

NOTABILIA.

A TALE OF THE COURT.

The King is inordinately fond of gossip, like all the rest of his race, and we suppose of his station, for the great are as curious to know what the little people are doing as the little people are curious about the great. One of the most favoured caterers of news is Sir T. T. who, in consideration of his accomplishments in fetching and carrying, has the *entrée* of the bed-chamber before his Majesty rises, and entertains the Royal ear with the scandal of the day. The Duke of C. is admitted to the same honour.

A short time ago, an unhappy affair which occurred in the West of England was the talk of the town. A brother and sister, the children of a Baronet, had eloped together, and left written evidence of a long intercourse of crime. Sir T. T. carried the earliest intelligence of the escapade to the Royal bed-chamber, and found the Duke of C. in possession of one side of the couch. Sir Thomas took the other, and, brimful of his news and forgetful of all other circumstances, began pouring the strange tale into his Majesty's usually greedy ear. At the very first step, however,—at the very first mention of brother and sister, the Royal bed-clothes were strangely agitated. The Courtier, unthinkingly, went on with the story, calculating on the effect of the increasing interest with the development of its horrors; but the King hemmed, and hawed, and fidgetted about prodigiously, while the Duke of C. strode up and down the room as if walking for a wager. Sir Thomas persevered, and the King knocked the counterpane about with his legs at every word. The tale being finished, Sir Thomas supplied the customary moral comments thereupon, when the counterpane was still more violently agitated by the Royal legs, and the guttural expression of dissatisfaction, peculiar to the Royal throat, was of greater violence and frequency. At last the truth flashed upon the Courtier's mind, and looking from the Monarch floundering in the bed like a fish out of water, to the annoyed peripatetic Prince, he exclaimed, losing his presence of mind with the sense of his blunder, "Oh!—the Duke of C."

The curtain falls on the rest. It will be remembered, that the Duke of Wellington disputed Lord Anglesea's assertion of the Royal permission to make a statement of occurrences connected with his recall. Ministers thought such a permission tantamount to a hostile desertion of them on the part of the King, and it was agreed among them, that if it really was granted, and they had no course but to retire from office. The morning after the debate, the Duke of Wellington waited on his Majesty, and in his brusque manner asked him whether he had given the Marquis permission, as his Lordship alleged, to make that statement. The King saw the gathering storm, and answered—No. The Duke took "No," as dealers receive goods from certain characters, without any questions; and when he met the Home Minister, merely said to him, "We are not out, Peel. He says 'no.'" *Verbum sat.*

On the last discussion of the Police Bill, Lord Durham remarked, with perfect justice, of the City Magistracy, which so absurdly remains uncorrected by the Act,—

The judgments in the City were not only the subject of reprobation, but they were absolutely ridiculous. Those who sat in Guildhall were not distinguished by their education, or rather by their want of education, to superintend the business of the Police, and they were, in fact, in the hands of a Clerk.

The City Magistrates have not the slightest conception that such a character belongs to their proceedings, and actually account themselves judicious and patterns for the whole nation. This delusion is pleasant enough, for they undeniably are most especially accomplished Ministers. Our surprise indeed is not that they blunder occasionally so grossly, but that they can never open their mouths without committing some unprovoked absurdity, even when administering substantial justice. For example—in the newspapers of Tuesday there is a Report of a robbery of a baker by three young men, who ran off with some loaves, pretending excessive hunger.

One of the officers said—
That the prisoners were three of the most idle and refractory vagabonds in the parish. The parish had set up each of them in his trade, several times, but they all sold or pawned their tools, and gave themselves up to drinking and thieving. They had been "pulled" by the parish before, and, if not checked, they would no doubt engage in some similar offence.

"Alderman ATKINS, who sat with the Lord Mayor, said that he never saw three fellows who deserved punishment better. It was terrible to see such fellows at liberty. Magistrates had not the power to inflict a punishment of sufficient severity, and therefore he thought the best plan would be to send them for trial to the Old Bailey, where, upon their conviction, care would be taken to make them suffer."

Now comes the civic intelligence—

"The LORD MAYOR adopted this advice, and took occasion to advert generally to the awful state of trade all through the country."

This is a Lord Mayor all over. The fellows are treated as incorrigibly idle vagabonds, who will not labour when work is given them; and yet, on their committal, my Lord Mayor takes occasion to read a lecture on the awful state of trade, as if it had been a cause of their delinquency.

The moral of all this is, that things should be confined to their uses; and it is manifest to the whole world, that the mouths of Lord Mayors and Aldermen were never intended for speech, but solely for the reception of custards, turtle, venison, and the goods of the larder. We earnestly wish some one would pack up a Lord Mayor, and send him over to Cuvier for physiological examination, as we are certain his oral structure would be found intended by nature for mastication only. The idea of his speaking is outrageously ridiculous, and the practice, we must say, a monstrous presumption.

STRANGE MODE OF EXHORTATION.

The following mysterious and oddly fashioned exhortation is addressed by the *Morning Chronicle* to the Author of an article on Newton, in the 'Library of Useful Knowledge:—'

"It is with pleasure we refer to the last Treatise published by the Society, 'The Life of Sir I. Newton.' Report has declared the author of this to be a young man of high connection. To him we say, prosecute the line you have well begun; should chance place you in a political station, give the same attention to the affairs of the public that you have in this Number bestowed on science—you have distinguished yourself already by your success in the softer field of *Venus*; emulate the reputation your father acquired in the Royal Engineers, by your services to your country in civil life."

What the deuce does it mean?—what can the learned Editor of the *Chronicle* have to do with the young man's accomplishments in the field of *Venus*? And then that mysterious allusion to the renown of a papa in the Engineers! The *Chronicle* must publish a key to its admonitions. They are at present too strictly private and confidential in their character.

THE BISHOP AND THE HORSE-DEALER.

In the trial of the Bishop of Kilmore's action against Lord Plunkett for the recovery of the price of a pair of coach-horses, a curious piece of evidence was given, which determines in a startling manner the comparative claims to credit of a pious bishop and a horse-dealer. A person of the name of Dycer was the Bishop's agent in the transaction with the Honourable Wm. Plunkett, who treated on the behalf of his brother, and who chose to act upon Dycer's representation instead of the terms expressly proposed by the Bishop himself. Nevertheless his opinion of Dycer was not the most favourable, as will be seen:—

Cross-examined by Mr WALLACE: Knew Mr Dycer pretty well before this transaction.

Mr WALLACE: Did you, Sir, upon your oath, entertain a high opinion of his truth and integrity?—Witness: I do not suppose that I am bound to answer that question.

Mr WALLACE: Oh, but you are, Sir, and I shall repeat it. Upon your oath, had you a high opinion of Dycer's integrity or veracity?—Witness: As you will have my opinion then, I had no very good opinion of him in the regards you have mentioned.

Mr WALLACE: You imply that you had no very good opinion of his integrity?—Witness: Undoubtedly, so far as horses were concerned.

Mr WALLACE: Then why did you not prefer dealing with the Bishop than Dycer, of whose veracity you had so poor an opinion?—Witness: Because I should always prefer dealing with a horse-dealer in such transactions.

Thus treating even with such a horse-dealer was preferred by the Honourable and also Reverend Gentleman to treating with a Bishop!

EXPOSURES IN SHOP WINDOWS AND ON THE BENCH.

An unsuccessful attempt has been made at the Middlesex Sessions to treat print or caricature shops, whose exhibitions in the windows attract crowds, obstructive of the foot-path, as nuisances. The Chairman, a person whose conduct has been the frequent subject of animadversion, on seeing the indisposition of the Jury to accede to the new doctrine, observed, that he had thought the result would be so, and

the matter had better be carried to the King's Bench, thus conveying a direct affront to his own Court, which constitutes quite a new feature of judicial indecency. There are exposures which are indisputable nuisances, and we have seldom occasion to glance at the proceeding of the Middlesex Sessions without remarking one of them which ought long ago to have been abated.

As for the print and caricature shops, we cannot see how the law of nuisance can be stretched to them only, with any pretence of justice. All shop-keepers set out their goods for the purpose of attracting the gaze, and those in question merely succeed, by the nature of their wares, better than others. It is the business of the police to prevent the obstructions of the foot-path, and because the police fails to perform what is properly its duty, it were hard that individuals were made to suffer in their trades.

If the exhibition of print-shops were liable to be treated as nuisances, so also would be the displays of jewellers' shops, and all others attracting gaze; and under the same principle, indeed, the Duchess of St Alban's might be abated, or any person by any means, or from any cause, collecting a crowd about their houses, or their persons.

ETON MONTEM.

"Train the child in the way he should walk,"—and what better training for infant statesmen and senators than the practice of mendicancy, robbery, and outrage? A school is a microcosm, the Captain is the King, and what more pertinent lesson can the youths of Eton learn than the great convenience of plundering the many for the benefit of the one? *Mos pro lege* is their maxim, and what villany is there in public life not sanctioned by the *mos*. "The beggars," says Sheridan, "are a very ancient family," and so assuredly are the thieves: *Mos pro lege* too is a motto for Bill Soames, and as apt for the filching of the Strand as that of Eton. Apropos—Did the moss-troopers, the robbers of the border, derive their name from that preference of the custom of thieving to observance of the law, professed by the Etonians?

It must be astonishingly liberalizing to the minds of those boys to discern so early the signal advantage of renouncing decent pride and honesty, and turning to begging or robbing. And the matter is improved by the manner. The fantastic dresses have the excellent tendency of turning their young heads with a vanity beyond their years. Imagine the effect of making the lads shows for the admiration of crowds of women of fashion, and their personal appearance the theme of newspaper commendation! Could any follies of a day be conceived better adapted to debauch the mind of youth, to sully its becoming, its natural modesty, and taint it with a vanity of the coarsest sort?

The nonsense of the affair is about on a par with its propriety. It is too absurd to read the report of some hundred boys in fantastic dresses marching to a mount where their Captain, starting into manhood, waves a flag to such a degree that he is on the point of fainting, and requires the support of his adjutants. The achievement of flourishing a flag would never seem particularly worthy, but the attendant personal distress makes it to the last degree ridiculous, and gives the finish to the tom-foolery. Outrage is however the last incident to the day's extravagances, and the mischief committed by the boys on the past occasion surpassed even the usual excesses.

ECCLIASTICAL OPPRESSION.

We copy the statement of a case meriting the above description from the *Morning Chronicle*, concurring with the Editor of that Journal, that no man whose heart is not more than usually hard can possibly read it unmoved. The letters of the oppressed Clergyman, it will be seen, evince very considerable ability.

"A Correspondence has been published between 'the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Lincoln (Kaye) the Rev. the Archdeacon of Lincoln, and the Rev. John Wray, Vicar of Bardney, respecting the performance of ecclesiastical duty,' which no man, whose heart is not more than usually hard, can possibly read unmoved. On the 25th of June 1827, the Prelate writes thus to the Vicar:—'I take the opportunity of transmitting the enclosed commission, to inform you that I do not think single duty in your parish of Bardney sufficient. You will, therefore, be so good as in future to perform two services. I shall also desire the Incumbent of Horsington to nominate another Curate; as the care of the parish of Bardney is sufficient to occupy the whole attention of one Clergyman.' The Vicar, with all humility, on the 7th July following, answers—'I would not have troubled you with a single word in reference to Bardney or myself, if I thought you had been truly informed as to the circumstances of the place or the individual. Bardney is a dispersed village, which affords but a very moderate congregation; the living, which is in your Lordship's gift, is, after deducting the payment of interest entailed on it by Gilbert's Act, worth about 78*l.*; but from losses of tithe, reductions of rent, &c. seldom nets more than 60*l.* It is not, therefore, of as much value as a good curacy: and the additional burthen thrown upon the Vicar is, therefore, neither warranted by the revenues of the Church, nor called for by any peculiar or expressed wants of the parishioners.

Some time ago I served three churches; I have since resigned one, and am now called upon to resign another. *This, my Lord, to a man with a family of thirteen children, is a sacrifice against which you will forgive his repining.* It is also the more cruel, that upon this poor living to which I am directed to confine myself, I have expended hundreds of pounds, and have converted both the church and the vicarage from the condition of a barn to that of one of the neatest in the County of Lincoln. Few, my Lord, have done so much from their own purse; and, with my consequently reduced income and large family, it is hard to impose upon me the strictest terms of even a prudent regulation. The personal trouble I do not regard; it is the loss of income, which my necessities and family can ill bear. I hope, therefore, your Lordship will excuse me for asking the favour of retaining Horsington, and giving an *Evening Service* at Bardney.' The Prelate, on July 11, insists on his giving up Horsington, as 'a parish, containing nearly one thousand inhabitants, certainly requires two services.' On December 13, the same year, the Vicar informs his Prelate that he would not have complained if he did not appear as a very invidious exception in a district which offers many examples of churches where the numbers and stipend are much greater than at Bardney, and where *single duty* is permitted, without molestation.' In a subsequent letter (4th January 1828) he named to his Diocesan a number of parishes more populous than his own in the Archdeaconry of Lincoln, in which service was performed only once a day. On the 10th January, the Prelate expressed himself obliged to him for the information conveyed in his letter respecting the state of duty in several parishes, concerning which his information was previously imperfect.' On the 15th January 1829, eighteen months after he had been directed to resign the curacy, the Vicar again addresses his Diocesan:—'Thus, then, my Lord, the matter stood in 1827, when the little, but welcome addition, which the curacy of Horsington made to my income was taken from me, and I was restricted to the service of one parish church. I was selected, as I then believed, for an example. Upon that ground alone I complained; and as your Lordship was pleased to think that a benefice—the incumbent of which has only thirteen children unprovided for, the revenue of which is less than you allot to curacy, and of which the tithes are annexed to the Bishopric of Lincoln did not entitle me to complain—my only remaining duty was obedience—an obedience which I have not rendered lazily and grudgingly—confining the afternoon duty, as is done with one or two exceptions, to the very few large parishes where two duties are performed, to the reading of the Evening Service—but fully and effectually, by delivering a sermon, as well as reading prayers twice on the Lord's day. But the matter has now assumed a different complexion. Instead of having been selected as an example, I find that I have been picked out as an exception; a year and a half has elapsed since your Lordship began with me, and I cannot learn that you have proceeded further. When I cast my eye around the Archdeaconry in which I am situated, I see everywhere the same license and omission as before. *I do not find that the Rectors of opulent benefices have been called upon to resign stipendiary duty, or the Ministers of populous parishes performing two services, by your command. All remain unreprieved and undisturbed.* I enclose an account of the present clear value of the vicarage of Bardney, together with a list of the parishes in the archdeaconry, which exceed it in population and church revenue; and I would fain ask in how many of these double service has been performed by your Lordship's direction, and in how many it is performed at all? . . . Perhaps, however, you only intended to make an example of such an one, and then to let the anomalies of our ecclesiastical system to their fate; but if so, I do not think whether it would not have been more effectual to have tried the experiment upon the four Vicars of the princely endowed Cathedral of Lincoln, than upon the Vicar of a parish church impoverished both by the archbishop and episcopal appropriation. . . . Your Lordship furnished me with an example, from which a great many may be established by the simplest induction in the world. The rule applies to the income is sixty pounds, and the population one thousand—at least your Lordship has applied it to me; and, *a fortiori*, it must apply to cases where the income is at the same time greater than sixty pounds, and the population greater than one thousand. Of such cases, in the archdeaconry alone, I have furnished you with a list of forty-five; and in the name of common impartiality, I may be allowed to ask whether your Lordship has exacted the same duty from them as from me, or whether you will extend the same licence to me as to them.'—On the 19th of March, the Vicar addressed the Prelate, who had been both silent and passive. The reform, however, went no further. 'The extraordinary duties imposed upon me (he says) are not directly for the good of the Church, but indirectly a penance for non-conformity to the whims of a hot-headed superior. My Lord, I am pointed at as an example—not of the duty required of a Clergyman, but of the penalty of a Clergyman forgeing servility to his Archdeacon.'"

