

THE EXAMINER.

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THE POLITICAL EXAMINER.

If I might give a short hint to an impartial writer, it would be to tell him his fate. If he resolves to venture upon the dangerous precipice of telling unblinded truth, let him proclaim war with mankind *à la mode la page de Pole*—neither to give nor to take quarter. If he tells the crimes of great men, they fall upon him with the iron hands of the law; if he tells their virtues, when they have any, then the mob attacks him with stones. But if he regards truth, let him expect martyrdom on both sides, and then he may go on fearless; and this is the course I take myself.—*Dr Fox.*

BRIBERY OR NO BRIBERY?

The decline and fall (in the market) of bribery richly deserves especial notice. Its very existence seems menaced. Men of all parties condemn it. Nay, it would appear a political fashion to decry it, and a species of legislative persecution is directed against it. But few have been found hardy enough to stem the popular tide flowing so strongly against this ancient portion of our Constitution, against principles and practices so long and so intimately interwoven with our institutions, and which have hitherto secured seats in the House of Commons to many a mute, inglorious patriot,—to men of worth, of abilities, and perchance of birth, whose qualifications for government might have remained for ever unknown, but for the purchase of a few sweet voices, in the Gattons and Old Sarums of the day, to proclaim their merits.

And why is this system disturbed? Has it not worked well. "It has ever been," says Tucker, "the advice of medical people, to keep sore places from being fretted; but it seems our modern *State Doctors* prescribe the use of continual fretting as an infallible means of cure." Why is it left to that good-natured champion of things as they are, Sir R. Inglis, and his patriotic and disinterested ally, the leader of the Tory press, to rush in, almost unsupported, and to warn the public against a too great horror of bribery; to guard them against the dangerous courses of Mr Roebuck and of the still more alarming precedent of Sir Robert Peel's Committee on Election Proceedings. Honour to them for their purity, courage, and virtue!

Mr Roebuck's known propensities for destructiveness, and Sir R. Peel's ill-concealed Liberalism, are rendered harmless whilst the *Times* and Sir R. Inglis are in the lists to resist them. Mr Roebuck's Committee, it is announced, has only made a "stir," and his labours have ended in a "substantial nullity." Sir R. Peel, too, is said to have seen the error of his ways; and since the dissolution of the Committee of Inquisitors, bribery has ventured forth again to endeavour to assert her all but lost rights, modestly and in humbler guise, it is true, but still actively enough to show that, even under heavy blows and great discouragements of late, she is not wholly destitute of life and vigour.

The Duke of Wellington asked how the country was to be governed under the Reform Bill. We ask, How is a Parliament to be elected without bribery? From the times of the Plantagenets of old, to the Plantagenet of to-day, bribery has been at work sustaining our Constitution. The Statute of Westminster forbade any man, by malice, to disturb a free election, which, says Lord Coke, meant the *malice of money*. Happily for us, however, no Peel or Roebuck lived for a long time after, and the statute became a dead letter; and by the end of the last century it was stated in a petition to the House, that seats in Parliament were as notoriously rented and bought as the standings for cattle at a fair.

Now the wisdom of this disregard of antiquated virtue is obvious. The proceedings of the Tories of Nottingham demonstrate this beyond the possibility of cavil. A Mr William Hannay, a staunch Conservative, told the Committee we have referred to, that "the party"—that "party" on which alone our glorious Constitution rests, on which the Income Tax, the Corn Laws, Church Extension, Church Rates, exclusively depend for maintenance and defence—that "the party" to which he belonged

"Tried to get the borough for many years past, but had been generally unsuccessful. We tried the *purity system*; that was very derogatory to the feelings of the constituency. After that we put forward a gentleman who was very popular, a very humane and benevolent character amongst us; but that failed on account of funds, and we never had a chance till we got Mr Walter!"

And for aught we know, whilst we write, Mr

Walter may be again the representative of the worthy and independent burgesses of the ancient borough of Nottingham, who, but for a malicious disturbance of the election by money, might long ago have been able to devote his services to the public in this cruel crisis of our fate.

The election at Ipswich tends, however, slightly to set matters to rights. The standard of bribery may be lowered, but it is not lost. True it is, by the unguarded conduct of agents unaccustomed to retail bribery, the Ipswich election has for the moment failed. We are told, indeed, that if the decision of the Committee (another of Sir Robert Peel's Committees) on the Election Petition from Ipswich is to be sustained, hardly a seat is secure, and we believe it. The "purity system" is so derogatory to the feelings of gentlemen and constituents, that it is a mark of meanness to practise it. To buy votes and sell principles is the custom of the country and coeval with it. Sir R. Peel cannot, we think, ever mean to go so far as effectually to abolish it. "If," said he once, "by adopting the spirit of the Reform Bill, it be meant that we are to live in a perpetual vortex of agitation, that public men can only support themselves in public estimation by adopting every popular impression of the day; by promising the instant redress of anything which anybody may call an abuse; by abandoning altogether that great aid of Government, more powerful than either law or reason, the respect for ancient rights and the deference to prescriptive authority,—if this be the spirit of the Reform Bill, I will not undertake to adopt it."

We fear bribery is yet considered one amongst the ancient rights of many constituencies, which is still to be watched over by Conservative statesmen. The issue or not of the Ipswich writ will, however, test the sincerity of a good deal of declamation against it. We shall see whether the electors of Ipswich are to be abandoned or not, to a deference to those popular impressions, which, through the ill-timed agitation of Mr Roebuck, public men have been compelled to yield to, and to support themselves in public estimation, by consenting to adopt as their own.

Seriously, however, these popular impressions are very awkward things to deal with, and they are taking an unpleasant direction. Honourable Members get catechised in public. Conservative Ministers are silent, if not deaf, to the proceeding. They turn their backs upon their friends whilst they are lectured by Mr Roebuck, and look to a public out of doors for support! They have apparently resolved to bow to the popular impression, and to base the influence of the House of Commons upon a somewhat new-born zeal for purity of election.

But then what is the influence and authority of the House of Commons when stripped of the prescriptive support of bribery and treating? That is a question yet to be answered. Is it equal to sustain the Reform Bill in its integrity, when none shall "disturb any, to make free election," according to the long-forgotten statute of Edward? Can Corn Laws be maintained in an honest Parliament, when condemned alike by reason, authority, and justice? Can Cotton and Woollen and Hardware manufacturers be compelled to buy their food in the dearest market and to sell their merchandise in the cheapest; or Landlords continue to be the only men able to supply their wants in a free, open, and cheap market, and to sell their produce under the protection of monopoly? Will a House of Commons purely chosen sustain such a system as this? If it do, the time is not very far distant when the respect for ancient institutions will be greatly and justly impaired, and popular impressions will take a new direction towards another and a very decisive reform of that House, and an abatement of its pernicious power. But an honest House of Commons would not sustain such injustice. And still less can a dishonest House of Commons, even under the Reform Bill as it is, long do so.

How, indeed, is it possible that Members of Parliament, who stand exposed to view as deliberate purchasers of seats, can command the respect of the country,—men who never could have crossed the threshold of the House but for the money they spent, or the money they allowed others to spend, for the purchase of their seats?

Mr Attwood, for instance, pays at least 6,300*l.* for seats for himself and Major Beresford. Is the Corn Law much recommended to the starving multitudes by their votes?

Sir John Hobhouse and Sir G. Larpent spend 12,000*l.* to purchase their seats. Can the cause of

freedom, or of reform, be pleaded with effect by such advocates? Can they be listened to when they say, reform shall go so far, and no farther? Reformers must lose, and justly lose, their influence by being mixed up with such violations of the principles they profess, and of the cause which they advocate.

At Reading, again, the Conservative cause gained two votes, by spending 6,000*l.* Are Conservative principles recommended by such an expenditure? Certainly not. Principle is trampled under foot. Those members, Mr Russell and Lord Chelsea, by their own signed agreement, are pledged to "use their utmost endeavours to secure the election and return" of Mr Mills, whose principles are diametrically opposed to their own! Can such members call upon the people to obey the laws, when they set them an example of their violation? Turn to Penryn, again. There 4,000*l.* is spent by one member, and his colleague floats into Parliament upon this flood of corruption, to which he contributed nothing, and is to be floated out again by some unseen influence, over which he has no control!

Here are copious sources of future popular impressions! Contempt for such a Parliament—hostility to a Constitution which permits such glaring abuses to go unpunished—a want of confidence in all public men—anarchical impressions, too, perchance, which will be mixed up with so much justice, and so much mischief, that all government will become difficult, if not impracticable. A bribed Parliament cannot long sustain any Government that means to be no more than speciously, plausibly honest.

But how can a Conservative Government put down bribery? Bribery and treating are the make-weights in the scale against the feared preponderance of popular principles. What popular principles have they to fall back upon to counteract their opponents? Sir R. Peel is entering into his old difficulties. He neither yields nor resists on principle. He surrenders fortress after fortress, and thinks to check the advance of hostile forces. The Roman Catholic Association demanded and obtained the removal of Catholic disabilities. The Anti-Corn-Law League but yesterday demanded a free trade in corn, and they have received a first instalment already, and from the same hands. He will shortly have nothing to yield, and nothing to rely upon but his mercenaries, cooped up as they will be within the lines of his Corn Law and his Income Tax. His power will then be the power of his party to purchase seats, together with what his no longer very cordial ally, the Church, can afford. The Church, however, has no personal attachments. She regards things, not persons.

Bribery then, we expect, will be frowned upon, but favoured. Boroughs will only be taught to be more cautious and skilful. Men unseated for bribery will not be excluded from the patronage and influence of office. Prices may fall, but the practice will prevail, and the rank of member of Parliament will still be coveted rather than the reputation of an honest man. Sir R. Peel, as usual, deferring to his party, will put off all true remedies. He will condemn bribery, and rely upon a bribed Parliament. And when that is brought into thorough contempt, tainted and corrupted as it is,—he will be forced to retrieve himself by some new concessions, and plunge the country at the same time into the confusion in which he and his party left it in 1830.

But the new Reform Bill, which he will thus provoke, will be less encumbered with respect for ancient rights, and deference to prescriptive authority, than its precursor of 1833.

THE GROWING GREATNESS OF THE CONSTABLE.

Hood's revolution in Stoke Pogis is surpassed by Sir James Graham's fine description of the meeting at Deptford Broadway. First, the scene in the chapel, the men stamping with rage, the women fainting with alarm, the police threatened to be served as at Kentish Town (a horror of the unknown kind), benches torn up, pews torn down; then the adjournment to the open air, the utmost tumult and confusion prevailing, attaining its climax with Dr McDouall elevation on the parish pump, upon which heaven and earth seemed coming together, the excitement prodigious, the evening advancing, darkness approaching, as it occasionally does with advancing evening, the meeting tumultuous, the Doctor extremely violent!!!

How all this would have ended but for the inter-

ference of the Superintendent Mallalieu, no mortal can tell. The parish pump itself was getting warm. The constable saw that no time was to be lost, he pulled the Doctor down from his dangerous bad eminence on the pump, and England was saved. From what England was saved, Sir James Graham only knows. Some seem to have feared the dreadful extremity of no thoroughfare through the Broadway, others apprehended that the aristocracy might be swept away *nem con* by resolutions. Several old women entertained a strong opinion that there was no knowing what would happen next.

At the critical moment of interference for the preservation of the State, the Doctor had proclaimed a hearing for all men, he had promised that any Dukes, Archbishops, or such like, who might be in the Deptford mob, should have a hearing, as well as scavengers, sweepers, &c. It may be that the Superintendent took the alarm at the idea of so unequal an encounter of wits, and that he thought it necessary to interpose before the Dukes and Archbishops could respond to the invitation to come forward. It used to be said that the interval from the prison to the grave of Princes was a short one, and to the prophetic soul of Superintendent Mallalieu it may have appeared that the interval from the top to the bottom of the pump, from above to below the spout, would be short to any Dukes or Archbishops advocating the cause of the aristocracy in Deptford Broadway. Be that as it may, such was the moment he seized for arresting the dangerous harangue of the Doctor. And here we come to the point on which both the accounts (conflicting in all other particulars) of Mr T. Duncombe and Sir J. Graham agree. We give the words of the latter as reported:—

"The Superintendent told him (Dr McDouall) that if he persevered it would be his duty to compel him to desist. Upon hearing this the Doctor consented to come down, and an offer was made to him by the Superintendent to make a clear passage through the multitude for him if he would go home. This Dr McDouall positively refused to do, and then it was that the police took him into custody."

Here, then, we see the head and front of the Doctor's offence, which was nothing less than the refusal to go home! The dangerous man was not arrested for anything he had done, but for what he had refused to do—the enormity of declining to go home when the constable ordered him home. For this, and for nothing else, the Doctor was locked up in the station-house for the night, bail having been refused for an offence of such magnitude.

Mr T. Duncombe pleads in mitigation of the Doctor's offence of refusing to go home when his constable ordered him, that his constable ordered him to go home by the way of Greenwich, which the Doctor could not very well do, seeing that his way home lay in the opposite direction of London. And the law maxim says that no one is held to an impossibility, except, perhaps, when it is at the bidding of a constable under Sir James Graham's administration of home affairs, in which it is established as a fundamental principle that the constable can do no wrong.

The Magistrate appears to have acted in strict conformity with this new principle of the Home Office, for though he declared he could not find any ground for committing Mr McDouall to take his trial, yet seeing that both he and the constable could not be blameless, he required recognizances to keep the peace of the former. And for what? For the refusal to go home; for which recusancy the constable arrested the Doctor.

Already, and very naturally, the constable feels that he is above the Magistracy under Sir James Graham, and this Superintendent Mallalieu treated an order of Mr Jeremy with the most careless contempt, saying that he should not heed what the Magistrate said. This made a part of the constable's conduct which Sir James Graham thought quite justifiable. The example so sanctioned of disobeying and despising Magistrates will doubtless have its effect.

Sir Robert Peel took the discreeter course of saying nothing in approval of the man's conduct, but rather implying dissatisfaction with it, and opposing inquiry only on the ground that if the officer had exceeded his duty, the law would take cognizance of the offence, and punish it; and that it would be wrong in Parliament to prejudge an act which might be brought before the regular tribunals.

But as Lord Palmerston well remarked,

"He thought, at this moment, when Parliament was about to separate, and when public meetings would no doubt soon take place in the country (cries of 'Oh, oh,' from the ministerial benches, and loud cheers from the opposition), and when constables might be induced, from a mistaken sense of their duty, to interfere with the proceedings of the people, he (Viscount Palmerston) thought that this was a proper opportunity to institute an inquiry to ascertain to what extent the constable had in this case interfered, in order that the fact might be established, not according to *ex parte* information, but by hearing the evidence on both sides. But this inquiry he did not conceive would necessarily imply a censure either upon the police or the magistracy. When the real facts were known, should any ground of complaint appear against the conduct of the police, then the government might be able to take steps to prevent similar interference on the part of the police in future."

Sir Robert Peel declared—

"He should be the last man, having had much experience in the home administration, to encourage any constable or any other individual to transgress the law, or by constantly annoying and interfering with parties, even where the law was on their side, to discredit the law in its application. Nothing would be more unwise. But, on the other hand, the house should consider the position in which this man was placed: and let them also consider that the consequence of the house unfairly interfering might have the effect of discouraging the police from acting with energy, even in the discreet and honest discharge of their duty. If a committee were to be granted, it would amount to a *prima facie* case against the police."

We thoroughly concur in these remarks of the *Chronicle*:

"We must confess that we consider Sir James Graham to have done ten times more to discredit the police, and impair its efficiency, than has been done by any Minister since its establishment. In order that such a force should be effective, it ought not to be viewed with suspicion by the people. It ought always to keep itself in the back ground till order is disturbed. Sir James Graham has given to it a new character, and we tremble to think of the consequences which may ensue. The sooner Sir Robert Peel can put this very indiscreet Minister in some other office, the better it will be both for the Government and the country."

JUSTICES' JUSTICE.

COVENTRY POLICE OFFICE, Thursday, July 28. — Before the Mayor and Mr Cope.

DOGS *versus* CHILDREN.—James Ingram appeared to answer an information charging him with having permitted a dog to be at large and unmuzzled, on Monday evening last, contrary to the order of the Mayor and Magistrates, to which charge he pleaded not guilty.

Thomas Pepper then came forward to prove the case, and stated that about a quarter or twenty minutes past eight o'clock, in consequence of having had his little boy very severely wounded, by the dog in question, he went down to Ingram, at the house of Mrs Twycross, respecting it, and then saw the dog unmuzzled. He saw it once on the City side of the Tower, at the bottom of Mill lane, once in Mrs Twycross's house, and once in the field adjoining. His boy, about nine years of age, had been at play with other children in the "tenter field," belonging to Mrs Twycross, through which there used formerly to be a public road, but which of late years has been stopped up; and there the dog seized him, and bit and worried him on all parts of the body in a most shocking manner (as was shown to the Magistrate, Mr Hands, on the preceding day), Ingram standing by, and making no attempt to take the dog off him. Knowing that his son was trespassing in the field, he should not have taken it amiss if Ingram had chastised him himself; but he thought it brutal and improper to allow a dog to worry the child.

The Mayor said that with respect to the injury done to the boy, it was admitted that he was on trespass, and if any harm had come to him while so trespassing, he must put up with it; the Magistrates would not punish for that. Every man had a right to protect his own property.

Ingram, in his defence, called a witness named John Cramp, who deposed that the dog was liberated about eight o'clock, and fastened up again about nine. It ran after the children down the field, who, he supposed, had irritated it by striking or throwing, but it was never in Mill lane on the City side of the Tower, though he admitted it was on the other side of the Tower.

The Mayor did not recognise what took place on the outer side of the Tower; and with respect to the other evidence, he acted upon that of Cramp, and rejected that of the child's father, and dismissed the case.—*Coventry Herald*.

"Every man," oracularly says the Mayor, "has a right to protect his own property," but the right to protect property and the means of protection by which the right may be exercised, are very different questions. A man has the right to protect his property against trespass, but not by putting the trespasser to death, and the boy might have been killed by the savage dog. We believe that the law of the Mayor is at variance with the law of the Judges as laid down on the question of the use of spring-guns. And letting loose a savage dog against a trespasser is more dangerous and cruel than setting a spring-gun for him, for besides the wounds which the dog may inflict, there is the horrible dread of hydrophobia.

HARDSHIPS OF THE INCOME TAX.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

Manchester, July 31, 1842.

SIR,—The Income Tax is now the all-absorbing topic, and I feel myself particularly interested in the working of it. My nominal salary is just 150*l.* per annum, but from my ill state of health it will realise me this year less than 100*l.* Will the tax-gatherer take any notice of this circumstance (which my employer can prove), or must I pay upon the nominal income? If so it will be a great hardship, as my surgeon's bill will be little less than 20*l.*, and out of the remaining 80*l.* I have to assist in supporting an aged parent reduced from affluence to poverty.

You will much oblige me, if it is in your power, by answering this question in the next number of the *Examiner*.

I remain, sir,

A SEVEN-YEARS' SUBSCRIBER.

UNNECESSARY EXPENSE IN LAW PROCEEDINGS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

SIR,—The common law Judges do not sit in London or Westminster from the beginning of July till November to hear causes for trial; the consequence is, that parties, in order to obtain speedy judgment and execution, take down their causes to the assizes at a ruinous expense. There were 84 causes for trial at the present assizes at Guildford, and of which about 20 were local. The heavy expenses of attorneys, witnesses, &c., travelling to and remaining at the assizes for five or six days, when all parties are resident in the neighbourhood of London, is

apparent. I would propose, as a reform of this system, that a Judge should take causes of a pressing nature for the assizes, which would relieve the Judge of Assize, and satisfy the country by this speedy administration of the law.

Yours obediently,

AN ATTORNEY.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

The funeral of the Duke of Orleans has been the first occasion for many years in which the Parisians have congregated without showing the least symptom of political or party feeling. The remarks of the people, and the observation which could be gleaned by a spectator, showed, what one scarcely expected, a degree of respect for the Orleans dynasty, and hopes and sympathies founded on the Prince, whose remains were thus borne to the grave. Ten years ago the Duke of Orleans was the butt of the popular satirist and caricaturist. He was styled the Prince Rosolin, his military rank beinocked, his juvenile and slender figure held up to ridicule. Some campaign in Africa, and conduct in which ridicule and calumny found no subject for distorting and enlarging, overcame the dislike which the mass of the French have for a prince, and *il s'est fait pardonner* the crime of Royal birth. He was liked by the soldiery and by the people more than the dynasty itself believed. Such were the reflections that witnessing the obsequies suggested.

This was the first occasion, too, since 1830, in which the clergy came forth in numbers and in pomp. Their appearance at Napoleon's funeral was scant. But on Saturday last the archbishop's staff vied with that of the general officers. It rained canons and crosses. The prebendaries of St Denis being denied the body of the Prince, claimed the heart, and carried it apart with peculiar pomp. On any former occasion this exuberance, as they themselves would say, of ecclesiastical numbers and pomp would have called forth, if not frowns of animadversion, at least smiles of sarcasm. But on Saturday the Parisians were benevolent even to the clergy.

