

# THE EXAMINER.

No. 2,412.]

SATURDAY, APRIL 22, 1854.

[PRICE 6d.]

## THE POLITICAL EXAMINER.

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

### ON THE DANUBE.

In the continued absence of reliable intelligence from the seat of war, it may not be uninteresting to glance briefly at the advantages and disadvantages of the positions occupied by the opposed forces, the result of whose encounter is waited for with so much suspense and impatience.

The vicissitudes of the last century left the Turks with the most unfavourable line of defence upon their northern frontier that could well be imagined. The Danube forms that line; a wide, deep, and rapid river no doubt, but in its course, from the frontier of Servia to that of Bessarabia, advancing so far south and retiring so far north as to form a salient semi-circle round Wallachia. Had solemn treaties been held binding, indeed, this disadvantage would have been less felt by the Turks, for such treaties established Wallachia and Moldavia as territories belonging to the sovereignty of the Sultan, though he might not occupy them with his armies. But in defiance of all national compacts Russia was permitted to seize those territories, and thus to place Turkey, in the event of actual war, in an every way disadvantageous position. We need hardly remark that not more than half the force is required to assume a belligerent position from Wallachia against Turkey, than is needed to defend Bulgaria against an enemy occupying Wallachia. A Russian army with its centre at Bucharest, its left on the Danube towards Ibrail or Rassoava, and its right on the Alouta, has all its wings and divisions within call of the centre, and lending each other mutual aid.

To defend the line of the Danube against an army so disposed, the task of Omar Pasha is a work involving infinite difficulty, and requiring not only a larger force, but much more abundant materials, than have yet been at his disposal. The division that defends Widdin is not available at Rutschuk or at Shumla. And if the main body of the Turks be occupied in watching and defending the part of the Danube in front of Bucharest, that is, at Rutschuk and Turtukai, it is of course impossible for it to lend succour to any Turkish post so advanced as Isakhtcha.

With a line of defence so detestably formed, the best mode in ordinary cases would have been to abandon it, either by advancing into Wallachia or retiring upon the Balkan. For the true line of defence of Turkey in Europe, against Russia, consists first in the Danube from Galatz to its mouths, and then in the frontier between Moldavia and Wallachia. A fortress of the first rank held by the Turks at or towards the confluence of the Pruth and Danube would therefore have been their best security. But this is to be thought of another time. For the present, the Russians having feloniously occupied Wallachia, it was the gallant proposal of Omar Pasha to transfer his army into Wallachia also, and there to dispute the territory. He showed how he could do this, by the old Turkish fashion of throwing up entrenchments and fortifying the ground so occupied. Already he had set the example at Oltenitza, and Achmet Pasha had followed it at Kalafat. But superior orders from Constantinople overruled Omar Pasha. It was represented that his cavalry could not cope with the Russian, and that his regular troops, however brave, were not likely to bide the brunt of artillery, or to stand firm in an open field, like the Russians. In short, Omar Pasha was enjoined to take the Danube for his line of defence. It is difficult to foresee or pronounce upon the fortunes of war, but it may perhaps be regretted that the Turkish commander was not left to follow his own inspirations.

Another reliance has since been taken from him. He would seem to have confidently reckoned, after he took up his position of defending the line of the Danube, that at least the extremity of his right, stationed either at Baba Dag or in the fortresses of Isakhtcha, Toultscha, and Ibrail, was safe from attack, under protection of the French and English fleets. But much doubt and anxiety had existed from the first as to the probability of our steamers being able to act off the coast, so as to impede the Russians from crossing, or to cut off their communications if they did. All doubt on that subject is now removed by the fact of the Russians under Lüdors having crossed the Lower Danube on the 23rd ultimo, and within a week after made themselves masters of the three fortresses. One of them, Toultscha, is said to have opposed a very gallant resistance, and to have occasioned the enemy very severe loss. But the fortresses were nevertheless obliged to surrender, and some 7,000 persons, with two pashas, are reported to have been captured.

