perhaps account for the absence of several officers and Europeans, who are believed to have been massacred during the first days of the mutiny. We are generally reluctant to place implicit reliance upon reports. We trust, however, that in the present instance the statement may turn out to be correct.—'Indian Empire,' April 20.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—ADMISSIONS DURING THE WEEK.—Saturday, May 29. On payment, 2,163; by season tickets, 1,945: total, 4,108.—Monday, May 31. On payment, 5,455; by season tickets, 561: total, 6,016.—Tuesday, June 1. On payment, 4,830; by season tickets, 579: total, 5,409.—Wednesday, June 2. On payment, 4,310; by season tickets, 609: total, 4,919.—Thursday, June 3. On payment, 4,419; by season tickets, 591: total, 5,010.—Friday, June 4. On payment, 1,050; by season tickets, 3,078: total, 4,128.

SOUTH KENSINGTON MUSEUM.—During the week ending May 29 the visitors have been as follows:—Morning, 10,764; evening, 4,645. Total, 15,409.

PLAYGROUND AND GENERAL RECREATION SOCIETY.—The first festival of this society—the object of which is to afford to the rising generation in populous districts facilities for healthy recreation, apart from the contamination of the streets—was held on Tuesday evening at the London Tavern under the presidency of Mr Charles Dickens. The Chairman, in proposing the toast of the evening, "Prosperity to the Playground Society," said—that the great increase of towns consequent upon the increase of trade and national prosperity, and the increasing distance of the fields from the houses, raised a very serious question as to where children are to play; and the importance of this question had impressed itself upon the Rev. Mr Laing, who some nine months since had conceived the idea of forming a playground society for the children of the poorer classes. Upon the main question all were agreed, and the only thing to determine therefore was how to carry it out. Public opinion had been drawn to it by means of the press, which cordially approved of the scheme, and it remained only for the public to do their part in carrying it out, and particularly for the owners of lands to remember the great benefit they would render to the country by sometimes conceding small gifts of open spaces for this benevolent purpose. Though the difficulties were somewhat great in the way of carrying out so extensively as could be wished this laudable undertaking at the present time, they would gradually diminish. As an instance of what the society had been able to do towards establishing playgrounds in the parishes of St Pancras and Marylebone two benevolent ladies had expressed their willingness to come forward with sums of 100*l.* each towards defraying the expense of procuring a playground in either of those parishes if other individuals could be found willing to co-operate for that purpose. He therefore urged upon those present the importance of giving their support towards accomplishing the object which the society had in view, and concluded by expressing his determination to give it his most hearty support. The subscriptions announced amounted to about 600*l.*

FREE PLAYGROUND AT LIVERPOOL.—Mr C. P. Melly, a young merchant of Liverpool, and a partner in the house of Melly, Romilly, and Co., after having beautified that town with numerous wall fountains, at which thirsty pedestrians may help themselves without let or hindrance, has recently fitted up a piece of land in the suburbs, belonging to the corporation, as a free gymnasium and playground for the people. It was opened this week, and has been numerously attended. The following well-meaning and sensible address has been freely distributed:—"Friends.—This playground is intended for your enjoyment and is placed under your care. The poles, ropes, ladders, and chains will bear any fair usage; it will be for you to protect them from wilful damage. The trees will adorn your playground if they are allowed to grow up, and you will, I am sure, prevent them from being destroyed. This playground is hereby placed in your hands; let it be used for the purposes for which it is obviously intended. Let good humour and good temper prevail. Let there be no quarrelling among yourselves; and allow no stone-throwing or fighting among your younger members. It rests with you whether the first attempt at free outdoor amusement in our town be a success or a failure.—CHARLES P. MELLY."

MEMORIAL TO LORD DUDLEY COUTTS STUART.—On the decease of the late Lord Dudley Coutts Stuart, in November, 1854, a large number of his friends and political admirers wished to perpetuate by some suitable testimonial the memory of his Lordship. For this purpose a sum of 1,400*l.* was subscribed, and the committee appointed to effect the most desirable appropriation of it resolved to devote it to the rebuilding and improvement of the North-West Nightly Refuge for the Houseless Poor, which should bear the name of the late lamented nobleman, and be adorned with his bust. On Tuesday the ceremony of inauguration took place at 77 Market street, Edgware road, when the Earl of Carlisle presided, and addressed the meeting in a very effective speech on the object for which they were assembled. He alluded to the high character which Lord Dudley Stuart had always maintained, and the philanthropic views which he ever manifested. Poland and her exiled countrymen had claimed his special care and energetic advocacy to redress their wrongs, and none had more gratefully acknowledged those services and his benevolence than the children of that unhappy country. After a vote of thanks to the chairman, the bust—which is an excellent likeness in bronze, by the late Mr T. Campbell—was uncovered.

TOLERATION OF COLOUR.—At the annual meeting of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society, last Saturday, Lord Brougham related the following amusing anecdote:—"Lord Lyndhurst gave me a short time since an anecdote of a gentleman who was connected with the Hague, and who on one occasion received an invitation to the house of a Cuban gentleman, a negro proprietor of a large estate, where he was received with the utmost hospitality and treated elegantly. He said that he was rather entertained when, after dinner was over, his coloured host said that he was a man without any prejudice whatever, and that whenever he found a person honest, honourable, and respectable in every point of view, he held out the hand of fellowship to him, even though his colour were as white as that table-cloth."

THE LEVIATHAN STEAMER.—The Eastern Steam Navigation propose to raise the 220,000*l.* required for the completion of the Leviathan by granting annuities of 5*l.* terminable in eight years for a payment of 20*l.* They have also decided that the vessel shall be permanently employed in the traffic between England and America. Portland, in the State of Maine, whence there is direct communication with all the principal railways of the United States and Canada, is to be the American port, and Holyhead or Liverpool will be selected on this side. The passage is hoped to be regularly accomplished in seven days, and it is considered that seven or eight voyages out and home may be performed yearly. An estimate is put forward of probable earnings, showing a net profit of 17,700*l.* per voyage. In this it is assumed the number of passengers each way will be 2,100, and that the fares should be 21*l.*, 12*l.*, and 6*l.* for first, second, and third class.

DINNER AND TESTIMONIAL TO MR F. P. SMITH.—A dinner was given on Wednesday at St James's-hall to Mr Smith, whose name, in connexion with the adaptation of the screw propeller, is familiar to the public. Mr R. Stephenson, M.P., who presided, in proposing "the health of Mr Smith," said that he did not wish to claim for that gentleman any exclusive merit. Mr Smith had, however, working from a platform which might have been raised by others, as Watt had done, and as other great men had done, made a stride in advance which was almost tantamount to a new invention. It was, in his opinion, almost impossible to overrate the advantages which this country had derived from the untiring and devoted patience which Mr Smith had bestowed upon the subject of propelling vessels by means of the screw, and it was to show the sense entertained of those services that they had invited Mr Smith to meet them that evening. Mr Stephenson then presented Mr Smith, in the name of the company present, and of absent subscribers to the fund, with a handsome salver and claret jug.