The funeral service itself took place on Wednesday in Notre Dame. Nothing could be more magnificent or costly than the decoration of the cathedral. It was clothed within and without with black cloth, and hung with banners, on which Algiers and Antwerp formed the chief inscriptions. The coffin, elevated to a great height on the cross of the church, was magnificently canopied and lit up. But the service was little more than the common mass, the object being to avoid the appearance of a *fete*, and keep it strictly to that of a funeral. The church was filled with military, except the cross, where the great bodies of state attended. Few tickets were given, nor were the galleries crowded. Thence the body was transferred to Dreux, to the family vault which Louis Philippe has prepared for his race, St Denis being too near that uprooter of tombs, the populace of Paris.

The decorous calm, and the setting aside of political disaffection, which distinguished the Parisian populace during the week, so melancholy to the Royal family, have not been participated in by the deputies. Their fervour is great, their agitation at its height; and the result of the Duke's death, as necessitating a short reprieve, is too good an opportunity for attacking M. Guizot to be let pass. The examination of the elections has given rise to several angry debates, in which Ministers have not come off best. M. Duchatel, Home Minister, a solemn political owl, after having made a world of blunders in managing the elections, now commits more in defending them. He gave a blunt contradiction to the fact of his having favoured the Legitimist candidate, M. Delarochejaquelin. The evident falsehood of the contradiction disgusted many. In another disputed election Ministers Duchatel and Teste made vain attempts to carry it with a high hand, and were defeated. This has caused people to augur ill of M. Guizot's continuance in office.

On Friday the election of the President was to take place. The Conservatives or Ministerialists, in order to conciliate the *Tiers Parti*, adopted one of their friends, Sauzet, to be their candidate. The *Tiers Parti*, wishing to separate from Ministers forthwith, chose another candidate in the person of M. Dufaure. And, as on a second ballot, the entire Opposition would transfer their votes to M. Dufaure, it is possible that he may be elected, and the Ministry defeated. Ministers, however, are determined, it seems, not to resign without a formal debate taking place: and this debate, it seems, is not likely to take place. The aim of the Opposition leaders is rather to show M. Guizot that he cannot hold office than to upset him immediately; and the Ministry may then go on as it is till December. A modification will then take place; for it seems established beyond a doubt that M. Guizot's Ministry is virtually at an end.

The relations between England and France are not more satisfactory. The circumstance of Belgium having joined the commercial system of

France, and excluded England, is serious. It was hoped and intended by M. Guizot to remedy the evil consequences of this by coming to some commercial arrangement with England. But M. Guizot has no longer the power for this.

Spain, too, is again turning towards France. The Regent has begged a renewal of diplomatic intercourse, and it is evident that France has sufficient influence in the Peninsula to prevent our gaining ground there in doing away with prohibitions.

Then there is the question of Portendic, which began with the claim of a poor 100,000*l.*, and has ended by merging into a serious political difference. The only hope of settling it was by arbitrage; but from the turn the question has taken, neither the French nor the English Ministry can consent to an arbitrage; and there is no knowing to what consequence the difference might lead in the hands of Count Molé or M. Dufaure.

THE LITERARY EXAMINER.

The Recreations of Christopher North. (In three vols.) Vols. 1 and 2. Blackwood.

There is a fine passage in one of Wordsworth's criticisms on poetry—all of which are admirably written and of rare value to the student or follower of the Gentle Art—where the poet confesses himself, "at the risk of giving a shock to the prejudices of artificial society," ever ready to pay homage to the aristocracy of nature, "under a conviction that vigorous human-heartedness is the constituent principle of true taste."

If we had to describe Christopher North's *Recreations* in a short phrase, we should pronounce them full of this vigorous human-heartedness. Campbell, finely though somewhat feebly, talks of musing on nature with a poet's eye, but in this book the writer, transfusing his own passionate heart into whatever of nature's outward forms he happens to love the best, cares less to run musing after them than to make himself One with them. "Our spirits," he says, in one of these vigorous rhapsodies, "animate the insensate earth till she speaks, sings, smiles, laughs, weeps, sighs, groans, goes mad, and dies." And there is hardly exaggeration in it. Little of that quality will be found in any part of the book, indeed, by those who read it in the proper spirit. Its contents, or the greater part of them, are poems; and so to be read and considered, though set down in prose. A rich, exuberant, glorious prose—with a growth of thoughts and fancies as fertile and luxuriant, though here and there wild, weed-choked, and tossed by tempests, as any we can hope to meet in the most remote and sequestered gardens of Old Poetry.

The character of the selection shows the point of view from which the author himself would have it judged. The more scornful, wilful, ill-considered, and stubborn-tempered of old Christopher's flights are omitted. We start with him in his Sporting Jacket; linger his quiet day at Windermere, or by the melancholy shores of Inch-Cruin; listen to his peaceful talk on Cottages or Poetry; see the wild terrors of the Highland Snow Storm or the sorrowful beauty of the Holy Child; or, after suitable prologue and preparation, take with him flight the first, second, third, and fourth, over Highland Moors.

The opening sentences of the first article in the collection run thus freely and freshly:

"There is a fine and beautiful alliance between all pastimes pursued on flood, field, and fell. The principles in human nature on which they depend, are in all the same; but those principles are subject to infinite modifications and varieties, according to the difference of individual and national character. All such pastimes, whether followed merely as pastimes, or as professions, or as the immediate means of sustaining life, require sense, sagacity, and knowledge of nature and nature's laws; nor less, patience, perseverance, courage even, and bodily strength or activity, while the spirit which animates and supports them is a spirit of anxiety, doubt, fear, hope, joy, exultation, and triumph—in the heart of the young a fierce passion—in the heart of the old a passion still, but subdued and tamed down, without, however, being much dulled or deadened, by various experience of all the mysteries of the calling, and by the gradual subsiding of all impetuous impulses in the frames of all mortal men beyond perhaps threescore, when the blackest head will be becoming grey, the most nervous knee less firmly knit, the most steely-sprung instep less elastic, the keenest eye less of a far-keeper, and, above all, the most boiling heart less like a caldron or a crater—yes, the whole man subject to some dimness or decay, and, consequently, the whole duty of man like the new edition of a book, from which many passages that formed the chief glory of the *editio princeps* have been expunged—the whole character of the style corrected without being thereby improved—just like the later editions of the *Pleasures of Imagination*, which were written by Akenside when he was about twenty-one, and altered by him at forty—to the exclusion or destruction of many most splendid *vitia*, by which process the poem, in our humble opinion, was shorn of its brightest beams, and suffered disastrous twilight and eclipse—perplexing critics.

"Now, seeing that such pastimes are in number almost infinite, and infinite the varieties of human character, pray what is there at all surprising in your being madly fond of shooting—and your brother Tom just as foolish about fishing—and cousin Jack perfectly insane on fox-hunting—while the old gentleman your father, in spite of wind and weather, perennial gout, and annual apoplexy, goes a-coursing of the white-birds on the bleak Yorkshire wolds—and uncle

Ben, as if just escaped from Bedlam or St Luke's, with Dr Haslam at his heels, or with a few hundred yards' start of Dr Warburton, is seen galloping, in a Welsh wig and strange apparel, in the rear of a pack of Lilliputian beagles, all barking as if they were as mad as their master, supposed to be in chase of an invisible animal that keeps eternally doubling in field and forest—'still hoped for, never seen, and well christened by the name of Escape?'"

We could except to the remark on Akenside—but this is hardly the place—and we want the room we can spare for a few extracts more.

In what follows the reader will possibly discover more animal spirits than poetry: but, with other aids and ingredients, it is the stuff of which poetry and all other good things are made—this wholesome, healthy, unchecked animal spirits. Christopher North, clad in sporting jacket, has been speaking of the rise and progress of pastime in the human soul, and here makes a slight digression on what are called *wicked boys*:

"Nature allows to growing lads a certain range of wickedness, *sans peur et sans reproche*. She seems, indeed, to whistle into their ear, to mock ancient females—to laugh at Quakers—to make mouths at a decent man and his wife riding double to church—the matron's thick legs ludicrously bobbing from the pillion, kept firm on Dobbin's rump by her bottom, '*ponderibus librata suis*,'—to tip the wink to young women during sermon on Sunday—and on Saturday, most impudently to kiss them, whether they will or no, on high-road or by-path—and to perpetrate many other little nameless enormities.

"No doubt, at the time, such things will wear rather a suspicious character; and the boy who is detected in the fact, must be punished by pawny, or privation, or imprisonment from play. But when punished, he is of course left free to resume his atrocious career; nor is it found that he sleeps a whit the less soundly, or shrieks for Heaven's mercy in his dreams. Conscience is not a craven. Groans belong to guilt. But fun and frolic, even when trespasses, are not guilt; and though a cat have nine lives, she has but one ghost—and that will haunt no house where there are terriers. What! surely if you have the happiness of being a parent, you would not wish your only boy—your son and heir—the blended image of his mother's loveliness and his father's manly beauty—to be a smug, smooth, prim, and proper prig, with his hair always combed down on his forehead, hands always unglaured, and without spot or blemish on his white-thread stockings? You would not wish him, surely, to be always moping and musing in a corner with a good book held close to his nose—botanizing with his maiden aunts—doing the pretty at tea-tables with tabbies, in handing round the short-bread, taking cups, and attending to the kettle—telling tales of all naughty boys and girls—laying up his penny a-week pocket-money in a penny pig—keeping all his clothes neatly folded up in an untumbled drawer—having his own peg for his uncrushed hat—saying his prayers precisely as the clock strikes nine, while his companions are yet at blind-man's buff, and puffed up every Sabbath-even by the parson's praises of his uncommon memory for a sermon—while all the other boys are scolded for having fallen asleep before Tenthly? You would not wish him, surely, to write sermons himself at his tender years, nay—even to be able to give you chapter and verse for every quotation from the Bible? No. Better far that he should begin early to break your heart, by taking no care even of his Sunday clothes—blotting his copy—impudently pinning pieces of paper to the Dominie's tail, who to him was a second father—going to the fishing not only without leave but against orders—bathing in the forbidden pool, where the tailor was drowned—drying powder before the school-room fire, and blowing himself and two crack-skulled cronies to the ceiling—tying kettles to the tails of dogs—shooting an old woman's laying hen—galloping bare-backed shelties down stony steeps—climbing trees to the slenderest twig on which bird could build, and up the tooth-of-time-indented sides of old castles over wall-flowers and starlings—being run away with in carts by colts against turnpike gates—buying bad ballads from young gipsy-girls, who, on receiving a sixpence, give ever so many kisses in return, saying, 'Take your change out of that;—on a borrowed broken-knee'd pony, with a switch-tail—a devil for galloping—not only attending country races for a saddle and collar, but entering for and winning the prize—dancing like a devil in barns at kirs—seeing his blooming partner home over the blooming heather, most perilous adventure of all! in which virgin-puberty can be involved—fighting with a rival in corduroy breeches, and poll shorn beneath a caup, till his eyes just twinkle through the swollen blue—and, to conclude 'this strange eventful history,' once brought home at one o'clock in the morning, God knows whence or by whom, and found by the shrieking servant, sent out to listen for him in the moonlight, dead-drunk on the gravel at the gate!

"Nay, start not, parental reader—nor, in the terror of anticipation, send, without loss of a single day, for your son at a distant academy, mayhap pursuing even such another career. Trust thou to the genial, gracious, and benign *vis medicatrix nature*."

A few pictures to conclude—of deeper and mellower tone:

AN OLD HIGHLAND COTTAGER.

"No great travellers are we, yet have we seen something of this habitable globe. The Highlands of Scotland is but a small region, nor is its interior by any means so remote as the interior of Africa. Yet 'tis remote. The life of that very blind veteran might, in better hands than ours, make an interesting history. In his youth he had been a shepherd—a herdsman—a hunter—something even of a poet. For thirty years he had been a soldier—in many climates and many conflicts. Since first he bloodied his bayonet, how many of his comrades had been buried in heaps! Flung into trenches dug on the field of battle! How many famous captains had shone in the blaze of their fame—faded into the light of common day—died in obscurity, and been utterly forgotten! What fierce passions must have agitated the frame of that now calm old man! On what dreadful scenes, when forts and towns were taken by storm, must those eyes, now withered into nothing, have glared with all the fury of man's most wrathful soul! Now peace is with him for evermore. Nothing to speak of the din of battle, but his own pipes wailing or raging among the hollow of the mountains. In relation to his campaigning career, his present life is as the life of another state. The pageantry of war has all rolled off and away for ever; all its actions but phantoms now of a dimly-remembered dream. He thinks of his former self, as sergeant in the Black Watch, and almost imagines he beholds another man. In his long, long blindness, he has created another world to himself out of new voices—the voices of new generations, and of torrents thundering all the

year long round about his hut. Almost all the savage has been tamed within him, and an awful religion falls deeper and deeper upon him, as he knows now he is nearing the grave. Often his whole mind is dim, for he is exceedingly old, and then he sees only fragments of his youthful life—the last forty years are as if they had never been—and he hears shouts and huzzas, that half a century ago rent the air with victory. He can still chant, in a hoarse broken voice, battle-hymns and dirges; and thus, strangely forgetful and strangely tenacious of the past, linked to this life by ties that only the mountaineer can know, and yet feeling himself on the brink of the next, Old Blind Donald Roy, the Giant of the Hat of the Three Torrents, will not scruple to quaff the 'strong waters,' till his mind is awakened—brightened—dimmed—darkened—and seemingly extinguished—till the sunrise again smites him, as he lies in a heap among the heather; and then he lifts up, unashamed and remorseless, that head, which, with its long quiet hairs, a painter might choose for the image of a saint about to become a martyr."

HIGHLAND WHISKEY.

"Whiskey is found by experience to be, on the whole, a blessing in so misty and mountainous a country. It destroys disease and banishes death; without some such stimulant the people would die of cold. You will see a fine old Gael, of ninety or a hundred, turn up his little finger to a caulker with an air of patriarchal solemnity altogether scriptural; his great-grandchildren eyeing him with the most respectful affection, and the youngest of them toddling across the floor, to take the quech from his huge, withered, and hairy hand, which he lays on the amiable Joseph's sleek craniology, with a blessing heartier through the Glenlivet, and with all the earnestness of religion. There is no disgrace in getting drunk—in the Highlands—not even if you are of the above standing—for where the people are so poor, such a state is but of rare occurrence; while it is felt all over the land of sleet and snow, that a 'drap o' the creatur' is a very necessary of life, and that but for its 'dew' the mountains would be uninhabitable. At fairs, and funerals, and marriages, and suchlike merry meetings, sobriety is sent to look after the sheep; but, except on charitable occasions of that kind, sobriety stays at home among the peat-reeks, and is contented with crowdy. Who that ever stooped his head beneath a Highland hut would grudge a few gallons of Glenlivet to its poor but unrepining inmates? The seldomer they get drunk the better—and it is but seldom they do so; but let the rich man—the monied moralist, who bewails and begrudges the Gael a modicum of the liquor of life, remember the doom of a certain Dives, who, in a certain place that shall now be nameless, cried, but cried in vain, for a drop of water. Lord bless the Highlanders, say we, for the most harmless, hospitable, peaceable, brave people that ever despised breeches, blew pibrochs, took invincible standards, and believed in the authenticity of Ossian's poems."

THE PASSERS-BY AT A WAYSIDE INN.

"There trips by a blooming maiden of middle degree, all alone—the more's the pity—yet perfectly happy in her own society, and one we venture to say who never received a love-letter, valentines excepted, in all her innocent days.—A fat man sitting by himself in a gig! somewhat red in the face, as if he had dined early, and not so sure of the road as his horse, who has drunk nothing but a single pailful of water, and is anxious to get to town that he may be rubbed down, and see oats once more.—Scamper away, ye joyous school-boys, and, for your sake, may that cloud breathe forth rain and breeze, before you reach the burn, which you seem to fear may run dry before you can see the Pool where the two-pounders lie.—Methinks we know that old woman, and of the first novel we write she shall be the heroine.—Ha! a brilliant bevy of mounted maidens, in riding-habits, and Spanish hats, with 'swaling feathers'—sisters, it is easy to see, and daughters of one whom we either loved, or thought we loved; but now they say she is fat and vulgar, is the devil's own scold, and makes her servants and her husband lead the lives of slaves. All that we can say is, that once on a time it was *tout une autre chose*; for a smaller foot, a slimmer ankle, a more delicate waist, arms more lovely, reposing in their gracefulness beneath her bosom, tresses of brighter and more burnished auburn—such starike eyes, thrilling without seeking to reach the soul.—But phoo! phoo! phoo! she married a jolter-headed squire with two thousand acres, and, in self-defence, has grown fat, vulgar, and a scold.—There is a head for a painter! and what perfect peace and placidity all over the Blind Man's countenance! He is not a beggar, although he lives on alms—those sightless orbs ask not for charity, nor yet those withered hands, as, staff-supported, he stops at the kind voice of the traveller, and tells his story in a few words. On the ancient Dervise moves, with his long silvery hair, journeying contentedly in darkness towards the eternal light.—A gang of gipsies! with their numerous assery laden with horn-spoons, pots, and pans, and black-eyed children. We should not be surprised to read some day in the newspapers, that the villain who leads the van had been executed for burglary, arson, and murder. That is the misfortune of having a bad physiognomy, a sidelong look, a scarred cheek, and a cruel grin about the muscles of the mouth; to say nothing about rusty hair protruding through the holes of a brown hat, not made for the wearer—long, snowy arms, all of one thickness, terminating in huge, hairy, horny hands, chiefly knuckles and nails—a shambling gait, notwithstanding that his legs are finely proportioned, as if the night prowler were cautious not to be heard by the sleeping house, nor to awaken—so noiseless his stealthy advances—the unchained mastiff in his kennel."

We did not take up these *Recreations* in any critical humour: preferring just now the simple indication of their contents and general quality. We shall have more to say when the book is completed.

In some matters, it is hardly necessary to add, we are at issue with Christopher North. Often he dislikes where we rejoice to admire, and praises where we cannot but condemn. Even in the volumes before us, we do not always find our poetical tastes the same. We think Hogg, in fancy as in every other poetical requisite, greatly inferior to Burns; and we don't think Bloomfield's "Farmer's Boy" a wonderful poem, any more than we are disposed to think Pollok's "Course of Time" a vast achievement. But on these and graver matters—more when we see the third volume. Let us end with a hope that the articles on Homer and the Greek Tragedians will appear in that volume. They were the delight of Charles Lamb in the last few years of his life—praises not to be exceeded.

Norway, and her Laplanders, in 1841. By John Milford. Murray.

This is a pleasant book on a very pleasant subject—the observation of an accomplished and good-natured man on a shrewd, simple-mannered, good-hearted people.

Mr Milford seems to have some misgiving as to the continued beneficial effects of the Norwegian Constitution. But this is to cast the fashion of uncertain evils—scarcely a wise thing in so frank and kindly a traveller. He admits that it has hitherto worked smoothly, and, what is most important, that it seems to contribute to the independent spirit, and to strengthen the cordial disposition, of this brave and simple people. Mr Laing, a more profound if not a more cheerful and amusing observer, went farther, as our readers know; leaving it little doubtful, in our opinion, that when the present constitution of the Storting is disturbed, it will augur ill for any long duration to the national independence of Norway.

But grave discussion would ill assort with Mr Milford's agreeable volume. It will be remarked that his forte lies in other directions than that of a far-seeing sagacity in politics—having yet a wisdom of its own sufficient in its kind.

NOBILITY AT A DISCOUNT.

"There are only three barons left in Norway, and these will be the last of their race, as in 1814 the orders of nobility were annulled, and the law of primogeniture abolished. At Brevig, where we next stopped for a few minutes, we saw one of these few remaining nobles, Baron Vedel, a fine-looking man of about sixty. He holds a situation under government, as director of the customs, worth from between 300*l.* and 400*l.* sterling per annum, being one of the best appointments in this poor country; he also possesses some landed property. His brother was a count, and recently governor of Norway. On his death, last year, at the baths of Wis Baden, the king sent a steamer to bring his corpse for sepulture to his native country. 'Baron Vedel,' said Mr Murch, 'is somewhat exposed to ridicule here, as we do not approve of orders of nobility.'

NORSE PONIES.

"The little horses are stiff-built, well made, full of spirit, very fast, and sure-footed, and on level ground go at a good rate; the roads, however, although well kept, are generally so hilly that, including stoppages (each change occupies twenty minutes), we never went more than from five to six miles in the hour.

"These Norse ponies, some of the hardiest and best bred in Europe, are frequently exported to England. We saw a beautiful pair on board the steamer at Christiansand, which had been purchased by Sir Hyde Parker for about 20*l.* They would answer well for a low phaeton, or to ride shooting; but I was informed their hoofs are apt to crack upon our hard roads."

THE BEGGAR'S CIVILITY.

"At the next stage the horses were brought out to meet us by the side of the road. A little urchin in tattered garments, and hair bleached to whiteness from exposure to the sun, came gravely up to me, and asked me for two skillings (one penny). Upon my complying with his request, he not only gave me a nod with his head, but also put out his hand immediately, and shook mine, in order to express the cordiality of his thanks."

THE NORWAY PEASANT.