Such an advantage alone made it doubtless worth while for General Lüdors to cross where he did. Placing both banks of the Danube in his power, with the fortresses that line its southern coast, it appears to put out of the question

any effectual naval succour. On the other hand the fleets can at least render Varna impregnable. Nor would any advance upon it, or upon Shumla, be prudent, with the garrison of Silistria in the rear of such a movement.

Apparently, therefore, it is upon the siege of Silistria that the operations of both Russians and Turks are immediately concentrated. Unluckily the Turks had been so ill provided with artillery, difficult to transport in winter, that most of their batteries on the Danube were necessarily formed of heavy guns from Silistria. These have now to be restored to the ramparts; and we can hardly doubt that the present care and anxiety of Omar Pasha will be less to defend the dry ditch known as Trajan's Wall, and which is no defence at all, than to prepare for rendering the siege of Silistria difficult and dangerous to the Russians.

The most effectual way would no doubt be to operate on the northern as well as on the southern banks of the Danube, to advance from Kalafat, to drive the Russians from Krajova, and menace them in Bucharest, whilst a large division of their army is yet on the right bank. The possibility of this, however, much depends on the number of troops that the Russians may really have in the Principalities, and their ability in consequence to lay siege to Silistria as well as to move against the Turkish force that has been so successful at Kalafat. A few days will make us better judges on these points. But from all that is at present revealed to us, we cannot but consider Silistria as the key of operations; and we sincerely trust that either the land or marine forces of the allies may also be found available for the defence of that fortress.

To the terms of the Convention at last signed between France and England, and to the fresh Orders in Council securing more extensive rights to neutrals in the conduct of the war, we do not here advert. The former has reached us too late for comment, and the important bearing of the latter must be reserved for future remark. There has since arrived, too, the Russian manifesto in reply to the English and French declaration of war. In this affectedly moderate and transparently false piece of reasoning, one point only of any force is made. "The occupation of the Principalities," says the Czar, "which is taken now as a pretext for this war, did not prevent the opening of negotiations." No doubt that is the weak point in the case of the allies—we have so considered it all along. It was discussing with a man who had his hands upon your throat. But it is not an objection that comes with any grace from the aggressor in the foul assault, unless he would be understood to complain that it encouraged him in evil purposes. As he still shrinks from openly confessing the meditated robbery, the argument in his mouth is worthless.

### THE MILITARY ADMINISTRATION.

The Americans have a story of a ship in which the authority of each officer in his respective station was co-ordinate and independent. Upon some occasion, the officer having charge of the fore-castle having offered some suggestion to the officer in command of the quarter deck, the answer was, "Do as you please with your part of the ship, and leave me to do as I please with mine." Soon afterwards a heavy splash, followed by a rumbling rattling noise, was heard, and the officer of the quarter deck, finding that the vessel no longer pursued her course in obedience to her helm, asked what was doing forward; the reply of the fore-castle chief was, "I have done what I please with my part of the ship, I have let go my anchor and brought to." "No interference, Mr Officer of the quarter deck, with your part of the ship, where you do what you please with the helm all the same."

The system of the military administration is somewhat like this American ship, with its separate and independent provinces of authority, as Lord Grey has most ably shown:

The Commander-in-Chief has the command of the troops, except the Artillery and the Engineers, which are not under his military authority; but he has no authority whatever to adopt any measure of any kind involving an increase of expenditure, without the assent of another department of the Government. On the other hand, the duty of the Secretary at War is to submit estimates to Parliament for the expenditure of the army, and to see that the money so voted is duly applied to the proper objects. It is also expected that he should answer in his place, in the House of Commons, all complaints which may be made as to the misapplication of that money, or the mismanagement of the service for which it was intended to provide. But, while the Secretary at War has these duties to perform, he has no right to interfere in the slightest degree in any one of the measures of the Commander-in-Chief—not even in those which most directly in their consequences affect the ultimate expenditure of the army. If the measures of the Commander-in-Chief do not involve any immediate outlay, and no money is required for carrying them out, the Secretary at War, according to theory, has no right to interfere. Then, again, the Master-General of the Ordnance has personally the command of the Artillery and Engineers, without the assistance of any board, and he performs with respect to those two corps the duties which in regard to the rest of the army devolve upon the Commander-in-Chief. In conjunction with the Board of Ordnance the Master-General has a very great variety of duties to perform, connected not only with the Ordnance and Engineer corps, but also with the general management of the army. Because, when I said that the Secretary at War submitted to Parliament the estimates to provide for the expenditure of the army, I ought to have said that he has the control over only a small part of that expenditure, and that all that relates