THE PRICE OF A METROPOLITAN SEAT IN PARLIAMENT.—A very instructive return has been issued to members, setting forth the cost of becoming a metropolitan member. They are as follows:—London—Russell, 3,222*l.*; Rothschild, 1,313*l.*; Duke, 1,068*l.*; Crawford, 999*l.*; Currie, 970*l.*; Tower Hamlets—Ayrton, 1,337*l.*; Butler, 1,133*l.*; Clay, 806*l.*; Finsbury—Duncombe, 412*l.*; Cox, 2,308*l.*; Parry, 736*l.*; Reed (Major Reed's accounts do not appear). Lambeth—Roupell, 5,339*l.*; Williams, 1,705*l.*; Wilkinson, 2,688*l.* South-west—Napier, 1,219*l.*; Locke, 3,880*l.*; Pellatt, 684*l.* In Westminster and Marylebone no contest.—Shelley, 115*l.*; Evans, 163*l.*; Hall, 100*l.*; Ebrington, 150*l.* The above returns show that an election for a metropolitan borough, when contested, may cost any sum varying from 1,500*l.* to nearly 6,000*l.* But though the returns may be accurate, as far as they go, a candidate is fortunate who gets off for the amounts inserted in the parliamentary paper. When Marylebone was contested, on the death of Lord Dudley Stuart, in 1854, it cost Lord Ebrington 5,000*l.*, and Mr Bell 3,000*l.*; and, it is said, that Lord Dudley Stuart paid 7,000*l.* for his return in 1847. A contest in Westminster varies from 2,000*l.* to 8,000*l.*, and has exceeded in the good old times, 20,000*l.* A seat in a metropolitan constituency, consisting of upwards of 350,000 persons, is no sinecure, and it is very clear that no candidate can be elected for the first time without enormous expense, to which he may be subjected at each succeeding election—a contest being the rule and a walk over the exception. In addition to election expenses, it is said that the subscriptions to local charities vary from 300*l.* to 1,000*l.* per annum. Mr Byng's seat for the county of Middlesex costs him fully 2,000*l.* a year in subscriptions.

THEATRICAL FRACAS IN NEW YORK.—We find the following in the 'New York Herald' of May 22:—"Yesterday evening, at about seven o'clock, when the balmy breezes and the sunniest of skies were wafting and smiling over the expanse of cirrus which eddied up Broadway, a tremendous row disturbed the serenity of the most aristocratic part of the fashionable promenade. The parties to the afternoon's entertainment were Mr C. Mathews, the eminent comedian, now playing at Burton's theatre, and Mr A. H. Davenport, a popular actor, at present attached to the stock company of Wallack's theatre. Those of our readers who are interested in theatrical matters will remember that Mr Davenport was the husband of Miss Lizzie Weston; that a separation took place between them last summer, and some newspaper warfare. Subsequently Mr Davenport sued for and obtained a divorce on the ground of adultery between his wife and Mr C. Mathews. Immediately after the granting of the divorce, the *ci-devant* Mrs Davenport became, by the laws of New Jersey, the wife of Mr C. Mathews. They have played engagements through the country, while Mr Davenport has been at Wallack's. Matters were in this state when Mr and Mrs Mathews returned to town; and it is whispered in the *coulisses* of the theatre that Mr Davenport has received a pecuniary consideration of three hundred dollars from Mr Mathews for his wife; in another shape, that the expenses of the divorce suit were borne by Mr Mathews, and that the affair was an understood matter all round. Mr Davenport says he has received no money from Mr Mathews; Mr Davenport's attorney declares that he is equally pure. Thereupon Mr Davenport writes rather a threatening letter to Mr Mathews, demanding a retraction. Mr Stuart, the manager of Wallack's theatre, and friend to both parties, indites on Wednesday last a courteous letter to Mr Mathews, stating that he (Stuart) has been informed that Mr Mathews made this remark about the 300 dollars, and has no doubt that he will deny it at once. Mr Mathews replies yesterday that he is too busy to answer the note then, but will do so to-day (Saturday). Mr Davenport is made acquainted with the contents of this note from Mr Mathews. At about seven o'clock last evening Mr Mathews emerges from his lodgings, No. 726 Broadway, smoking his light cigar. Mr Davenport is talking with some friends near the New York Hotel

(classic ground), when he sees Mr Mathews. Mr Davenport crosses the street, and confronts Mr Mathews. Mr Davenport demands, 'did you say you paid me 300 dollars, for my wife?' or remarks to that effect. Mr Mathews, still smoking the light cigar, responds, 'I said I paid your lawyer, sir.' Mr Davenport responds (struggling with some tremendous weapon of war under his coat), 'He denies it—it is false.' More light conversation ensues. M. will not retract; D. seizes M. by the collar, elevates a whip over his shoulders, strikes him therewith several times. M. strikes D. in the temple; there is a great crowd; a metropolitan policeman appears, disarms Davenport, and takes him to the Fifteenth ward station-house, from which pleasant retreat—no complaint being made—he is released to play several young officers and things for the delectation of Wallack's, which he does as if nothing had happened. Mr Mathews is not much hurt. He goes to the theatre, and plays with all his usual *esprit*. It is claimed that he was struck by persons other than Mr Davenport; but this is contradicted. It is likewise claimed that Mr Mathews had not sufficient time to answer the note, and that it can be proved that some one got the 300 dollars. Davenport says he didn't; the lawyer says he didn't. The question is, who did?"

TOWN AND COUNTRY TALK.

A fund is at present being raised to secure the permanent maintenance in this country of the valuable museum collected by the late Hugh Miller. Government had destined 500*l.* for this purpose, but the sum of 1,000 guineas having been offered by an American college, a subscription has been commenced in Edinburgh, in order to complete that amount.

At the Petty Sessions, at Gravesend, on Monday, James Donovan and Thomas Oakley were brought up on remand, charged with the manslaughter of Philip Redwood. The two men were released on bail, to appear again to-day, it being at present uncertain whether the Essex magistrates will think there are sufficient grounds for a prosecution of the prisoners.

A Sheffield paper publishes some curious facts of "the results of the Rev. J. Caughey's labours during his stay in Sheffield, from August 9, 1857, to May 18, 1858." Taking the case of Bethel Chapel, where he ministered from November 25 in last year, to January 25, 1858, we find a total of 1,380 persons thus parcelled out:—"Converted from the world, 774; converted, but in society, 154; sanctified, 452."

The Leviathan is now open to the view of the public, and the present fine weather is daily attracting hundreds to avail themselves of the opportunity thus offered of viewing her immense proportions.

Gas has been introduced into the High Elsecar Colliery, and naked gas lights are burning in all the board gates and stables. This shows the pure air in circulation, and there is now no fear of any explosion occurring.

The shareholders of the East Kent Railway have approved, at a special meeting, the Bills for an extension from Bromley to St Mary Cray, and the construction of the West-end and Crystal Palace line with a station near Victoria street. The first Bill will give the company an independent route to Dover.