"We had a very laborious walk to-day, and were glad enough to rest awhile, and to partake of some delicious milk, a large depot of which our guide discovered, high up in the hills. It was a mountain dairy, and consisted of a low log-hut. We deposited a few skillings in a bowl in payment for what we had taken; but as we were leaving the place, the old woman who had the care of the cows which graze on this high ground during the summer months came up to us. She was full of gratitude for the small pittance which we had left for her, and said we were welcome at any time to as much milk as we pleased. This kind of hut is called a *setter*. One of our party a few days since, whilst taking a solitary ramble in the midst of the wildest mountains in this neighbourhood, suddenly came upon a similar *setter*, the guardian of which was a lovely girl of sixteen, with fine full black eyes, a beautiful countenance, and one of the finest forms in nature; she tended the cattle with no other companions but a little boy of eight years old and a dog; and here the livelong day and night, unconscious alike of her beauty, or the danger to which it might expose her, did this artless unprotected child of nature pass the summer months. But, indeed, such is the virtue and simplicity of character in these remote, unsophisticated regions, that no instance has ever occurred of violence being offered to one of these lonely shepherdesses. It may be that the custom of thus leaving their daughters and sisters to the care of an all-watching Providence has tended to foster a feeling of honour in the men of Norway, and induced them to respect all unprotected females. But they are not unprotected; the invincible strength and charm of modesty are their safeguard."

A NORSE DANCE.

"It happened that an Englishman on his travels last year, being tired of his own company, and anxious to see what the aborigines were like, as the best mode of collecting them together, ventured on the experiment of getting up a ball. One single bad fiddle collected them in swarms, and he was more pleased than if he had seen all the bears in Norway which Mr Lloyd did not shoot. The performers, on their side, were enraptured, and the evening has become a 'bright spot in memory's waste' for them to look back upon. This year, learning that another Englishman was in these parts, and having associated the abstract idea of a free-born Briton with a fiddle, just as the French do with a rosbif de mouton, they sent a deputation to the stranger, to beg him to give them a little dance, for the sake of charity. He was nothing loth, and accordingly one evening there assembled some twenty couples, and two crazy fiddles. The fair Helen of Fossiland was the decided belle, and whatever might be the judgment of Paris, her pirouettes were the admired of all admirers on this occasion. Some of her fair companions were so innocent of shoes and stockings as the dancing hours in the Aurora of Guido of the Rospigliosi palace at Rome, but they had equally pretty feet, and knew how to use them; and how much more picturesque is the real unsophisticated foot, the work of nature, than the slipper, be it even a Cinderella's, which is but the work of nature's journeyman; then there is the novelty of the pudgy,

to say nothing of its being so classical, so Grecian, so antique. These unshod figurantes excelled particularly in the waltz, and circled round the humble saloon, revolving like sparkling stars. The merest child waltzes with the greatest ease, and the women display a grace and an elegance in this apparently national dance which could not have been surpassed even at Almack's. They keep the most perfect circle, and even in a small room, so regular was the order they observed, that not a single concussion took place during the whole evening. When a couple have completed their gyrations, instead of retiring, they step forward into the centre, and all that are dancing waltz round them, which is a far better plan than retiring behind the dancers, as with us. The Norse belles are particularly decorous in their behaviour; and after you have danced with one of them, she shakes you by the hand, by way of expressing her thanks; as they all likewise did after partaking of the refreshment with which they were supplied, and which they stood much in need of after all their exertions, for they dance with the greatest spirit, not only the waltz, but also a variety of reels. They are extremely quick in learning new dances, and upon the present occasion were taught Sir Roger de Coverley, which they managed remarkably well."

A LAPLANDER.

"A thorough-bred Lapp has spent a few hours with us this evening; he appeared to be a regular chasseur, and to be passionately fond of his vocation. He had left the encampment of his countrymen ten weeks since, and had come to the mouth of the Namsen in pursuit of otters and seals; he had shot five of the latter, and we purchased two skins of him. In his pocket he carried a stick, in which were inserted seven circular pieces of metal, to mark the number of bears he had killed. To his girdle was appended a formidable knife, always kept open, and a small piece of leather, in which he kept a needle for mending his shoes. He wore a loose dress entirely made of leather, and over this a blouse of coarse linen. He was very muscular, but his stature was much under the common size, and his remarkably expressive countenance denoted both acuteness and intelligence. I never before beheld such eyes; they appeared to look through you, so small, dark, and piercing were they, and yet there was nothing malevolent or repulsive in their expression. Altogether he was one of the most extraordinary looking beings I had ever seen. I was desirous of hiring him as a guide, to conduct us to see his countrymen; and indeed he engaged to do so, but broke his word, and went away alone during the night, anxious, no doubt, to join his wife, children, and rein-deer, as soon as possible. We gave him a little English gunpowder, which he seemed to value highly, and for this present cordially shook us by the hand. He was accompanied by a sharp dog, which he told us had more than once saved his life by worrying the bears, when about to attack him, and thereby giving him the opportunity of making good his fire. He carried two guns."

A PROFESSOR OF MINERALOGY AT CHRISTIANIA.

"I found the learned gentleman in a low room about ten feet square, at the end of a dark covered way which was entered from the street, and across which was a gate with broken hinges: the window of this apartment looked on a dirty court-yard lumbered up with tubs, an old cart, and a barrel or two of earth containing ore to be analysed. But the room itself was even worse than its situation, and its multifarious contents more difficult to analyse than the ore. It contained in one corner a small dirty bed; and on one side was a bookcase, from the dusty top shelf of which, by mounting upon one of the three old crazy chairs, he handed a book down to me. On another side stood an antique clock, its face covered with figures and divers circles, emblematic, no doubt, of the mystic religion of Norway. On the wall were hanging thermometers, barometers, and hydrometers, and every other sort of *ometer*, numberless, dusty, and mysterious; loadstones with weights attached to them; scales, pendulums, and an endless *et cetera*. Opposite to these was an old bureau full of mineralogical curiosities, among which he showed me an earth previously unknown which he had lately discovered, and a crystal not yet observed by any other person, and such-like marvels. All these were lying in confusion confounded, amidst pots and pans, basins, crucibles, receivers, retorts, bottles of every sort, shape, and size, and flanked with glasses of every kind and form: his large table, covered with tablets, manuscripts, and books, cups, funnels, and every denomination of vessels, baffled all description. When I disturbed him he was engaged in analysing some specimens of minerals; but, to my taste, he was by far the most extraordinary specimen of all.

"Fancy a little dirty old man, with bleary eyes, whose face looked as if it had not been washed any more than his originally white, now dark brown night-cap, since his spectacles were made, and the furrow they had worn upon his nose showed their use had been of some years' standing, and, to augment his beauty, a huge black plaster was stuck on one temple: he wore a dirty shirt crusted with snuff, a gay coloured waistcoat reaching over his hips, a brown coat and trowsers far too wide for his shrunken shanks, while a pair of immense slippers completed the costume of this subterranean octogenarian, or I may say, mediterranean prodigy. Despite his rough and unpromising exterior, his manners were not only agreeable, but polished; and he very kindly showed me his collection of minerals, which is valuable and well arranged. He was a pupil of Werner's, and is a man of considerable talent."

Such, of this light and various kind, are the contents of this amusing volume. Mr Milford, we should not omit to add, is a professor learned in the craft of Izaak Walton, and, like all brothers of the angle, an enthusiastic lover of nature, and, to every living thing but fish, full of gentleness and humanity. His gossip on points of scenery, and on all matters relating to his sport, is as fresh and sparkling as one of his favourite trout-streams. If he ever revisits Norway, we hope that he will manage to see more, and not scruple to tell us more, of the quaint, honest, hospitable, dog-loving Laplanders.

William Shakespeare: a Biography. By Charles Knight. No 1. Charles Knight.

Malone wrote a large book and called it a Life of Shakespeare—its whole drift being to prove that nothing was known, or could be discovered, or might with safety be assumed, concerning Shakespeare's Life.

If zeal, industry, love of the subject, a proper enthusiasm, and sufficient knowledge of the time, may suffice to shake this conclusion of the too learned

Malone, we need not despair of the task undertaken by Charles Knight. We shall wait and watch, and report on it from time to time. These few lines are but to indicate the commencement of the undertaking.

Its manner is shown by the following extract—beginning with a flat and needless truism enough—but furnishing a not unamusing picture of the surrounding scenes and influences in Shakespeare's boyhood.

"The poet who has delineated human life and character under every variety of passion and humour must have had some early experience of mankind. The loftiest imagination must work upon the humblest materials. In his father's home, amongst his father's neighbours, he would observe those striking differences in the tempers and habits of mankind which are obvious even to a child. Cupidity would be contrasted with generosity, parsimony with extravagance. He would hear of injustice and of ingratitude, of uprightness and of fidelity. Curiosity would lead him to the bailiff's court; and there he would learn of bitter quarrels and obstinate enmities, of friends parted 'on a dissension of a doit,' of foes who 'interjoin their issues' to worry some wretched offender. Small ambition and empty pride would grow bloated upon the pettiest distinctions; and 'the insolence of office' would thrust humility off the causeway. There would be loud talk of loyalty and religion, while the peaceful and the pious would be suspected; and the sycophant who wore the great man's livery would strive to crush the independent in spirit. Much of this the observing boy would see, but much also would be concealed in the general hollowiness that belongs to a period of inquietude and change. The time would come when he would penetrate into the depths of these things; but meanwhile what was upon the surface would be food for thought. At the weekly Market there would be the familiar congregation of buyers and sellers. The housewife from her little farm would ride in gallantly between her panniers laden with butter, eggs, chickens, and capons. The farmer would stand by his pitched corn, and, as Harrison complains, if the poor man handled the sample with the intent to purchase his humble bushel, the man of many sacks would declare that it was sold. The engrosser, according to the same authority, would be there with his understanding nod, successfully evading every statute that could be made against forestalling, because no statutes could prevail against the power of the best price. There, before shops were many and their stocks extensive, would come the dealers from Birmingham and Coventry, with wares for use and wares for show,—horse-gear and women-gear, Sheffield whittles, and rings with posies. At the joyous Fair-season it would seem that the wealth of a world was emptied into Stratford; not only the substantial things, the wine, the wax, the wheat, the wool, the malt, the cheese, the clothes, the napery, such as even great lords sent their stewards to the Fairs to buy, but every possible variety of such trumpery as fill the pedler's pack,—ribbons, inkles, caddises, coils, stomachers, pomanders, brooches, tapers, shoeties. Great dealings were there on these occasions in bees and horses, tedious chafferings, stout affirmations, saints profanely invoked to ratify a bargain. A mighty man rides into the Fair who scatters consternation around. It is the Queen's Purveyor. The best horses are taken up for her Majesty's use, at her Majesty's price; and they probably find their way to the Earl of Leicester's or the Earl of Warwick's stables at a considerable profit to Master Purveyor. The country buyers and sellers look blank; but there is no remedy. There is solace, however, if there is not redress. The ivy-bush is at many a door, and the sounds of merriment are within, as the ale and the sack are quaffed to friendly greetings. In the streets there are morris-dancers, the juggler with his ape, and the minstrel with his ballads. We can imagine the foremost in a group of boys listening to the 'small popular musics' sung by these *cantabancus* up a benches and barrels' heads, or more earnestly to some one of the 'blind harpers, or such like tavern minstrels, that give a fit of mirth for a groat; their matters being for the most part stories of old time, as, 'The Tale of Sir Topas,' 'Bevis of Southampton,' 'Guy of Warwick,' 'Adam Bell and Clymme of the Clough,' and such other old romances or historical rhymes, made purposely for the recreation of the common people." A bold fellow, who is full of queer stories and cant phrases, strikes a few notes upon his gittern, and the lads and lasses are around him ready to dance their country measures. He is thus described in the year 1564, in a tract by William Bulleyn: 'Sir, there is one lately come into this hall, in a green Kendal coat, with yellow hose, a beard of the same colour, only upon the upper lip; a russet hat, with a great plume of strange feathers, and a brave scarf about his neck, in cut baskins. He is playing at the troy-trip with our host's son; he playeth trick upon the gittern, and dances "Trenchmore" and "Heie de Gie," and telleth news from Terra Florida.' Upon this strange sort of indigenous troubadour did the schoolboy gaze, for he would seem to belong to a more knowing race than dwell on Avon's side. His 'news from Terra Florida' tells us of an age of newstongues, before newspapers were. Doubtless such as he had many a story of home wonders; he had seen London perhaps; he could tell of Queens and Parliaments; might have beheld a noble beheaded, or a heretic burnt; he could speak, we may fancy, of the wonders of the sea; of ships laden with rich merchandise, unloading in havens far from this inland region; of other ships wrecked on inhospitable coasts, and poor men made rich by the ocean's spoils. Food for thought was there in all these things, seeds of poetry scattered carelessly, but not wastefully, in the rich imaginative soil."

All of which the reader will believe, or not believe, according to his temper. Ingenious, at all events, is this *would-be* style.

But is it not trouble thrown away to make much fuss about the entirely unimportant question of whether Shakespeare's father wrote his name or made his mark? We do not scruple still to confess ourselves of the mark-making faction. In Mr Knight's *fac simile* of the Town Council signatures—though the cross is not quite opposite to the name—it seems clear to us that "John Shakespeare" is in the formal scribe's hand which has held the pen for the other mark-making gentry.

The New Monthly Magazine for August. Colburn.

There is a brief paper in this magazine so full of Wit and Thought of the best kind that the thought

might have been Charles Lamb's and the wit Sir Thomas Browne's. It is by our old favourite, Hood, and is called "The Undertaker."

"An Undertaker is an Illwiller to the Human Race. He is by Profession an Enemy to his Species, and can no more look kindly at his Fellows than the Sheriff's Officer; for why, his Profit begins with an Arrest for the Debt of Nasty, his Bailiff looks on a failing Man so doth he, and with the same Hope, namely, to take the Body.

"Hence hath he little Sympathy with his Kind, small Pity for the Poor, and least of all for the Widow and the Orphan, whom he regards, Planter like, but as so many Blacks on his Estate. If he have any Community of Feelings, it is with the Sexton, who has likewise a Per Centage on the Bills of Mortality, and never sees a Picture of Health but he longs to engrave it. Both have the same quick Ear for a Churchyard Cough, and both the same Relish for the same Music, to wit, the Toll of Saint Sepulchre. Moreover, both go constantly in Black—howbeit 'tis no Mourning Suit but a Livery—for he grieves no more for the Defunct than the Bird of the same Plumage, that is the Undertaker to a dead Horse.

"As a Neighbour he is to be shunned. To live opposite to him is to fall under the Evil Eye. Like the Witch that foresees other Cattle, he would rot you as soon as look at you, if it could be done at a Glance; but that Magic being out of Date, he contents himself with choosing the very Spot on the House Front that shall serve for a Hatchment. Thenceforward he watches your going out and your coming in: your rising up and your lying down, and all your Domestic Imports of Drink and Victual, so that the veriest She Gossip in the Parish is not more familiar with your Modes and Means of Living, nor knows so certainly whether the Visitor, that calls daily in his Chariot, is a mere Friend or a Physician. Also he knows your Age to a Year, and your Height to an Inch, for he hath measured you with his Eye for a Coffin, and your Ponderosity to a Pound, for he hath an interest in the Dead Weight, and hath so far inquired into your Fortune as to guess with what Equipage you shall travel on your last Journey. For, in professional Curiosity, he is truly a *Pall Pry*. Wherefore to dwell near him is as melancholy as to live in view of a Churchyard; but to be within Sound of his Hammering is to hear the Knocking at Death's Door.

"To be Friends with an Undertaker is as impossible as to be the Crony of a Crocodile. He is by Trade a Hypocrite, and deals of Necessity in Mental Reservations and Equivoques. Thus he drinks to your good Health, but hopes, secretly, it will not endure. He is glad to find you so hearty as to be Apoplectic; and rejoices to see you so stout,—with a short Neck. He bids you beware of your old Gout,—and recommends a Quack Doctor. He laments the malignant Fever so prevalent,—and wishes you may get it. He compliments your complexion—when it is Blue or Yellow: admires your upright Carriage,—and hopes it will break down. Wishes you good Day—but means everlasting Night; and commends his Respects to your Father and Mother,—but hopes you do not honour them. In short, his good Wishes are treacherous; his Inquiries are suspicious; and his Civilities are dangerous; as when he proffereth the Use of his Coach—or to see you Home.

"For the rest, he is still at odds with Humanity; at constant Issue with its Naturalists, and its Philanthropists, its Sages, its Counsellors, and its Legislators. For example, he praises the Weather—with the Wind at East; and rejoices in a wet Spring and Fall, for Death and he reap with one Sickle, and have a good or bad Harvest in common. He objects not to Bones in Bread (being as it were his own Diet), nor to ill Drugs in Beer, nor to Sugar of Lead or arsenical Finings in Wine, nor to ardent Spirits, nor to Interment in Churches. Neither doth he discountenance the Sitting on Infants; nor the swallowing of Plum Stones; nor of cold Ices at hot Balls—nor the drinking of Embrocations, nay he hath been known to contend that the wrong Dose was the right one. He approves, *contra* the Physicians, of a damp Bed, and wet Feet.—of a hot Head and cold Extremities, and lends his own Countenance to the Natural Small Pox, rather than encourage Vaccination—which he calls a flying in the Face of Providence. Add to these, a free Trade in Poisons, whereby the Oxalic Crystals may currently become Proxy for the Epsom ones; and the corrosive Sublimate as common as Salt in Porridge. To the same End he would give unto every Cockney a Privilege to shoot, within ten miles round London, without a Taxed Licence, and would never concur in a Fine or Deodand for Fast Driving, except the Vehicle were a Hearse. Thus, whatever the popular Cry, he runs counter: a Heretic in Opinion, and a Hypocrite in Practice, as when he pretends to be sorrowful at a Funeral; or, what is worse, affects to pity the ill-paid Poor, and yet helpeth to screw them down.

To conclude, he is a Personage of ill Presage to the House of Life: a Raven on the Chimney Pot—a Deathwatch in the Wainscot,—a Winding Sheet in the Candle. To meet with him is ominous. His Looks are sinister; his Dress is lugubrious; his Speech is prophetic; and his Touch is mortal. Nevertheless he hath one Merit, and in this our World, and in these our Times, it is a main one; namely, that whatever he Undertakes he Performs."

TRADE WITH CHINA.—We have never yet carried on a trade with less risk and less loss from mercantile default than our trade with China. No market has ever exhibited a more sustained character, the only alteration being its gradual and genuine expansion. It is a curious fact, that only from the commencement of this century to the present time, the revenue paid into the British Exchequer from the duties on tea alone amounts to one hundred and fifty million pounds sterling. We hear much of the financial burdens of England, and continental economists of late have been apt to speculate on our ultimate inability to contend with them. It will give them some idea of the resources of this country, to learn that a tax, and not a grievous one, on one article of the breakfasts of the English people, for only forty years, has supplied an amount equal to one-fifth of the National Debt. . . . In extending our commercial relations with these regions, we appeal to the necessities and the tastes of illimitable populations. 100,000,000 British subjects in India consume annually 6d. per head of British manufactures. Our late slave population consume 5l. per head; our new colonial population 12l. per head. If the 100,000,000 of our fellow subjects in Hindostan were to consume per head one-tenth of the quantity required by one of our late slaves, India alone would take 50,000,000l. sterling of goods annually from Manchester and Sheffield and Birmingham.—*Times*.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Saturday, July 30.

Their lordships met to-day, at twelve o'clock, for the purpose of giving the royal assent, by commission, to certain bills. The following are among the bills which received the royal assent:—The commutation of tithes (England and Wales) bill, the turnpike trust acts bill, the London bridge approaches bill, the Chelsea Hospital bill, the Southwark improvement bill, &c., and other private bills.—A message from the House of Commons brought up several bills, which were severally read a first time.—The bills on the table were advanced a stage, and their lordships then adjourned until Monday.

Monday, August 1.

The house sat for a short time, and carried various bills through stages of their progress.

Tuesday, August 2.

SLAVERY.—On the motion of Lord ABERDEEN, a bill to suspend the slave trade suppression act, the operation of which has excited so much ill feeling in Portugal, and the necessity for which is superseded by the treaty recently concluded with that power, was read a second time.

Lord BROUGHAM then brought forward a motion, of which he had given notice, to the effect, that more efficient measures should be adopted for the suppression of the slave trade. He proved by a variety of statistical information that the traffic was, if not on the increase, at least perpetuated in its internal activity throughout Cuba and the Brazils by British enterprise and by the aid of British capital; and after demonstrating the defects of the present law, and how readily its provisions might be evaded, concluded a speech of more than even his usual eloquence by impressively calling upon the house to cease to protect the slave-monger, and resolutely to apply itself to the extirpation of this infamous traffic.—The Duke of WELLINGTON recommended that Lord Brougham should himself propose some measure for the improvement of the existing law, and promised, in the name of the government, his cordial support.—Some discussion followed as to the nature of the amendment necessary, and the notice was ultimately withdrawn, upon the understanding that Lord Brougham should introduce a bill early in the ensuing session.

Several bills were forwarded a stage.

Thursday, August 4.

CORN DUTIES.—The Earl of RADNOR moved the second reading of his bill for repealing the duties on the importation of corn, reporting his motion at some length.—The Earl of RIFON met the motion by an amendment, that the bill be read a second time that day six months.—Lord KINNAIRD, in supporting the bill, pleaded strongly for a repeal of the corn laws, as detrimental to the real interests of the country.—After a reply from the Earl of RADNOR, the motion for the second reading of his bill was negatived without a division.