THE LITERARY EXAMINER.

"*Anne of Geierstein*," *The Naval Officer*," and "*The Collegiate*" We fear the reproach of neglect attaches to us in this department of the truth is, that believing with Solomon, "there is a time for all things," we have given our main attention to political affairs during the period of their absorbing interest, and postponed literary speculations to a period of more leisure, and when the public mind may

better disposed to entertain them. A long arrear has accrued, but we reckon on reducing it, and discharging all the demands of merit on us in the course of the summer months. Nor do we think that we are now late in the field of letters. Men's minds have been fevered with the excitement of the mingled, grand, and strange incidents of the political stage, and are scarcely in frame even yet for calmer and less some contemplations. The moment of conflict is not the season for sowing or reaping; and while the antagonist principles of good and evil have been hotly engaged, the ferment of interest has worked upon that one mighty contest, and the subsequent riotous rout of mischief, ludicrous in disaster. Under this metaphor we do not mean to say that the world have renounced reading for the last quarter, but we do assert that there has been no appetite for any but political consideration in what may be described as the mind of society. Nor is this other than natural, for action even of the meanest quality will always command thought, and we almost question whether a NEWTON, a LOCKE, or a BACON, in his profoundest speculations, could have resisted concern in the dispute and combat of two coal-heavers in the street.

Now, however, the excitement is failing, but the next stage is not a disengaged attention craving for food, but, to use a medical phrase, a collapse of interest. In another week a new care possesses men's minds; the centripetal is exchanged for the centrifugal force, and nothing is thought of or desired but a flight from London. By about the dog-days the heat of politics has subsided, and the surfeit of excitement passed away, and then books are turned to for resource, as a *pis aller*, in default of the more questionable stimulants.

Books indeed are not always in season, and further, different kinds of books have their different periods of favour. Summer is not the time for study. In summer we must have all things light. People now drink light wines, make light meals, wear light clothing, and read (if they read at all) light books. The blue-covered volumes, which are always predominant in popularity, hold now an undisputed and exclusive possession of the field. First of these in honour is "Anne of Geierstein," by the Author of "Waverley"—what a sanction is there in that second title, a title indeed truly hereditary to the world's respect. For the Patent of Nobility, earned by the merit of "Waverley," sends the cadets of the House forth with the advantages and prestige of ancestral renown. We have ourselves not any precise idea how we should have read this book had it not been a scion of the "Waverley" tree. We are inclined to doubt whether without that letter of credit we should have completed the perusal, or at least not without much of the relief vernacularly termed *skipping*. We question whether WALTER SCOTT can write a thoroughly bad book, and this book is far removed from that character, but it is not what it purports to be—it is not a novel, but an ancient chronicle, with a love story worked in upon it. "Anne of Geierstein" is a Froissart with amorous interpolations. Nothing is wanting but a quaint phraseology, and it might be printed in black letter, and illuminated with knights on the charge, and encounters of men at arms. To deal with the matter in see-saw form, dear to critics, and apt for injustice, we should say there was enough of invention in it to spoil the history, and enough of history to mar the fiction. But, in truth, much of the chronicle substance heavily charges and clogs the course of the tale. We care not to read in a novel long pages of the narrow crooked policy of princes, courts, and states, pages, as it were, from a black-letter Gazetteer. The time of the story is the fifteenth century; the scene lies between Switzerland and Burgundy; the main circumstance is the contest between Charles the Bold of Burgundy, and the Swiss States, ending in the rout and destruction of the aggressing prince. SCOTT'S worst productions have their fine scenes and striking characters, and "Anne of Geierstein," though faulty on the whole, is not without its redeeming excellencies. The reception of the Swiss embassy by Charles, at Dijon, is a brilliant picture, which glows through dark years with the freshness of yesterday. The iron character of Charles is throughout preserved with signal force, as is also the integrity and fortitude of the Swiss chief, the Landamman of Unterwald, whose simple integrity and fortitude contrast finely with the gew-gaw tyranny of the overbearing duke. There is something especially agreeable to the mind in the idea of a man of such simplicity routed in its bravest trappings—the host of Pharaoh, in all the pride of arms, whelmed in the wave—and with admirable effect SCOTT brings wilful might, clad in the parade of war, to the shock with stern right, striking strong, and nothing boasting.

With his usual disposition to make the moralities careless, the author has placed his heroes in the closer amity with the bad cause. Lord Oxford and his son Arthur are dearly concerned for the Prince who hangs up five hundred men for the pleasure of his spleen. The character of Margaret of Anjou in the piece is rather of the puppet-show kind, and that of "the black priest" is the staple mystery of the piece, and, as we thought, exploded romance. It is Radcliffe redivive. The love matters are as insipid as such affairs generally are in the

author's hands; for the "Bride of Lammermoor" and "Rob Roy" make exceptions and not the rule of success in the particular in question.

We have to notice the appearance of two extremely clever novels besides the now reigning "Anne," "The Naval Officer," and "The Collegians."

The former, "The Naval Officer," is a most spirited, shrewd, and we believe accurate description of life on board a ship. The author is in this province a Smollet without his grossness or his exaggeration. We do not speak hyperbolically when we say that the hero is an admirably-drawn character. With great knowledge of the world, the author makes good natural abilities, concurring with experience, correct the scape-grace raff into what society would call the high-minded and exemplary gentleman. The social transformation of caterpillar into butterfly is by no means so uncommon as may be imagined. We would particularly point attention to the character of the Lord, Captain by virtue of his Lordship, as in its way a remarkably pleasant, and we believe no less true, example of the abuse of patronage. It has all the air of a copy from the life.

Of "The Collegians" we need only say that it sustains the merited high reputation of the author of the "Munster Festival Tales."

Florence; or, The Aspirant. A Novel. In three volumes.

[From the Scotsman, May 16.]

THIS work displays talent of no mean order. The knowledge of human nature is extensive; the observation of character keen and just; the power of exhibiting its nicer shades, graphic; the stores of thought considerable; the mastery over language great. The author has taste, and he superadds precision and force. He could have written an excellent novel; he gives the promise of one at the outset; and there are snatches throughout which prove that the capacity remains; but he gives the whole powers of his mind to an exposition and defence of the doctrines and practice of the Church of Rome. This soon disappoints the reader, then wearies, and at last offends; the offence being proportionate to the estimate formed of the author's talents—the tantalization which he inflicts; and what can tantalize a determined reader of novels more, than to have expectation constantly excited but never gratified? We have ever and anon touches which, in dealing with single features, are exquisite, but which are scattered as studiously as if the author had dreaded nothing so much as bringing them together in the shape of portrait. By his title he promised history, illustrated by groups, action, relief; but he treats us with polemics, illustrated only by slight sketches, which provoke exactly in the degree in which they are gifted. Something like a fraud* is practised upon us, and we resent it accordingly.

But let us be just. Nothing is done by this author, even for Catholicism, which has not been done by others for all sorts of objects—for infidelity as well as for a system of error in religion. What is it, indeed, which in these days has not been expounded and attempted to be taught in the shape of novel? We must admit, also, that, in the exposition which is given here of the Catholic faith, there are many things that ought to be known by Protestants, and which, with good minds, must have the effect of abating violence, subduing prejudice, and generating humility. For the advocate of a Church, which it is held cannot, in the councils of its priesthood, commit an error, our author is remarkably tolerant, patient, rational. Yet, as we proceeded along with him, we became more and more satisfied that this melioration of spirit has its origin chiefly in the position in which his church has been placed by the Reformation, and partly in that which he occupies himself as a Dissenter in a Protestant state. He asks, with a triumphant air, "Do not all the spurious churches, from those of England and Scotland, downwards through their thousand ramifications, hold themselves infallible? They make their definitions and admit of no appeal from them, although no two of them agree on any one point. Look at the mere manacles of people who say, speaking of themselves, the Church! I can prove this of one sect, who do not exceed one thousand persons; and this little people are as despotic and tyrannical as was ever reported of us." It cannot be denied that there is truth here; that there are small sects who, like the Catholic Councils, hold that what they bind or loose, congregationally, on earth, is bound or loosed absolutely in heaven! But instead of lamenting the number and differences of these sects as an evil, we look upon these circumstances—the fruit of the Reformation—as so many protective blessings; for however intolerant many of them are in opinion and spirit, the conflict which arises out of such variety leads unavoidably to practical toleration. The great truth is, that power, whether in matters spiritual or civil, for it is still human power, influenced by human passion, will, when unrestrained, be abused; and that there is no safety for man, unless his fellow man be constrained to acknowledge and submit to equal rights. This is even more necessary in matters of religion than in matters of property; since religion, as between man and man (not as betwixt Deity and his creatures) is only opinion; and as differences arise here precisely from the difficulty found in discovering an absolute standard, or rather in settling the interpretations to be put upon an acknowledged

* Something very like the fraud practised by Mrs Hannah Moore in her *Catechism*, and by Mr Ward in his *Tremaine*. The able Author of *Florence* wished to allow the Catholics fair play, and has employed the means previously adopted by their powerful Protestant adversaries. That is all.—*Examiner*.

standard, when power is acquired in these matters, human passion takes full scope, and in the name of Heaven, which it profanes and blasphemes, wantonly riots in the commission of injustice. Only give the power to an individual, an order, or a body, of finding in opinion matter of offence—matter for which punishment may be inflicted or privilege withheld—and no one is safe; for what position can be taken that may not be assailed—what opinion held that may not, in some shade or other, be construed, in tendency at least, to be dangerous?

The Catholics tell us here that the rule or standard is not to be found in Scripture, because there are questions, hitherto unsettled, as to what books are or are not inspired or authoritative. Tradition, they say, was before writing; the unwritten word was the foundation; this was preserved by tradition; the genuineness and value of writings are ascertained by tradition, evidence; and, making their priesthood the depositaries of tradition, the judges of evidence, they place their standard in the councils of their church. The Founder of Christianity, they contend, must have intended some other rule of faith than the writings of his Apostles, to whom he gave no order to compose a written rule. Had the Scriptures been intended as the sole guide, He would have said so. This is to be inferred from the clearness and distinctness with which Moses set forth the ceremonial law; the points essential to salvation—if dependent on Scripture—being infinitely more important than the ceremonies of the Jewish Church, the mere hand-maiden of the Christian. There is something deserving of attention here; but the conclusions we deduce are altogether different. The difficulty is enhanced, not removed, by transferring the question from the import of writing to the value of tradition; and it seems to be forgotten, that whether it be in dealing with tradition or Scripture, a council of Pope, Cardinals, and Bishops, is an assemblage merely of so many individuals actuated by human passions. If there be no order to leave a statement of christian doctrine in writing—which one should think might be embraced in the commission to teach—there is still less a committal of faith and doctrine, upon tradition, to a body of priests, or men of learning, influence, or reputation. If anything be clear, in reference to Christianity, it is that the Gospel was addressed to all men alike—to each man individually for himself—and that, through all time, it would make its way most generally and beneficially with the humble and the meek. We allow the inference drawn from the clear and unambiguous enunciation of the Jewish ceremonial law to be irresistible. It was manifestly not intended that Christianity should be taught or preserved by means of a formal and technical code of rules and forms. Its precepts are addressed to the moral principles of our nature; and room has been left under it for much variety of opinion. Those who embraced it were to grow in knowledge and grace, as individuals do from babes to men. And while exhorted to be of one mind—that is, to reach the same views of faith and duty, by acquiring, through patient study, the same extent of knowledge—just, as in conduct, they were exhorted to be just and kind—all that is recorded of the early Christians, all that can be held as addressed to Christians of all ages, implies the existence of various degrees of knowledge, liberality, and, as it were, moral strength and independence. The indefiniteness of Christianity in many respects, must have been designed to try the spirits, the powers and dispositions of men; but as well-intentioned persons may differ, and do, on various points of faith and doctrine, the legitimate inference is, that perfect uniformity in opinion was not contemplated; that it is not essential; and to exact it from those whose knowledge and talents are unequal, is to set all human right and justice at defiance. It is certainly well said, by our author, that "if religious liberty be not a civil right, then were all the persecutions of the first Christians morally justifiable, and the Christians were bad subjects. Every class of Christians may, therefore, (he continues) consistently and without scruple maintain, that the right of every individual to religious liberty should be unshackled by worldly power; and every government should consider that it has not power to alter the mind of an individual, and make him believe or disbelieve any tenet, as he himself has not that control over it, and that to require that which is impossible, must be an unjustifiable act of tyranny."