In the course of his sermon on Sunday morning at the Surrey Music Hall, Mr Spurgeon announced his intention of preaching on Friday week from the Grand Stand at Epsom to his friends there, and he also expressed his hope that on the occasion he should be favoured with a large attendance of "outsiders."

On Saturday morning the country seat of the Hon. Mrs Pitt, known as the Dell, Bishopsgate, Windsor Great Park, was discovered to be on fire, and although engines from Egham and Windsor were soon upon the scene, the flames were not extinguished until property valued at near 2,000*l.*, including the furniture of the drawing-room, was destroyed.

Wells, the jockey, who in mounts alone has had more than his share of good fortune, has received many presents, in addition to the 1,000 to 10 which Sir Joseph himself betted him against Fitz Roland and Beadman. In a few months he has made more money than some of the most talented literary and professional men acquire in a lifetime by laborious mental employment.

The prices of wheat and bread in the metropolis are from 6*d.* to 7*d.*; of household ditto, 5*d.* to 6*d.*; some bakers are selling from 4*d.* to 5*d.* per 4*lb.* loaf, weighed on delivery.

Max Müller, Taylorian Professor of Modern European Languages at Oxford, Member of the Royal Bavarian Academy, and other learned societies, has been elected, under the provisions of the new statutes, fellow of All Souls' College, Oxford.

The performances of the people's Sunday bands have been repeated. About 50,000 persons were present in the Regent's park on Sunday last, and nearly 20*l.* was received on the ground from the sale of programmes and donations. The music was under the direction of Mr Perry, of her Majesty's Theatre.

A new screw steamer of 1,900 tons and 400 horse power, named the Salsette, has been built for the Peninsular and Oriental Company by Tod and McGregor, of Glasgow.

The Arboretum, Botanic gardens, and pleasure grounds at Kew are now in the most perfect order, and open free every day at one. Sundays at two. The museum and conservatories close at six, the gardens at seven, the landscape garden and grounds at eight.

On Monday night Dr Bernard delivered a lecture in Greenwich on the present state of political parties in Europe. He stated that the whole body of the political exiles now residing in England were united in the determination to concentrate all their revolutionary efforts on France, believing that there the central power of despotism was enthroned.

The body of a female child was found on Sunday morning last in the Regent's Canal, near the Independent Gas Works, Haggerstone, packed up in a carpenter's basket in a state of mutilation, which showed murder had been committed.

A landed proprietor in Lincolnshire and Yorkshire has intimated to his tenants that in the event of the abolition of church rates they will be charged with the rate as rent, calculated on the average of the last three years.

By Mr Cox's 'Monthly Saturday Half-Holiday List' we find there are no less than 742 legal firms which have given in their adhesion to the movement.

Mr Bright has written a letter contradicting a rumour that he was about to relinquish his seat for Birmingham. He says he has no such intention.

The sailing match of the Royal London Yacht Club takes place on Monday next.

The Queen has consented to visit Leeds, and to open the new town hall. Her Majesty's visit will take place about the end of August, on her route to Scotland. The Queen will, it is stated, remain a night in Leeds.

On Monday one of a drove of oxen coming from the New Cattle Market suddenly broke from the herd in the Blackfriars road, and ran amuck at everything that came in his way. Several persons were knocked down by the animal and seriously injured. Mrs Jay, of Webber street, Blackfriars road, was severely gored and had some of her ribs broken. Mr J. Modiventor, of Union street, was also seriously gored.

The Rev. B. Elwyn, M.A., late fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, and senior classic of his year, was on Monday elected to the post of head master of the Charter House, vacant by the lamented death of Dr Elder.

The second exhibition, for this season, of plants, flowers, and fruit took place this week in the gardens of the Royal Botanical Society, Regent's Park. About 15,000 persons were present.

On Wednesday the Metropolitan Board of Works held a special meeting to consider the main drainage of London, and once more resolved, by a formal vote, to do nothing, at any rate for three months.

In the Bankruptcy Court on Wednesday the examination of Davidson and Gordon, the well-known bankrupts, was adjourned until the 7th of July, with renewed protection from arrest. The bankrupts have undergone their sentence of two years' penal servitude.

It is stated that the bill for the reform of the bankruptcy law is engaging the serious attention of government, and will be brought forward with the least possible delay.

LAW.

LIEN ON A SHIP.—THE "BRITISH EMPIRE" SHIPPING COMPANY v. SOMES BROTHERS.—In the Court of Queen's Bench, on the 26th ult., judgment was given in this case, which is one of great importance to shipowners. It was a special case for the opinion of the Court, and the question was whether the defendants were entitled to retain 567*l.*, charged by them, and which had been paid to them under protest, as compensation for the use of their dock at Blackwall, in detaining the plaintiff's ship "British Empire." The defendants had repaired the ship, and claimed the vessel as a lien for the amount of the repairs, charging 21*l.* a day for the use of the dock in which the ship was detained. The main question for the consideration of the Court was whether the defendants could charge for the use of the dock in which the ship lay while enforcing their lien. Judgment was given in plaintiffs' favour, Lord Campbell saying there was no custom or usage for such an unjustifiable course of proceeding, and the defendants (Messrs Somes Brothers) had failed to make out their claim at common law. The following is an exact copy of Lord Campbell's elaborate judgment upon this interesting question:—Lord Campbell: We are of opinion that under the circumstances stated in the special case the defendants were not entitled to retain the sum paid to them in respect of the item of 567*l.*, or any other sum as compensation for the use of the dock in detaining the plaintiff's ship. As artificers who had expended their labour and materials in repairing the ship which the plaintiffs had delivered to them to be repaired, the defendants had a lien upon the ship for the amount of the sum due to them for these repairs, but we do not find any ground on which the claim can be supported to be paid for the use of the dock while they detained the ship under the lien against the will of the owner. There is no evidence of any special contract for such a payment as this claim as to the amount demanded for 21*l.* a day for the use of the dock during the detention. But the plaintiffs deny their liability to make any such payment, and insisted on the right to have the ship immediately delivered up to them, nor does any custom or usage appear to authorise such a claim for compensation. Even supposing that a wharfinger with whom goods had been deposited, he being entitled to warehouse rent for the use of his warehouse, might claim the continuation of the payment during the time he detained them,—he exercised a right of lien till the payment which is due to him is made. There is no ground for a similar claim here, as there was to be no separate payment for the use of the dock while the ship was under repair, and the claim only commences from the refusal to deliver her up. The onus therefore is cast upon the defendant to show that by the common law of England an artificer who exercises his right of lien, and detains a chattel in the making or repairing on which he has expended his labour and materials, has a claim against the owner for taking care of the chattel while he is so doing, but the claim appears to be quite novel on principle. There is a great difficulty in supporting it *ex contractu* or *ex delicto*. The owner of the chattel can hardly be supposed to have promised to pay for the detaining of the ship against his will. He is deprived of the use of it, and there seems no such consideration for such a promise. Then the chattel can hardly be supposed to be wrongfully left, and in the possession of the artificer, when the owner has been prevented by the artificer from taking possession of it himself. If such a claim can be supported, it must constitute a debt from the owner to the artificer, for which an action might be maintained. When does that debt arise? And when is the action maintainable? It has been held that a coachmaker cannot claim any right of detention or standage, unless there be an express contract to that effect, where the owner leaves his property on the premises beyond a reasonable time, and after notice has been given him to remove. (See the case of Gaunt v. Hill, 1st Starkie.) The right of detaining goods on which there is a lien is a remedy to the party aggrieved, which is to be exercised by a legal act. And when such a remedy is taken at common law, it is not the case generally to give him the costs of the motion, although the lord of a manor be entitled to amend for keep of a horse which he has seized as an estray! It is not a distraining of goods which have been replaced, he cannot claim any lien upon them, as is decided in *Bradyll v. Ball*, 1st Brown's Chancery cases—so where a horse was distrained to compel appearance in a hundred court, it was held that after appearance the plaintiff could not justify detaining the horse for the keep. That is *Buller's Nisi Prius*, page 411. If cattle were distrained—*damage feasant*—and impounded in a pound overt, the owner of the cattle must feed them, if in a pound covert, the rule is laid down in the words of Lord Coke, "cattle there shall be sustained with meat and drink at the proper cost of the distrainer, and he shall not have any satisfaction therefore." Coke Littleton, 47 B. For the reasons on the points suggested to us, we give judgment for the plaintiffs.