Friday, August 5.

The royal assent was given by commission to the stamp duties assimilation bill, the assessed taxes bill, the lunacy bill, the exchequer offices abolition bill, the Australian bill, the grand jury presentment (Ireland) bill, the game (Ireland) bill, the drainage (Ireland) bill, and several private bills.

The limitation of actions bill was read a third time and passed.

The Lord CHANCELLOR gave notice that on Monday he should move the second reading of the Irish marriages bill.

The copyright of designs bill and the slavery (East Indies) bill were read a second time—to be committed to-morrow.

The colonial passengers bill and the double costs bill were read a third time and passed.

Lord CAMPBELL moved the second reading of the bribery at elections bill.—Lord BROUGHAM supported the bill. He hoped the House of Commons would divest itself of the privilege of deciding contested elections, as there was a very strong impression abroad that they did not decide impartially in such cases.—The bill was then read a second time.

The parish constables bill was read a third time and passed.—Adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Saturday, July 30.

The Speaker took the chair at twelve o'clock. On the reading of the order of the day for going into committee on the Newfoundland bill, Mr O'CONNELL rose to move, as an amendment, that the committee be postponed for three months, to enable a communication to be had from the parties interested. The learned member addressed the house at some length, and loudly complained of the annihilation of the constitution of the island, not, said he, because the inhabitants had been guilty of any breach of the sacred trust which had been reposed in them, but because the majority of them were Roman Catholics. (No, no, from Sir J. Graham.) All, however, that he was now struggling for was a postponement of the measure until the whole case could be fully and fairly investigated by the house. (Hear.) The right hon. and learned member concluded his speech, which occupied the house for more an hour and three quarters, by moving his amendment.—Mr HUME seconded the amendment.—Lord STANLEY said there was no country in the world in which so little religious animosity existed as in Newfoundland. (Hear.) It was admitted that the Roman Catholics enjoyed their civil rights equally with their Protestant brethren. (Hear.) The population was very nearly equally divided between the Protestants and Roman Catholics. The noble lord declared that he had introduced this bill wholly apart from any consideration of Protestant and Catholic. (Hear.) The debate was adjourned.

Monday, August 1.

New writs for Southampton and Belfast were ordered to be issued.

PUBLIC MEETINGS.—Mr T. DUNCOMBE raised a discussion on the case of Mr M'Douall, who was arrested last week by the metropolitan police, for participation in an alleged illegal meeting at Deptford. His motion was for a select committee to inquire into the facts.—Sir J. GRAHAM resisted the motion, contending that the conduct of the parties justified the interference of the police, and that the case had been impartially and fully investigated before the police magistrate.—Mr O'CONNELL, Mr HAWES, Mr SHEIL, and Lord PALMERSTON, contended that there were sufficient grounds for referring the matter to a select committee; the noble lord, in particular, arguing that if the shield of authority were thrown over constables interfering with public meetings, on their own view of what constituted an illegal assemblage, great danger might result, not only to public liberty, but to public peace.—The ATTORNEY and the SOLICITOR-GENERAL recapitulated the facts, and argued that no ground whatever was shown for the interference of the house.—Sir R. PEEL also spoke, and argued that the law was open, if the parties deemed themselves aggrieved by the interference of the police; and that, with little cost, a decision of the ordinary tribunals of justice might be obtained, which would be more satisfactory than an inquiry by any committee of the house. On a division, the house rejected the motion, by 89 to 30.

The house then went into a committee of ways and means; and votes for exchequer bills, &c., were agreed to.

THE TOBACCO REGULATIONS BILL.—Mr T. DUNCOMBE opposed its recommittal, on the ground of its vexatious character and onerous provisions.—The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, in supporting the bill, made some statements as to the very general and extensive adulteration of tobacco which was practised. To meet the objections of the bill, he intended to introduce a clause, giving further time to the dealers for disposing of the stock which they might have on hand of adulterated tobacco, and a more extended time for snuff. After a discussion, Mr T. Duncombe's amendment for recommitting the bill this day three months was lost by 53 to 9. The house then went into committee on the bill, which was considered amended, and ordered to be reported on Wednesday.

ECCLESIASTICAL LEASES.—Mr V. SMITH opposed the further progress of the ecclesiastical corporations leasing bill, stating at length his objections to the measure.—Sir J. GRAHAM admitted that Mr V. Smith had argued the question with ability and fairness. He frankly avowed his strong conviction that all the available means of the church should be made use of before the state was called upon to contribute to church extension, which this bill was decidedly calculated to promote.—After a short conversation, Mr V. Smith withdrew his opposition at the present stage, and the report on the bill was brought up.

The other orders were then disposed of, including the bribery at elections bill.

Tuesday, August 2.

CHURCH RATES.—Sir J. EASTHOPE, who on a former occasion had withdrawn a motion for church-rate returns, at the request of Sir R. Peel, now re-produced his motion, having modified it, so as to meet the objections of Sir J. Graham. In now moving for these modified returns, he accompanied his motion with a question, addressed to Sir R. Peel.—Whether the premier was intending to take the subject of church rates into his consideration, with a view to the legislative settlement of the question during the next session, or, if otherwise he were satisfied with the state of the law relating to it.—Sir R. PEEL could give no assurance that he would bring in a bill to settle the question, nor would he say that he was satisfied with the present state of the law relating to church rates.—After a short conversation, during which hesitating objections were raised by Sir R. H. INGLIS and Mr HARDY, the returns were ordered.

In reply to a question asked by Mr Cobden on the previous evening, relating to two steam vessels fitted out at Blackwall for the service of Mexico, to be employed against Texas, Sir R. PEEL said that these vessels were not to be at the disposal of the Mexican government, until they arrived out, and that strict orders were issued by the government that all means should be taken by this country to preserve a strict neutrality.

Some conversation followed on the subject of the unhappy relations between Mexico and Texas.

The bribery at elections bill, on the motion of Mr C. BULLER, was read a third time, two new clauses were added, and it was then passed.

DESIGNS COPYRIGHT BILL.—A long discussion arose on this bill, on the motion for bringing up the report of the committee.—Mr Williams led the opposition, and was aided by Mr Heathcote, Mr M. Phillips, Mr Ellice, and other members. The objections of the antagonists of the bill were not so much to what is called its principle as to the "machinery," or details of the bill; still a strong desire was expressed that it should be postponed till next session. The government, in the person of Mr GLADSTONE, and afterwards Sir R. PEEL, strongly supported the bill, the latter re-adding the arguments of encouraging the art of design in this country, in connexion with our manufactures, and of giving due protection to those who invested capital in producing original designs. A division took place, on the proposition of Mr Williams, that the bill should be recommitted, in order to its amendment, which was rejected by 73 to 14.

After this division, the discussion on the bill was resumed, in spite of a protest from Sir R. Peel. Various amendments were proposed by Mr WILLIAMS, some of which were negatived without a division, but on one he took the sense of the house, and was defeated by 78 to

18. After some further discussion the bill was ordered to be read a third time next day. The other orders of the day were then disposed of.

Wednesday, August 3.

NEWFOUNDLAND BILL.—The first public business was the adjourned debate on the Newfoundland bill. This bill, which is strongly opposed by Mr O'CONNELL, alters the constitution of the colony, on the ground of the distracted state in which the ill-working of that constitution has left the colonists and the government.—Mr PAKINGTON and Sir H. DOUGLAS supported the bill, as a choice of evils, and it was opposed by Mr C. BULLER, Mr P. HOWARD, and Mr WISE.—Mr V. SMITH admitted that the state of the colony required legislation, but suggested that the duration of the bill should be limited, and that an objectionable clause, altering the qualification of electors, should be omitted.—Lord STANLEY agreed to these suggestions, with the view of obtaining more extended support for the bill; and it was then admitted by Mr LABOUCHERE that by these concessions the bill was stripped of its most objectionable features. On a division, the bill was supported by 68 against 13.

On the motion that the Speaker do now leave the chair, Mr O'CONNELL continued his opposition to the bill, vehemently contending against the injustice which it would inflict, and also protesting against the "compromise" which he considered to have been entered into with respect to it between the members and friends of the late government and those of the present. Some further debate followed, after which another division was taken, when there appeared 82 to 21.

The house then went into committee on the bill, and after several divisions, in each of which the government had the majority, the several clauses of the bill were agreed to, with the exception of the 6th, on which the discussion was adjourned till Friday.

Thursday, August 4.

Mr MACKINNON obtained leave to bring in a bill to improve the health of towns, by preventing the interment of bodies within their precincts.

MR WARNER'S INVENTION.—Sir F. BURDETT moved for a select committee to inquire into negotiations of the government with Mr Warner, respecting his invention.—Sir H. DOUGLAS and Sir R. PEEL recounted the various circumstances connected with Mr Warner and his negotiations with the government, and showed, in the most decisive manner, that both the late and the present government had offered the most ample facilities to Mr Warner, and that his alleged invention, for which he demanded a guarantee of 400,000*l.*, was, to say the least of it, of a questionable character.—Mr BROTHERTON also read letters which showed that Mr Warner had not so scrupulously kept the offers of his invention exclusively to this country as he claims credit for.—On a division, the motion of Sir Francis Biddell had only 2 to support it, with 72 against it.

Lord ASHLEY obtained the qualified consent of the government to a motion for procuring a further inquiry, by the mines and collieries commissioners, into the number and ages of children and young persons employed as apprentices in coal and iron mines, with the nature or terms of the indentures or agreements under which they serve.

MASON'S CASE.—Mr T. DUNCOMBE brought the case of the men now confined in Stafford gaol again before the house. He complained of the partiality displayed in this case. At other meetings language infinitely stronger than that used by Mason was heard. The hon. gentleman observed, that the doctrine put forth by the right hon. baronet (Sir James Graham) was similar to that held by the magistrates; and the presiding justice at the trial of Mason and the others had used language in his summing up to the jury wholly irreconcilable with the spirit of the British constitution. "After such an address," he said, "he could not blame the jury for the verdict they returned. The whole question resolved itself into this—what was the power of the constable?" He concluded with moving an address to her Majesty for the liberation of John Mason and the seven working men now confined in Stafford gaol.—Sir J. GRAHAM repeated his doctrine that the character of the meeting was determined by the finding of the jury, and objected to the interference of the house with the administration of justice.—Mr HAWES, Mr HUME, Mr VILLIERS, Mr R. YORKE, and Mr WARD all agreed that nothing had been said at the meeting at Sedgley which had not been again and again said in that house.—In his reply, Mr DUNCOMBE said—"He regretted to find that since he had noticed this case the treatment of the prisoners was more severe—that they were forbidden to see their friends, and that notice was even sent to-day that Mason could not see his wife. This made him think that those proceedings were instituted by the magistrates of Staffordshire for party purposes. He knew that his noticing the case in the house, or that anything he might do, would not injure the case of those men with the right honourable baronet. He was in the hands of the house, but it should be by no consent of his that those men continued one moment longer in prison."—On a division, the motion was negatived by a majority of 53 to 30. The house was then counted out.

Friday, August 5.

The house met to-day at twelve o'clock.

Mr LARROV gave notice that on Monday he should move that a new writ be forthwith issued for the borough of Ipswich.

The consolidated fund bill and the exchequer bills bill were reported.—The Court of Chancery bill was read a third time and passed.

NEWFOUNDLAND BILL.—The house then went into committee on the Newfoundland bill. On clause six being read, Mr O'CONNELL protested against the bill, which was nothing less than depriving the colony of its constitution. He also objected to the proposed constitution of the chamber of representatives.—Lord STANLEY thought it would be for the benefit of the colony to

abolish the legislative council as a distinct assembly.—Mr V. SMITH supported the clause, but would not sanction the permanent abolition of the legislative council.—Mr P. HOWARD was opposed to the bill in principle.—Mr HUME complained that the inhabitants were unheard and unrepresented, and that house was about to deprive them of one of the greatest privileges a people could enjoy, that of managing their own affairs.—On a division there appeared—for the clause, 80; against it, 18.—Mr O'CONNELL then moved that the number of members of the legislative council nominated by the crown be five instead of ten; but the amendment was lost by a majority of 82 to 21.—Lord C. FITZROY moved a proviso that these members should not vote on any question of supply, finance, or taxation; but it was negatived by 79 to 22; and another division took place on the question that the clause do pass, which was carried by a majority of 79 to 25. The bill was ordered to be reported on Saturday (this day).

RIBBONISM IN IRELAND.—Mr O'CONNELL then brought forward the motion of which he had given notice, for copies of any correspondence that had taken place between the government, the magistrates, and the police respecting the late trials for ribbonism in Armagh. His object in making the motion was not to cast any censure upon the government, or upon the noble lord the Secretary for Ireland, whose political conduct in that country had met general approval. There was no doubt that such associations as the prisoners were charged with being connected with were highly criminal, and there was no friend to Ireland who would not use his best endeavours to put them down. Four persons had been tried at the last Armagh assizes, and two witnesses were examined on the part of the crown. The principal witness, Hagan, admitted that he was a spy in the pay of the local authorities—that he became acquainted with their signs and pass-words for the express purpose of denouncing them—that his proceedings were known to the magistrates—that he made ribbonmen by the hundred, and invented sixty-three classes of pass-words—that he distributed seditious papers among the people, the mere possession of which was a transportable offence. He would remind the noble lord opposite that Lord Althorp had denounced the system of paid agents to entrap persons into guilt as a most abominable and atrocious one.—Lord ELIOT objected to the production of the correspondence, on the ground of its establishing an inconvenient precedent, and that it would be extremely dangerous to produce the confidential communications between the government and the local authorities. With regard to the statement that the magistrates were aware of the proceedings of Hagan he was unable to give any information to the house, but if that were the case they had been guilty of most unjustifiable conduct.—Mr O'CONNELL wished to know whether the noble lord would consent to give extracts.—Lord ELIOT did not think extracts would be satisfactory. On a division there appeared—for the motion, 24; against it, 72.—Mr O'CONNELL gave notice of a select committee upon the subject for next session.

COUNTY COURTS BILL.—Sir J. GRAHAM proposed that the house should go into committee on this bill, *pro forma*, in order to introduce certain amendments, and to have them printed.—Mr AGLIBNEY said, assuming it to be true that the house would separate on Thursday next, he asked the right honourable baronet how it was possible that they could discuss a bill of 100 clauses, with perhaps 18 or 20 new ones added, when they were, up to the present moment, in total ignorance of what these amendments were. There was a great diversity of opinion, and many objections raised to the bill, and he thought it ought not to be forced on at the close of a session.—Sir J. GRAHAM said, the amendment he had made would obviate the greater part, if not the whole, of the objections to the bill.

The house then, at a quarter to 4 o'clock, adjourned till 5, when some petitions on the subject of the wine trade were presented.

Lord PALMERSTON gave notice that on the following day (Saturday) he should put some questions to the right honourable baronet (Sir R. Peel) relative to his refusal of the children hundreds to a member whose case had been recently before the house.

In answer to Mr Villiers, Mr B. BARING said, the government were taking measures for the extinction of slavery in British India, and the papers relating to the subject would be laid upon the table previously to the prorogation of parliament.

THE INCOME TAX.—In answer to Mr R. YORKE, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said, that some delay had occurred in the delivery of the income-tax papers, but the government did not mean to take any advantage of the provision which required that the papers should be filled up and returned within 21 days after the time they bore date. The delay that had taken place would be immediately obviated.

In answer to Mr D'ISRAELI, who inquired whether it was true that the government of India had ordered the withdrawal of the troops from Afghanistan, Sir R. PEEL said he had not yet had an opportunity of perusing the despatches which had only just arrived, but if the honourable member would repeat his question on Monday he would be prepared to answer it.

On reading the order of the day for the third reading of the ecclesiastical corporations leasing bill, Sir R. INGLES complained that the object of the present bill was to convert property purely ecclesiastical to secular purposes.—Sir J. GRAHAM said the bill was substantially the same as that introduced by the bishop of London in the House of Lords.—Sir R. PEEL expressed his full assent with the principle of the bill which was in accordance with the recommendation of the ecclesiastical commissioners.—Lord PALMERSTON thought the position an untenable one, and that parliament had a right to deal with church property only for particular purposes. He thought the improved value of that property could be best devoted to the purposes of church rates.—Mr

DARBY and Mr HARDY were both of opinion that any increased value derived from church property should be exclusively devoted to spiritual purposes.—Mr HENSLY said what had fallen from the members of the government had increased his objections to the bill. If they assented to such a measure it would form a precedent for dealing with other descriptions of church property.—Mr HAWES thought that the bill was important as recognising the principle of appropriation. The government had done wisely for asserting its right to deal with church property. The principle of the bill had been adopted in Ireland. It had been propounded by the late government with regard to the measure before the house, and he was glad to find the present government adopting it. The bill was then read a third time and passed.

The Coventry boundaries bill went through a committee, to be reported on Monday.

The Court of Chancery abolition of offices bill was read a third time and passed.

On going into committee on the bankruptcy bill, Mr MARK PHILLIPS said he had several objections to the measure. One was the clause which conferred upon the commissioners the power of granting or withholding the certificate of a bankrupt—he also objected to the fiat, which was frequently the means of entailing great expense upon the parties. Unless some explanation was given, he should feel it his duty to oppose the further progress of the measure.—The ATTORNEY-GENERAL defended the provisions of the bill.—Mr BERNAL said they had heard frequent complaints of the late period of the session at which bills were sent up to the other house, but, with all humility, he must say that the present session had afforded abundant evidence that in another place they were equally obnoxious to the same charge. Here was a most important measure, containing upwards of thirty clauses, which was sent down to that house, for the first time, on the 27th of July.—Sir JAMES GRAHAM thought the measure would be one of the greatest benefit to the trading community of that country, and the principle had been already recognised and acted upon in the metropolis.—Mr B. WOOD said the bill took the trading interest quite by surprise, and hoped it would be postponed till next session.—Mr R. SCOTT was ready to admit that the bill contained many improvements upon the present practice, but he would suggest that a little more time should be devoted to its consideration, as well as to the bill for the relief of insolvent debtors, and another very important measure, the county courts bill, all of which had come down to that house at a very advanced period of the session.—Mr HAWES was astonished that any mercantile man could object to the measure which was approved by all the parties acquainted with the subject, with whom he had had communication. The working of a similar measure in London had been productive of the most beneficial effects.—Sir R. PEEL said, if they were of opinion that the measure would be beneficial to the trading community, let them pass it at once. If it was postponed for another session, there was no guarantee that it would then be agreed to. He trusted they would allow the bill to go into committee, and the objections that were urged could be met, and perhaps obviated. The house then went into committee, and was occupied for some time in discussing its various clauses.

The other orders of the day were then disposed of, and the house adjourned at one o'clock.

IMPORTANT TO CREDITORS.

The following order from the Commissioners of Bankruptcy has just been issued:—"Whereas, by an order of the Lord Chancellor, made on the 28th June last, it was therein directed that all drafts for dividends under any bankrupt's estate which had been delivered to any official assignee by the accountant in bankruptcy, for more than six calendar months, the same having previously been signed by such accountant, but which had not been issued to any creditor of such estate, should be forthwith brought by such official assignee, together with a separate list thereof, under such estate, to any one or more of the Commissioners of her Majesty's Court of Bankruptcy, who should therefore be at liberty to cancel the same, and to direct such several lists to be filed, with the proceedings of the respective bankruptcies.

"And whereas the said order further authorised any one or more of the said Commissioners to make such order or orders as should be necessary of a new draft or drafts for the dividend or dividends due to any such creditor or creditors, upon his or their applying for the same, and directed that such new drafts should be prepared in the form prescribed in schedule B, annexed to the order of the Lords Commissioners for the custody of the Great Seal, dated 31st October, 1835, and should be signed and countersigned in the same manner as the original draft, and afterwards paid by some one of the cashiers of the Bank of England out of the money standing to the credit of the Accountant in Bankruptcy.

"We do, therefore, order that on the application of a creditor for any dividend or dividends, the official assignee of the estate from which such dividend is payable, shall, if satisfied that the creditor is entitled to receive it, and upon the production of the securities (if any) exhibited on the proofs of the debt, make a new draft in the following form—(here follows the form, which creditors applying for the payment of their dividends will find at the office of every official assignee in London)—and the office of every official assignee in London, which draft shall be left with one of the Commissioners, who will compare it with the list of cancelled drafts filed with the proceedings, and, if correct, make an order upon the draft, directing the Accountant in Bankruptcy to sign the same, which the said Accountant will afterwards return to the official assignee of that estate; and when so signed and countersigned by the official assignee may then be issued to the creditor or creditors, or to some party duly authorised by him or them, on signing a receipt for the dividend.

(Signed by the five Commissioners.)

FOREIGN NEWS.

CHINA.

From China the latest intelligence is of the 12th of April. Some new conflicts had taken place in the neighbourhood of Ningpo, in consequence of the Chinese having attempted to obstruct the supply of provisions. A body of their troops having encamped at Tsee-kee, about 11 miles to the westward of Ningpo, the British Commander-in-Chief determined to dislodge them. A force of about 1,100 men was, on the 15th of March, sent on board, and towed by two steamers to a place near the Chinese encampment, to the west of Tsee-kee, where the enemy was found posted in rather a strong position. The walls of the town were soon scaled, without any opposition, but considerable resistance was made at the camp. This resistance was strengthened by the nature of the ground over which the British troops had to proceed to the attack, and three men were killed and about 40 wounded. The Chinese were, however, soon routed and several hundred killed. Having burned the enemy's camp and several mandarin and other officials' houses, the British proceeded on the following day to another encampment five miles distant, which they found deserted. On the 17th the force returned to Ningpo and Chinhae.