This is exceedingly just; and although the Catholics have now acquired civil liberty, the settlement of that question has not lessened the importance, or, what a lawyer would call, the relevancy of the principle that assent, belief, the perception and reception of argument, is not voluntary. It is not enough that there can be no legal persecution; there should be none in spirit. The happiness of families, the safe and grateful intercourse of friends, the mental peace of society, depends much on the great principles of tolerance being so thoroughly perceived, comprehended, and felt, as to meliorate the spirit, and influence the conduct of men of all sects and persuasions. In matters of this kind, the virtue does not so much consist in the accuracy of the opinions held, as in the sincerity with which the individual desires to know what is true—his resolution to acknowledge it when known. But is there much of this virtue extant? We fear not. It is not our intention to charge the author of this publication with hypocrisy; yet we do believe that had he not been early connected with the Catholic Church, or bound to it by a sort of esprit de corps—by habit, pride, honour—the doctrines he so ably advocates are not those which he would have embraced. His pleading is for what has long been; because it has so been; and, though not consciously employed, his faith is full of what, had it been written in defence of existing laws, we should have called professional sophistry. It is deplorable, indeed, to reflect that the talent of Europe, instead of being devoted to the advancement of society, is, we may say, nearly all employed in defence of institutions and abuses which retard the progress of knowledge, and pervert the moral dispositions. But although we see little

around us that may not be termed a misapplication of time and labour, a perversion of talent and genius, there are many indications that a spirit which pants for better things is growing in society and will not be put down. Nor is this very book, while advocating error, without many touches of good. In spite of the author's prejudices, he is occasionally constrained to be liberal, and the whole tone of his work is stimulative. We like all books which make the reader think, and this is one of them. It has other faults, however, than those mentioned, and one of these is an undue severity towards the Scottish clergy. We meant to have pointed out something of this—but, for the present, our limits are exhausted.

THEATRICAL EXAMINER.

COVENT GARDEN.

The principal theatrical novelty which has presented itself to notice this week has been the appearance of Miss SMITHSON in the character of *Belvidera*; also of a provincial actor named CATHCART, in that of *Jaffier*. The performances being for the benefit of the lady, we willingly avail ourselves of the accustomed courtesy upon such an occasion, of squaring our criticism with the indulgent feelings of the audience, who being considered the immediate friends or admirers of the performer are wont, with an amiable partiality, to over-estimate the beauties, while they wink at the defects. We have no inclination to stand aloof from such gentle society, and shall therefore, with the exception of a mere hint or two, confine ourselves to those portions of Miss SMITHSON'S performance from which we derived gratification, at the same time reserving ourselves for a repetition of the character, when we may amend or confirm the opinion we have formed upon various parts of her acting. First then, this lady's stronghold with the public will be, her sudden and passionate manifestations of conjugal tenderness, in which, as the expression subsides, she should carefully avoid a drawling or whining tone, a defect she is apt to slide into. This argues neither strength nor dignity of mind, and *Belvidera* is doubly accomplished in this particular. Her look of offended honour upon first meeting with her husband, after having been trusted by him for the night to the custody of old *Renaud*, was effective. So also were her tone, look, and attitude, when, upon discovering the murderous intentions of her husband, she threatens to denounce him:—"I'll to the Senate!" her whole appearance at this moment was highly picturesque, and would be a favourable point for an artist to choose in making a theatrical sketch; her personation of violent resentment indeed is almost upon a par with that of passionate affection. We should argue from what we have seen of Miss SMITHSON'S acting, that she is by nature a woman of quick feelings; if such be the case, she will yet improve, and experience, with careful study, will wear down certain asperities and abrupt transitions which at present appear to be the result of study alone. A complete absorption in the spirit of the character she is to personate; an unrestrained abandonment to the impulse of the moment, tempered and refined by a cultivated intellect, joined to a close and habitual intimacy with talented as well as elegant society, we hold to be a good receipt for making a high tragedian. They who speak as well as write from feeling, are sure to produce the desired effect—insincerity of any kind infallibly betrays itself, early or late—an incidental word or action will frequently be sufficient, and like an ill-laid stone, expose the imperfection of the arch, and bring down in ruin that which has been judged a fair structure. In the scene with her father, towards the close of the tragedy, Miss SMITHSON'S acting was all we could have wished; it was affectionate and full of tenderness—in short, it was filial, in the proper acceptation of the term. For the remainder of the observations we are prepared to make upon the whole performance, we wait, for the reasons already specified, till the character be repeated.

Mr CATHCART'S qualifications as an actor are (at least at present) very minute. His countenance is stern and inflexible, his features at the same time not unfavourable, his figure of the middle size and rather slim; his voice appears to proceed from his nose, his action and bearing studied, and yet ungraceful; and his declamation frequently ranting, and as frequently vulgar and blaring. We are unavoidably compelled to say that his *Jaffier* was a most commonplace performance, and that the two instances of disapprobation received were not unjustly bestowed. From his simple pronunciation of the name *Pierre*, which he pronounced "Peer," and the uniformly the whole evening, we should conjecture that he is either an uneducated man, or has a bad ear.

Mr CHARLES KEMBLE'S performance of *Pierre* was, as may be imagined, blunt, high-minded, and animated—at the same time, we prefer Mr YOUNG'S embodying of this character.

The fair and shining season seems to promise the proprietors of these pleasant gardens a substantial remuneration for their liberal endeavours to gratify the eye and ear of the public. For the form

they have new scenery with cosmoramas cleverly painted; an ingeniously contrived structure, representing a temple, from which a superb display of fire issues, interspersed with fountains and cascades of varied and tasteful designs. They have also our old favourites the fireworks, which kindly assist in deceiving us with the belief that we are still children; for their bustling and fervid efflorescence is as attractive as ever, while their construction remains as profound and reverend a mystery: we behold the brilliant and evanescent result—

"A moment 'bright,' then gone for ever," and we care not to disturb our early indifference as to the secret cause producing the admired effect. In matters where the fancy and imagination are engaged, "ignorance is bliss?" who cares to be told of the strings, and wheels, and pulleys which accomplish the sudden mutations in a pantomime? As Mr HAZLITT humorously observes, "There can never be another Jacob's dream." Since that time, the heavens have gone farther off, and grown astronomical. They have become averse to the imagination, nor will they return to us on the squares of the distances, or on Dr Chalmers's discourses. True—and after all, what have we gained by the change? Are we one jot happier than Jacob the wanderer?

The opera, the ballet, &c. which the proprietors have added to their old-fashioned amusements, are little to our taste; and we doubt whether the additional expense to which they must be subjected in getting them up will remunerate them by an adequate increase of visitors.

The French, with a constitutional jealousy in such matters, lay claim to the originating this description of nocturnal amusement, asserting that the real name of it is WAUXALL!—they who eschew the W in grammatic fabrication as they would henbane! Surely some Cockney conveyed to our lively neighbours an oral description of the entertainment.

CONCERTS OF ANCIENT MUSIC.

The eleventh Concert was performed on the 27th ult. under the direction of the Earl of Darley, for the Earl of Fortescue.

Act 1. Overture, Chorus, "O, the pleasures of the plains;" Recit. "Ye verdant plains;" Song, "Hush, ye pretty warbling choir;" Duet, "Happy, happy we;" Chorus, "Happy, happy" (Acis and Galatea) Handel. Aria, "Mentre ti lascio," Paesello. Concerto (from Select Harmony) Handel. Glee, for a double choir, "A generous friendship," Webbe. Recit. "Berenice ove sei!" Aria, "Ombra che pallida" (Lucio Vero) Jomelli. Chorus, "The Lord our enemy has slain" (Esther) Handel. Act 2. Overture (Henry the Fourth) Martini. Scene from "Tyrannic love," Purcell. Trio, "Frena quel labbro," Cimarosa. Glee, three voices, "Fair Flora," Danby. Duet, "Deh! prendi;" Coro. "Ah! grazie;" Aria, "Non piu di fiori;" Trio, "Quello di Tito è il volto;" Recit. "Ma che;" Coro. "Tu è ver (La Clemenza di Tito) Mozart. Duetto, "O momento;" Chorus, "The many rend the skies," Handel.

In "Hush, ye pretty," Miss Stephens sang most delightfully. The air is well suited to her peculiar style, that of touching simplicity. Signor Donzelli, in Paesello's air, "Mentre ti lascio," was not in his element. The energetic, the fiery, and the martial are clearly his forte. Madame Camporese was highly and deservedly applauded for the pure style and correct judgment with which she sang Jomelli's beautiful scena and aria, "Berenice," &c. The second part of the Concert was enriched by a splendid selection from "La Clemenza di Tito," finely sung by Mesdames Camporese and Malibran, and Signor Donzelli. This was a rich feast. At the Opera House this season one has been so disgusted with the eternal drumming, trumpeting, and tripleting of Rossini, that the music of Mozart comes upon the jaded ear like the voice of those we love after the brawling of a law-court. Donzelli's imperial voice came forth with magnificent effect in the trio, "Quello di Tito," likewise in the accompanied recitative, beginning, "Ma che." He and Madame Malibran also delighted us by their correctness of expression in Paesello's duet, "O momento"—a lovely melody.

The twelfth and last Concert of the season was performed at the Hanover square Rooms on the 3d inst. under the direction of the Earl of Cawdor.

Act 1. Overture (Ptolemy) Handel. Song and chorus, "The Passions" (Solomon) Handel. Song, "Thou didst blow;" Chorus, "The people" (Israel in Egypt) Handel. Canzonet, three voices, "Soft Cupid," Travers. Concerto, 1st Grand, Handel. Recit. "It must be so;" Song, "Pour forth no more;" Chorus, "No more to Ammon's God" (Jephthah) Handel. Aria, "Soprendermi vorresti," Hasse. Duetto, "Come ti piace" (La Clemenza di Tito) Mozart. Motet, "Splendente te," Mozart. Act 2. Overture (Il Matrimonio segreto) Cimarosa. Scena, "Chi per" ed Aria, "Deh! Parlate!" (Sacrificio d'Abramo) Cimarosa. Song and Quartet, "Fairer isle," Purcell. Aria, "Cara sposa" (Rhadamistus) Handel. Scena, "Ah! in cara sposa;" e Duetto, "Come partir poss'io" (Gialio Sabino) Sarti. Chorus, "Thème sublime" (Jephthah) Handel. Aria, "Gratias Agimus," Guglielmi. Glee, "I'd mourn the hopes," "Cum sancto spiritu," Pergolesi.

The novelty of this evening was the appearance of Mademoiselle Sontag for the first time at these Concerts. She sang Hasse's song, "Soprendermi vorresti," a bravura of the old school, tolerably well. In the second act of the Concert she took a part in the duet, "Come partir poss'io," with

Madame Malibran, and afterwards sang the eternal "Gratias agimus," by Guglielmi, with clarinetto obligato. This lady will not add to her reputation by her performance of this class of music. Her style is florid to excess, and merely florid; expression and feeling appear not to have been even thought of; and to us, the want of these essentials to good singing can never be compensated even by the most brilliant execution or compass of voice.

The magnificent and difficult chorus, "The people were afraid," which was well executed, followed the air, "Thou didst blow," sung by Miss Stephens, an ineffective song with a bassoon obligato. The duet, "Come ti piace," from "La Clemenza di Tito," was executed with admirable spirit by Madame Malibran and Signor Donzelli. Mozart's noble motet, "Splendente te," closed the first act. The instrumental as well as the vocal band merit the warmest encomiums for the style in which this composition was performed. In the second act, Madame Malibran delighted us by her execution of the scena from Cimarosa's "Sacrificio d'Abramo"—an effort worthy of Mozart himself. She threw her whole soul into her voice, and rendered ample justice to the author's beautiful thoughts. The Concert closed with a chorus from a mass by Pergolesi, extremely well performed. They who underrate the performances at these Concerts—taken collectively, must be either ignorant or envious people. They have been generally well attended, and on this, the last evening of the series, the rooms were crowded.

FINE ARTS.

GRATUITOUS EXHIBITIONS.

In general, that which has not some price set upon its enjoyment, is rarely worth possessing; but there are at least two Exhibitions now open, that are to be seen for nothing, which are nevertheless highly attractive—namely, The Drawings of the Academician Turner, at the Egyptian Hall,—and the Portraits of Illustrious Individuals, shown at Messrs Harding and Leopard's, Pallmall East, engravings from which illustrate Mr Lodge's valuable and interesting biographical work.

Mr Turner's are by no means finished drawings; but they are extremely picturesque, and well adapted for the object in view,—that of being engraved, under the direction of Mr CHARLES HEATH, for the elegant publication entitled "TURNER'S ENGLAND." Those which please us the most are—the quiet and well lit view of Eton College; the two views of Virginia Water, with its Royal Pavilion, well-wooded hills, and splendid barges; Kilgarran Castle, and its lofty towers; the Coast from Folkstone Harbour to Dover, enlivened as it is by the discovery of certain smuggled treasures; the fine Gothic Church and bustling market place of Louth, in Lincolnshire; Salt Ash, with its grand shipping and picturesque site; romantic Tamerton; Launceston, planted as it were in the clouds; the majestic scenery of the River Tavey; Walton Bridge, with its serene air and flock of thirsty sheep; Windsor Castle, at sun-setting, and its majestic round tower; Stone-Henge, under a thunder-storm, the shepherds prostrate, and their dog howling at the rattling peal; Alnwick Castle, solemn and serene; Colchester, with its picturesque water-mill, and its peasantry in motion after a harvest; the rugged and romantic Cathedral of Holy Island; and Stoneyhurst College, beautifully lighted up and shadowed by a rainbow and weeping clouds, emblematic of the chequered lot of humanity.—Several of the Prints are also exhibited. They are admirably engraved by Messrs Goodall, Wallis, Verrall, Radcliffe, Miller, Wilmore, Jeavons, and Brandrard.