to the barracks, the arms, the provisions, and the stores that are required in this great department do not come under the cognizance of the Secretary at War. The Master-General and the Board of Ordnance have to attend to the barracks, the fortifications, and the supply of some of the arms; for nothing is more capricious than the rule. I believe the Board of Ordnance supply the cavalry with carbines, but not with their swords. [A noble lord here interposed a remark.] Oh, yes; the noble lord is quite right; I remember now that it is only the sergeants' swords of the infantry that the Board of Ordnance do not supply. Then again, the Ordnance supply a part of the clothing of the troops, but only a part. They supply the greatcoats of the army, while the other articles of clothing are furnished by the colonel of the regiment. Lastly, the Board of Treasury, in addition to having a general control on all matters relating to expenditure, keeps directly in its own hands all that relates to supplying with provisions troops on foreign stations; at least, I believe that the Ordnance have the duty of supplying provisions for the troops in this country. All these various and independent authorities are, according to the theory of the army, kept in their places, and mutual co-operation and concert are secured by the paramount authority of the Secretary of State for War and the Colonies. All these officers, with one exception, are subordinate to the Secretary of State. The Board of the Treasury are not under the orders of the Secretary of State, and all that he can do is to suggest his recommendations without an express order. This is the theory of the arrangement—that all these independent authorities are made to co-operate harmoniously together by the paramount authority of the Secretary of State. Formerly the practice corresponded with the theory, but for the last fifty years nearly that theory has been practically and in a great measure set aside, and in the present state of affairs it is physically impossible that a Minister charged with the superintendence of all the complicated arrangements and all the details of our colonies should possibly give a due superintendence to the affairs of the army.

The natural connection between these departments is as close as the connection between the limbs and vitals of a human body, but, the lesson of Menenius Agrippa having been curiously reversed in this instance, the arms, the legs, the head, and the heart, all act separately, according to their own peculiar laws of motion. Each part is essentially necessary to every other, there is the strictest mutual dependence for the efficiency of the whole, and there is also the completest mutual independence in authority. But it has worked well is of course said. So when the York Diligence made its way to London in a week, God willing, it was thought to work well, because no better machinery for the same object had been devised. A clumsy instrument passes for working well, till ingenuity, detecting its faults and supplying improvement, invents a better.

But how this system has worked Lord Grey will show. What can be more important than the health of troops. If it be a calamity to lose men in battle by the bullet or sword of the enemy, what is it to lose men in a far larger proportion, by a death cruel and obscure, from causes easily to be obviated, and referable only to want of due care and activity?

Lord Grey states:

At Jamaica it was found that one-seventh of the whole force was annually cut off by disease, in addition to those who were invalided; and, taking the whole mortality of the twenty years ending in 1837, it appears that during that time there perished of the British force in Jamaica no less than 6,700 men. That number of English white soldiers—for the return did not include the coloured troops—had fallen victims to the climate; the average number of the force employed in that island was 2,578, and the deaths which occurred among them annually was 350, or 130 nearly to the thousand. Now, my lords, it will give you some notion as to what the extent of mortality in that island really was if I compare it with the loss which was occasioned by the battle of Waterloo, the great battle of modern times. The loss occurring among those regiments which stood the whole brunt of the engagement, and excluding the others, some of which were only slightly engaged, and others not at all, was 100 men per 1,000; and that number included not only those who were killed on the field, but who died subsequently of their wounds; so that it would appear that one single year's service in Jamaica was more deadly—that there was nearly one-third greater risk of loss of life to the soldier who took a year's service in Jamaica than there was of loss of life to the soldier who actually took a share in the memorable battle of Waterloo. My lords, I may be told that this is the inevitable result of the climate; if it were so it would be a frightful thing; but I say it is not the inevitable result of the climate, for, after the investigation to which I have alluded had been made, various measures had been adopted to counteract the frightful evils that were ascertained to exist; and in a very few years—if not immediately within the next four years—that mortality was reduced from 130 to 53 in the thousand—a saving of nearly one-third in the average annual number of the troops. But the improvement did not stop there, for within the last ten years, instead of the deaths being 130 in the thousand, the average number was only 34. Now, what do these facts show? Why, that if the same precautions, which experience has proved are perfectly practicable and perfectly easy, had been adopted during the twenty years immediately succeeding the peace, instead of losing 6,700 British soldiers, we should have lost only 1,753 if the mortality had been in the same ratio as it has been in the average of the last ten years; that is to say, you would have saved the lives of 4,947 soldiers in twenty years; so that the lives of nearly 5,000 British soldiers have been thrown away through the neglect of taking proper and practicable precautions in the island of Jamaica during the twenty years succeeding the peace; and, in fact, they have been as much sacrificed through want of management as if they had been drawn out in front of their barracks and shot upon the spot.