The Chinese troops were subsequently rallied by some mandarins, and large reinforcements collected near the city of Shou-hing, to the north of Yu-yaou, whence Sir Hugh Gough expressed his intention to expel them. It was rumoured that the mandarins, at the head of 30,000 men, had contemplated an attack on Ningpo, but their views were anticipated by the British General, who in return was making preparations for a movement on Hang-chow-fou, the capital of the province of Chekeang. This movement, it was supposed, would produce the abandonment of the position at Ningpo. The *Sesostis* steamer was employed in taking to Ningpo a reinforcement of 300 of the Royal Irish from Amoy.

There was a variety of conflicting rumours circulated at Hongkong and Macao. Some represented the mandarins at Canton as determined to oppose to the last the attempts of the foreigners to obtain a footing in their country, for which purpose they had even contrived to build a steamer, and strongly fortified the banks of their river, and also commenced clearing away the ruins of the Bogue forts, as a preparation for rebuilding them, while they had put in practice the most stringent measures for suppressing piracy in the Canton river, having in one day captured 100 offenders, of whom 44 were at once decapitated in Canton. Another rumour stated that the mandarins in other provinces were much alarmed lest the war should extend to their districts, and had therefore induced the Celestial Government to send an Imperial Commissioner with an offer of 40,000,000 dollars as compensation for the expenses of the British expedition and the surrendered opium, all which, together with full possession of Hongkong, the Emperor was said to be disposed to grant as the price of peace. Another rumour states that the French travelling diplomatist, Colonel Jansigny, was busy in his vocation, and that he had offered to one of the Imperial Commissioners some important counsel as to the utility of soon coming to proper terms with the English. The interference of this peripatetic functionary in a discussion where his presence was not desired appears to be treated by even the Chinese with marked neglect.

The reinforcements from England continued to arrive, and, as the season for operations was approaching, it was expected that the decisive measures which would be speedily adopted towards the Chinese would soon oblige the Emperor to propose full and fair terms for a lasting peace.

INDIA.

The Indian mail brings news from Bombay of June 18, from Jellalabad of May 17.

Lord Ellenborough, it is said, had written an order for the force to evacuate Jellalabad, which had been construed into a determination to abandon the country beyond the Indus.

Upon this material point there appears to be some difference of opinion, not as to the tendency of such an act, but as to the act itself. The *Chronicle* appears to think the report as exaggerated and mistaken. The *Globe* remarks:—“The *Times* seems to adopt as facts the rumour to which we alluded as destitute of probability—that Lord Ellenborough, the Governor-General of India, was about to withdraw the British troops from Afghanistan; and states, on the faith of ‘subsequent information,’ that General Pollock, in pursuance of the orders which directed him to retire from Jellalabad in the direction of the Peshawar, ‘was engaged in active preparations for removing the heavy baggage by rafts down the river—the advance towards Cabul being but a ruse to keep the army in good spirits.’” In the absence of well-certified intelligence of the adoption of so dangerous a policy, and with strong probabilities against the truth of the anonymous statements of our generally well-informed contemporary, we must withhold our credence. The assurances of Ministers in Parliament are opposed to the supposed truth of the statement. They gave reiterated assurances that the most vigorous measures would be taken to counteract the recent disasters which had attended our arms in that country; and reinforcements on a large scale were immediately ordered.—The *Chronicle* observes, the rumour of Lord Ellenborough's having issued an order for the withdrawal of our whole force west of the Indus turns out to be unfounded. It appears to have originated in some misapprehension of Sir Jasper Nicholls, although a correspondent in a sheet of the *Bombay Times*, published at a late hour on the evening of the 18th of June, and put on board just as the packet was leaving, says—“Our letters from Jellalabad extend to the 27th ult., and present anything but a cheerful view of the state of

the army, and if the signs which are manifesting themselves are to be taken as genuine evidences of coming events, we strongly incline to the belief that a retrograde movement must be finally determined upon, especially as news from Simlah state positively that the march towards the provinces was to commence on the 4th instant, a pretty convincing proof, notwithstanding all that has been hinted at in certain high quarters, that the Commander-in-Chief made no other mistake than that of allowing the determination of withdrawing the army to become more public than was intended.” Even if the order for a retrograde movement had been confined to the brigade of Sale, it is very difficult to understand the object or the policy of it, since that distinguished officer had actually proposed, if he were strengthened by the brigade of General Pollock, a squadron of the 3rd dragoons, and five guns, to march from Jellalabad to Cabul. General Pollock's opinion of the order said to have been erroneously issued by Sir J. Nicholls may be estimated from his having immediately taken upon himself the responsibility of disobeying it.

We now proceed to supply a narrative of events.

There appears to have been little done in the shape of active measures since the arrival of General Pollock at Jellalabad. This lull, in connexion with “the want of comforts” on the part of some officers, and complaints of the great heat of the month of May, had produced dissatisfaction among them. The acts of Akhbar Khan had become more tyrannical than ever; he had asked impossible conditions for the liberation of his prisoners, such as personal indemnity, eight lacs of rupees, and his being placed and supported on the musnud of Cabul as Ameer, with a gift of two lacs per annum, by the British! The first and third conditions being inadmissible, he had removed almost all his prisoners into the mountains to the north-west of Cabul, while he, with some of his adherents, was carrying on a conflict of murders and intrigues from Cabul against the partisans of one of Schah Soojah's sons, who was in possession of the Bala Hissar, and a large treasure in it. Major Pottinger was forced to attend “the ruthless Affghan” in these movements. The mission of Captain Mackenzie to Jellalabad to treat for the liberation of the prisoners had proved ineffectual; a report had been got up that Akhbar Khan had given liberty to Captain Mackenzie, in consequence of his having so honourably fulfilled his promise by returning twice into the power of the Affghans, but the report had not proved correct; on the contrary, Lady M'Naghten had been plundered of her jewels. During the lull at Jellalabad, General England had, with the long wished-for reinforcements, succeeded in joining General Nott at Candahar. A system of combined movements was, therefore, expected by the Phil-Affghans in a retrograde sense, that is, by the retreat of Nott's division within the Bolan Pass to the borders of the Indus, and of General Pollock's troops to the eastward of the Khyber Pass towards Peshawar. The idea of the British retiring from before the Affghans has excited the indignation of many who did not hesitate to declare that such a retreat would become the signal for numerous revolts of the Mahomedans in the provinces of the interior, and that it would serve hereafter as an encouragement to the Affghans themselves to make an invasion. Judging from several facts, it would appear that Lord Ellenborough, however much he may desire at present to withdraw the British force to the eastward of the Soliman Mountains, had not made up his mind to effect that withdrawal instantaneously. Orders had, it was stated, been issued for rendering Jellalabad a strong position; and it was further asserted that the determination had been taken of sending forward towards Cabul both the divisions simultaneously—viz., from Jellalabad and Candahar, in the first week of June, when the harvest around Cabul will be ripe, and provisions plentiful. In addition to these statements, the gallant General Sale, who had in October last fought his way from Cabul to Jellalabad, has declared that if General Pollock would give him another brigade in addition to his own, together with a squadron of the 3rd Dragoons and four guns, he would march from Jellalabad back to Cabul. The spirited conduct of this general has redeemed the reputation of the British troops among the Affghans.

On the subject of the withdrawal of the troops the *Bombay Monthly Times*, June 18, says—“Of this there has yet been no official announcement, nor is it probable there will be so, at any rate till the troops begin to move. But that the order has been issued is matter of almost universal belief. The nearest approach to authority, at once specific and authentic, is that of the editor of the *Calcutta Star* (a most perfectly credible and trustworthy writer), who states that he has seen an order from the Adjutant-General's Office, dated May 14, beginning ‘Instructions having been issued for the withdrawal within the British provinces of the troops serving west of the Indus, it has become necessary to make arrangements for the comfort of the different corps during their march across the Punjab.’” Our readers are aware that this measure is one which we have all along most strenuously advocated. Without adverting to the enormous and cruel injustice of a continuance or renewal of the war, it may be enough to state that, according to Sir Robert Peel, it has already cost us nearly seventeen millions sterling, and can only be maintained at an outlay of above three millions a year. Of this last-named sum two millions at any rate are sent into Afghanistan in coined silver money, and never returns to us; so that for every month the war continues we have the circulating medium of India diminished by nearly 170,000*l.* in specie withdrawn from the currency of the empire. Our armies are dispirited by mishap, and the officers ruined by their own expenses, and beyond measure sick of the war. We have no baggage cattle to carry our artillery or commissariat along; nor is it possible at any price to procure them. The winter sets in beyond the mountains early in November; and the snows are not entirely cleared

away before April arrives; so that as we have no fortified post, camp or cantonment, and shrunk before from the cost of their construction at Cabul—any expedition which could have been undertaken would have been one of a few months' duration only—where our purposes would have been frustrated, and our armies eluded by the retirement of the enemy beyond the mountains; so that our troops in all probability would have had to fall back pell mell in October, without anything whatever being accomplished; and next year had the war been renewed it would have been at a charge of 20 millions sterling!

The fate of the prisoners continued to be an object of the most painful interest; it was asserted that Colonel Palmer, with several other officers, remained in custody at Ghuznee.

The Governor-General was at Allahabad, where he had, as stated, the intention of assembling an army of observation. Eight new regiments were to be raised. His Lordship is to come in September to Agra. The propriety of collecting an army of observation at Allahabad is explained by a sort of expectation that some disturbances may be dreaded in the Mahomedan districts, of which it is better at once to awe the turbulent population into submission. Allusions appeared to be made to internal rebellions, which will be either crushed or encouraged by the mode of proceeding adopted towards the Affghans.

By the *Agra Ukbar* of the 9th of June, it appears that Akhbar Khan had failed in his attempt to gain possession of the Bala Hissar, where Futteh Jung maintained himself and his treasure. His next attempt was to raise the fanaticism of the people to a crusade against the infidels, in which he also failed, for the money spent in Cabul seems to have given a relish to many for the presence of the foreigners.

The *Delhi Gazette* of the 8th of June asserts that General Pollock had received positive orders to retire in the direction of Peshawar, and that he had even made preparations for removing the heavy baggage by rafts down the river, and that the advance towards Cabul was but a ruse to keep the army in good spirits. From all these circumstances, it would appear that there were negotiations on foot, which might lead to their withdrawal.

From Candahar there is news of a victory gained on the 21st of May over the Affghans under the command of Sufter Jung. They attacked the fortified post of Khelat-e-Ghilzee, and even placed scaling ladders against the walls, but were repulsed and routed, with upwards of 100 men killed, besides the prisoners, who, having attempted to escape, were cut up by the garrison.

In India tranquillity prevailed. The monsoon had begun, and the people of the country were busy in agricultural pursuits. The only remarkable event was the death of the King of Oude. The rightful heir succeeded to the throne without confusion.

The papers bring copies of the despatches of Sir Robert Sale and Colonel Monteath, comprising an account of the movement of the force under the command of the former from Gundamuck to Jellalabad, and the maintenance of the latter fort against overpowering numbers, and amidst the most unexampled difficulties, between the 15th of November and the 14th of April. In this narrative there are of course no new facts, most of the events to which it refers having been communicated in previous despatches. It pretends to be little more than a brief compendium of the events of the period which it includes. “It proves, however (says the *Standard*), that Sir Robert Sale can wield the pen almost as efficiently as the sword, and that the best generals are usually the clearest chroniclers of the achievements of those under their command, if their modesty prevents them from doing justice to their own merits. We should, however, lack the means of estimating his own claims in the matter but for the generous and willing testimony borne by General Pollock to the situation in which he found his gallant friend, after a five months' siege, and the supplementary account volunteered by Colonel Monteath of the noble share borne in these achievements by Sir Robert Sale's own regiment. If the General forgets his own part in the affair, however, he does not forget that of the gallant officers he commanded, and we cannot doubt that his suggestions and recommendations will meet with prompt and cheerful attention at home. Her Majesty has already deviated from the usual practice, which limits the knighthood of the Bath to general officers, Major General Sale being merely a colonel in the army, and will, we trust, not limit herself in this mark, striking as it is, and graciously as it has been conferred of her approbation. No promotion can be too speedy for a man who has shown that he combines the soundest discretion and most perfect knowledge of the details of his profession with the most undaunted gallantry.”

The remains of General Elphinstone were brought to Jellalabad on the morning of the 30th April, escorted by two Affghans, and in a dreadful state of decomposition. The body had been closed up in a coffin, and floated down the Cabul river by means of a raft; but its progress having been subsequently arrested by a party of Ghilzies—who, supposing it had been sent from Cabul, seized it, and refused to let it pass without the permission of Akbar Khan—considerable delay arose in its transmission. The burial took place within the walls of the fort the same evening—a sad and solemn ceremony.

The merchants of Bombay had their attention awakened by two remarkable fires which broke out on board two large ships laden with cotton for China. The *Vansittart* and the *Cornwallis* were totally destroyed. These fires were attributed to incendiaries, and large rewards were offered for their detection. A small ship, the *Kate*, laden with coals for Aden, also caught fire; but by great care its destruction was prevented. A frightful storm

took place at Calcutta on the 23rd of June, which caused great damage, especially to the shipping. The new Governor of Bombay, Sir George Arthur, arrived there by the *May* steamer, and met with a flattering reception. The cholera had considerably abated in its ravages.

FRANCE.

The Chamber of Deputies was occupied on Monday with inquiring into the validity of M. Pauwel's election for Langres, which, after a tedious debate, was adjourned. The Marquis de Gramont, an Opposition member, proposed that the Chamber should proceed to inquire forthwith into the circumstances attending the election, but MM. Duchalet and Guizot maintained that such a proceeding would be contrary to the forms of the house. On a division, by sitting and standing, the result was declared by the President (Lafitte) doubtful; the entire left, a part of the left centre, some members of the right and centres, rose in favour of the adjournment, the rest of the members and the Ministers against. A ballot was then taken, when the numbers were—for the adjournment, 205; against, 191: majority against Ministers, 14.

These speculations and facts had an unfavourable effect on the French funds on Tuesday.

By the Paris papers and letters of that day, the stability of the existing Ministry was considered questionable, the party of MM. Dufaure and Passy having seceded from them, and actually proposed M. Dufaure himself as candidate for the Presidency of the Chamber of Deputies. "The consequences of this resolution," says a private letter, "will be important. The error committed by Ministers in persisting in their intention to support M. Sauzet against all other candidates for the Presidency, has caused the defection of so many of their friends as to render the approaching struggle a fearful one. The course of events will be this—the election of President will take place on Thursday. On that day, the votes of the Deputies will be divided among MM. Sauzet, Dupin, Salvandy, Odilon Barrot, and Dufaure. None will, consequently, have the required majority (one over a clear moiety of the voters). A second election will take place on Friday, when the contest will be between M. Dupin and M. Dufaure only (for M. Sauzet will be thrown aside). It will be extremely close. If M. Dufaure be elected, M. Guizot will, it is said, resign; but if the struggle be between these two, the chances are, and ought to be, in favour of M. Dupin."

The *Times* correspondent anticipates that M. Guizot will, in all probability, resign office even before the Regency Bill be voted by the Chambers. "In conclusion," says that correspondent, "although assured in a most respectable quarter that already Marshal Soult is, by the King's command, engaged in re-constructing the Cabinet, and that the Marquis de Mornay has been actively employed in conducting the details for his illustrious father-in-law (Marshal Soult), it is hardly possible to admit the truth of such a statement. The existence of the report is, however, a fact with which you ought to be acquainted. Four days ago I ridiculed the idea of M. Thiers's pretensions, and with reason. The danger comes now from another quarter, one that then appeared incapable of becoming formidable."

SPAIN.

The Madrid papers and correspondence contain no news of importance. The Marquis de Belgida had resigned. Private correspondence states that almost every day changes were announced in the Queen's household. The appointment of Madame de Montigo, whose Carlist opinions are well known, to replace the Countess de Belgida, had made a considerable sensation. The concentration of troops on the Portuguese frontier still continued. The object was not known.

TURKEY AND PERSIA.

Letters from Constantinople of the 13th ult. announce that the Schah of Persia is making preparations for a war against Turkey, and that a Persian army is to march against Bagdad, and another against Erzerum. Troops had already marched from Teheran to Amedan on their way to Bagdad. It appears that the cause of quarrel is a disputed boundary line, and that the Schah had forwarded an *ultimatum* to the Porte signifying his intention to take possession of the territory in dispute if it were not ceded to him by the 5th of October. In the meantime the Turkish Pacha of Erzerum (the contiguous frontier) was preparing for defence. A body of 3,000 regular troops was collected, and the militia were being armed. The Schah's demand had created considerable uneasiness at Constantinople, the treasury being quite empty, and but few troops disposable. One letter states that, slight as the cause of quarrel appears, it would be difficult to preserve peace between the parties unless the European Powers could prevail upon the Sultan to accede to the demands of Persia. A second letter states, however, that another cause for the quarrel might be found in the residence of a pretender to the Persian throne at Bagdad, under, it was said, the protection of Great Britain.

COURT AND ARISTOCRACY.

On Saturday last the speculum for the Earl of Rosse's leviathan telescope was safely removed from the annealing oven, where it had lain nearly sixteen weeks.

The projected new Chapel Royal at Buckingham Palace is to be constructed on the site of the conservatory, joining the middle of the building at the southern extremity. The works will be commenced about the end of the month.

A most extraordinary horse (perhaps the smallest in the world) arrived at the Royal Mews, Windsor, as a present to her Majesty from Java. It is only 27½ inches in height, rising five years old, of a dark brown colour, well formed, and extremely quiet and playful.

It is rumoured in the diplomatic circles that a Noble

Viscount will, in all probability, succeed a Noble Friend at one of the Northern Courts. (Information!)

The sale of the Shugborough hall property commenced on Monday with the books of the library. Several high prices were fetched for rare editions.

MUSICAL AND THEATRICAL.

The two celebrated *danseuses* Duvernay and Fanny Elssler are both in London.

We have been informed that the proclamation of the bans of marriage, made in the city churches on Sunday last, between Count Sartoris and Miss Adelaide Kemble, was followed up by the marriage of the parties on the morning of the following day. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Mr Almond, of St Mary's Episcopal Chapel.—*Glasgow Chronicle*.

THE ROYAL MINT.

During the last month the greatest activity has prevailed among the *employés* at the Royal Mint to supply the Bank of England with the new gold and silver coinage, not only for the metropolis and the branch banks in the manufacturing and agricultural districts, but for exportation to India, China, and the continent. Since the Royal proclamation of the 3rd of June on the light gold currency, the Bank has received between 4,000,000*l.* and 5,000,000*l.* sterling of light sovereigns and half-sovereigns (of the reigns of George III and IV, and William IV), all of which were placed in the Bullion office as condemned, and are not to be re-issued to the public until recoined and of full weight. During the last month there have been eight steam-presses daily at work at the Mint, to supply the deficiency this has caused in the gold currency. These machines strike on an average from 60 to 80 per minute, and could they be supplied quick enough with pieces, they could take off at the rate of 120 a minute. The average amount of light gold sent into the Mint to be recoined, is about 400,000*l.* per week, in bags of 1,000 ounces each, besides ingots. The great demand that has prevailed in the metropolis and the country for silver during the panic having partially subsided in consequence of the quantity of new coinage issued by the Bank to meet the scarcity, the weekly average now struck at the Mint is only from 10,000*l.* to 12,000*l.*, so as to make way for the gold. The demand of the precious metals for India and China is very great, to supply the military and naval forces. Since Monday a considerable amount has been sent to the Mint, both of gold and silver, to be coined with all expedition. The following is the amount of the new coinage that has been issued from the 1st of July up to Saturday last, the 30th ult.:—Sovereigns, 695,350; half-sovereigns, 880,000; half-crowns, 125,000; and 750,000 shillings, besides 40,000 sixpences. In consequence of the request for the gold and silver new coinage the half-farthings, it is expected, will not be issued to the public from the Mint before Christmas. All the old silver coinage of George III and IV paid into the Bank is not reissued for circulation, but will be recoined, being so very deficient in weight and so much defaced by wear and tear.

In reference to these returns, the *Chronicle* remarks—"The return disculpates the Bank for not being better supplied with silver coin and half-sovereigns to meet the wants of the public. It appears by this return that the total value of the silver coin of all denominations which the Mint has supplied the Bank between the 20th of June and the 20th of July, amounts to the paltry sum of 30,400*l.* There is, in fact, no establishment throughout the country so ill managed as her Majesty's Mint. We trust that some member of Parliament will call the attention of Ministers to this subject. In fact, it is with the Mint, as with most other matters, the interest of parties (the managers, &c.) is paramount to that of the public."

POLITICAL.

PARLIAMENT.—It is now generally understood that Parliament is to separate on Thursday next.