LEWIS v. LEVY.—PRIVILEGED REPORTS.—This was an action for libel against the "Daily Telegraph." The alleged libel consisted of a series of reports, published from time to time, of certain proceedings before Mr Alderman Rose, at Guildhall, on a charge made against the plaintiff for perjury, which, after several hearings, was eventually dismissed. The defendant pleaded first not guilty, and secondly, that the reports in question were true and faithful accounts of the proceedings before the magistrate, and that he had published them bona fide and without malice at the trial which took place before Lord Campbell, at Westminster. The jury found a verdict for the defendant upon both issues. Subsequently a rule was obtained to enter a verdict for the plaintiff notwithstanding the finding of the jury. The real question raised for the decision of the court was whether the bona fide publication of the true and faithful account of an investigation before a magistrate on a criminal charge was privileged. Lord Campbell now delivered a very elaborate judgment on the case. After explaining the pleadings, and referring to various authorities, his lordship said the plaintiff's counsel contended that the privilege of reporting legal proceedings was confined to the superior courts of law and equity, but no such question as to the dignity of the court could be regarded, and they must look to the nature of the judicial proceedings reported, and for that purpose no distinction could be made between a pie poudre court and the House of Lords sitting as a court of justice. If the magistrates, under the pretence of giving advice, heard publicly slanderous complaints over which they had no jurisdiction, though their names were on the commission of the peace, a report of what passed before them was little privileged as if it had been the report of what fell from some illiterate mechanics assembled in an alchouse. It was contended that the reports of proceedings before magistrates were not privileged, but the Court by no means assented to that general proposition. Proceedings before magistrates under the 11 and 12 Vic., c. 43, which gave power to them to summarily convict after hearing both parties, subject to an appeal, were strictly of a judicial nature. Those proceedings took place in open Court, the defendant as well as the prosecutor might retain the assistance of a solicitor, counsel, and call witnesses, and both parties being heard and judgment pronounced, the proceedings might lawfully be made the subject of a printed report, if that report were impartial

and correct. The Court was not prepared to lay down that preliminary inquiries before magistrates were universally lawful, but they were not prepared to say that they were universally unlawful although there were no dicta to that effect. The publication of proceedings before a magistrate, in a private room, would undoubtedly be unlawful; but while he sat in a room in which as many of the public as could conveniently be accommodated were admitted—and that course was the best calculated for the investigation of truth and the satisfactory administration of justice—as in most cases it certainly would be—they thought the Court in which he sat must be considered a public Court of justice. They did not see how, on principle, this case was to be distinguished from the daily report in a newspaper of a criminal trial which lasted some days before the Court of Queen's Bench, or the Central Criminal Court, or at the assizes. It had been adjudged that, if the due administration of justice required it, the Court had authority to make an order against publishing any part of the trial until the whole had been concluded; nevertheless, where no such order was made, the practice existed of daily publishing without any disapprobation by the Court, each day's proceedings until the trial concluded; and in several instances this practice had really extended the area of the court, and been found highly beneficial in discovering material evidence. The Court gave no opinion in favour of the general legality of published reports of preliminary examinations before magistrates where the party accused was committed or held to bail for an indictable offence, but they could not join in the sweeping condemnation of those reports which had been pronounced before the benefit arising from these courts were fully experienced. The court believed that they often led to the detection and punishment of crime, and sometimes to the vindication of character. Lord Denman said, before a committee of the House of Lords, in 1843, on the law of libel, that he had no doubt that police reports were extremely useful in the detection of the guilty, by making the facts notorious, and bringing them more accurately to the knowledge of all parties interested. The public, he added, are perfectly aware that these proceedings may be *ex parte*, and they will become more and more aware of it, in proportion to their growing intelligence; they will know that such proceedings are only preparatory to a trial, and will not form an opinion until the trial comes on. The perfect publicity of judicial proceedings is of high importance in other points of view, but most of all, as regards its effect on character. A statement made in open court will probably find its way to the ears of all who can assist in elucidation of the truth. Probably it is in an exaggerated form, or the imputation may rest on the wrong person, and both these evils are prevented by accurate reports in the public journals. The court thought they were at liberty in this case to hold that an impartial and correct report of the proceedings was lawful. They, therefore, gave judgment that the verdict for the defendant in the second plea was no bar to the action, and directed a verdict to be entered for the plaintiff, with 1*s.* damages, on the plea of "not guilty" to the second count of the declaration, and that the verdict for the defendant on the plea of "not guilty" on the first and third count should stand. Judgment accordingly.

ACCIDENTS AND OCCURRENCES.

DEATH OF A PRIZE FIGHTER WHO WAS SECONDED BY HIS OWN SISTER.—An ex-pugilist, named Eggerston, of some fame in the old time of the prize ring, died on Saturday, under very dreadful circumstances. A week since he was at the bar of the Admiral Keppel Tavern, in the company of Mr Thorpe, of racing notoriety, and another sporting man, of the name of Arnold; the sister of the deceased was also of the party. Arnold and the deceased had some words at the tavern, which ended by a sum of money being deposited to abide the event of a fight off-hand. Mr Thorpe acted as bottleholder to Arnold, whilst the sister to the deceased officiated as second to her brother. The battle, a terrific one, took place in the Brompton Fields, and the woman enacted the part of seconder in a way to prolong the combat. She encouraged her unfortunate brother both by taunts and advice, and it remains for a coroner's inquest to decide as to this amazon's culpability. Eggerston never rallied, and died in great agony. Great blame is attached to the police for permitting a prize fight in London to come off.