Bad barrack accommodation was the cause of much of this frightful mortality, and in one instance the troops were so atrociously lodged in a West India island, that if they had had the good fortune to be slaves, the Protector of that more favoured class would have interposed the law on their behalf to save them from hardships fraught with pestilence. But there was another cause of disease, the history of which is most illustrative of the system in question:



We all know, says Lord Grey, that one of the chief causes which leads to the prevalence of disease among large bodies of men is the want of good diet, and when the investigations were commenced into the state of the health of the troops in the year 1835, what do your lordships think was discovered? Why, I find that, for a long series of years, medical officers after medical officers had reported that it was most injurious to the health of the troops to feed them upon salt provisions. Is not the fact perfectly palpable and obvious to the very meanest capacity? It is no part of the duty of the Secretary of War to interfere in anything relating to the victualling of the troops; yet when the existence of such facts came to my knowledge, when I found that such a frightful mortality was going on, and that the medical officers reported that so much salt food had the most injurious effect upon the health of the troops as actually to produce what I looked upon as a public calamity, I at once commenced a correspondence upon the subject. My first letter to the Treasury pointing out these great evils was dated the 30th of January, 1836. There were references and re-references, first to one party and then to another, until at last I almost despaired of seeing anything accomplished at all. But, following up my official correspondence from day to day, and almost from hour to hour, and, not content with my official correspondence, writing private letter after private letter, until, I believe, if your lordships were to look, you would see a mountain of letters in my handwriting upon the subject, I received the first answer from the Treasury on the 28th of January, 1837, and that communication stated that orders would be given—of course there would be some further delay before they could be carried into effect—to the Commissariat Department to remedy the evil. There was, therefore, a whole year, with the exception of two days only, consumed in considering whether the troops in the tropical climate of Jamaica, who were shown to be suffering dreadfully in consequence of the salt diet they were subjected to, should be allowed to receive five days' salt provisions weekly, in spite of the unanimous opinion of the medical officers, for a long series of years, as to its injurious effect upon the health of the men. My letter to the Treasury recommended reforms in this respect generally, but when the final answer came, after all the references and re-references and consultations of every possible description, it said that I had made out my case with regard to Jamaica and the West Indies, and that they would give fresh meat every day to the troops in Jamaica, and five days in the week to the troops in the West Indies, but that with regard to any other part further inquiries must be made before the extension of the order to them. I was therefore compelled to leave the case in the hands of the Treasury, never doubting that they would extend their regulations to other places. But what really happened? It came out in a discussion not necessarily connected with the subject, but incidentally, that in the beginning of 1838 five days' salt provisions still continued to be given weekly to the troops situated in an equally tropical climate, although technically in the North American command—I mean the island of Bermuda, where the climate is a very peculiar character, and where the health of the men requires much attention. The moment I was aware of the fact, I wrote to the Treasury pointing out the necessity of a change, on the 1st of May, 1838, and on the 6th of September, in the same year, I received a letter from the Treasury, stating that no complaint had been made upon the subject. Upon that I immediately caused a very elaborate investigation to be made in the returns of the medical officers, in order to see what the result of their opinion was, and whether there was not some necessity for making that improvement which common sense pointed out must be required. Accordingly, when that investigation was completed, it was shown that public complaints prevailed to a great extent among the troops, one of the strongest grounds of complaint being that, while the convicts were allowed five days' fresh meat, such was not the case with the troops, and it was further shown that while the troops were suffering the convicts were in good health, so that they were actually feeding the convicts with fresh meat five days in the week, while the soldiers, who were sustained by crime, were condemned to five days' salt provisions weekly. My letter, setting out these facts, was dated October the 26th, 1838, and thereupon ensued a very long correspondence, and your lordships will hardly believe that, notwithstanding that correspondence, the order for the desired improvement was only issued on the 21st of October, 1840, nearly two years after the subject was first broached. There was another remarkable fact, to which I may allude, and that is that when the reform was introduced which was attended with so much benefit to the health of the troops, the change was actually found to be more economical to the Commissariat Department, and that arrangements could be made with parties to supply fresh meat at a cheaper rate than the salt, so that there was actually a saving to the nation by giving our troops wholesome instead of unwholesome food.