MANCHESTER MERCHANTS AND MANUFACTURERS.—On Tuesday afternoon a meeting was held in the Town hall, to receive the report of the deputation appointed at a former meeting to lay the state of the trade of the district before the Cabinet, without reference to party or to the Anti-Corn-Law League. Robert Gardner Esq., chairman of the deputation, was called upon to preside.—Mr George Chappell described the interviews the deputation had had with the leading Ministers in London; and added, that the impression left upon the minds of the deputies was, that Sir Robert Peel, Lord Ripon, and Mr Gladstone would, if they had the power, do more than they had done; but that Sir J. Graham, Lord Stanley, and Lord Wharnclyffe, were no friends to free trade.—Mr Holland Hoole said the facts stated by the deputation he had no doubt had made a deep impression upon the government.—Mr H. Ashworth recapitulated the leading points argued at the interviews. Of his own town, Bolton, he stated that no less than 12,000 persons were receiving parish relief; that the rates laid were 21,000*l.* in twelve months, out of which only 9,000*l.* could be collected. He showed Sir Robert Peel a pound of sugar which cost 3*d.* in New York, which could not be matched here for less than 8*d.* per lb.; and represented the gross hardship of a system of taxation which, in one way and another, taxed a man in five-eighths of his outlay.—Mr Brooks next addressed the meeting, which, after voting its thanks to the deputation, broke up.

LISTS OF VOTERS.—In consequence of the 31st of July falling on a Sunday this year, the lists of voters will be exhibited on the church and chapel doors on Sunday next, and the following Sunday, and may be seen at the house of an overseer during the first fortnight in August. Those persons who desire to secure their votes should not fail to see if their names are inserted; and also that names have not been improperly put on. It is better that claims, in cases of

omission and objection, where there is sufficient ground, should be made by a registration society, where there is one. The following are the grounds of objection:—Peers, aliens, under 21 years of age, idiot or lunatic; officers in the excise, customs, stamps, post office, assessed taxes (if appointed by assessed tax commissioners) new police; conviction of bribery or any other crime, pauper, dead; premises not of sufficient value—not a house—warehouse—counting-house—shop, or other building. Chambers, if a street-door; lodger, where the premises are not included in the above description. Landlords who do not occupy a sufficient part. Servant as secretary, manager, or otherwise, not being owner or tenant. Not occupied 12 months ending the 31st of July, or let the premises during any part of the year. Bankrupt or insolvent. Not rated, or claimed to be rated. Poor rate not paid. Window tax not paid. Non-residence within seven miles from the 31st of January to the 31st of July. Partners, where premises do not give 10*l.* a year to each partner; or not in partnership for a year ending the 31st of July, or want of qualification in other respects as above. Notice of objection or of claim must be served on the overseers.

THE GOVERNMENT OF CHANGE.—We have received numerous communications on the subject of the complete change effected by the Tories in the public offices. Deputy secretaries, clerks, &c., have been so changed, that almost every face you meet seems new. The superannuations or dismissals to make room for the newcomers must have been extensive. Some pregnant hints must have been given to the parties to induce so many of them to become superannuated all at once. It might be worth while to ascertain how many superannuations and dismissals have taken place since the entrance of Tories to office.—*Chronicle*.

THE DOGBERRY DOCTRINE.—Mr T. Duncombe brought before the House of Commons, again, a subject which cannot be too often commended to the notice of the public. The honourable member, in moving an address to her Majesty, "for the liberation of John Mason and seven working men now confined in Stafford jail," for attending a public meeting, took occasion to remark, that "as long as these individuals remained in prison, so long would the rights of the subjects of this country be in abeyance." It is undoubtedly true that the incarceration of these men appears to sanction the doctrine that the right of meeting in public is liable to be suspended at the option of any constable who, by interrupting the proceedings, thinks proper to cause a breach of the peace, and thus invest an assembly with the character of illegality. It is really monstrous that such a proposition as this should be assented to, as it indirectly is, by ministers, when they refuse to interfere for the purpose of disproving a principle which intolerant magistrates and meddling constables will be but too ready to recognise as legal. There is no meeting that can be held which may not be defeated by the interference of a policeman, who has only to raise an objection to the language he hears—of the propriety of which he is constituted by the new doctrine the sole judge—and upon this he may desire the speaker to desist, when a dispute must inevitably arise, and the assembly may be at once dispersed as an unlawful one. The unconstitutional nature of the principle involved in the law as it is now laid down cannot be too frequently denounced.—*Globe*.

Mr Otway Cave and Mr Colville were the two members who voted for Sir F. Burdett's motion, about Mr Warner's alleged invention. The worthy baronet and Captain Plumridge were the tellers.

THE INCOME TAX.

The following notice has been put up at all the inns of court, parish churches, and chapels in the metropolis, and at the market-places and churches throughout the United Kingdom:—"Notice is hereby given, that all persons required by the Income and Property-tax Act, 5 and 6 Victoria, cap. 35, to make returns of their profits arising from property, professions, trades, and offices, are to deliver such returns, duly filled up and signed, at my dwelling-house, situate (according to the parish) within 21 days from the date hereof, and that any person who may not have received a form applicable to his or her particular case may obtain the same on application at my said dwelling-house." Signed by the assessors. In some parishes the forms sent to the householders are dated the 23rd of July, others the 30th, and 1st of August, 1842. They must be returned enclosed and sealed.—The *Shrewsbury Chronicle* says—A respectable firm in this town, which, however, is encumbered with the service of one of the most intemperate Tories in the Town Council, has given notice to their workmen, that they shall deduct a shilling a week each from their wages on and after next Saturday, to enable them to pay their Income Tax. These workmen were compelled to vote at the last election for the Tories, who imposed the Income Tax, and against the Liberals, who offered them cheap bread and sugar instead; and now their masters turn round upon them, and dock their wages to pay a tax their masters themselves used every effort to impose. This is a proper sample of Conservative patriotism.—A correspondent of the *Chronicle* writes—"Before Ministers go" to look after their pheasants," they would do well to amend their Income-tax Act, in which nothing is intelligible but the penalties. For instance, in the statement to be returned by the occupier of a message or tenement, under Schedule A, he is required to state the annual value of it. How is he to know anything about that, unless he happen to be a house agent? He is then required to state the amount of land tax not redeemed, and whether paid by landlord or tenant the preceding year. How is he to know anything about that, unless he pays it, which in nine cases out of ten he does not, because it is a landlord's tax, yet he is required to state all this, under a penalty of 2*l.* and treble duty.—Another correspondent points out the following irregularity:—"You are required to fill up

such of the following statements as are applicable to your particular case, and deliver the same under cover, and sealed, at my dwelling-house, situate at —, or at the office of the commissioners at —, within twenty-one days from the date hereof, under a penalty of twenty pounds and treble duty." Now, when such a threat is used, what is to be said? Twenty-one days only allowed for making returns! A paper for that purpose, dated 23rd July, was delivered to me on the 30th, consequently I am denied seven days out of the twenty-one days allowed for making the return.

SELECTIONS FROM THE EVIDENCE ADDUCED BEFORE THE COMPROMISE COMMITTEE.

HARWICH.

PARTIES BRIBED.—According to the evidence of Mr James Currie, Parliamentary Agent, one sum of 100*l.* was here distributed in bribes among persons occupying small houses, or what are called 10*l.* voters, most of them small trades-people; and many of those who in this place, which is very decayed, live by dredging for stone, which is used for Roman cement.

From the evidence of the same party, it appeared from his notes that thirty-three persons were bribed, each of whom had large sums paid to him, many of them 50*l.* and 100*l.*, and some more.

Mr Richard Mosse, agent of Mr Attwood, admitted that on going down to Harwich on the eve of the election, he found there were ten open to bribery, and that Mr Attwood held out the electioneering hope to the inhabitants "to reduce the church rates," and, in similar electioneering fashion, to take shares in their railway to the extent of 10,000*l.*

NOTTINGHAM.

SYSTEM OF BASKET-MONEY.—Most of the witnesses gave evidence on this point; but as the clearest, perhaps, was Mr Fladgate's, we shall quote his words. The custom of basket-money in Nottingham is that of giving money previous to large bribes. For four or five weeks previous to any election, the people go round to the candidates, or their agents, to ask them for this "basket-money." They will go to some inn, or some house appointed for the purpose, where they will receive from 10*s.* to 20*s.* or 30*s.*, which they call by the above name, from the fact of its being given on the Saturday, on which day the market is held, and it is supposed that this money is spent in buying provisions for the week. Many hundreds, if not thousands, observed the witness, could have been proved to have received this retaining fee from agents, or parties supposed to be agents.

ABDUCTION OF VOTERS.—Many of the voters, according to the same witness, were made drunk, and taken in that state to different places in the neighbourhood, and then to places far off: a party of 20 to Gravesend: about 300 were carried off in this way during the last election to different parts of the world: Gravesend was in the above case instanced, as a place so far distant from Nottingham that it particularly marks the system upon which some parties in Nottingham acted. The estimate of the number bribed for this borough was 2,000 out of a constituency of 5,000. Upwards of 150 confessed their own bribing.

THE PRACTICE OF "THUMBING."—This is practised in the same borough. Thumbing is an operation performed by some of the manufacturers of the place, to induce the workmen to vote as they think proper; its plain signification is "getting a man under your thumb."

A NIGHT'S BRIBERY.—From the evidence of the Earl of Lincoln it appeared that while the Tory party had full belief in a majority of 300 over night, there was a majority of 400 or 500 against them.

NATURE OF THE PARTIES BRIBED.—From the evidence of Sir G. Larpent he believed that the persons bribed in that borough were in a very low situation in life, many of them the former old burgesses of the place, or freemen of the place, who had been in the practice of receiving a small sum, and that the excitement arising from the two contested elections for that borough had raised the sum usually given, from being at first a sort of douceur, into the character of bribery.

"RUNNERS" AND THEIR PAY.—At the election in 1837, according to the statement of Mr Thomas Wakefield, the agent, there was at that time considerable distress, and numbers of men were employed upon Maperley Plains, partly by subscription and partly by the parish; those men were canvassed, and were immediately taken into employ as runners and assistant canvassers, and they received on the Saturday three shillings a-day, or something of that kind. That being done by the one party, they immediately came to the others, of course, and said, "We are offered employment as runners, and unless we can be employed by you, we are so poor that we must take advantage of it," and that of course led to the same proceedings by the other party: then one man told another, and so the thing began to spread, till a great number on each side were taken into employ as runners.

THE "LAMBS" OF NOTTINGHAM.—Mr Charles Parkes and other witnesses gave accounts of these attaches of elections. "Lambs" are men of abandoned character, who are employed to intimidate voters and to abduct them. They were first employed by Mr Walter at his first election, and during the last they were employed to join in several conspiracies to maltreat Sir John Cam Hobhouse in particular, who, by reference to passage 680 of the Report, stood in imminent danger of his life from these ruffians.

PRACTICES OF THE "LAMBS."—In addition to the intimidation mentioned above, their occupations otherwise consisted in the abduction of voters, many of them being cooped up in the neighbourhood; some in the houses of the neighbouring gentry, and afterwards the rioting and employment of "lambs" to go about the town, to fight and break the windows of the various political opponents. There were no "lambs" at the first election

on the part of Sir G. Larpent. The employment of a vast number of men, organised as they now are, is a new practice at Nottingham, commencing at the April election.

COMMONNESS OF BRIBERY.—Bribery, according to Mr Thomas Wakefield, was so open, that everybody said it was done, but when it came to be inquired into, it was not known; people even considered that there was nothing wrong in it; it seemed to be as much a matter of course as anything else: the machinery by which it was done was this;—a certain sum of money was sent to each ward, and that was again sent to some particular individual, and through his hands it passed to the voters.

A BOROUGH "RISING IN PRICE."—The system of voters being bid over by the opposite party appears (evidence of Mr Hannay) to have gradually grown up within these last few years at Nottingham. The party witness belonged to had tried to get the borough of Nottingham for many years past, but were generally unsuccessful. They tried the purity system, but that was very derogatory to the feelings of the constituency. After that they put forward as a candidate a gentleman very popular in the neighbourhood, and a very humane and benevolent character. That failed on account of funds, and there was no chance till they got Mr Walter. Then the effective or money system was adopted, and from that time to this the borough has got "very dear," "very costly," and has risen "very much in price."

"COOPING" AT NOTTINGHAM.—Numbers of voters, or rather several parties, were "cooped," not in Nottingham, but in houses ten or twelve miles from Nottingham. Lord Ranelagh's was one with seventeen; and Lord Melbourne's gardens, at Melbourne, with more than twenty. Trugsby brook was a third with twenty, Matlock was a fourth with twenty, and a farm-house at a place called Haugh was a fifth, with about the same number. In Lord Melbourne's gardens, they were kept in the gardens during the day-time, for three or four days previous to the election, and they slept as they best might at the public-houses in the neighbourhood. They were driven to the gardens in the morning, and kept there all day, and made drunk, and so taken care of at night.

LEWES.

BRIBERY SOCIETIES.—In this borough there are two clubs, which appear to be very available at election seasons. On one side was commenced, a few years ago, "The Bundle of Sticks Society," which was a very formidable weapon in the hands of the Liberals. The Tories determined to counteract it; their society was the "Constitutional Pruning Society," which arose in this way:—the Hon. Mr Fitzroy, in one of his speeches, alluded to the attacks which the Liberals were making on the bulwarks of the Constitution; and he said that the difference between the Reformers and the other party was, that where they would apply the axe, he would apply the pruning-knife. This tickled their fancy, and they formed a society under that name.

PUTTING THE TOWN IN A STATE OF SIEGE.—One very expensive part of the Lewes election (evidence of the Hon. Henry Fitzroy) was putting the town in a state of siege, which was forced to be done to prevent carrying off voters. It becomes very expensive the watching such a town as that, with so many cross roads, to prevent one's voters being carried off; it is a most expensive item in the election.

BEER, TOBACCO, AND HOT SUPPERS.—The Hon. H. Fitzroy asserted that he had confined all his voters to beer and tobacco; but unfortunately they (that is, the opposite party) began at the last election a new system, that of allowing punch and wine and hot suppers; this forced Mr Fitzroy to do likewise, and give his parties punch, hot suppers, and wine. Voters also were abducted and cooped up at Brighton.

"BULLYING" AT LEWES.—As soon as a contested election makes its appearance, it is the custom at Lewes for certain individuals to come to demand what they call being put on; that is, they are to do something or nothing, and sometimes as "bullies" to track some unwise, foolish voter, who is early led away; the number of these is 70 or 80 on each side. Some voters were much tormented by these bullies; they were not permitted to walk about the streets without being tracked and hunted, and their toes trodden on, and other annoyances, and to entice them into public-houses, and make them drunk.

TEA AND SUGAR PRESENTS.—On the coming down of the writ for an election at Lewes, it is usual for the parties to present a gift, in the name of a lady, of one pound of tea, to all the wives of the electors who choose to accept it, and add some sugar to sweeten it. This costs either party about 130*l.* each.

PENRYN AND FALMOUTH.

STATED PRICES.—Mr James Coppock, in giving evidence respecting the elections in this borough, stated that there were no contrivances for concealment; the price being as well known among the electors as any circumstance of the day.

ELECTIONS.

NOTTINGHAM.—The hum of war has been sounded through every nook and alley of the town. Unlike previous elections, on neither side have bands or flags been seen, and the abominable system is not practised as before. Although the Walterites have not paid any money, they have been most profuse in their promises after the election is over. Mr Sturge, Mr Feargus O'Connor, Mr West, of Macelesfield, Chartist lecturer for Derbyshire, and other leaders, arrived in Nottingham on Monday, and addressed the committees. At one o'clock they addressed an immense concourse of people, from a waggon in the market-place. At seven o'clock in the evening, Mr Sturge, Dr M'Douall, Mr Feargus O'Connor, Mr West, and others, addressed the people, who gathered in thousands on Bunker's Hill. At a subsequent meeting an affray took place. Two

meetings were held near each other, the Rev. Mr Stephens presiding at one for the Walterites; and Mr O'Connor, Dr M'Douall, Mr Sturge, and Mr Vincent taking an active part on the other side. An affray arose, having been commenced, according to some accounts, by the Walterites. The latter had the best of it for some time, until Mr O'Connor jumped off his waggon, and heading the Chartist party, drove their opponents off the field. Stephens had bolted from the waggon directly, and it only remained to clear the others off. This was soon done, and O'Connor, having got up from a crowd of about thirty, who had been playing at him, was raised on to it, and amid loud cheers addressed them. He had lost his hat in the affray, and had picked up a boy's cap, which he wore during the whole of the rest of the meeting. For these assaults, at a meeting of the magistrates, warrants were given against Mr O'Connor, and a charge of robbery was attempted against him on the cap affair: this latter the magistrates dismissed at once. The Tories thought to have the assault cases tried on Thursday, at ten o'clock, so as to keep the accused away from the nomination. The magistrates, however, saw through this trick, and the matter is to be investigated after the proceedings are ended.

The nomination took place on Thursday, at the Exchange-rooms, at ten o'clock. Mr Walter and his friends first arrived; and were soon followed by Messrs Sturge, O'Connor, and Vincent. The arrangements within the hall were most complete, and during the whole proceedings more order was observed than is usual on such occasions. Within a few minutes after the doors were thrown open the room was filled to overflow. The usual preliminaries having been gone through, Mr Hardwick rose to propose Mr Walter.—Mr Charlton seconded the nomination.—Mr S. Bean next proposed Mr Joseph Sturge.—Mr Cripps seconded the nomination.—Mr Sweet proposed Mr Feargus O'Connor, and another elector proposed Mr Vincent. The speeches were listened to with something like attention. O'Connor and Vincent were only proposed as candidates that they might have the opportunity of speaking. For Mr Sturge almost every hand in the body of the hall was held up. A poll was then demanded on the part of Mr Walter.

SOUTHAMPTON.—The respectable portion of the Tory party have fondly imagined that they would be allowed to walk over the course at the ensuing election, and that Mr Hope and Mr Mildmay would become members without resorting to bribery. They have been undeceived, by the announcement of the Liberal candidates. The gentlemen selected by the Liberal party to contest this borough are, Mr George Thompson, the eloquent opponent of slavery, and Lord Nugent. The Hon. Mr St John, who was announced as one of the Liberal candidates, is a near relative of Mr St John Mildmay, the Tory candidate, and is unwilling to enter into a contest where much ill-feeling will be created. Lord Nugent arrived on Wednesday, accompanied by Sir John Easthope and a number of friends. He made an admirable speech to a large multitude assembled in the High street, declaring himself an enemy to the corn laws, and a friend to extension of the suffrage, vote by ballot, and triennial parliaments. The nomination takes place on Saturday, and the polling on Monday. The Liberals have printed the decision of the Ipswich Committee, which has staggered the Tories. In consequence they have not even printed a bill to say where their committee-rooms are, nor had a flag hoisted, nor a bell rung, for fear of bribing printers and ringers. This, however, is only a feint, for it is well known that they are at their ancient tricks, of hiring colourmen, &c.

ANTI-CORN-LAW CONFERENCE.

The Conference closed its proceedings on Monday. An able address from the Conference to the people of the United Kingdom, proposed by Mr John Bright, was adopted with acclamation.

"THE CONFERENCE OF THE NATIONAL ANTI-CORN-LAW LEAGUE TO THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM."

"We are about to separate. We would address you upon the position of our cause. In February last we assembled in this metropolis to urge upon the Government and the Legislature the necessity of repealing the corn laws. The band of monopolists who have usurped the legislative power disregarded our remonstrances, and laughed at our warnings. They triumphed for a brief season, and again sanctioned the miseries of famine by statute. We were baffled for a moment, but were not cast down. From that time the prospects of our country have become more gloomy. Commerce and manufactures have declined; wages have fallen; food has continued scarce and dear; and agricultural and manufacturing operatives have felt the hand of affliction heavier and heavier.

"Again we have assembled—again we have proclaimed from the heart of the empire the impolicy and the wickedness of the corn law. We have sought and obtained interviews with the members of the Executive Government, and have addressed them with a freedom which the consciousness that we were the expression of the public voice on a question which affects the safety of our country authorized and enabled us to do. We have forced upon the attention of Parliament, by repeated discussions, the unwelcome subject of the national distress and its remedy. We have sent, through the public press, to the remotest corners of the country, facts and arguments which will become the seed of the great principle of industrial freedom.

"We know that our labours have not been in vain. Public sentiment is running strongly, irresistibly in our favour—the monopolists in Parliament are mute, conscious that the foul injustice they vote for cannot be defended, the Premier himself having completed the demolition of the fallacies upon which they have been accustomed to rely. The time for argument is past—our opponents seek safety in a morose and obstinate silence. The question is now narrowed to one of might against right. We have fought the good fight thus far, and we shall fight it out. The hope which animated us four years ago is still present with us; it burns brighter—it points to an early victory. But the present is a time of awful

importance. We know that the springs of national wealth and power are rapidly drying up, and that the disease which is preying upon the resources of our country may soon get beyond the reach of remedy. We would not conceal from you the imminency of the perils which surround us; they menace the existence of the country; we pray they may be averted. We should say to you, 'Look to your representatives—the majority of them have basely sold you. Give them no rest. When they visit your boroughs and counties, tell them the law-made famine must be put an end to; that the millions must be fed. Let deputations wait upon them, that they may know your firm resolution not to be trampled in the dust for ever.' To the constituencies who have sent such men to Parliament we would say, 'Make instant atonement for error, by urging upon your members the difficulties which surround you; tell them the people must live, even though party perish.'