DREADFUL COLLIERY EXPLOSION.—An explosion of fire-damp, attended by the most lamentable consequences, has occurred in the Bryndu Colliery, belonging to Messrs Ford and Sons, near Pyle, Glamorganshire. Towards five o'clock in the evening a violent report was heard in the pit, and several persons immediately hastened to the spot. It was then found that every man in the working had been killed, not one being left alive to explain the origin of the catastrophe. Twelve men had been at work, and their bodies were not recovered until after some hours, most of them being frightfully disfigured. It is at present conjectured that the cause of the explosion was blasting in a heading on the 9-feet vein, where large quantities of gas usually accumulate, but no certain information can be obtained till after the inquest. The inquiry has already been formally opened, and adjourned for the purpose of procuring the attendance of the Government Inspector of Mines. The deceased were nearly all married men, and about forty children are left fatherless by the event.

FATAL ACCIDENT.—Mr F. Pellatt, Principal Military Storekeeper of Woolwich Arsenal, died on Wednesday, after much suffering, from the effects of severe injuries sustained on Monday evening by the upsetting of his carriage near the Arsenal gates, on his return from Blackheath. The deceased was received in an almost lifeless condition at the surgery of Mr Coleman, where he remained in a state of collapse until death finally relieved him from his sufferings. Mrs Pellatt, who accompanied her husband in the fatal evening's drive, was severely contused, and was conveyed to her residence the same evening, where she is progressing favourably.

DARING ROBBERY.—An instance of an extraordinary and daring robbery, evidently long planned, has this week come under the notice of the City detective police, affording another strong illustration of the careless way large sums of money are conveyed through the streets of the metropolis. On Monday a carman employed by Mr Gardner, skin salesman in New Smithfield Market, was despatched to the Bank of England in a cab to pay in 787*l.* The money was entirely in silver coin; it was deposited in eight bags, which were placed in a small sack, the whole weighing about two cwt. The carman put it on one of the seats in the cab, got in, and the vehicle proceeded on its way to the Bank of England. On its way, however, through Islington, it brought up alongside a public-house in Thornhill road. Here both cabman and carman entered, leaving the cab standing at the curb in front of the house unprotected. According to their statement to Mr Gardner they were only in the house a minute, drinking a pint of porter, and on their return to the cab the carman, upon opening the door, discovered, to his astonishment, the sack with the 787*l.* was gone, but how abstracted from the cab, or by whom, was to them a mystery.—On Thursday H. Harnott, the cab driver, and J. Griffin, the carman, were charged with being concerned, with others not in custody, in stealing the money. Mr Gardner, the prosecutor, said that on Monday morning he put into various bags the silver which had been received that morning, 100*l.* in each bag. The whole of the bags were then put into one bag, placed on the shoulders of the prisoner Griffin, and then put into the cab of the prisoner Harnott, for the purpose of being sent to the Bank of England, as was the usual practice. In about an hour afterwards both prisoners returned in company with a detective officer, and Griffin said he had lost the silver. The prosecutor said they must have been joking, when the other man said the same, and that was all he knew about it. Mr Bebe said that when the prisoners came back they said that they had lost the silver. Griffin said they stopped at the Albion

public-house, Thornhill road, to water the horse, and that the other prisoner sent him back with the pail, and ordered some half-and-half. When he got on the cab he ascertained that the silver was gone. Harnott, upon discovering that the silver was gone, asked the other not to make a noise at the Albion, but drove off to the police-station. Other evidence having been given, Mr Corrie remanded the prisoners until Tuesday next, but took bail for their appearance on that day.

SUICIDE IN A COLLIERY.—The coroner for Leeds held an inquest on Wednesday on the body of Mr J. Longbottom, the proprietor of the Pepper-lane Colliery, who was found dashed to pieces in his pit on Sunday evening. The deceased, who was sixty-seven years of age, had been much depressed in spirits for some months, partly in consequence of the unsatisfactory nature of his operations at the pit, and partly from other causes. On Sunday evening, after supper, he proceeded, in company with his sons, Edward and James, to the colliery, to see a horse that was ill. After looking into the stable, Edward left his father standing at the door of the engine-house, while he took a can of water into the house of his brother James, distant about seventy yards. When he returned to the engine-house door, however, he could not see the old man, and supposing that he had proceeded on his homeward way, he was about to follow him, when he heard the signal from the pit. The signal was "A man has fallen down the pit." Assistance was immediately available, and the banksman descended the shaft in company with his son. On arriving at the bottom of the pit, which is ninety yards deep, they found the remains of the deceased, a shapeless mass, and blackened from head to foot. There was scarcely a bone in the body that was not fractured, and the face and head were so horribly disfigured as to be perfectly unrecognisable. The top of the pit was properly secured by the "cages" and corves, but deceased appears to have got to the brink of the pit by climbing over the fence that bounds the airway, and from thence taken the rash step. From the appearances at the extreme edge of the pit, and the fraying of wood and bricks in the immediate vicinity of the summit, it is supposed that he let himself down into the shaft, so as to avoid the conducting rods, and then dropped to the bottom. There are some sharp scratches and indentations upon the brickwork, as if there had been a slight struggle or a repentant movement. Further down the marks of the boots of the suicide are apparent, and towards the bottom his walking stick caught one of the conducting rods, and snapped it altogether. He had been depressed of late, and in conversation with the steward of the pit had frequently said that "he felt as if he could not get over it" (*i. e.*, his trouble with the pit). His labours had been peculiarly unprofitable in consequence of the awkwardness of the level he had selected, an arrangement by which his pumps not only had to do the pumping for his own mine but also for half-a-dozen others situate in the same level or basin. The jury found the deceased had thrown himself into the pit while in a state of temporary insanity. Mr Longbottom has left a widow and a large family.

Notabilia.

RACHEL'S CHILDREN.—"Of Rachel's two boys, the eldest, Alexandre, who has been acknowledged by his father, a well-known diplomat, was a very handsome child when quite young. But as he grew up this very beauty, derived from his close resemblance to his mother, became less suitable to his sex. The features and figure are so delicate, small, and feminine, that they lack character, and will give an insignificant appearance to the man. Gabriel, the youngest child, was when a baby as plain as his brother was handsome, and for some little while considered an unwelcome addition to the family. Some one asking Rachel what she thought the second son would be, 'His brother's coachman,' was the reply. This apparently unfeeling remark was probably made rather because she would not lose the opportunity of saying what she considered a smart thing than because she thought it, as she afterwards proved herself a kind mother to both her children. She had allowed the elder child to be the godfather of the younger, and this added link between the boys has given to the affection of Alexandre a character of paternal solicitude that manifests itself in the most charming and graceful manner whenever his little brother seems to require his assistance and protection."—*Memoirs of Rachel.*