The Drawings for Mr Lodge's work are, on the contrary, very carefully finished copies, the size of the larger series of Prints, from Paintings after some of the best of the old and several of the most able modern portrait painters—from Holbein, Rubens, Vandyke, Zuccherro, Jansen, Lely, Kneller, Oliver, Sir J. Reynolds, &c. Very many of them are personally as well as historically interesting, for there is female loveliness and grace, manly beauty, intellectual power, and almost all the expressions that exalt and darken the "human face divine." Some of the dresses, too, are exceedingly tasteful and becoming, far surpassing our present fashions; and the lover of art will receive no slight satisfaction in noticing the various modes adopted by these eminent artists to effect the end in view. Among the females will be seen the lovely Queen of Scots, and her savage and self-satisfied looking kinwoman and executioner, Elizabeth; sweet Ann Boleyn, the pleasing Jane Seymour, and the fine-eyed Catharine Parr, three of the religious tyrant's wives; the handsome wife of Charles I. Queen Henrietta Maria, most tastefully attired; the persecuted but not handsome Lady Arabella Stuart; the fair-haired Countess of Pembroke; "Sidney's sister, Pembroke's mother;" "Death, ere thou hast slain another," "Fair, and wise, and good as she," "Time shall throw his dart at thee;" The mild and pensive Lady Jane Grey; the plump and good natured looking Catharine of Braganza, the neglected wife of Charles II, and his fair and soft-eyed favourite mistress, Frances Theresa Stewart, Duchess of Richmond; Frances Howard, Duchess of Richmond, famed for accepting from King James a patent for coining farthings, and looking as if she was willing to coin anything but her own fat.—Among the men, see the portraits of Henry VIII, Charles I and II, (the latter a black and rugged looking personage) the gallant Raleigh; Sir E. Drake, with the air of a buccaner; the first Earl of Craven, a very fine looking fellow; George Lord Goring, remarkable for the elegance of the painting, which is by Vandyke, who has introduced a page tying his Lord's sash with

* Lectures on the Poets, p. 19.

infinite grace; Oliver Cromwell, by Walker, who has imitated Vandyke, and shows his own sterility of invention; the third Earl of Essex, the "Virgin" Queen's unfortunate lover; Sir Isaac Newton; the celebrated Robert Boyle, who looks like a sweet girl in a flowing wig; the cold-blooded and savage Claverhouse, Viscount Dundee, one of Sir Walter Scott's heroes; the Marquis of Granby and Lord Rodney, admirably painted by Sir J. Reynolds; the great Bacon, whose countenance would puzzle the physiognomists; the learned Selden, whose face reminds one of the lamented Romilly; the Lord Chancellor More, with a keen and yet quiet expression not unlike that of the Academician Northcote.

Sir Walter Scott speaks thus of the merit of the work in question: "This valuable and extended series of the Portraits of the illustrious dead affords to every private gentleman, at a moderate expense, the interest attached to a large Gallery of British Portraits, on a plan more extensive than any collection which exists, and at the same time the essence of a curious library of historical, bibliographical, and antiquarian works. It is a work which, in regard to England, might deserve the noble motto rendered with such dignity by Dryden:—

"From hence the line of Alban fathers come,
And the long glories of majestic Rome."

The Drawings amount to nearly 200, and have been accurately made from the valuable originals by Messrs Hilton, Jackson, Derby, Satchwell, and Uwins. The Catalogue of the Portraits is extremely well drawn up by Mr Lodge, and is in itself very amusing. The Exhibition is in truth altogether a great treat.

PRINT OF POPE PIUS VII.—Engraved by Samuel Cousins, after a painting by Sir Thos. Lawrence.—The materials from which this work is made are upon the whole but common place, and yet it is anything but a common-place performance—such has been the power of the master. An old gentleman, dressed very much like an old gentlewoman, sitting quietly in his arm chair—this is the representation before us.—But then the aforesaid old man is placed so gently in his seat, with one foot resting on a low cushion and the other on the ground—his arms supported by those of the chair,—his scanty locks so nicely rendered,—and his quiet, not unintelligent, and placid expression of countenance so well portrayed,—that one cannot but take great interest in the production, which is one of the highest order in its class. The garments, too, are admirably disposed; and the light and shadow are most skillfully managed; which was no easy task, as a hand not deeply skilled in such labour would have made sad work with that mass of light drapery. As it is, the chief light falls in its right place, the countenance of the aged Pontiff—and the look of nature is complete.—Mr Cousins has shown great skill in his department; and, as a print, it is one of the finest mezzotintos that has appeared in this country.

Mr HAYDON is at work on two pieces very distinct in their nature, and requiring very opposite powers to do them justice; yet both promise to be perhaps the ablest performances that he has hitherto produced. One is a classical historical subject—that of the warrior *Eucles*, who, after manfully playing his part in a triumphant battle, has hastened home to bring the glorious intelligence to his fellow-citizens. Breathless, mortally wounded, and faint, he has just reached his own door, at which his anxious and bewildered wife appears to welcome him, with her infant in her arms, followed by her careful nurse—she is in time only to witness the eager joy of the assembling people, and the consummation of her own affliction in the loss of her husband, who is sinking to the earth never to rise again. The Artist has been extremely successful in the agitated wife, for he has given her great beauty, and yet there is no want of forcible expression. The hero, too, is well delineated, especially his sinking and deathlike condition, which is finely managed.—The other picture is anything but classical, but it will not, we suspect, be less acceptable to the majority on that account. It represents our ancient, invulnerable, and mirth-moving friend *Punch*, in all his glory, surrounded by a mob of spectators, most of them in high glee like himself; though one grim-looking and sombre personage, a Methodist Preacher, wishes to throw a gloom upon the comic exhibition, and, planting himself in opposition to the hero of the company, seems pouring forth his fiery denunciations on the perpetrators and enjoyers of such abominations. This is the true burlesque. There is a grave touch, however, of a finer kind. In the midst of the ludicrous burley-burley, a funeral procession is passing, throwing its dark shadow on the scene, recalling to the recollections of the reflecting observer the solemn exclamation of the many-wived Son of David—"Vanity of vanities, all is vanity!"

Mr Frank Howard's "Illustrations of Shakspeare" shall not be forgotten.

WOOD ENGRAVING.—In noticing the Wood Engravings in Mr Murray's *Napoleon*, we gave all the cuts in the last vol. to Mr Thompson; but we find that the highly characteristic one of the *Flight from Smorgoni* was by Mr S. WILLIAMS.

L'INCENDIO DI BORGO.—The taste for high art in this country is, we fear, still but in its infancy; and if any proof of this be wanting, it may be found in the fact, that the exhibition of *L'Incendio di Borgo*, one of the chief works of the Prince of Painters, faithfully copied the same size as the original now in Rome, by a young English artist of great merit, has been so ill attended, that even the cost of the exhibition will not nearly be paid. This is sad work, we must say. Had the picture had anything to recommend it but its own intrinsic beauty—had it, like Mr HARLOWE'S Copy of the *Transfiguration*, been tolerably ill executed "in the short space of fifteen days," instead of having been well done in fifteen laborious months—had it been painted with the Artist's toes,

instead of those far better instruments designed by Nature for such performances—the exhibition-room would most likely have been crowded with "all the rank and fashion" of the metropolis, for then there would have been something "wonderful" to babble about.—But let not Mr HOLLINS despair: his noble work, which would grace any mansion in the land, has doubtless served to spread the knowledge of his talents; and as he can paint a portrait admirably, as well as make a fine copy from an old master, he will not want a lucrative employment among a wealthy and self-satisfied people like the English.

THE LATE CHIEF JUSTICE BEST.

SIR,—The papers very amusingly tell us that Mr Chief Justice Best is to be raised to the Peerage, and to act as Deputy Speaker in the House of Lords.

The King of course has a right to make this amiable gentleman a Peer if he thinks proper, and very few will trouble their heads about the matter; but I hope the country is not to be insulted by the appendage of a pension to the title.

Such an act will prove the Government altogether insensible to the distress—to the feelings and the common sense of the country—Mr Justice Best has never done anything (or in the usual slang "rendered any services") for the public in his professional or judicial character, that he has not been amply rewarded for; and, though I mention it not as matter of reproach, it ought to be recollected, his fits of gout have constantly interfered with his official duty,—a consideration which would render any lucrative appointment given him in the House of Lords a shameless and disgraceful job.

The policy of adding to the ranks of the aristocracy in this manner is more than questionable, nor can general precedent in the present case be quoted; but if it could, the state of the nation—the professions of ministers on the score of economy, require such practices to be abandoned, and a less embarrassing occasion to commence a better order of things could not possibly present itself.

I am, Sir, your constant reader,

30th May, 1829.

A. B.

CASE OF ELIZA FENNING.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

SIR,—Having heard a report in circulation, that a person (by some said to be the son of Mr Turner, for attempting to poison whose family Eliza Fenning was a few years since executed) had died (in one of the hospitals) after confessing in his last moments, that "Eliza Fenning was innocent of the crime for which she suffered, and that he was the guilty person;" I am induced to trouble you with this letter, to inquire if such report be true, and if any and what circumstances have transpired to throw new light on the melancholy subject.

The circumstances of this event having happened so long a time back would not weigh in your mind, I am sure, Sir, to the exclusion of any such rumour as the one I have alluded to; were there any ray of truth in it, and I am therefore disposed to believe it groundless; but, in common with most of your readers, I should feel more satisfied by a negative from you, even in that case; and if there should be any testimony of the unhappy girl's innocence that might be made public by inquiry, you would, by bringing it forth and making it public, do justice to the memory of a deeply injured female, and in some measure mitigate the life-lasting sorrow of her father. (I do not know if her mother yet lives, but her father I do know to be a respectable and inoffensive man, though in a humble station.)

Some circumstances attending her trial by the late Recorder, added to the very dubitable nature of the legal evidence against her, and the strong moral testimony in her favour, render additional value and importance to any authentic statement of facts that may be obtainable.

Begging you to excuse this intrusion on your time and attention, for the object's sake, I remain, Sir, your constant reader,

ENQUIRER.

June 8, 1829.

[We cannot satisfy the laudible curiosity of our correspondent. We saw the paragraph he alludes to, but know not whether its statement be correct. We however think it very likely, because this we do know, that a son of the Prosecutor Turner (the person alluded to in the paragraph, we believe) did on one occasion betray symptoms of insanity in the shop of Messrs Corbyn, Holborn, where he went to purchase arsenic, and was refused by a gentleman of the establishment. This was not long previous to the affair of the alleged attempt to poison by Eliza Fenning; and when the unfortunate girl was so strangely found guilty by the Jury, the gentleman alluded to thought it his duty to submit Mr Turner's situation and conduct to the consideration of the Recorder SILVESTER. That man, however, had made up his mind, and nothing could move him, though he was addressed by persons of various conditions and opinions, in favour of the poor creature. He had resolved upon her death; and, in his brutal obstinacy, so far forgot his dignity of Judge, as to wait himself upon the prosecutor, at the moment he was going to sign a petition in favour of the condemned girl, and enter into a long argument in order to deter him from his humane purpose. He was successful, and the girl was executed amid the tears and sighs and execrations of a number of persons who were not in the habit of witnessing scenes of this description.—We believe we were the first to call the public attention to this girl's trial, and to the extraordinary deficiency of evidence against her. We took considerable pains at the time to obtain all the

testimony adduced, and our firm conviction was, that there was not sufficient evidence to convict. Arsenic was kept in the house, and some of it certainly found its way into the flour that Eliza Fenning had made into a pudding. Of this she partook, as well as Mrs Turner and the children, and was extremely ill in consequence. She had occasionally quarrelled with her mistress upon common matters, but there appeared no cause for anything like a feeling of revenge, such as so deadly an attempt as that to poison a whole family would indicate. The Recorder, an obstinate, self-willed, and sensual man, grew angry at the opposition to his opinion; he bestirred himself zealously against the unfortunate creature, and her death was the consequence.—We have some reason to remember this occurrence, for the proprietor of the *Observer*, Mr CLEWENT, thinking perhaps that we were then in ill-odour with the Court of King's Bench, and that he might turn our earnestness in behalf of what we considered suffering innocence to his own pecuniary account, brought an action for damages against us, for some passages in the *Examiner* commenting upon what was deemed his gross partiality in relation to this case. After putting us to the expense of nearly 100*l.* in our defence, and himself to most likely a larger sum, he prudently withdrew the action—a course which we were advised to submit to, rather than encounter “the glorious uncertainty of the law.”—*Examiner.*]

THE WATER COMPANIES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

SIR.—The public having been again called upon by Mr Wright to subscribe farther sums of money to repay him for services, said to have been performed by him, relative to a better supply of water to the metropolis, it is but fair to give a true recital of what Mr Wright has done, and what money he has already received.

The late Mr Robson, who was Chairman of the Grand Junction Water Company for many years, was removed some time before his death from that office, and to revenge himself for this supposed indignity, he employed Mr Wright to print a pamphlet in the year 1827, in order to expose the Grand Junction Water Company, who had changed the water to their customers from the river Colne to the river Thames.

The pamphlet, called the *Dolphin*, from the name of the machine where the water was taken out of the Thames, was printed by Mr Wright, who was paid for his services by Mr Robson, and received the profits of the pamphlet.

Soon after this exposure of his colleagues by Mr Robson, who, strange to tell, was the Chairman during all this transaction, a public meeting of the inhabitants of Westminster was held at Willis's room, and a subscription of 390*l.* was raised, to defray the expenses which might attend an application to Parliament for redress.

Of this 390*l.*, about 345*l.* was paid shortly after, by various instalments, to Mr Wright; so that before Mr Wright makes a farther call on the public, it is but justice to inform the subscribers how this money has been expended.

Messrs Robson and Wright never pretended to rectify the general supply of water; on the contrary, their *Dolphin* was a mere philippic against the Grand Junction Water Company:—indeed they state that all the other Companies supply good water; and the only remedy proposed was another Company to rival the Grand Junction.

The total change of the supply from the river Thames to a source unobscured with the sewers of London, never entered the mind of Messrs Robson and Wright; it was the result of investigation by professional men, more conversant with the subject; and if any proof be wanted of that, the following evidence, taken before the select committee of the House of Commons, in the last Session, is conclusive:—

“18th July, 1828, Mr Wright called and examined.

Q. Did you publish a pamphlet called the *Dolphin*?—Answer. I did.

Q. Can you give the Committee any information with respect to the mode of a better supply of water.—Answer. “No, I cannot.”

I am, Sir, your most obedient servant,
A.

18th May.

UNITED PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Wednesday, June 10.

Lord WHARNCIFFE avowed his intention to bring forward again his measure respecting Game, as it had been lost by a majority of two only, and he hoped to obtain the support of Government.

The Police Bill and Justices Bill were read a third time and passed.

Thursday, June 11.

Lord Wynford (late Chief Justice Best) was introduced, and took the oath and his seat.

SHIPPING.