"Fellow-countrymen.—We are not responsible for the evils of the present, nor for the calamities which may be in store; we have warned the Government, we have instructed the people, we depend upon your intelligence, and upon the fears of the monopolists. We know how dangerous is the crisis through which we are passing, and we cannot conceal from ourselves and from you that there are breakers ahead, and that there is no firm and honest-hearted pilot at the helm. Your own intelligence, your own virtue, your own energy, must deliver you. The truth we have espoused is inextinguishable, and error and selfishness and lust of power must speedily fall before it. We now separate. We return to the country to labour incessantly for the accomplishment of the great object of the League—the total and immediate repeal of the corn law—and we are prepared to reassemble at such time and place as the Council in Manchester may determine. Hitherto we have endeavoured to merit the confidence of our fellow-citizens, and we trust we shall not be found unequal to any emergency which may arise.

"Providence has given plenty. A few men of wealth and title have opposed their mandate to the will of Heaven. Shall mortal man be more just than God?"

"P. A. TAYLOR, Chairman."

A series of resolutions, expressive of confidence in the wisdom and discretion of the Executive Council of the National Anti-Corn-law League, and conveying thanks to the press and to various members of the Legislature, were carried. Many able and impressive speeches were delivered on the occasion.

MISCELLANEOUS.

BOOKSELLERS' EARLY HOURS.—A preliminary meeting of booksellers and their assistants was held on Monday at the Aldine Chambers, to consider upon some measure for the earlier closing of shops, when it was resolved,—That the meeting considers the present system of late hours in business amongst the booksellers and stationers to be a great and unnecessary evil, unprofitable to the employers, and prejudicial to the physical and mental well-being of the employed; and that the hour of seven o'clock is considered by this meeting to be a reasonable time for the cessation of business. A committee was then nominated to carry out the object, by collecting information for the next meeting.

STEAM-BOAT TRAFFIC.—On Sunday morning seven steam-boats, at the reduced fares of 1s. to Gravesend and back in the fore-cabin, and 1s. 6d. in the "saloon," as the after-cabins are termed, conveyed 4,200 passengers, averaging 600 each vessel, and brought as many back to Nicholson's Wharf and the Adelphi Pier. Twenty other steam-packets conveyed to Gravesend, in thirty-six trips, 12,000 persons, besides many who landed at Erith, Grays, and Purfleet. The *Red Rover* and *City of Canterbury* carried 800 persons between London, Herne Bay, and Margate, in addition to 700 passengers conveyed to the same places by the *City of Canterbury* on Saturday. The Watermen's Steam-packet Company's vessels, *Watermen 1* to 7, made fifty-six trips between the Adelphi Pier, Old Shades, Tunnel Pier, Greenwich, and Woolwich, on Sunday, and took up and down the river 19,000 persons. The old Woolwich and Greenwich Companies, the *Locomotive*, and other boats, carried to and from those places 30,000 individuals, and there was the usual immense trade above bridge.

METROPOLITAN IMPROVEMENTS.—At a meeting of the members of the Metropolitan Improvement Society, held in Covent garden, among other statements in the report, attention was directed to the naming and numbering of streets. In some streets it not unfrequently happens that there are five houses with the same number; while in the commercial part of the metropolis there are no fewer than 18 King streets, 20 Queen streets, 26 Charles streets, 25 Church streets, 20 George streets, and 23 John streets.

THE LONDON AVERAGES.—A curious circumstance has taken place with regard to the London averages; the return published on Friday having been issued in the first instance with a blank against the word *wheat*, afterwards 6,906 quarters, at 67s. 10d. per quarter, were returned, subject to an investigation by the Board of Trade. Many rumours are afloat respecting this occurrence, but we shall refrain from noticing any of the reports in circulation, unless something definite comes to our knowledge.—*Mark Lane Express*.

THE SHIPPING INTEREST.—The number of unemployed seamen at the port of London is now greater than on any previous occasion within the remembrance of the oldest shipowners. The reasons assigned for this unfortunate state of things are conflicting. Upwards of 500 able-bodied seamen are now traversing the purlieus of the London, St Katherine, and the East and West India Docks, without employment, or the prospect of any. It is painful to witness the large number of first-class vessels unchartered in the various docks, and exhibiting brooms at their mast-heads—the nautical advertisement indicating that they are for sale.

THE BRIDGES TOLL FREE.—In consequence of the committee on metropolitan improvements having recommended Vauxhall, Waterloo, and Southwark bridges to be thrown open to the public, Government intends, next session, to introduce a bill to purchase the vested interest of the shareholders with the unclaimed dividends.—*Morning Herald*.

— A deputation on the subject of International Copyright, including Mr G. P. R. James, Dr Ure, Mr Howitt, Mr Murray, Mr Longman, Mr Colburn, Mr M'Douall, Mr Turner, Mr Murray, jun., and Mr Dickinson, had an interview with Mr Gladstone, at the Office of the Board of Trade.

— The street leading from Farringdon street for the formation of the line of road to Clerkenwell green is to be carried on forthwith.

— In consequence of the dome and the interior of St Paul's Cathedral undergoing repairs, divine service is for the present suspended.

— In consequence of the continual accession of members to Lincoln's Inn, the benchers have resolved on building a new hall, near the centre of the terrace on the western side of the garden overlooking Lincoln's-inn fields.

— The sale of oysters commenced at Billingsgate on Thursday, at noon, in accordance with a regulation altering the period of commencing the oyster season from twelve at night on the 4th to the hour of twelve at noon.

CHURCH RATES.—A severe struggle has just taken place for a church rate in the parish of Keighley, Yorkshire, which after a poll of two days ended in the loss of the rate by a large majority. The numbers were—for the rate, 586; against it, 854.—In the parish of Bingley a rate has been carried by 299 to 190.—At a vestry held at Gainsborough, continued by adjournment until Saturday, a church rate of 2d. in the pound was carried by a majority of 267 votes.

GRAND JUNCTION RAILWAY.—The income of the Company has been, from January to July, 207,635l. 14s. 7d. The net profit for the last half year had been 113,661l. 12s. 8d., to which must be added the reserve fund, amounting, with interest, to 8,226l. 0s. 4d.; making a total of 122,487l. 13s. The income tax amounts to 1,826l. 18s. 11d.

"LIGHT FOR ALL NATIONS."—The statement that the caisson for the foundation of the intended light on the Goodwin Sands had burst on Saturday night is unfounded. The works are progressing most favourably. Since the caisson was placed on the Sands, on Wednesday week, two additional tiers of plates have been added, and the caulking of one of them is also complete. The caisson is now 42 feet high, 6 feet below low water, and 18 feet above high water mark.

DISCOVERY OF THE "FAIRY."—The wreck of the unfortunate vessel, the *Fairy*, Captain Hewitt, has at length been discovered. It lies south-east of Lowestoft about 13 miles, in 17 fathoms water. The fishing gear of one of the trawling smacks got entangled with it, when being hove up, a piece of a spar came up with the gear, supposed to be her jib-boom; the mark upon the sheave confirms its belonging to the above vessel.—*Bury Post*.

THE HIGHLAND AND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—The general show of the Highland and Agricultural Society at Edinburgh promises to be of the most auspicious character; and for some days past the city, which usually presents a somewhat deserted aspect at this season of the year, has become crowded with visitors. The show yard occupies about eight acres. At the committee dinner nearly 300 gentlemen were present. A ball at the Assembly rooms followed, at which about 700 attended, including all the fashionables of the northern metropolis.

— The advices from the Worcester hop districts speak generally of improvement in the plantations; and it was supposed another week or two of warm weather would secure about an average crop. Duty backed at 13,000l., the highest yet quoted. The advices from other districts concur with these.

— Lewes gaol is at present dreadfully crowded: in the female department 53 women prisoners and seven children are pent up in only 18 cells.

— Until within the last two years there was not a calf exported from Ireland, while in the year 1840 the exportation of them amounted to 3,100, and in the last year to 8,900.

THE LATE DUKE OF ORLEANS.—The following is an account of the funeral procession:—The removal of the remains of the Duke of Orleans to the cathedral of the metropolis was due to the high rank of the Prince. All classes gave a tribute of tears—even the humblest mourned him. This was evident on Saturday; and had not the dignitaries of the state been there, the people and the Princes alone would have made a striking funeral. At half-past nine the Princes and aides-de-camp assembled in the court before the chapel. The Ministers, Marshals, Presidents of the Chambers, the Archbishop of Paris, and the Canons of St Denis arrived. The Royal family knelt before the altar. An agonizing adieu took place, and the Queen and Princesses retired. The King and his sons saw the body removed. His Majesty then withdrew; the Princes saw it placed in the hearse; and then the procession commenced. The funeral car was most magnificent, drawn by eight horses, caparisoned in black, dragging on the ground their rich embroideries and embossments in silver. The car was surmounted by four figures, representing winged genii, who upheld a crown, and leant on a number of flags. The plumes at the angles floated from ancient casques. The car itself was richly escutcheoned. The cords of the pall were held by four marshals and four civilians, the latter being M. Guizot, M. Pasquier, M. Laffitte, and M. Martin du Nord. The former wore mourning cloaks over their uniforms. Between the car and the Princes three officers bore the crown, the sword, and the great cross and ribbon of the Legion of Honour. Before the funeral car walked Sidi-Moussa, the horse of the Duke of Orleans. Sidi-Moussa was taken from an Arab chief at the battle of the Oued-jeu. The funeral service at Notre Dame, Paris, for the repose of the soul of the late Duke, was, taken as a religious ceremony, the

grandest affair of the kind witnessed since the revolution of 1789.

WISE MEN IN THE EAST.—The *Times*' correspondent at Constantinople remarks:—A little incident occurred the day before yesterday at a private *horoc* on the shores of the Bosphorus, which those who direct their attention to passing scenes in the East will do well, I think, to take note of. Rjazah Pacha—I need not now repeat the nature of his position and his influence—was seen to enter the Palace of the once renowned Chosreff, where he remained about an hour. Shortly after the Meh-bäeen's departure, a number of Chäoushes, the Sultan's servants, also proceeded to the same residence, and soon the quiet retreat began, as the French say, "to be turned out of windows;" and it became evident internal preparations were going forward on a large scale. Closer observation has made it appear that those arrangements, which still continue, are of a state description. To the above—in the existing position of affairs—let the following be appended, and the inference I leave in the hands of the reader. Amongst those who have continued to have personal intercourse with the ex-Vizier, more than one have recently expressed to me a conviction that the appearances of approaching imbecility, so convincing when Chosreff was before the council previous to his departure into exile, and farther observable on his return to Stamboul, are at length to be regarded as a piece of acting, among the most consummate ever realized by that aged veteran in diplomatic duplicity. It would appear also that this discovery has not been made a moment sooner than its venerable master chose it should be; for very recently he has taken every means of astonishing his visitors by instances of vivacity, and sallies of repartee, for which he formerly was so remarkable. If the foregoing should prove correct, which I see no reason to doubt, we shall find that an old turbaned Moslem has managed for several years, not only to hoodwink his compeers of the Divan, but to bamboozle every living diplomatist in Europe. We may then understand how, after one of the Sultans had read a translation of Machiavel, he disappointedly exclaimed, "Is that all he knows?" Of a truth, a man should come to the East if he would peruse some extra chapters in human nature.

— Mr Elmes, the Surveyor of the Port of London, is at present in Hamburg, surveying the damage done by the late extensive conflagration, for the purpose of making a design for rebuilding the damaged portion of that city on an improved plan.

— In consequence of last year's expenditure exceeding the receipts by 20,000l., the Church Missionary Society will be compelled to withdraw their missionaries from Trinidad and Jamaica.

— The Baden Chamber has passed a vote recommending the raising of the duty on French wines.

— A letter from Stockholm says:—"On the 13th inst., the first assembly of Scandinavian naturalists took place in the great hall of the Riding School. The assembly consisted of 84 Danes, 17 Norwegians, five Germans, nine Finlanders, three Russians, 12 Englishmen, one Frenchman, and 300 Swedes."

— Nearly all the Municipal Councils which had voted funds for the celebration of the Fetes of July have decided that they shall be appropriated to works of charity, in memory of the Duke of Orleans.

— The cost of the preparations at the Cathedral of Notre Dame for the funeral of the Duke of Orleans is estimated, says the *National*, at 150,000l.

— Different parts of France have lately suffered severely from storms.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

G. is quite right, but the barbarous use of "being" is of longer date than he supposes.

To "A Constant Reader."—We dread giving advice as to the returns to the Income Tax. We might mislead our friends upon points on which lawyers have their doubts. The great iniquity is also the great perplexity. No one knows what to do.

POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, Saturday Morning, August 6, 1842.

THE RUMOURED WITHDRAWAL IN AFGHANISTAN.—The *Morning Chronicle*, in addition to long extracts from the Indian papers (the spirit of which we have given in our report of the Indian news) has the following observations on this important subject:—"It is gratifying to observe that there is but one feeling, as far as any feeling has been yet expressed, upon the rumoured intention of Lord Ellenborough to evacuate Afghanistan. No Englishman can hear of such a resolution without shame and dismay. All parties, those who blame as well as those who defend, the policy of Lord Auckland, must, at all events, admit that until our fellow-countrymen who are in the hands of Akhbar Khan are restored, and satisfaction be had for the murder of our envoy, our army could not, under any circumstances, be withdrawn from Afghanistan. To this Sir Robert Peel's Government is, fortunately, pledged. Fortunately, we say, for, upon a careful perusal of the Indian papers, we believe Lord Ellenborough had, before the receipt of his overland despatches, commanded a retreat! Incredible as this compound of cowardice, cruelty, and impolicy may seem, disgraceful to its author as a man, as a British subject, and as a statesman, nearly every Indian paper we have seen agrees in stating that Lord Ellenborough had actually determined to abandon so many of our country people to a dreadful fate, to leave the character of our more unatoned for, and to sacrifice the character of our nation and the safety of our Indian empire, by calling back our troops like a band of beaten robbers, instead of with the prestige of a victorious army. "We may well tremble for the ultimate result," says the *Bombay United Service Gazette*, "when Lord Ellenborough has already begun to waver, to vacillate, and to doubt."

had any grounds for the foul attack they had thought fit to make upon the plaintiff. The learned counsel concluded by saying that the plaintiff did not seek for vindictive damages, but they would give such damages as would satisfy all who knew the plaintiff that it was a foul and calumnious attack that had been made upon him without the slightest ground or semblance of truth for its foundation.—Evidence was then given as to the facts, at great length, and the Solicitor-General addressed the jury for the defendant. He contended that from the plaintiff's own witnesses it was clear that there were practices on the turf which all honourable members of it must desire to see put an end to, and he submitted that the defendant had not gone further than he ought to do in exposing what he believed to be a gross fraud on those parties who had honestly vested their money upon the horse belonging to the plaintiff. The case was a most monstrous one, it was admitted that the lameness was one of a most extraordinary character, such as none of the witnesses had ever seen in a horse before, and yet, although the plaintiff was well aware of the fact, and had been satisfied by the veterinary surgeon that it was impossible for the horse to run, he sent him to Epsom, and the public were naturally induced to believe that he must start. The learned Solicitor-General also submitted to the Court that inasmuch as betting upon a horse-race was an illegal act, the plaintiff could not make any proceeding arising out of it the ground of an action of libel.—Lord Abinger having expressed his opinion that the technical point raised by the counsel for the defendant was no answer to the present action, proceeded to address the jury upon the facts, and said, that the question for the jury was, whether the article published in the defendant's newspaper was or was not a libellous attack upon the plaintiff. He then referred to the pleadings, and said that the defendant had undertaken to justify the publication in question, on the ground that it was true; and, in his opinion, he had entirely failed to make out that plea.—The jury having consulted for a few minutes, returned a verdict for the plaintiff.—Damages, 250*l*.

The action of Hunt v. Helps, in which the plaintiff sought to recover the sum of 2,000*l*. from the defendant, who is secretary to the British Fire office, upon an assurance to that amount effected upon his property by the plaintiff, was on Tuesday decided. The defendant by his pleas admitted that the policy had been effected, but he alleged that a fraudulent claim had been made by the plaintiff on the office, and also that the premises had been wilfully destroyed either by the hand of plaintiff or his connivance. The judgment was, that arson could not be made out, and a verdict was entered for the defendant on the two first issues, and for the plaintiff on the third.

HEREFORD.—Murder.—*Millborough Triloe*, widow, a poor-looking woman, stated in the calendar to be thirty years old, was indicted for the wilful murder of her female infant child, at the parish of Much Marcle, on the 24th June. The trial lasted from eight in the morning till four in the afternoon. By the evidence of the various witnesses it was proved that the prisoner had delivered herself, and that the death of the infant, which was found buried in a garden, was caused by strangulation, or some flat substance pressed against the windpipe with such severity that even after death it did not resume its usual circular form. The medical testimony on this point was clear and conclusive, so much so as to elicit from Mr Justice Erskine, who tried the offence, an expression of approbation of the manner in which it was given. A point of law, however, connected with it, and which we here cannot more particularly refer to, was reserved for the consideration of the twelve judges, among whom there is a difference of opinion with respect to the question.—Mr Cooke, in a forcible and animated speech for the prisoner, contended that the death had been involuntarily caused during the agony of the mother in the pains of child-birth, and he doubted whether, under such circumstances, a charge of manslaughter even could be sustained.—The jury, after an absence of an hour and a half, returned a verdict of *Guilty*, with a recommendation to mercy. His Lordship then passed sentence of death.—It is ten years since sentence of death was passed, or an execution has taken place, in Hereford.

CHESTER.—At these assizes an action was brought by the Messrs Brocklehurst, the extensive silk manufacturers of Macclesfield (one of whom represents the borough in Parliament), against the proprietor and publisher of the *Liverpool Mail*, for libel. The libel complained of was contained in the following paragraph:—"The Silk Trade at Macclesfield.—There are tricks played sometimes in the silk trade, it appears, as well as in the cotton, woollen, and corn trades. An extensive firm in Macclesfield, one of whose members represents in Parliament the opinions of the Liberal portion of the constituency, has lately, we understand, been complimented by a process from the Court of Exchequer, at the instance of Government, for the recovery of a sum of nearly 200,000*l*., certain goods manufactured by them of cotton and silk having been exported as silk goods, and the drawback received thereon." The plaintiffs did not press for more than a nominal verdict in vindication of their characters, and the jury returned a verdict for the plaintiffs—damages, 40*s*. The judge said he thought the plaintiffs had been extremely forbearing, and that they had shown great liberality in consenting to such a verdict; and certified that the case was a fit one for a special jury.

CHESTER.—An Election Bill.—This was an action brought by the plaintiff, Mr Parry, landlord of the Gredington Arms, at Holt, in the county of Denbigh, to recover from the defendant, Mr Townsend Mainwaring, M.P., the sum of 122*l*., for refreshments furnished by him to the voters and friends of Mr Mainwaring, during the last election contest. The defendant had paid 30*l*. on account, and the sum of 50*l*. into Court, in discharge of the amount due, and he also pleaded the statute against tipping, and that the demand was illegal, as it came under the denomination of treating the electors. Mr Jervis addressed the jury for the plaintiff, and several witnesses were called, who proved that they had been engaged by Mr Mainwaring to manage his election, that they had his authority to order refreshments for the electors and their friends, and had done so at the plaintiff's house.—Mr V. Williams addressed the jury on behalf of the defendant. He said Mr Mainwaring had never refused to pay what was right. He had, in fact, paid already 70*l*. towards the bill, which more than satisfied what was really due; but, contrary to his wish, the house had been kept open for ten days previous to the election, and this he contended the defendant was not liable to.—The learned Judge, in summing up the case, observed, that the questions for the consideration of the jury were—what orders had been given by the defendant, and what liquor had been served in consequence of those orders. On the latter point there was no evidence at all, and the bill certainly appeared a heavy one, for only about fifty voters were in the borough, and on one day 111 glasses of gin were charged, on another 360, and on

another no less than 740. They, however, were to say what damages the plaintiff was entitled to above the 30*l*. which had been paid.—The Jury found for the plaintiff.—Damages, 110*l*.

IRELAND.