IS FRIDAY AN UNLUCKY DAY?—Americans, at any rate, have no reason to be afraid of Friday. Mr Timbs gives us this catalogue of fortunate circumstances occurring on that day:—"On Friday, August 21, 1492, Christopher Columbus sailed on his great voyage of discovery. On Friday, October 12, 1492, he first discovered land. On Friday, January 4, 1493, he sailed on his return to Spain, which if he had not reached in safety the happy result would never have been known which led to the settlement on this vast continent. On Friday, March 15, 1493, he arrived at Palos in safety. On Friday, November 22, 1493, he arrived at Hispaniola, on his second voyage to America. On Friday, June 13, 1494, he, though unknown to himself, discovered the continent of America. On Friday, March 5, 1496, Henry VIII. of England gave to John Cabot his commission, which led to the discovery of North America. This is the first American State paper in England. On Friday, September 7, 1565, Melendez founded St Augustine, the oldest town in the United States by more than forty years. On Friday, November 10, 1620, the May-Flower, with the Pilgrims, made the harbour of Province town; and on the same day they signed the august compact, the forerunner of our present glorious constitution. On Friday, December 22, 1620, the Pilgrims made their final landing at Plymouth rock. On Friday, February 22, George Washington, the father of American freedom, was born. On Friday, June 16, Bunker hill was seized and fortified. On Friday, October 7, 1777, the surrender of Saragota was made, which had such power and influence in inducing France to declare for our cause. On Friday, September 22, 1780, the treason of Arnold was laid bare, which saved us from destruction. On Friday, October 19, 1781, the surrender of York town, the crowning glory of the American arms, occurred. On Friday, July 7, 1776, the motion of Congress was made by John Adams, seconded by Richard Henry Lee, that the United States' colonies were, and of right ought to be, free and independent."—*New York Paper.*

FOSSIL FOOTPRINTS OF GIANTIC BIRDS IN AMERICA.—The following remarks of Dr Deane will convey an idea of the colossal proportions of some of these imprints:—"I have in my possession consecutive impressions of a tridactylous foot which measures eighteen inches in length, by fourteen in breadth, between the extremities of the lateral toes. Each step will hold half a gallon of water, and the stride is four feet. The original bird must have been four or five times larger than the African ostrich, and, on this basis, could not have weighed less than 600 pounds. Every step the creature took sank deep into the stratum, and the substrata bent beneath the enormous load. If an ox walked over stiffened clay he would not sink so deeply as did this mighty bird."—*Mantell's Wonders of Geology*, Vol. 2.

PIEDMONTSE HONESTY.—The Italian of the lower ranks, especially in Piedmont, is not naturally addicted to thieving; on the contrary I will venture to say that honesty is more common here amongst the neediest people than in any country I have yet visited. It is the extreme good-nature, the carelessness and indulgence of the landowners themselves, combined with the foolish notions of monkish liberality about almsgiving, that have perverted the ideas of right and wrong amongst the suffering poor. They steal with a perfectly easy conscience: people have come to think that there is little harm in the theft of a bunch or two of grapes, and in picking up a stick

or two, from the mere fact that every door, gate, or wicket stands invitingly open, and that nobody seems to care whether man or beast step in and take away what first comes to hand or mouth.

Prices of Stocks, Railway Shares, &c.

RAILWAYS AND PUBLIC COMPANIES. From the list of Messrs Holderness, Fowler, and Co., Stock and Share Brokers, Change alley, Cornhill.

Table with columns: SHARES OF, RAILWAYS, PAID, CLOSING PRICES. Lists various railway stocks like Blackwall, Brighton, Bristol and Exeter, etc.

Table with columns: SHARES OF, FOREIGN RAILWAYS, PAID, CLOSING PRICES. Lists foreign railway stocks like East Indian, Great Indian Peninsula, Grand Junction of France, etc.

Table with columns: SHARES OF, LAND COMPANIES, PAID, CLOSING PRICES. Lists land company stocks like Australian Agricultural, Peel River, South Australian, etc.

Table with columns: SHARES OF, BANKS, PAID, CLOSING PRICES. Lists bank stocks like Australasia, London Chartered of Australia, Oriental, etc.

Table with columns: SHARES OF, MISCELLANEOUS, PAID, CLOSING PRICES. Lists various other stocks like Crystal Palace, General Steam, European and American, etc.

Table with columns: SHARES OF, INSURANCES, PAID, CLOSING PRICES. Lists insurance stocks like Alliance, Atlas, Eagle, etc.

Table with columns: BANK OF ENGLAND, Issued Department, Banking Department. Shows financial data for the Bank of England.

Table with columns: THE FUNDS, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday. Shows daily fund movements and prices.

SATURDAY MORNING, ELEVEN O'CLOCK.

Table with columns: BRITISH, Price, FOREIGN, Price. Lists various financial instruments and their prices.

Trade and Commerce.

Metropolitan Cattle Market, MONDAY.—The arrival of cattle and sheep into the port of London from the continent during the past week has been moderate.

Metropolitan Corn Market, MONDAY.—The weather since some days has been dry, and yesterday and to-day we have strong sunshine, with clear atmosphere, therefore, all that could be desired.

Metropolitan Sheep Market, MONDAY.—The supply of most descriptions was considerably larger at this market than on this day week, and the state of trade was generally heavy, and to effect a sale a reduction of fully 2d. from Monday last had to be submitted to.

Table with columns: Prices per Stone, At Market. Lists prices for various commodities like Beef, Mutton, Veal, Pork, Lamb, etc.

Metropolitan Flour Market, MONDAY.—The weather since some days has been dry, and yesterday and to-day we have strong sunshine, with clear atmosphere, therefore, all that could be desired.

Table with columns: Wheat, Barley, Oats, Malt, Flour. Lists prices for various types of grain.

Metropolitan Hay Market, MONDAY.—The weather since some days has been dry, and yesterday and to-day we have strong sunshine, with clear atmosphere, therefore, all that could be desired.

Table with columns: FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE, Tuesday, June 1. Lists various notices and advertisements.

War-Office, PALMALL, June 1.—32nd Regiment of Foot: To be Lieutenants: Lieut. A. R. W. Thistlethwayt, from 33rd Foot, vice Cook, promoted in 100th Foot.

Bankrupts.—T. Bull, Habledon, Hampshire, grocer. (Trinder and Eyre, John street, Bedford row.—T. Flynn, Farringdon street, cheesemonger. (Pocock and Poole, Bartholomew close.—W. Cotton, Bear street, Leicester square, beer retailer. (Fawcett and Hefrage, New inn, Strand.—J. Way, Oxford street, grocer. (Whitmore and Hampton, Chancery lane.—T. Thorneycroft, Leicester, coal merchant. (Haxby, Leicester.—B. Bornerford, Belper, Derbyshire, silversmith. (Helm, Derby.—J. Jones, late of Aberavon, Glamorganshire, beerhouse keeper. (Bird, Cardiff.—T. Robinson, Jun., Sheffield, watchmaker. (Smith and Old Burdick, Sheffield.—G. C. and J. Bayley, Stalybridge, Cheshire, cotton spinners. (Higson and Robinson, Manchester.—E. Martin, Manchester, fusian merchant. (Fox, Manchester.