Lord GERRARD moved for certain Returns relative to the Shipping. He had been stated, he said, that the reciprocity treaties and alterations subsequently made in our navigation laws, had been productive of evil. To act on principles of reciprocity had been made necessary by the growth of the United States of America. The Returns would show that the alterations made in our laws had not been productive of evil; that there had been a great increase in the number of British ships within the last few years, and in particular, during the last year, the number of English vessels employed was greater than during any

former year. The same Returns would show that the number of British seamen had increased, from 114,000 in 1814, to 118,000 in 1828. The number of foreign vessels, it would be found, had not increased in the same proportion.

The Duke of WELLINGTON said, he had no doubt that by the production of these papers they would find that the course adopted was not only not injurious, but beneficial.—The Returns were then ordered.

The Earl of SHAFTESBURY stated, that the Committee to whom the claim of the Duke of Cumberland, as Earl of Armagh, had been referred, had reported that he had made out his claim to vote for Irish Representative Peers.

Friday, June 12.

Earl GROSVENOR called their Lordships' attention to the conduct of the Grand Junction Water Company, who had, he said, neglected to comply with the Act of Parliament in regard to obtaining their Supply of Water from a pure source. He left it to the House to consider what course had better be adopted on the subject.

Mr Tennyson and Mr Alderman Wood were ordered to attend the Lords Committee sitting on the London Bridge Bill.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Friday, June 12.

A petition was presented against enclosing Hampstead Heath.

STATE OF THE COUNTRY.

Mr SADLER presented a petition from Blackburn describing the distresses of the manufacturers, and praying for an investigation by Parliament.

Col. SIBTHORPE supported the prayer of the petition, and complained that the whole session had been consumed by that foolish, detestable, and atrocious Bill for the Emancipation of those devils incarnate, the arrogant, insolent, and ungrateful Roman Catholics! (*Much laughter.*)

Mr HUME thought that the general state of the country should be enquired into, labouring as it was under such a load of taxation. The House had done nothing on the subject, and yet was going to adjourn two months before the usual period. (*Hear, hear!*)

Mr WESTERN was an advocate for inquiry.

Sir H. VIVYAN contended that a remedy might be found for the national distresses, and that it was indecorous to adjourn the House without making the attempt. His motion on the subject had been fixed for a certain day, but he could find no opportunity of bringing it on.

Mr PEEL said, that was not his fault: he had attended on the evening in question, prepared to argue the case with the Hon. Baronet, and there had been no denial of a hearing. He never denied the severe distress of the country in certain parts, but the remedy was not so obvious as some supposed. There was no want of sympathy for the distressed; but he believed the distresses would be temporary, and that the agitation of the question would not be productive of benefit. There was no diminution of the capital of the country: on the contrary, by a valuation made, that of Lancashire had increased from three to four millions from 1815 to 1828. (*Hear, hear!*) This was a fact he opposed to the alleged depreciation of agriculture and manufactures. He admitted, however, the unequal distribution of that wealth, and the general disadvantage which arose from its accumulation in the hands of a few individuals—an evil, nevertheless, which was unavoidable. The Government would give their best attention to the subject.

Mr ATWOOD asserted that the nation would sink, unless there was a speedy change of system.

Mr HUSKISSON agreed with Mr Peel in his view of the question.

Mr J. MAXWELL was satisfied that Government neglected its duty in declining to enter into an investigation of the national distresses.

Sir J. PHILLIPS saw no ground for the gloomy anticipations of Hon. Members; and by putting an end to the Eastern Monopoly, and opening our trade, the country would revive.

Gen. GASCOYNE thought the falling off in the revenue supplied sufficient ground for the inquiry asked for.

Mr D. W. HARVEY said, there was not a man out of that House who did not know that the proper remedy for the distresses was a considerable reduction of Taxation, for the country could not go on under war taxes and a peace currency; and it was absurd to say that our Expenditure could not be lessened.

Mr MABERLEY was of the same opinion.

Mr BROUGHAM presented a petition from the weavers of Wigtou, stating that they could earn from 5*s.* to 6*s.* a-week only, working fourteen and sixteen hours a-day!

Both petitions were ordered to be printed.

Several other petitions were presented—one of them from the debtors in the King's Bench Prison, complaining of the heavy fees exacted by the Marshal.—The House then adjourned to Friday next.

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTES.

Tuesday, June 9.

INSOLVENT.

W. Walker, Bath, linen-draper.

BANKRUPTS.

J. Stevens, Plymouth, ship-owner. [Blake, Essex street.

J. Stevens, Plymouth, culm-merchant. [Blake, Essex street.

J. L. Stevens, Plymouth, coal-merchant. [Blake, Essex street.

F. Paterson, Birmingham, grocer. [Burfoot, Inner Temple.

W. and S. Stokes, Liverpool, merchants. [Pritt and Clay, Liverpool.

R. Ormrod, Manchester, dealer. [Milne and Parry, Temple.
 J. Gerstein, Plymouth, block-maker. [Taylor, Clement's inn.
 E. Hodgson, Bath, dealer. [Williams, Gray's inn.
 J. Burnett, Leeds, woollen draper. [Wilson, Southampton street.
 J. A. Hall, Barnstable, grocer. [Adlington and Co., Bedford row.
 B. Hertz, Bevis marks, merchant. [Norton, Jewin street.
 J. Forsyth, Goswell road, carpenter. [Minchin, Harpur street.
 J. Whitehead and C. Whitechurch, Lad lane, warehousemen. [Fitzge-
 rald, Lavender Pountney hill.
 J. Wilkie, New road, St. George's East, merchant. [Watson and
 Broughton, Falcon square.
 J. Davison and C. Gould, Goldsmith street, silk-warehousemen. [Stokes
 and Hollingworth, Cataton street.
 O. Coleman, Bury St Edmund's, iron-founder. [Walter, Symond's inn.
 J. Showl, Shepton Mallet, draper. [King and Co., Gray's inn square.
 J. M. U. Le R. du Buisson, Fenchurch street, merchant. [Spencer, St
 Mildred's court.
 G. Hampreys, Bear lane, Surrey, timber-merchant. [Benton, Great
 Surrey street.
 T. Brattle, Maidstone, tailor. [Tanner, New Basinghall street.
 J. Pike and J. Clark, Frith st., upholsterers. [Hamilton, Southampton st.
 E. D. Carl, Norwich, grocer. [Brutton and Co., New Broad street.
 T. Button, Sudbury, tanner. [Dixon and Sons, New Boswell court.
 W. Fairaud, York, plane-maker. [Evans and Co., Gray's inn.
 T. Carter, Oxford, pastry-cook. [Miller, Ely place, Holborn.
 J. Chapman, seni, Frome Selwood, clothier. [Perkins, Gray's inn sq.

Friday, June 12.

INSOLVENT.

W. Wardle and W. W. Wink, Bath, silk-mercers.

BANKRUPTCY SUPERSEDED.

M. Martin and B. Sloman, Regent street, paper-stainers.

BANKRUPTS.

T. A. Betterton, Ampney Crucis, Gloucestershire, seedsman. [Crouch,
Chancery lane.

H. Tipper, sen, Cirencester, timber-dealer. [White, Lincoln's inn.

W. Smith, Tealby, Lincolnshire, paper-manufacturer. [Eyre, Gray's inn sq

M. Orme, Manchester, cotton, twist and web-dealer. [Appleby and

Charnock, Raymond buildings, Gray's inn.

S. Wood and T. Blood, Lane end, Stoke-upon-Trent, earthenware-

manufacturers. [Barbor, Fetter lane.

G. Johnson, Watford, farmer. [Robinson, Half moon street.

W. Greatbatch, jun, Stoke-upon-Trent, earthenware-manufacturer.

[Price and Bolton, Lincoln's inn.

G. E. Sephton, Liverpool, iron-merchant. [Chester, Staple inn.

P. Foreman, St John street, corn-factor. [Constable, Symond's inn.

C. Clements, Liverpool, common-brewer. [Blackstone, Temple.

THE FUNDS.

Consols 4 per Cent.
 Reduced 87 1/2 Consols for Account 88 1/2 1/4
 3 1/2 per Cent. 96 1/2 1/4

THEATRE ROYAL, DRURY LANE.

TOMORROW—A GRAND MASQUERADE.
 TUESDAY—Othello. Love in Wrinkles. And Three Weeks after Marriage.
 WEDNESDAY—Jane Shore. The Poor Soldier. And Thier-na-og; or the
 Prince of the Lakes.
 THURSDAY—Rob Roy. Little Goody Two Shoes. And The Review.
 FRIDAY—Der Freischutz. Thier-na-og. And Giovanni in London.

THEATRE ROYAL, DRURY LANE.

Novel and splendid MASQUERADE and Italian FESTA DI BALLO,
 TOMORROW, June 13.
 The Pit will be covered over, and united to the extensive Stage, forming
 one Grand Arena, ornamented with Trophies, Emblems, Banners, Transparenc-
 es, Devices, &c. splendidly illuminated with variegated Lamps, Chinese
 Lanterns, Candelabra, Girandoles, &c. &c. &c.—The Theatre will be opened at
 Ten o'clock, and the Entertainments commence with (preceded by a Grand
 Medley Overture) a Novel CONCERT, performed in character consisting of
 Selections from the Works of Calcott, Bishop, Parry, Massinghi, A. Lee, and
 Barnett, by the Vocal Strength of the Establishment.—In the course of the
 evening, by permission of G. B. Davidge, Esq. Myndeer Von KLISHNIG, the
 celebrated German Gymnast, will exhibit his extraordinary Performances.—
 At Eleven o'clock will be given, at the Theatre Lilliputian, an entirely new
 Eastern Ballet, to be called TURKISH REVELS. The Music selected from
 Bossi and Viviani.—These popular Artists, the Messrs Bonsang, will add to the
 festivity of the evening, by the introduction of their unequalled feat of the
 Rotatory Motion performed with Glass Balls, illuminated by various coloured
 Fires.—At half-past Twelve o'clock, a magnificent Balloon and Parachute will
 traverse the Stage, and at a certain signal disperse amid the Company Showers
 of Bon Bons and Confections, prepared by Mr. Grogan, Confectioner, Princes
 street.—At intervals, Vari Giocchi Di Destrezza will be displayed, combining
 novelty and entertainment, forming one uninterrupted round of pleasure and
 amusement.—The Bands will be formed on a most extensive scale, and of the
 following variety.—In the Refonda, the Military Band of the Laners. For the
 Concert and Ballet, the Orchestra of the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, is retained.
 For Quadrilles and Country Dances, two separate Bands are engaged.—The
 GRAND SALOON, calculated to hold 1000 persons, will be fitted up in an
 elegant style, and opened as the SUPPER ROOM, precisely at One o'clock.—
 The whole of the Arrangements will be under the superintendence of Mr W.
 Barrymore.—Tickets of admission, One Guinea. Price of admission to the
 Boxes, to view the Masquerade without joining the throng, 2s. Admission to the
 Lower Gallery, 2s. 6d.—Supper tickets, Seven Shillings and Sixpence each, to
 be had of Mr Charles Wright, and at the Box-office.
 * The Free List does not extend to this Masquerade.

THEATRE ROYAL, COVENT GARDEN.
 TOMORROW—Mademoiselle Sontag and Mademoiselle Nina Sontag, will make
 their third appearance, and sing in character, the principal scene of the Second
 Act, in C. M. Von Weber's celebrated Opera of DER FREISCHUTZ. VENICE
 PRESERVED. And The DEVIL'S ELIXIR.
 TUESDAY—Artaxerxes. Charles the Second. And The Waterman.
 WEDNESDAY—The Suspicious Husband. And Master's Rival.

THEATRE ROYAL, HAYMARKET.
 TOMORROW—SPRING and AUTUMN; or the Bride at Fifty. The FEMALE
 SENTINEL. With LODGINGS for SINGLE GENTLEMEN. And JOHN of
 PARIS.
 TUESDAY—The Barber of Seville. The Green-Eyed Monster. And other
 Entertainments.

THE EXAMINER OF THIS DAY CONTAINS

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TIGHT LACING.—An article, accompanied by Wood Cuts, showing the Danger
 and Deformity of the present fashion of COMPRESSED WAISTS, will appear in
 our next, to which we invite the especial attention of our Female Readers.

THE EXAMINER

LONDON, JUNE 14, 1829.

THE accounts received last week may be said to commence the formal
 history of the pending campaign in the East of Europe. The first
 bulletin of the grand Russian Army has been published, the St Peters-
 burgh date of which is the 25th May. It states the passage of the
 major part of the troops across the Danube, and their assemblage on
 the 8th ultimo, at the camp before Tchernovody. To the subsequent
 result of the reinvestment of Silistria, we adverted last week; and
 another official document has appeared in the Prussian State Gazette,
 in which the particulars are given of a fierce attack of a Russian divi-
 sion commanded by General ROTH, on the advance from Varna
 towards Choumla, by a large body of Turks, commanded by the
 GRAND VIZIER in person. The Russians claim the victory; but
 even their own accounts describe it as amounting to no more than a
 repulse, and no advance appears to have followed the encounter.
 The Russians acknowledge the loss of 500 men, and describe that of
 the Turks at 2000. A letter from Corfu speaks of reports, that the
 Agents of the three Powers, parties to the treaty of the 6th July, have
 signed at London an additional article to the protocol of the 16th
 March, determining that the boundaries of Greece shall not extend
 beyond the Morea and Cyclades, a resolution that would render all
 the recent conquests of the Greeks unavailing. It appears from all
 accounts, that the rumoured unreasonable extension of the Russian
 naval blockade, is almost altogether without foundation, and in parti-
 cular, that there is not a word of truth in the alleged application of it
 to the port of Smyrna. The English feeling against Russia in some
 of our journals, and the disposition to distort facts against her, has
 been animadverted upon in some of the French papers with consider-
 able acuteness. Our "ancient ally" is evidently not yet in such
 imminent danger as to call for these swaggering indications. We
 must not forget to record, that the arrival of a Persian Ambassador in
 Turkey is announced in some of the German journals; which fact,
 coupled with the late catastrophe at Teheran, is construed into a pro-
 bability that Persia is disposed to take advantage of the Turkish war,
 and venture another conflict with her conquerors. The Persian popu-
 lation, in particular, are described as anxious for a renewal of the
 struggle; but this, it is to be apprehended, will go for little in deciding
 upon the policy to be actually adopted.