WM. HENRY FORTESCUE v. THE HON. AND RIGHT REV. THE LORD BISHOP OF DERRY.—This was an action of *assumpsit*. The first count states, that on the 1st Jan., 1836, the defendant, on consideration of the sum of 2,000*l*. being paid to him by Thomas Knox Magee, did promise to promote his son, the Rev. George Adam Magee, to the first vacant benefice in his power; and that the said plaintiff did afterwards advance to the defendant a certain large sum, and was willing to advance the residue, yet the said defendant, not regarding his promise, hath not as yet promoted the Rev. G. A. Magee to a vacant benefice, although divers vacancies have after and before the 1st Jan., 1841, occurred, and he might have fulfilled his said promise. The damages are laid at 3,000*l*.—Mr Shiels stated the plaintiff's case. The late T. Knox Magee was a gentleman of considerable property, with a very numerous family; and in 1830, having a son in the Church, he was anxious to make a provision for him. He accordingly applied to a gentleman, who was his son's tutor in college, to procure a living for him, and that gentleman, seeing an advertisement in a newspaper respecting the right of presentation to a living, called on Mr Barlow, a solicitor in Dublin, to whom reference was made. Mr Barlow informed him that the living was in England. Dr Macdonnell, young Mr Magee's tutor, communicated the particulars to Mr Magee. He considered it too small a provision for his son, as it was only 150*l*. or 200*l*. a year, and he said that he would not be the purchaser. This was communicated to Barlow, and Barlow then informed Dr Macdonnell, that a gentleman had the right of presentation to a living, the incumbent of which was ninety years of age. In the month of November, 1830, Mr Barlow introduced Dr Macdonnell to a Mr Pearson, who told him that he had the right of presentation to a living worth 500*l*. or 600*l*. a year. Dr Macdonnell communicated this to Mr Magee, who said that that would do. Unfortunately, at that time, the Lord Bishop of Derry was in difficulties. He was then the Bishop of Killaloe. Pearson told Dr Macdonnell that the Bishop was in distressed circumstances—that the parish of Killaloe was occupied by Mr Whitty, who was 90 years of age—that it was worth 1,000*l*. a year—that it was a union of parishes, and that after his death it would be divided—that there was an execution in the Bishop's house, and that 1,000*l*. must be produced forthwith, and that 1,000*l*. more on the death of Mr Whitty. He said that in case another living fell vacant before Kilrush, he should get it. Accordingly an arrangement was entered into by Pearson for the parish of Kilrush. The incumbent was represented as 90 years of age—that the living would be worth 500*l*. or 600*l*. after his death, and that Mr Magee should get it if he paid 1,000*l*. immediately, a policy of insurance was likewise to be effected on the Bishop's life, and 1,000*l*. more on induction. It was also agreed that Mr Magee should be priested immediately—this was on the 29th November, 1830—and that he should get a curacy. The Learned Counsel then proceeded to adduce lengthened documentary evidence, upon which he commented with great minuteness; and called a few witnesses in support of the plaintiff's case.—Mr Smith spoke at great length for the defence. He said that the present action was brought against the Bishop of Derry, for not corruptly bartering away his patronage. He wished to know if, consistently with the contract alleged by the plaintiffs, the Rev. George Magee could have taken the oath which is, by the 35th canon of the Church, necessary for all clergymen to enter into. He (Mr Smith), on the other hand, insisted that it was but a loan, and that the Bishop was not privy to the simoniacal bargain that had been entered into.—Baron Pennefather, in charging the jury, said that this is the allegation of a contract quite illegal, reflecting much on all parties, and reflecting most of all on the defendant, if, in your opinion, he was a party to it.—The Jury returned a verdict for the defendant.

TIPPERARY.—The assizes for the North Riding of Tipperary terminated at a late hour. Chief Justice Doherty passed sentence of death upon James Shea, alias Smith, found guilty of the murder of Rodolphus Kennedy, of Loughree, on the 21st May last. The crime seems to have been committed through mere private or personal malice. The prisoner is about twenty-four years of age. His execution is appointed to take place on the 20th inst.

The third trial of Mr Sam. Gray, for shooting at James Cunningham on the 26th of November, 1840, commenced at the Monaghan assizes on Thursday morning, and continued until Friday evening. The jury were locked up for the night, and it was not until next evening at a late hour that the judge, finding no hopes of agreeing, ordered them to be discharged. Gray's defence was an *alibi*.

At Galway a second edition of the duel farce was enacted in the prosecution of Mr Lynch, who killed Mr Kelly in an affair of honour, about a jockeying transaction, near Ballinasloe, last year. The seconds were indicted at the summer assizes last year, but all the witnesses produced on the part of the Crown declined, with one consent, to give any account of what they had seen, alleging that they did not choose to criminate themselves; and as the House of Lords had provided a screen for them by its decisions on Lord Cardigan's trial, the court was precluded from entering into any inquiry; and the prisoners were discharged from the dock. Last week Mr Lynch, the principal in the affair, was arraigned, and after a similar formality, pronounced to be Not Guilty.

Two young gentlemen named Blake, sons of a gentleman of consideration in the neighbourhood of Tuam, were arraigned, for having cut off the ears of a man, who had been a servant in their father's family. They pleaded guilty, and were sentenced to be transported for fifteen years. The prosecutor had seduced a young woman, an illegitimate sister of the young men, for whom they entertained a great affection; and the fellow having abandoned her, to marry another, they "lynched" the offender in the manner described.

POLICE.

BRUTALITY.—At Bow street George Stokes was charged with the following brutal assault upon Mary Ann Davis:—The prosecutrix, whose face bore evident marks of violence, stated that she met the prisoner in Broad street, Bloomsbury. He entered into conversation, and accompanied her home, and after some short time accused her of having robbed him, which she denied. He then attempted to take 18*l*., which she had in her house. Finding that he could not obtain it, he put one of her fingers into his mouth, and bit it very severely. She screamed, but he still kept biting her, till he took the

first joint of her finger completely off; he then released her, but immediately knocked her down, and kept striking her about the face and head till a policeman, attracted by her screams, entered. The prisoner said he was very sorry for what he had done. He was in liquor at the time, and he believed she had robbed him. Mr Jardine said he regretted that in consequence of a recent decision of the judges, who had held that such an offence did not strictly come within the act of cutting and wounding with intent to do grievous bodily harm, or to maim and disable, he could not commit him to trial for the felony. As, however, any punishment he had power to inflict would be totally inadequate to the nature of the offence, he should send the case to the sessions.

MISTAKES.—At Guildhall Sarah Mould, a prostitute, who spends eleven months of the year in gaol, on account of her violence when drunk, was charged with wilfully breaking two squares of glass at the house of Mr Smith, of King street, Snow hill. The value of the glass was 2*s*.—Mr Smith said he never saw her before. He had not given her any provocation.—The officer explained that she had broken the window by mistake instead of that of Dr Lynch, the medical attendant on the poor in the union, who lives at No. 9 King street. The officer said the prisoner took poison on Saturday, and was conveyed to the hospital, from whence she absconded as soon as she was able.—An inhabitant said she was a great nuisance to the ward of Farringdon without, where she smashed windows to the amount of 100*l*. per annum. She was remanded.—Catherine Warwick, a drunken companion of the prisoner, was charged with breaking two squares of glass at No. 11 in King street. She had based her companion's mistake, and thought she would rectify it, but she mistook the shop of Mr Fisher, a surgeon, at No. 11, for that of Dr Lynch, of No. 9.—Sir J. Duke committed her to Bridewell for seven days, in default of paying 5*s*. for the damage.

CHARGE OF MURDER.—At Union Hall on Friday, William Leamy, a beer-shop keeper, of Bexley street, Fencham New Town, was charged with the murder of his wife. It was found that the prisoner and his wife, who was on the eve of her confinement, had a quarrel, arising from her coming home intoxicated. In the course of the dispute the wife threw a pewter pot at the prisoner's head, upon which he turned upon her and gave her a tremendous kick in the lower part of the abdomen, and she died in less than ten minutes of hemorrhage. The prisoner, who appeared to be in great distress of mind when placed at the bar, was remanded.

BIGAMY.—At Wandsworth Police-office, the Rev. Stephen Aldhouse, late lecturer at All-hallows, in the City, was charged, upon the oath of Hephzibah Roberts, widow, with bigamy.—Mr Merriman produced an exact copy from the register in St Leonard's, Shoreditch, of the marriage of Stephen Aldhouse and Frances Moss. The marriage was solemnized on the 21st of January, 1824.—Mr John Jones, collector of rates for the parish of Clapham, said, I am the father of Mrs Roberts, now present, and I know she is the widow of John Roberts, who died in March, 1837. I was present at the marriage of the Rev. Stephen Aldhouse with my daughter, at the parish church of St James, Clerkenwell, on the 4th of January, 1838.—Police-constable New said, that he had been to Norwich, and that whilst there Mr Moss, the brother of Mrs Aldhouse, told him he saw her a few days previously, and she was quite well.—Hephzibah Roberts said, I am the widow of John Roberts, and in January, 1838, was married to the prisoner. About two years since I suspected that I had been deceived by the prisoner, and having made some inquiries, I wrote to Mrs Aldhouse, and directed my letter to 20 Change alley, Cornhill, where Mrs Aldhouse's remittances are forwarded to her from her trustees. The substance of my letter to her was, that I had heard from Mrs Poole, the sister of the Rev. Mr Aldhouse, that he had a wife living, and that she was the person, and I asked her to state in an answer if such was the fact. I subsequently received the two letters produced, and they convinced me that the prisoner had deceived me. There are no dates to the letters, but there are the post-marks, which are stamped March and August. The prisoner has deserted me for some time.—Solicitor: Did you never hear from the rev. gentleman himself that his wife was dead; that a coroner's inquest had been held upon her, and that he identified the body?—Prosecutrix: He told me both before and after my marriage with him that he went with his wife's father and brother to identify her body, but I never recollect his having alluded to a coroner's inquest.—Solicitor: Did he not tell you previously to your marriage that he had not heard of his wife for twelve years, and that he supposed her dead?—Prosecutrix: He did not; and if he had not positively said she was dead, I would not have married him.—Mr Clive said he was satisfied that sufficient evidence had been produced to remand the prisoner upon, and he would admit him to bail, but the sureties must be heavy. He should require the prisoner's own recognizance of 500*l*., and two sureties in the sum of 250*l*. each, and 24 hours' notice of bail.

A NEST OF GAMBLERS.—A most extraordinary sensation was on Tuesday evening created in Castle street, Leicester square, in consequence of a low gambling-house being entered by a large posse of police, who not only had possession of the roulette, rouge et noir, and other tables, but also of the dice, counters, scrapers, the bank, all the other implements, and 28 persons, including the proprietor of the house. The house kept by the defendant, Henry Gregory, has long been complained of by the respectable inhabitants of the neighbourhood as a nuisance, as gaming was permitted to and working-men, and even children were tempted to peep at hazard or rouge et noir. About ten o'clock on Tuesday evening from the house was at once stopped by previous arrangement, and the whole of the 28 prisoners were taken to the house, with the exception of two, who jumped out of the window of the room into the street, and were, fortunately, the safety of their limbs, caught in the arms of the police. Henry Gregory, the proprietor of the rooms, Andrew Joseph, and Abraham Levy, croupiers, were first placed at the superintendent of the bank, were first placed at the bank. Gregory was fined 50*l*., or four months' imprisonment. Levy and Joseph 15*l*. each.—The players were then put to the bar in batches of half a dozen each. If the excuses were true, they were a collection of very uneducated individuals, almost all having come to the house for any purpose except to play. John Picard, Italian refugee, had posed to look for a friend. George Barney, living at 97 Long street, had been sent by his master to collect a debt, and was told he would find the creditor at the house in Castle street. Picard Langley, cabinet-maker, did not go there to play. Picard Dure had earned a few shillings by interpreting, and had been taken there by the person who employed him to wait on the house in Castle street. Edward Griffiths was waiting for a friend. William Jones, surgeon, had called to see one of the players. John Lewis, French teacher, had been told a friend was in the house, and he called to advise him to come away. F. Jones, courier, had been called

by Levy. Henry Woolf, servant, had been also called in...

MAGISTERIAL FRACAS.—A fracas took place on Tuesday evening between Mr Young, late M.P. for Teignmouth...

ATROCIOUS CASE.—At Marylebone, on Wednesday, Mr Harrison, a gentleman residing in the Edgware road...

OFFENCES.

BARBARITY.—A dreadful act of barbarity was committed a few days ago at Epernay. A young man...

ACCIDENTS.

SEVENTEEN LIVES LOST.—The boat Woodlark laden with peats, on her return from the Island of Whalsay...

THE FIRE AT CREDITON.—The origin of this calamity, which destroyed upwards of thirty dwellings...

FIRE AT THE DUKE OF BEAUFORT'S MANSION.—On Wednesday night alarm was occasioned amongst the domestics...

OCCURRENCES.

FRACAS AT THE CHAPEL ROYAL, BRIGHTON.—On Sunday morning the Rev. Mr Drummond, the officiating minister...

COLLIERS IN SCOTLAND.—We are sorry to learn that the colliers in the neighbourhood of Glasgow have nearly all turned out for higher wages.

THE MINING DISTRICTS.—The latest accounts from the Potteries state that some of the works have been resumed...

SUICIDES.

An inquest was held at the Rose, Bermondsey, on the body of Charles Wilkins, 32, a waterman. The deceased and his wife had latterly lived very uncomfortably together...

SPORTING.

The settling day for Goodwood at Tattersall's, on Monday, drew a full attendance, and occupied nearly the whole of the afternoon...

COMMERCE AND TRADE.

By news from Alexandria to the 16th, we learn that the Pacha had at last thrown open the cotton trade, and sold 80,000 quintals of that article to European houses...

THE FUNDS.—SATURDAY, ELEVEN O'CLOCK.

Table of financial data including British and Foreign stock prices, such as Consols, Do. Account, and various foreign bonds.

SHARE LIST table with columns for Price, Shares, and Paid, listing various railway and industrial companies like Birmingham and Derby Railway, London and Brighton Do., etc.

CORN MARKETS.

Textual report on the Corn Exchange for Monday, August 1, detailing the prices and availability of wheat, barley, and other grains.

IMPORTATIONS

Table showing importations of various commodities including Wheat, Barley, Oats, Malt, and Flour, with quantities and values.

SMITHFIELD MARKETS, FRIDAY.

Table of prices per stone for various goods at Smithfield markets, including beef, mutton, lamb, and veal.

Textual note regarding the average price of Brown or Muscovado Sugar, computed from the returns made in the week ending Aug 2.

HOP MARKET, MONDAY.

Textual report on the hop market, noting that there is not much doing and the price is over-rated.

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTES.

Tuesday, August 2.

WAR OFFICE, August 2.

Official notice from the War Office regarding the promotion and appointment of various military officers.

Continuation of military notices from the War Office, detailing the movements and appointments of officers in various regiments.

PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

Legal notices regarding the dissolution of partnerships between various individuals and firms in different trades.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

Notices regarding the annulment of bankruptcies for several individuals, including J. Dawson and J. Ivery.

DIVIDENDS.

Notices regarding the payment of dividends for various companies and trusts.

CERTIFICATES—August 23.

Notices regarding the issuance of certificates for various military and civil positions.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

Notices regarding the sequestration of property in Scotland, including the case of J. Harley and Co.

Friday, August 5.

WAR OFFICE, August 5.

Official notice from the War Office regarding military appointments and movements on August 5.

Continuation of military notices from the War Office, detailing the appointments and movements of officers.

OFFICE OF ORDNANCE, August 2.

Notice from the Office of Ordnance regarding the appointment of Royal Engineers.

PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

Legal notices regarding the dissolution of partnerships between various individuals and firms.

INSOLVENT.

Notice regarding an insolvent party, W. Freeman, of Acton street.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

Notice regarding the annulment of bankruptcy for W. Webb.

8 BANKRUPTCY.

Notices regarding the bankruptcy of several individuals, including T. Armstrong and R. Rollo.

DIVIDENDS.

Notices regarding the payment of dividends for various companies and trusts.

CERTIFICATES—August 26.

Notices regarding the issuance of certificates for various military and civil positions.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

Notices regarding the sequestration of property in Scotland.

BIRTHS.

Notices regarding the births of several children.

MARRIED.

Notice regarding the marriage of Miss Julia Bacon and W. J. Bacon.

On Wednesday, at St George's, Hanover square, Lord Templemore, to Miss Paget, niece of the Marquis of Anglesey.

DEATHS.

At Pennington, near Lynton, in the 91st year of his age, John Frost, Esq., a man conspicuous in the political world of former days as an able and zealous advocate of the rights of the people.

THE QUEEN has been graciously pleased to command that JOSEPH GILLOTT, of Birmingham, be appointed STEEL PEN MANUFACTURER in Ordinary to her Majesty, dated April 15, 1840.

JOSEPH GILLOTT'S very superior PATENT and other METALLIC PENS may be had of all Stationers, Booksellers, and other Dealers in Pens throughout the United Kingdom.

THEATRE ROYAL, HAYMARKET. MR WEBSTER, LESSEE. Mr W. Farren, Mrs Nisbett, Mrs Glover, and Mlle Celeste every Evening.

UNDER THE MANAGEMENT OF MR H. HALL. "Wax and Wonder," a decided hit.—Brilliant career of "Boots at the Swan."

THE CHINESE COLLECTION, St George's place, Hyde Park corner.—This splendid Collection, consisting of objects exclusively Chinese, surpassing in extent and grandeur any similar display in the known world.

ROYAL GARDENS, VAUXHALL.—GREAT ATTRACTION.—The Unrivalled ECUYERE, Mlle CAROLINE, from Le Cirque Olympique, in the Champs Elysees at Paris, has arrived with her celebrated horses.

ROYAL GARDENS, VAUXHALL.—The LAST MASQUERADE will take place on FRIDAY NEXT, August 12; in order to render this Popular Entertainment more accessible to all Classes of Society.

HARVEY'S FISH SAUCE. E. LAZENBY and SON having numerous complaints from Families who are imposed upon by spurious imitations of their HARVEY'S FISH SAUCE.

BRITISH INSTITUTION, PALLMALL.—The Gallery, with the WORKS of the late Sir DAVID WILKIE, R.A., and a Selection of PICTURES by Ancient Masters, is OPEN Daily, from Ten in the Morning till Six in the Evening.

MEDICAL INVALID and GENERAL LIFE OFFICE, 25 PALLMALL.—THE PRODUCTIVE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY having transferred its business to this Office, the Members will receive New Policies, either at 25 Pallmall, or 29 Moorgate street, within 30 days from this date.

VICTORIA LIFE ASSURANCE and LOAN COMPANY, No. 18 King William street, City.—TRUSTEES: Sir Jas. Duke, Ald. M.P. Chairman.

ECONOMIC LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY, No. 34 Bridge street, Blackfriars, London. Established 1823. Empowered by Act of Parliament, 3 William IV.

NATIONAL LOAN FUND LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY, for granting Life Assurances, Deferred Annuities, &c. &c. 26 Cornhill. Capital, 500,000. Empowered by Special Act of Parliament.

Table showing Annual Premium per Cent for various ages from 15 to 50. Columns for Age, 15-19, 20-24, 25-29, 30-34, 35-39, 40-44, 45-49, 50.

BRITANNIA LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, No. 1 PRINCES STREET, BANK, LONDON.—This Institution is empowered by a Special Act of Parliament, 4th Vic. cap. 9, and is so constituted as to afford the benefits of Life Assurance, in their fullest extent, to Policy-Holders.

Table showing Extract from Increasing Rates of Premium, for an Assurance of 1000, for Whole Term of Life. Columns for Age, First Five Years, Second Five Years, Third Five Years, Fourth Five Years, Remainder of Life.

FREEMASONS' and GENERAL LIFE ASSURANCE, LOAN, ANNUITY, and REVERSIONARY COMPANY, 11 Waterloo place, Pallmall, London.

ROYAL SURREY ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS.—The Illumination of St Peter's and Grandola will commence this Week precisely at Nine o'clock.—Grand Evening Fete.—MONDAY, TUESDAY, and THURSDAY.

SPONGE.—METCALFE'S SMYRNA SPONGE, guaranteed to the Public in its pure and natural state, whereby its valuable properties of absorption, purity, and durability are preserved.

FACTS and OBSERVATIONS relative to a SUCCESSFUL MODE of treating PILES, FISTULA, HEMORRHOIDAL EXCRESCENCES, TUMOURS, and STRICTURES, without CUTTING or CONFINEMENT.

METCALFE'S New Pattern TOOTH BRUSH, the most useful on the most scientific principle, and patronized by the most eminent of the faculty.

ROWLAND'S ODONTO; or, PEARL DENTIFRICE, a vegetable white powder, prepared from oriental herbs, of the most delicious odour and sweetness.

ON EVERY SPORTSMAN'S TABLE.—THORN'S TALLY-HO SAUCE, for Fish, Game, Steaks, Chops, Cutlets, Made Dishes, and all general purposes.

LIFE or DEATH.—SUDDEN ILLNESS.—It is a well-known fact that many valuable lives have been saved by the prompt administration of STIRLING'S STOMACH PILLS.

A FEW of the CASES of SIGHT RESTORED by GRIMSTONE'S SNUFF. Copy of a Letter sent to Mr W. Grimstone, Inventor of the celebrated Eye Snuff.

STOMACH AND BOWEL COMPLAINTS. DICEY and Co.'s TRUE DAFFY'S ELIXIR is superior to every other medicine for giving immediate relief in the most painful attacks of the Cholera.

DICEY and Co.'s ANDERSON'S TRUE SCOTS PILLS, so well known and approved for their efficacy in promoting digestion, as well as in bilious head-aches, and stomach complaints in general.

ON the DEBILITIES of the GENERATIVE SYSTEM in MAN and WOMAN, the Causes that produce a Premature Decay of the Reproductive Powers in both; and the means of their perfect Restoration.

ROYAL SURREY ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS.—The Illumination of St Peter's and Grandola will commence this Week precisely at Nine o'clock.

ROYAL SURREY ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS.—The Illumination of St Peter's and Grandola will commence this Week precisely at Nine o'clock.—Grand Evening Fete.—MONDAY, TUESDAY, and THURSDAY.