Dividends.—June 23, W. and D. Pavi, late of Wapping and Mark Lane, millers—June 24, G. Scott, Uxbridge, wharfinger—June 23, H. Bell, Gracechurch street, contractor—June 24, F. T. Hyder, Purton terrace, Bedford street, grocer—June 22, J. Bryant, High street, Notting hill, and Aldermanbury, draper—June 22, J. Stapp, Snow hill, wholesale cheesemonger—June 23, J. Low, Rayleigh, Essex, carpenter—June 22, C. and F. W. Ker, Commercial road East, drapers—June 22, W. Jones, Beak street, Regent street, gasfitter—June 24, G. Goulden, late of Liverpool, wine dealer—June 22, A. Bohtlingk and G. A. G. Esler, Liverpool, merchants—June 22, O. Ellis, Liverpool, stonemason—June 26, W. Mole, Birmingham, victualler—July 1, H. Farrington, Walsall, Staffordshire, auctioneer—June 22, J. J. M' Rae, Newark-upon-Trent, tailor—June 22, J. Phillips, Broadwiner, Dorset, baker—June 22, H. J. Rogers, Calington, Cornwall, brewer—June 22, J. Crocker, Wyke Hill, and Weymouth, tailor and clothier—June 22, H. and H. P. Talbot, Sidmouth, Devonshire, druggists—June 22, F. Lowe, Wellington, Somersetshire, manufacturer—June 22, E. Roberts, Chard, Somersetshire, ironkeeper—June 22, W. M. Foulton, Yarnmouth, Dorsetshire, railway contractor—June 22, F. Blamoy, Gwentnap, Cornwall, grocer.

Certificates to be granted unless cause be shown to the contrary on the day of meeting.—June 21, J. Sykes, Reigate, nurseryman—June 23, J. Levy, Jewry street, Aldgate, merchant—June 24, O. Long, King William street, City, manufacturer of patented articles—June 24, M. Toldorff, Seething lane, mercer.

chant—June 24, J. H. Morton, Maidstone, grocer—June 23, R. Page, Forest of Dean, Gloucestershire, coal owner—June 23, C. F. Richardson, late of Church street, Stoke Newington, victualler—June 23, T. Foot, R. R. R. Bedford place, Commercial road East, Ironmonger—June 23, J. Pierce, Ironmonger lane, carpenter—June 22, A. Bohtlingk and G. A. G. Esler, Liverpool, merchants—June 22, J. Wilkies, K. t. y. near Wellington, Shropshire, draper—June 21, G. Cox, Wrexham, Denbighshire, grocer.

Scotch Acquisitions.—D. Kay, Kilmarnock, writer—A. Spence, jun., Broughly Ferry, near Dundee, shipowner.

Friday, June 4.

War-Office, PALMALL, June 4.—5th Light Dragoons: J. A. Dyer, Esq., late Paymaster Lanarkshire Militia, to be Paymaster—7th Light Dragoons: Cornet the Hon. C. C. Molyneux, to be Lieut., by purchase, vice Standish, who retires—9th Light Dragoons: C. Agnew, Gent., to be Cornet, without purchase, vice Pretor, promoted—Military Train: Cornet H. Adams, from half-pay of the late Transport Corps, to be Ensign, vice Ensign, promoted—Royal Regiment of Artillery: Second Capt. and Brev.-Maj. J. Spurway, to be Capt., vice Ensign, who resigns; Lieut. G. J. Smart, to be Second Capt., vice Spurway; Capt. H. H. Crofton, to be Lieut.-Col. vice Brev.-Col. Coombs, who retires upon half-pay; Second Capt. G. R. C. Young to be Capt., vice Crofton; Lieut. H. N. Eden to be Second Capt., vice Young—1st Foot: Lieut. J. J. Heywood to be Adj., vice Muller, promoted; Assistant-Surg. T. J. O'Grady, from the Staff, to be Assistant-Surg., vice Muller, promoted—2nd Foot: To be Ensigns, without purchase: E. G. St John, Gent., vice Em-n, promoted; H. J. Harvey, Gent., vice Greene, who resigns—5th Foot: L. J. Blake, Gent., to be Ensign, without purchase—7th Foot: Lieut. C. H. Malan to be Capt., by purchase, vice Hall, who retires; Ena W. L. Browne to be Lieut., by purchase, vice Maslin; E. Bridges, Gent., to be Ensign, by purchase, vice Browne—10th Foot: W. Maleim, Gent., to be Ensign, without purchase—11th Foot: V. Williams, Gent., to be Ensign, without purchase—14th Foot: Lieut. W. Dods to be Capt., by purchase, vice Spencer, who retires—16th Foot: Ensign G. M. R. Reye, from 41st Foot, to be Lieut., without purchase; the appointment of F. E. Longbourn, Gent., to an Ensigncy, by purchase, as stated in the 'Gazette' of 23rd April last, has been cancelled—17th Foot: H. Kerr, Gent., to be Ensign, without purchase—22nd Foot: Ena F. E. Holyoake to be Lieut., by purchase, vice Campbell, promoted—23rd Foot: To be Lieutenants, without purchase: Ensign C. J. Wrench, Ensign A. Cary, Ensign J. W. Costley, Ensign G. Packe, Ensign A. Graham—To be Ensigns, without purchase: Ensign N. Gusselin, from the 39th Foot, vice Wrench, Ensign N. C. Ramsay, from the 25th Foot, vice Cary, F. Jones, Gent., S. W. R. Sadler, Gent., T. J. Bowyer, Gent., vice Costley, H. F. Seagrave, Gent., vice Packe, R. A. E. Ha., Gent., without purchase, vice Ensign H. B. Pullin, from the 30th Foot, to be Lieut., without purchase, vice Nangle, promoted in 15th Foot—to be Ensigns, without purchase: Ensign R. H. B. Airey, from 13th Foot, A. C. Hennessy, Gent., F. H. Yonge, Gent.—34th Foot: Lieut. J. L. Moore, to be Capt., without purchase, vice Brev.-Maj. Harman, whose Brevet rank has been converted into substantive rank under the Royal Warrant of 6th Oct. 1854—34th Foot: Lieut. R. B. Lloyd to be Capt., by purchase, vice Woodwright, who retires; Ena A. F. Kelsey to be Lieut., by purchase, vice Lloyd; C. Spurgeon, Gent., to be Ensign, by purchase, vice Kelsey—37th Foot: Lieut. T. Jackson to be Capt., without purchase, vice Bedford, killed in action; Ensign F. S. G. Jones to be Lieut., without purchase, vice 41st Foot: Sergeant J. Reilly, to be Ensign, without purchase, vice Jones—4th Foot: Capt. E. J. Cleather, from half-pay Royal Staff Corps, to be Capt., vice Brev.-Maj. W. Bellairs, whose Brevet rank has been converted into substantive rank, under the Royal Warrant of 6th Oct. 1854; Lieut. H. D. Scowen to be Capt., by purchase, vice Cleather, who retires; Ensign J. I. Nason to be Lieut., by purchase, vice Scowen; A. D. Fordyce, Gent., to be Ensign, by purchase, vice Nason—60th Foot: Ensign N. J. Paul to be Lieut., by purchase, vice Phillips, promoted—73rd Foot: Assistant-Surg. J. McKinnel, M.D., from the Staff, to be Assistant-Surg., vice Curran, who exchanges—77th Foot: Lieut. J. M. Day, to be Capt., by purchase, vice Long, who retires—84th Foot: Capt. C. F. Seymour to be Maj., without purchase, vice Brev.-Lieut.-Col. Reed, who retires upon full-pay; Lieut. H. Brown, to be Capt., without purchase, vice Seymour; Assistant-Surg. R. W. Jackson, from the 50th Foot, to be Assistant-Surg., vice Poppelwell, who exchanges—90th Foot: Staff Surg. of the Second Class P. J. Clarke to be Surg., vice Home, who exchanges; Assistant-Surg. G. B. Poppelwell, from the 54th Foot, to be Assistant-Surg., vice Jackson, who exchanges—Rifle Brigade: To be Ensigns, without purchase: J. O. Vandelaar, Gent., vice Palmer, promoted, A. W. Patten, Gent., vice Buller, promoted—St Helena Regiment: Ensign G. S. Furnell to be Lieut., without purchase; Lieut. J. McNamee to be Adj., vice Barnes, promoted.