Mr RUSH, the late Secretary to the Treasury of the United States,
 it seems, is on a visit to this country to raise a loan to carry on canal
 railways, and great schemes of internal improvements in Pennsylvania.
 Some of our contemporaries speak with great exultation of the neces-
 sity of coming to this country on the occasion, but we fear it proves
 little more than that property is possessed here in larger masses than
 elsewhere, and that a more healthy diffusion of it among the commu-
 nity, as in America, would be far preferable to the power of scattering
 it about the world, while pauperism and misery are upon the hourly
 increase at home. This says nothing against the conduct of those
 who, upon adequate security, think proper thus to invest it. If
 means can be found for it in their own country, it is an affair of
 course. But seeing how much of this wealth exists in the form of

mortgage upon the industry of the people, and no small part is extracted by Corn Laws, &c. from the same source by peremptory enactments, it may be doubted if anything beyond a temporary existence belongs to this species of capital itself. A few years from this time will solve many problems and paradoxes in relation to this subject, and this among the number.

It appears by accounts from St. John's, New Brunswick, that the President of the United States has lately sent a communication to the British Head-quarters, in which he speaks in terms of high commendation of the conduct of Sir HOWARD DOUGLAS, and of the whole proceedings of the Provincial Government, with respect to the disputed territory, expressing at the same time his cordial desire to facilitate the adjustment of all matters in dispute between Great Britain and America, and cultivate the most friendly habits between the two countries as conducive to the best interests of both.

A Morning Paper states, that a report has been in circulation "in well-informed circles," that the Duke of WELLINGTON is going out of office, and will be replaced by the Duke of RICHMOND:—We cannot however find, upon inquiry, "in well-informed circles," that such a rumour was even current for a single instant.

REPORT OF PARLIAMENT.—About sixty of the Friends of Parliamentary Reform in Chichester dined together in that city, on Friday week, E. S. CULLEN, Esq. in the Chair; and after the repast, some animated speeches were made on this vital question by the Chairman, Lord Nugent, Mr O. Cave, and the Rev. Mr Fuller, and resolutions were entered into for the establishment of a Society of Reform, with an annual fund, &c. The Learned Chairman drew a very striking picture of the state of the misrepresentation:—He said, "The forty-five Scottish Members are returned by less than six thousand electors. (Shame, shame!) The Representation of Scotland I look upon as a mockery. In England, too, the people are most unequally represented; for it appears that not one person in three hundred has a vote; and that, out of a population of twelve or thirteen millions, about fifteen thousand persons return the majority of this House of Commons! Why, I ask, have we a right to call ourselves the freest and wisest people in the world, while we permit a mockery—such as that of our present representation? The evil, however, does not rest here. Let us inquire into the effects of this mockery of representation. In 1783, the poor-rate amounted to less than two millions; in 1823, it amounted to more than six millions. In 1783, the number of convictions was 5,000; in 1823, the number was 15,000. So that crime and pauperism had, within the last thirty years, increased threefold. Between 1792 and 1817, Ministers, or, in other words, Parliament, have voted away and spent 393,000,000l. beyond the income of the country. They did this with their eyes open—in the face of their constituents, not a man of whom could put his hand in his pocket to buy a loaf, without feeling sensible that the hand of the Chancellor of the Exchequer had been there before him. That hand will continue to enter your pockets until the people of England determine to return to Parliament independent and patriotic men—men determined to compel Ministers to adopt every system of economy consistent with the honour and interests of this country. When I look to the distressed state in which the agriculture, the manufactures, and other branches of industry are placed, and when I hear the manner in which Ministers lament their distresses, I cannot help thinking of that Indian tribe, who, according to the statement of the historian, were in the habit of setting up a sort of howl of lamentation before they exercised the tomahawk and the scalping-knife upon their hapless victims, sorrowing, as it were, at the murders they were about to commit. (Hear, hear, hear!) Thus it was with our Government when an inquiry was proposed into the distresses under which the agriculturists laboured; they expressed great sorrow—great pain—but there was not time for the proposed inquiry. Why was there not time? Because Ministers had predetermined to take off no tax, no duty, and hence inquiry would be not only tedious, but unavailing; because, such an inquiry would open the eyes of millions to the causes of their great poverty and suffering." (Applause.)

A CABINET PICTURE.—A Correspondent has furnished us with a sketch of the interior of a Cabinet. As it is not easy to get a peep behind the curtain of this *Sanctum Sanctorum*, we cannot refuse to gratify the curiosity of our readers; it will be observed that our informant almost confined his observation to the Leading Character in this Political Drama. The Premier commonly sits in an attitude not particularly dignified, but extremely conducive to personal comfort; he does not take a prominent part in the discussions of the Cabinet, nor does his attention seem to be at all times engrossed by what is passing. When any observation of particular interest is made, the Premier marks it by a significant interjection; when an opinion is hazarded from which he decidedly dissents, he avails himself of the Laconic intimation—"That must not be," and the obnoxious opinion drops still-born; the discipline of the subordinates (and in the present Cabinet, all with one exception are subordinate) is upon the whole, exemplary—it remains to be seen whether the supplementary members will produce any change.—*Chronicle.*

The New York Mercantile Advertiser of April 23, says, "Counterfeit Bank of England 5l. notes, said to have been made in America, have been detected in London."

EMBASSY TO GREAT BRITAIN.—Louis M. Lane, of Delaware, has been appointed by the President, Minister to England. This intelligence we received with an extreme degree of satisfaction. Mr. M. Lane is a very accomplished and highly-gifted man, possessing the advantage of great experience in the concerns of our Government, distinguished for his political firmness and consistency, and a fearless honesty and frankness of conduct and character, endowed with a sound, discriminating, well-trained and well-regulated mind, and with uncommonly elevated feelings and views.—*Boston Bulletin.*

CITY.—On Tuesday, a Court of Common Council was held, to consider the order of the House of Lords respecting the production of the financial accounts of the City.—A Report from the Court of Aldermen was read, which was of opinion that the accounts demanded by the Lords should be given.—Mr Dixon moved that strangers should withdraw. This motion was about to be opposed by Mr. GALLOWAY; but at the Lord Mayor intimated, that if any Member moved that strangers should withdraw, that withdrawal must take place as a matter of course, Mr G. desisted, and the Court was cleared of strangers.—A discussion then arose on the question of opening the Court to strangers.—Mr FIGGINS strongly censured the conduct of some one, who, on the last exclusion of strangers, had yet given to the press an account of the proceedings, "in violation of their sacred oath not to communicate any secret that ought to be kept by a Member of that Court."—After a long debate it was decided in the negative, by 70 to 60.—The Report of the Court of Aldermen was finally agreed to—that is, the accounts called for by the Lords will be presented.—Mr Alderman WOOD is understood to have charged two Noble Lords—(Durham and Londonderry) with having been actuated by selfish, not public, motives, in their opposition to the Corporation, as their private interests had been operated upon by the breaking up of certain regulations for the measurement of coals sent from the Tyne and Wear.

MISS WRIGHT.—Extract of a letter from New York, dated April 30, 1829:—"Miss Frances Wright has been in New York for two or three months past, giving lectures on knowledge, in opposition to the Christian Religion, and the Yankees here say, that if ever religion tottered from its foundation, it does so at this moment. Miss W. was born in Dundee. Her eloquence passes everything in former times: those that have heard the great Mrs Siddons yield the supremacy to the former. Miss W. is editor of a weekly paper entitled the *Free Enquirer*, in conjunction with R. D. Owen, son of Owen the philanthropist, and a Mr Jennings. It meets with a rapid sale, and they are generally obliged to throw off a second series. Miss W. contends, that no republic can exist, unless education is equally divided among the rich and the poor, even where the fanaticism and superstition of the present day are thrown off. There is no lecture of her's but can be listened to even by the greatest fanatic, with pleasure. Her arguments are the strongest, the most forcible, the most impressive and conclusive, that human imagination can invent. I confess, I myself felt a little startled, and begin to consider whether it can be a delusion which pervades the civilized world. Miss Wright, however, has met with powerful opposition. Just before locating herself here, every effort was made by the priest-going community to prevent the transportation of the mail on Sunday. Innumerable petitions were presented to Congress—it was referred to a Select Committee, and that Committee reported, that the Government of the United States was not a religious but a civil Government—that it would be an infringement upon the rights of the community to suppress the Sunday mail; and that while it acknowledged one sect of religionists, it tolerates another sect, viz. the Jews, who enjoyed equal rights with any other denomination."—*Dublin Evening Post.*

NEWSPAPER CHAT.

HUMBLE ORIGIN.—Sir Peter Laurie, one of the Aldermen of London, and Sir Richard Birnie, the head police magistrate in England, are both natives of Scotland, and both commenced their career together in London as apprentice saddlers, with Mr Godsmann, son of that Captain Godsmann whose name is as familiar as a household word in Inverness, from the circumstance of his having formed one of the most beautiful and romantic walks in the vicinity of the town.—*Inverness Courier.*

USEFUL BEQUEST.—A General Anderson, who died in India some time since, left upwards of fifty thousand pounds towards the erection of an Institution in the "good town" of Elgin, for the joint purposes of affording education to the young and support to the aged. The whole sum will immediately be devoted to the objects for which it was bequeathed.

ATONEMENT.—When Fauntleroy was under sentence of death, one Edmund Angolia petitioned the Lord Mayor to be permitted to take that sinner's place. Upon being told that it was against all justice for one man to be hanged for another, he replied, that our Saviour had died as an atonement for the sins of others, and he did not see why he could not be allowed to do so too. He was dismissed as being little better than mad.

TAKING BACHELORS.—The Senate of Ohio have passed a resolution to tax old bachelors, for the support of schools.

UNDER THE ROSE.—When roses were first brought from Italy to England, they were consecrated as presents from the Pope, and placed over the gates of confessionals as the symbols of secrecy. Hence, it is said, the meaning of the French phrase, "under the rose."

DOCTORS DIFFER.—The English Calvinist Missionary, who, on his passage to India, used, he says, during his pauses from sea-sickness, to receive much comfort from the perusal of "Evans on the eternal damnation of Sinners," must have been made of very different stuff from Father Alexander de Rhodes. The contemplation of the never-ending tortures of so many of his fellow creatures, instead of comforting, afflicted the poor Catholic teacher:—"Alas! (he exclaimed) I have often made the calculation, that every year at least five millions of Chinese descend into hell."

LONG GRACES.—Some time ago, a tailor who was in the practice of going from house to house, shaping, sewing, &c.; had occasion to be with the ruling Elder of the parish. Amongst the many other oddities by which the Elder was known, was his custom of repeating long graces,—they being, as the tailor jocosely remarked, "liker riven-up prayers, or sleeves o' sermons, than graces." On the day in question, the Elder's dining table (there being no bread on it) was graced with an oatmeal pudding; and, during the time the Elder was humming over his benediction, the tailor gobbled it up. The grace being finished, the Elder seemed quite fierce at the tailor's want of decorum; when the itinerant knight of the thimble replied, "that he should either say shorter graces, or that the gudewife should mak' lauger puddings."—*Dundee Advertiser.*

METHODIST CHARITY.—At a camp meeting which was held about six miles from this place (New York) a Preacher took occasion to inveigh in no very measured terms against the infidel principles that prevail in the neighbourhood; and, passing from principles to men, all whose opinions were heterodox shared his censure. At length, warmed with his subject, he burst forth into the following short and pithy exclamation: "And as for that wicked wretch, Tom Paine, he's dead and in hell, thank God!"—*Free Enquirer*,—a New York weekly publication edited by Frances Wright, Robert Dale Owen (son of the celebrated R. O.) and Robert L. Jennings.

WIT OF THE IRISH BAR.—It may not be known to all who hear me, says Mr Yates, that in an Irish Court of Justice every opportunity is eagerly embraced for a display of wit or joke, even upon the most serious subject, from his Lordship on the bench to the lowest officer of the Court. In a case of assault, the following dialogue took place:—*Barrister to Plaintiff:* Pray, Sir, did the defendant give you a good sound bating?—*Plaintiff:* Faith he did; just as nate a drubbing as yourself got the other day at the fut of *Nelson's Pillar*.—*Barrister:* My Lord, I appeal to the Court!—*Judge:* The Court, Sir, can never refuse its protection to a man who has bled under the immortal *Nelson*.—*Scots Times.*

On Thursday Mr Green made a second ascent in his balloon, on the upper Bristol road. At five-and-twenty-minutes to six, the balloon rose in majestic style in an easterly direction, but when it had ascended to a considerable height it got into a different current of air, and was carried rapidly towards the south-east. It remained in sight about a quarter of an hour, when it became lost in the distance. Mr Green experienced extreme difficulty in the management of the machine, and was compelled to cut holes in the silk to effect his descent; in accomplishing which the grappling rope broke, and he was dragged across two fields and a turnpike road, sustaining very considerable injury in his right knee and wrist, and a serious fracture of the thumb. He descended at a quarter past six, on Alderhill common, about two miles from Fordingbridge in Hants, being a distance of full fifty miles, accomplished in little more than about forty minutes.—*Bath Chronicle.*

CANNIBAL OF SUMATRA.—A stout, ferocious-looking fellow came in as I was conversing on cannibalism, and was pointed out to me as a celebrated marksman and man-eater. He gave me the following horrid details of cannibalism:—He said that young men were soft, and their flesh watery. The most agreeable and delicate eating was that of a man whose hair had begun to turn gray.—*Anderson's Sumatra.*

HARMONICON.—In the "Diary of a Dilettante" for the present month, a description of Mr Fiebig's musical instrument, called the *Kaliflhongon*, has been extracted from the *Examiner*, without the slightest acknowledgment from the writer in that department of the Magazine. The paragraph itself is a trifling one in every respect, and the omission on the part of the adopter would have passed by us unheeded, as numberless similar acts of discourtesy have been, did we not suspect, from the painful solicitude manifested by the same writer in blazoning his authorities from other quarters, that the omission as regards ourselves was not a casualty.—We are quite sure that the respectable publisher of the *Harmonicon* will not sanction by his countenance this species of literary petty-larceny.

OFFICIAL MESSENGER.—Captain Grose of the Madras army, who was killed at the siege of Seringapatam, was son of Grose the antiquary. Having had occasion to make some communication to head quarters, he was received much in the usual manner by one of the understrappers, who told him that no verbal communications could be received, but that what he had to say must be sent through the medium of an official letter. He happened, some days afterwards, to have a party dining with him, and among others were a few members of the staff. In the midst of dinner a jacksa came running among the tent ropes, exerting his vocal organs in a manner by no means pleasing to the company. Grose immediately rose, and thus addressed the intruder: "I presume, Sir, you come from head-quarters. I receive no verbal communications whatever, Sir. If you have anything to say to me, Sir, I beg you will commit it to paper."

UNGRACIOUS QUESTION.—Miss Hannah Dennis, in Wayne county, New York, has pocketed 500 dollars of Mr John A. Stewart's money, because he did not do as he said about marrying her. If it cost him 500 dollars not to marry her, how much would it have cost him if he had married her?—*Boston Paper.*

TIGHT LACING.—Dr Warren reports, in the Boston Medical Journal, a case of "Neuralgia of the Trunk." At the conclusion, he remarks:—"At what period of life the distortion in this girl occurred, I was unable to ascertain. I was led to suspect it to be brought on by girding her chest, with the intention of improving her shape. It is well known that this practice is a frequent cause of Pleuralgia in young ladies. The pain thus caused is generally in the muscles."—A note appended to the article contains the following statement:—"I cannot omit the present opportunity of stating, that the same practice frequently causes a deep-seated, obstinate pain in the head, which no bleedings relieve for any length of time. The cause of this pain is the interruption of the blood through the descending aorta; in consequence of which it is thrown with unnatural force on the brain, and brings on a permanent derangement of the organ. The pain in the head, thus produced, has terminated in insanity, in three cases within my knowledge,—two of which have proved fatal."

CANINE MISTAKE.—A Newfoundland dog, which attended his master to the exhibition of the Panorama of Geneva, at Boston (America), after wagging his tail at the delightful prospect before him, made a plunge at the canvass, intending to refresh himself in the Lake. No injury was sustained, other than the disappointment of the quadruped.

SENSIBILITY.—Latour Maubourg lost his leg at the battle of Leipsic. After he had suffered amputation with the greatest courage, he saw his servant crying, or pretending to cry, in one corner of the room. "None of your hypocritical tears, you idle dog," said his master, "you know you are very glad, for now you will have only one boot to clean instead of two."

A merchant in the lower end of South street, New York, sent on Friday to an acquaintance for the return of 250 dollars which had been borrowed, and was informed that it was returned the day before. On inquiry, it appeared that a lad had carried it to the merchant's counting-room, inquired for him, and was answered by the only person there, that he would be in soon.—"I have some money for him," said the lad. "I can take it," said the man. He did so; afterwards took himself off, and has not been taken.—*American Paper.*

A BASHFUL BEEFEATER.—A facetious fellow used to say, that he had eaten so much beef for the last six months, that he was ashamed to look a bullock in his face.—*American Paper.*

AN ESCAPE.—During the late terrible fire in Augusta, an infant having been laid on a bed and something light thrown over it, a stranger, gathering up the bed; flung it together with the child out of the second story. The frightened mother on hastening down stairs found her infant uninjured.—*American Paper.*

CUPID'S LAST FROLIC.—Married on Wednesday last, Mr _____ aged 66, to Miss Orpha Wilson, aged 22. [The next day, she fell suddenly in love with her youthful husband's old horse, and they privately eloped together. They were last seen on the way to Canada—the man in full chase. We mention this as a caution to all "gentle swains" to guard alike their hearts and their horses against this love-making lady, as we understand this is not the first of her pranks.]—*Vermont Paper.*

M. Casimir Delavigne, we hear, has sold his manuscript of *Marino Faliero* (a new and successful play) for the sum of 13,000*l.*—*Paris Paper.*

Mr Victor, the celebrated French tragedian, is in London, and proposes to give Dramatic Lectures at the Argyll Rooms, in his own language, towards the end of the present month.

DREADFUL THREAT.—It is confidently reported (says the *Chronicle*) that if Mr George Banks, the brother of Mr William Banks, who was unsuccessful at the last two elections for the University of Cambridge, should also fail, *the Old Gentleman*, their father—[the Devil!]—will be brought forward on a future occasion.

BEST OR WORST.

TIME-SERVING Judges of a former age,
Still on record, are JEFFRIES and PAGE.
How can their equal merits be expressed,
To shew which knave is Worst, or which is Best?

ANSWER.

With such like rascals when the times are curst,
'Tis hard to tell you which is Best or Worst.
But now we see, whoever holds the scales,
That Justice equally with all prevails!
The present times with no such Judges curst,
Make no distinction now of Best and Worst.
E'en HUNT must own, whoever holds the scales,
Justice alike with every Judge prevails.

June 2d, 1829.

LAW.

OLD BAILEY.

KENSINGTON MURDER.—On Friday, *Thomas Birmingham* was tried for the murder of *Sarah Waite*, alias *Mary Ann Brown*. The evidence adduced was the same as that brought forward at the various examinations, accounts of which have already appeared in this paper, with the exception of that of the girl who said she slept with Birmingham on the night of the murder. She was not put into the witness-box on this occasion.—*Trevett*, the foot-patrol, who saw a man with the deceased on the night in question, now swore that he could not be certain whether the pris-

not was that man or not: he thought the man was 5 feet 3 or 4 inches high; the prisoner was 5 feet 8 inches.—*Leigh*, a man confined in the New Prison, Clerkenwell, repeated his evidence respecting his conversation with Birmingham, when lodged there, the fact of his starting up in the night in a fright, exclaiming, "By Jesus, I have done it, Mary!" and his agitation when the newspaper was brought in with an account of the murder.—*Arundel*, another prisoner, confirmed the last witness's account of his agitation when the paper was read.—*Lieut. Ives* deposed that the prisoner had lived with him three years, and gave him an excellent character.—Several soldiers were examined; some of them said they must have seen the prisoner leave the barracks at Knightsbridge, had he gone out on the night in question, after he had been in bed; one, *Jonah Bradley*, said, he certainly could have left the barracks without being perceived.—Two witnesses gave *Leigh* a bad character, and said they would not believe him on his oath.—It was proved that the prisoner knew the deceased, though he had denied that fact.

The Judge, Baron HULLOCK, summed up the evidence, and told the Jury there was no evidence to convict the prisoner unless they thought the testimony of *Leigh* could be depended upon.

The Jury, in a short time, brought in a verdict of *Not Guilty*.

Thomas Birmingham, who is a good-looking young man, exhibited the greatest composure during the trial, and when the verdict was delivered. The Court was crowded: the Duke of Sussex and Earl Grey were on the Bench.

MIDDLESEX SESSIONS.

ALLEGED NUISANCE.—*Thos. Rogers* and *Edw. Maclean* were on Tuesday indicted for a nuisance, alleged to arise from the number of persons assembled to look at the caricatures exhibited in their shop window, in St Martin's-court, who blocked up the passage, which was only just there five feet wide, and made it so disagreeable to the passengers, that many unpleasant altercations and obstructions constantly occurred.—Several of the neighbours proved that such was the fact, and that the crowd was such as to keep persons from going into the contiguous shops: When the Defendants were spoken to, they said they would go away if they were paid 150*l.*—For the defence, Mr ALLEY contended that there never had been such an indictment before; that a man had a right to exhibit his productions to the eye of the passers-by; and that if the people who assembled committed any nuisance, it was the duty of the Police to remove them.

The CHAIRMAN was strongly of opinion that it was a nuisance to do anything that led to the obstruction of a common thoroughfare, and that the Defendants were guilty of the offence.

The Jury without a moment's hesitation returned a verdict of *Not Guilty*.

The CHAIRMAN: "I expected this would be the case. You had better (to Mr Adolphus) have gone to the King's Bench."

Mr ADOLPHUS: "We shall still go there."

ALLEGED ASSAULT.—*Thos. Bodger*, a man of respectable appearance was indicted for making a criminal attack upon Elizabeth Faringdon, a pretty looking woman, who stated her case with infinite fluency and self-possession. Her husband, she said, was a carpenter, in the service of the Defendant, who lived in Kirby street, Hatton garden. The Defendant came to her house at Islington in January last, gave her a gown for keeping his house clean, said he would be her friend, took her on his knee, and proceeded to improper familiarities, which she resisted. He desisted and left the house. She was afraid to tell her husband, lest he should lose his employment. The Defendant came again in February—took her again on his knee, and attempted to act as before: and this conduct he repeated the following week, with the like want of success. In March, he discharged her husband from his service, and then she told him of his shameful behaviour. Her husband was in a great passion, and threatened to go to the Defendant; but she persuaded him not to go. Two days after, she went herself to him, to get the balance of wages due to her husband. She went up stairs to him, as he had promised not to insult her again; but he soon commenced to take liberties with her as before.

The CHAIRMAN to Mr C. Phillips: "Well, what do you make of this?"

Mr PHILLIPS: "I leave it in the hands of the Court."

Mr ADOLPHUS said it was an infamous attempt to extort money.

The CHAIRMAN thought it would be sufficient to bind the Defendant over to keep the peace; but after some conversation, a verdict of *Not Guilty* was returned, on the Defendant's agreeing to pay the costs of the prosecution.

POLICE.

MANSION HOUSE.

AMIALE INTERFERENCE.—Mr Stockdale, the staunch Anti-Catholic, and Publisher of *Harriet Wilson's Memoirs*, addressed the Magistrates, wishing them to interfere in order to induce Mr Cundy, the uncle of a daughter of Mrs Stamp Sutton Cooke, the convicted swindler, now under sentence of transportation, to give her up to her mother, who was anxious to take her to New South Wales. The Publisher of *Harriet Wilson's Memoirs* urged his application with his usual "modest assurance," alleging that Mrs Stamp Sutton Cooke was anxious to take all her children into exile with her, in order to have them brought up and educated strictly in the principles of morality; that the child in question (the eldest daughter) had claims, too, on the barony of Stafford, which were one day to be settled; that her uncle, however, refused his consent, having objects of his own to effect, &c.—The MAGISTRATES declined to interfere; and said they thought the child had better remain with her uncle.—Mr Stockdale hoped that justice would be done to his motives in interfering, and

left the Court.—"Really," said Alderman ATKINS (looking sideways at the Lord Mayor), it is very kind of Mr Stockdale to interest himself so much about a person in misfortune.—"Upon my word it is," said the LORD MAYOR, "it shows such excellent moral feeling. It is a delightful thing to see the warm manner in which some gentlemen advocate the cause of humanity. How kind and considerate they are!"—"Yes," observed Alderman COPELAND, "and to step out of their way, too, to do good—no praise can be too great for it. I have good reason to believe that Mr Stockdale is as busy as possible at this moment in getting up the *Memoirs of Mrs Stamp Sutton Cooke!* (Loud laughter.)

BOW STREET.

FALSE CHARGE.—On Tuesday, Mr *Elmore*, of Portman square, appeared to answer a charge of bastardy brought by *Eliza Roberts*, who swore that he was the father of the child she had in her arms, of which she was delivered in September 1828. A long discussion took place, and the witness was cross-examined, when she said the only intimacy that had taken place was at a house in Woodstock street, and that Mr *Elmore*, in whose service she had lived, had seduced her. Mr *Lane*, the surgeon who had attended her, deposed that on the morning after her delivery, she told him that a young man named *Cooper* was the father, who would pay him his bill. This *Cooper* had promised, but had failed to do so.—Mrs *Norris*, with whom *Eliza Roberts* lodged, deposed that *Cooper* frequently slept with her, and that he admitted he was the father of the child.—Notwithstanding this strong evidence in favour of Mr *Elmore*, Mr *MINSHULL* persisted in thinking the case ought to be sent for trial to the Sessions!—Mr *ADOLPHUS*, with some warmth, opposed this course, as one that would be injurious to Mr *Elmore*. He called Mr *Bryant*, surgeon, of Edgware road, who testified that he had attended *Eliza Roberts* in 1826, when she was labouring under a certain discreditable disease.—Mr *MINSHULL* still was not satisfied.—Mr *ADOLPHUS* said, it was too bad; and if this course was adopted, any infamous woman might father her bastards upon whom she pleased. He then called Mr *Lane* again, who stated that some time after the birth of the child, the complainant told him that *Cooper* had treated her very ill, and had gone away to France. The parish officers, she said, had asked her if there was no other person on whom she could fix the fatherhood of the child, when she mentioned Mr *Elmore* as a man of fortune, who could afford to keep the child; and she added, that if Mr *Lane* would support her, it would be worth more than ten guineas to him, besides having his bill paid.—Mr *MINSHULL* now said, upon this additional evidence, he should dismiss the case.—Case dismissed.

QUEEN SQUARE.

INHUMAN CONDUCT.—Nelson, a beadle belonging to St Luke's, Chelsea, brought to this office a female, between 20 and 30 years of age, in a coach, in order that she might be passed to Marylabonne, to which she belonged. The poor creature being unable to walk, was carried into the office, groaning with the greatest agony. She was in labour, and had been in that state for some time; but, at the risk of her life, the parish officers of St Luke's, Chelsea, had caused her to be conveyed before the Magistrates, to be passed to her own parish.—Mr *GREGORIE* censured the beadle in the strongest terms for bringing a female in such a condition to the office, and refused to pass her. The Magistrate then sent for Mr *Painter*, surgeon, of the Broadway, and requested him to go back with the poor woman to Chelsea Workhouse; which was immediately complied with. Mr *GREGORIE* told the beadle, if anything happened to the woman, he would take care that he should be severely punished for his conduct; and that as the case stood at present, it was more than probable he would have the gold lace taken off his coat.

ACCIDENTS, OFFENCES, &c.

SUICIDE.—On Thursday morning a shocking act of suicide took place in Cobham-row, Clerkenwell. A young man, about 24 years of age, named *John East*, a compositor, whilst at breakfast, infused a quantity of arsenic in his tea, and drank it off. His wife observed him introduce the drug, but was unconscious of its being poison. She, however, attempted to seize the cup, but before she could do so he had swallowed the contents. The dreadful effects soon presented themselves; and the poor woman, in a state of distraction, ran into the street and gave an alarm. The unhappy man was carried to St Bartholomew's Hospital, where every means were resorted to in vain, and he died shortly after his arrival. Distress from want of employment is said to have been the cause of the act.

A weaver named *Gregson*, upwards of 80 years of age, last week committed suicide by throwing himself into a pit near Preston, with a bag of stones appended to each leg.—*Bolton Chronicle*.