DEPOT BATTALIONS.—The appointment of Capt. R. G. Coles to be an instructor of Musketry, as notified in the 'Gazette' of 2nd February, 1858, has been cancelled, this Officer having already been 'Gazetted' at that appointment on 16th June, 1856.

UNATTACHED.—Maj. and Brev.-Lieut.-Col. A. Allison, Unattached, to have the substantive rank of Lieut.-Col., under the Royal Warrant of 6th October, 1854.—The undermentioned Officers to have their Brevet rank converted into substantive rank, under the Royal Warrant of 6th October, 1854: Brev.-Maj. G. B. Harman, 34th Foot, Brev. Maj. T. Esmond, Unattached.

HOSPITAL STAFF.—Staff-Surg. of the First Class J. Bent, from half-pay, to be Staff Surg. of the First Class, upon full-pay, and attached temporarily to the Military Prison at Aldershot—Surg. A. D. Home, from the 90th Foot, to be Staff-Surg. of the Second Class, vice Clarke, who exchanges—The undermentioned Officers to the Forces: Assistant-Surg. W. Curran, from the 73rd Foot, vice McKinnel, who exchanges, R. Spence, Gent., vice Miller, appointed to the 4th Foot, J. Collins, M.D., appointed to the 8th Foot, J. Wills, Gent., vice Davidson, placed on half-pay.

BREVET.—Brev.-Lieut.-Col. M. B. G. Reed, to be Col. in the army, the rank being honorary on y.—Capt. E. J. Cleather, 49th Foot, to be Maj. in the army—Brev.-Maj. E. J. Cleather, 49th Foot, to be Lieut.-Col. in the army—To be Majors in the army: Capt. G. R. Browne, 88th Foot, Capt. F. Vane, 23rd Foot—the undermentioned promotions to take place in succession in the following General Officers deceased; the Captains who were originally promoted to be Brevet-Majors in these successions having been subsequently recommended for promotion for their service in India, from the 19th January last: Maj.-Gen. G. Imhoff, died 15th March, 1858, Maj.-Gen. Blashopp, died 21st March, 1858, Brev.-Maj. C. Durie, Unattached, Staff Officer of Pensioners, to be Major in the army, from the 16th March, 1858, instead of 3rd April, 1858, vice Brev.-Maj. Robertson, 8th Foot, whose promotion has been antedated, Capt. H. W. P. Welman, 86th Foot, to be Major in the army, vice Brev.-Maj. Danell, 8th Foot, whose promotion has been antedated, Capt. E. D. Atkinson, 37th Foot, to be Major in the army, vice Brev.-Maj. Durie, whose promotion has been antedated. The undermentioned Officers, having completed three years' actual service in the rank of Lieut.-Col., to be Col. in the army, under the Royal Warrant of 6th October, 1854: Lieut.-Col. A. Heyland, C.B., 56th Foot, Lieut.-Col. C. Elmhirst, 9th Foot—the undermentioned Officers, having completed three years' service in the rank of Col., to be Col. in the army, under the Royal Warrant of 3rd November, 1854, viz.: Lieut.-Col. D. W. Paynter, C.B., Royal Artillery, Lieutenant-Colonel W. C. Hadden, Royal Engineers.

Bankrupts.—P. Vincent, Great St Helen's, City, printer. (Branscomb, Raquet court, Fleet street.—G. Boon, Hanway street, Oxford street, laceman. (Pocock and Poole, Bartholomew close.—H. and J. Balwin, Cornhill, tailors. (Lindsay and Mason, Basinghall street.—J. H. Paul, Dudley street, Bloomsbury, Lancashire, victualler. (Beard, Basinghall street.—Horne, 105-nham court, road, hatter. (Mason and Sturt, Gresham street.—F. Franco, Ludlow road, Notting hill, dealer and chapman. (Sempie, Duke street, Manchester square.—M. Grouse, New Oxford street, tailor. (Lawson, Austin friars.—D. M. Lyons, Queen's Prison, Surrey, general mercantile. (Marrugh, New Inn.—S. Ramford, Carlton terrace, Loughborough road, Brixton, builder. (Gover, King William street.—F. Dyken, Broad-street buildings, timber merchant. (Goldben, Clement's lane, Lombard street.—It. Conait, Kingston-upon-Hull, commission agent. (Holden and Sons, Kingston-upon-Hull.—B. Bradshaw and J. Wether, the younger, Filly, Hobeck, Leeds, casual manufacturers. (Snowdon and Emmet, Leeds.—J. Grant, Mace street, gas dealer. (Sole and Co., Manchester.—T. Bailey, Oldham, Lancashire, joiner. (Aschott, Oldham.

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Births.—On the 1st inst., at Chard, Somerset, the wife of Tucker Tom, of a son—On the 31st ult., Lady Petre, of a son—On the 29th ult, Mrs. Clinton Dawkins, of a daughter.

Marriages.—On the 31st ult, Lieut.-Col. E. Money, to Georgina, daughter of G. F. Russell, Esq.—On the 1st inst., Major Newdigate, Miss Brindley, to Annie, second daughter of the Rev. T. and Lucy C. Gardner—On the 1st inst., W. L. Sutton, Esq., to Louisa Ann, only daughter of the Rev. W. L. Dillow, M.A.

Deaths.—On the 31st ult., at 37 Russell square, T. Ellis, Esq., aged 81—On the 30th ult., at Brompton, Maria Rebecca Davidson (formerly Miss Dutton, of the Theatres Royal Drury lane, Covent garden, and Haymarket), aged 78.

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