DEATH FROM STARVATION!—An Inquest was held, on Friday, at Willesden, on the body of a young man, named *George Mason*, aged 19, who died on Tuesday in a barn belonging to Mrs *Hallett*. It appeared that the unfortunate lad had in vain sought for work among the farmers, and for relief everywhere. Mrs *Hallett* found him on Saturday lying exhausted in a field, but the landlords of the Green Man and Crown would not give him a bed even on her humane application. She then had him placed in the barn, gave him warm coffee and bread and butter, but the latter he had not strength enough to swallow, such was his deplorable condition! In the night, she gave him some gruel, but he could not keep it on his stomach. She sent for medical aid, and cordials were administered him. It was all too late—the poor creature breathed his last on Tuesday.—Mr *Sheppard*, surgeon, testified that the death of the youth was caused by starvation and exposure to cold.—A verdict to that effect was returned.

A GANG OF MURDERERS IN AMERICA.—WILMINGTON, April 17.—We stated briefly in our paper of Friday, some circumstances respecting a most diabolical course of conduct which, for some years past, has been carried on in Sussex county, in this state, the evidences of which have just been brought to light; and promised to give further particulars.—From our correspondent's account we gather the following particulars:—About ten days previous to his writing, a tenant, who lives on the farm where Patty Cannon and her son-in-law, the celebrated Joseph Johnson, negro trader, lived for many years, in North West Fork Hundred, near the Maryland line, was ploughing in the field, where a heap of brush has been lying for years, when his horse sunk in a grave, and on digging, he found a blue painted chest, and in it the bones of a man.—The news flew like wild-fire, and people from many miles around, visited the place; among whom it was universally agreed that a negro trader from Georgia, named Bell, had been murdered, by Johnson and his gang, about 10 or 12 years ago, and that the bones now discovered were those of one of them; as the man or men had been missed about that time, and the horse on which one of them rode was found at Patty Cannon's, who laid claim to the animal, until a person from Maryland, who had lent the horse, came forward and claimed his property; and she alleged that Bell or Miller had sailed with a cargo of negroes for the South. Since that time he has not been heard of, and it is said that a few days before he was missed, he was heard to say that he had with him fifteen thousand dollars with which he proposed to purchase negroes. The excitement produced by this discovery was very great, and on the 2d instant, one of Johnson's gang, named Cyrus James, was brought before a justice of the peace at Seaford, and on examination stated that Joseph Johnson, Ebenezer F. Johnson and old Patty Cannon, had shot the man while at supper, and that he saw them all engaged in burying him; and stated, moreover, that many others also had been killed, and that he could show where they had been buried. The officers accordingly accompanied him to the places pointed out. In a garden they dug and found the body of a young child, the mother of which, he stated, was a negro woman belonging to Patty Cannon, which, being a mulatto, she had killed for the reason that she supposed its father to be one of her own family. Another place was then pointed out, when two oak boxes were found, each of which contained human bones. Those in one of them had been those of a person about seven years of age, which James said he saw Patty Cannon knock on the head with a billet, and the other contained those of one, whom he said they considered had property. As there was at the time much stir about the children, and there was no convenient opportunity to send them away, they were murdered to prevent discovery. On examining the skull bone of the largest child, it was discovered to have been broken as described by James.—This fellow, James, was raised by Patty Cannon, having been bound to her at the age of seven years, and is said to have done much mischief for her and Johnson.—Another witness, by the name of Butler, had already been secured; and it is thought that some others will be brought forward who are acquainted with the bloody deeds of Patty and Joe.—This woman is now between 60 and 70 years of age, and looks more like a man than a woman. Patty Cannon had been lodged in the jail at Georgetown.—James and Butler were also placed there at the same time. James stated that he had not shown all the places where murdered bodies had been buried, and at the time of writing, the people were still digging. Joe Johnson, who is said to be residing, at this time, in Alabama, is stated to have been seen in this State in December or January last; and the probability is, that his business here was to do something at his old business of kidnapping. He was convicted of this crime some years since at Georgetown, and suffered the punishment of the lash and the pillory on account of it. He is a man of some celebrity, having, for many years, carried on the traffic of stealing and selling negroes, in which he was aided and instructed by the old hag, Patty Cannon, whose daughter he married, after she had lost a former husband on the gallows. The former husband of Joe's wife was hung for the murder of a negro trader, the plan for which is said to have been arranged at her mother's house.—It would appear probable that such developments may be expected as will present the wretched actors in the scenes of blood which have taken place in Sussex county, as successful rivals in depravity of the infamous Burke, whose bloody deeds in Scotland have occupied so large a portion of the public prints.—*Del. Gaz.*

ELOPEMENT AND ATTEMPTED SUICIDE.—On Saturday morning, a young gentleman named R. attempted to destroy himself under the following circumstances:—From some family differences, Mr R. who is about 19 years of age, had resided for the last six months at the house of his uncle, solicitor, Euston place. An ardent attachment had taken place between Mr R. and his youngest cousin, a young lady of considerable personal attractions, and highly accomplished. About a week ago, Mr R. disclosed his views to his uncle, in the hope of obtaining his consent to a marriage, which was steadfastly rejected by the parent. While matters were in this situation, the lover prevailed on his innamorata to elope with him to Gretna. The lady consented, and they were on the eve of effecting their escape on Friday morning, when surprised by the father of the lady. The parties were separated, and the following morning the lady was sent off to Tiverton. The desperation of the lover was so great, that a person was appointed to attend on him by his uncle. Appearing somewhat composed on Saturday morning, he said to the attendant, "Hand me a small smelling-bottle you will find on the toilet-table." The attendant did as he was desired, when Mr R. emptied the contents, which proved to be laudanum. Two medical gentlemen, named L'Estrange and Lambert, were called in, and, by the prompt application of the stomach-pump, succeeded in emptying the stomach of the poison, and saving the young gentleman's life.

MURDER.—On Tuesday the body of *Thomas Midwinter Bliss* of Watchfield, near Faringdon, who possessed a little independent property, was found dead by the roadside, his skull dreadfully fractured. Bliss was about 50 years of age, rather weak in his intellects, but particularly good natured and inoffensive. On Monday he had been taking his evening glass of beer at the *Barrington's Arms*, in *Shrivenham*; a man named *Pocock* and several others were in the house, and on the company being about to depart, Bliss was asked if he was not going home: he replied he should stay a little longer, as he feared, if he went with them, *Pocock* would play off some trick upon him. He, however, soon went out, and it is supposed passed the party. A Coroner's inquest was held on the body; the jury deliberated two days, and they returned a verdict of "Wilful Murder against some person or persons unknown." On Thursday, three Magistrates summoned all the suspected parties before them; and, after a long investigation, it came out in evidence, that the deceased was sitting in the hedge, and as two of the men who had before been his companions passed, one of them threw a large stone at him, which knocked him down. The other, seeing the deceased fall, exclaimed, "You have killed old Bliss!" to which the fellow who flung the stone replied, "If I have not, I will do it," and immediately went back and finished the bloody deed! There being strong reason to believe that *Henry Pocock* was the murderer, he was fully committed to take his trial for the offence. *Pocock* is a stout young man, and has lately been carrier between *Watchfield* and *Henley*.—*Reading Mercury.*

A melancholy accident took place at the gunpowder-mills of Messrs *Curtis and Harvey*, on *Hounslow* heath: on Wednesday morning, at eleven o'clock, the corning-mills exploded, to which the lives of two men fell a sacrifice. Not the slightest cause can be attributed. One of the sufferers has worked in the same capacity for fifteen years. They both have left families. The names of the unfortunate men sacrificed are, *Robert Barrett*, aged 37; and *Henry Bird*, aged 28.—Within the last three years, no less than three explosions have taken place on the site where the present catastrophe occurred. So great was the shock, that the whole of the extensive premises are more or less injured. The elegant Mansion of *Lady Tollemache*, at *Hanworth*, suffered considerably, the windows being completely demolished; her Ladyship's steward, named *Stokes*, was leaning out of a window, and was literally knocked backwards, the fragments of glass striking him in various parts of the body. The corning house was blown to shivers, huge masses of brick-work, portions of large iron wheels and planks of timber, lying in various directions; the surrounding trees are quite destroyed. *Barrett* was discovered about fifty feet from the corning house: both his legs were blown off: his death must have been instantaneous, his head being crushed flat. *Bird* was found in a much more horrid condition; his body was nearly severed just above the hips; both his thighs and legs were laid open to the bones, every other bone in the body was broken. An Inquest was held on Thursday. It appeared that, at the time of the accident, there were ten barrels of powder in the corning house, each weighing 1 cwt.; but no one could in any way account for the accident.—Verdict "That the deceased were killed by the accidental explosion of the Corning House."—*Barrett* has left a widow and six children, and *Bird* a widow and four children.

SUICIDE.—The dead body of a gentleman was on Sunday found in a field near *Charlton*, in *Kent*, dressed in deep mourning, the head nearly blown off. A shattered pistol was soon after discovered near the corpse. Papers in the pocket of the deceased proved that his name was *Gustavus W. Peipers*; his friends were applied to, and an inquest was held on the body on Monday. *Mr Hayes*, broker, of *Cornhill*, said he knew the deceased, who was a merchant from *Cologne*, living in *Great Cornhill* street. He saw him on the preceding Thursday, when he seemed in a state of agitation. He was a wine-merchant in great business; a single man; was the holder of many foreign bills, which might have given him anxiety; but he could not assign any cause for the suicide.—A verdict of *Lunacy* was returned.—The following document was found in the pocket of the deceased, in his own hand-writing:—"This is the body of *Gustavus Peipers*, from *Cologne*, in *Germany*, aged 26 years.—Misfortune has brought him to the extremity of killing himself.—Living without honour is worse than death.—He dies near some friendly soul, and hopes to be regretted by those who have known him.—6th of June, 1829."

MARRIED.
On the 9th inst, *Adam Duff*, Esq. third son of *R. W. Duff*, Esq. of *Petterness Castle*, *Kincardineshire*, to *Eleanor*, eldest daughter of the late *Capt. T. Fraser*.
On the 9th inst, the *Rev. Wm. Brownlow*, A.M. of *Pembroke College*, *Oxford*, to *Fanny*, only daughter of *R. J. Chambers*, of the *Middle Temple*, Esq. and granddaughter of the late *Sir Robert Chambers*, Chief Justice of *Bengal*.
On the 9th inst. at *Bramdean*, Hants, *Sir John Maxwell Tylden*, of *Milford*, *Kent*, to *Elizabeth*, only daughter of the *Rev. Henry Lomax Walsh*, LL.D. of *Grimblesthorpe*.
On Saturday week, at *Northill church*, *Mr Elger*, of *South street*, *Crover* square, to *Catherine*, youngest daughter of the late *G. Inskip*, Esq. of *Caldecott*.
At *Edinburgh*, *Charles Fergusson*, Esq. advocate, eldest son of *Sir James Fergusson*, Bart. to *Helena*, second daughter of the *Right Hon. David Boyle*, Lord Justice Clerk.
On Thursday, at *Edmonton*, *John Joseph Blake*, Esq. of *Brampton*, *North*, eldest son of *John Blake*, Esq. of *Norwich*, to *Susanna*, eldest daughter of *Charles L. Hoggart*, Esq. of *Oak Lodge*, *Southgate*.
Lately, at *Hunstanton*, after a courtship of three hours, *Mr T. Magye*, of *Pilmore*, to *Miss Hannah Horsley*, of *Morton*. The bridegroom is 75 years of age, and had five wives before he was struck with this girl of 17.

DIED.
On the 9th inst. at his house in *Fenchurch buildings*, *Henry Rivington*, Esq. aged 74.

On the 21st ult. at Wisbaden, of apoplexy, the reigning Duke of Oldenbourg.
On the 29th ult. at Geneva. Sir Humphrey Davy, in his 51st year, of a paralytic complaint, under which he had suffered for some months at Rome. Lady Davy was with him. His remains were accompanied to the grave by many eminent persons resident at Geneva. Members of the Academies, &c.

A few days ago, Lord Thurlow; he was eldest son of Thomas Thurlow, Lord Bishop of Durham, brother to Lord Chancellor Thurlow. He succeeded to the dignity of Baron Thurlow upon the Chancellor's death, by virtue of a special limitation in the patent of creation. He held the following offices:—Registrar in the Court of Chancery; Patentee of the Bankrupts' Office; Clerk of the Court of the Bishop of Lincoln; Clerk of the Hanaper. The deceased was Custodian of Lunatics and Idiots, and Clerk of the Hanaper. The deceased was born in 1781, and married, in 1812, Miss Mary Bolton, many years on the Covent garden stage. He is succeeded by his eldest son, Edward Thomas, about fifteen years of age.

On the 9th inst. at Lord Wallace's house, Portman square, the Dowager Viscountess Melville.

On Sunday last, at Norwich, aged 39, Mr C. N. Bolingbroke. Only sixteen days before, he followed to the tomb the remains of a tenderly-beloved wife. Five children remain to deplore their loss.

On the 6th inst. at Milton, Cambridgeshire, in his 39th year, Samuel Knight, Esq. of Impington House.

At Ryde, in child-bed, Hannah Jane, wife of Sir Henry Thompson, Bart. In Winchester, Aaron Fernandez Nuñez, Esq. of Basing Park, Hampshire. In Devonshire street, the Hon. Thomas Stapleton, eldest son of the Right Hon. Lord Le Despencer.

In Bath, Sir William Burroughs, Bart. of Castle Bagehaw, Cavan, Ireland. Lately, in his 100th year, Mr Edward Whittle, of Fulwood Moor, near Preston. He is uncle to twenty children, and great uncle to sixty. He retained his mental and bodily vigour till within a few days of his death.

On the 10th of May, while addressing the Jury in the Court of Common Pleas at Concord, the Hon. Ezekiel Webster.—*Massachusetts Spy*.

In Edgefield (S. C.) March 17, Tom, a negro man belonging to Mrs Bacon, of the great age of 130 years. He died from the gradual waste of nature, without any disease, and apparently without pain.—*Massachusetts Spy*.

At Castletown, Queen's County, Thomas Dunn, gardener, aged 106. He retained the full vigour of his understanding until within a few months of his death.

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By Order of the Committee.

ROBERT CHRISTIE, Secretary.

No. 29 Southampton buildings, Chancery lane,
8th June, 1829.

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