This is but one of several examples to the same effect, that the military system of administration admits of these grievous and disastrous errors, and is so deplorably slow in remedying them when detected.

The Duke of Newcastle observes, however, that Lord Grey, instead of making out a case against the system by his instances, has shown, that under the system all abuses can be remedied. Yes, but how, and when? After what perseverance, pertinacity in remonstrance, and after what a destruction of health and life, which might have been averted by a better system in the first instance, or one allowing of a prompter correction of errors.

The defence of the Colonial Secretary reminds us of Dominique, the dirty waiter in Sue's romance, who hands a customer a glass of water with a spider in it. Rebuked for his nastiness in offering a glass of water with a spider in it, Dominique turns his back, plunges his finger and thumb into the water, plucks out the spider, then complacently hands the glass again to his customer, remarking, "You cannot say there is a spider in the water now."

The spider is not now in the glass the Duke of Newcastle administers, but the system that admitted the spider into the glass, and the nice remedy of the finger and thumb to fish it out, is a system which will only be driven from one set of faults and errors to others, less gross no doubt, but which ought not to be suffered to exist.

The Duke went on to say:

The noble Earl stated that the mortality, which was once as high as 130 in 1,000, was now reduced to about 30 in 1,000; but this improvement has been effected under the very system which the noble Earl has condemned.

And, a fortiori, with a better system than this almost universally condemned one, the improvement would be in a yet larger ratio.

The Duke's argument is indeed precisely the defence of the railway companies for their perseverance in the neglect of precautions for the public safety—"See, after all, how few we kill and maim!" But what the public looks to wisely is, how many more might by a better system be saved from injuries and destruction.

What Lord Grey proposes for the military system is analogous to what Mr Cardwell proposes for the improvement of railway traffic—to break down barriers, and to introduce connection and correspondence in place of them, so that the parts may be parts assisting instead of obstructing each other.

Reference has been fairly made to the dispatch and efficiency with which the expedition for Turkey has been prepared. And not only undeniable, but a proud thing it is to avow, that such a fleet and army never quitted our shores; but gladly agreeing as to this honourable fact, we are yet far from admitting that what is comparatively excellent might not be rendered yet much better than it is. Swords might be made to cut instead of blunted by their own scabbards, so that the one is as fit to strike with as the other; men's thews and muscles might be emancipated from the bandage of tailoring, belts, and buckles; and demand and supply of what is useful might be brought into accord, instead of troops waiting for transports here, and transports waiting for troops there, and a fleet motionless for want of coal elsewhere—much the same sort of deficiency as if it had been unprovided with powder.

No doubt we shall be told with truth that if faults have been committed in fitting out this expedition they have been fewer than in any previous similar operation, but the question is, why not fewer still? Comparative excellence does not satisfy Englishmen in any province of art or science. The manufacturer does not rest content with the excellence of to-day, which he knows will be surpassed by a rival tomorrow. He looks into the means of present excellence for the discovery of imperfections, by removing or amending which he may produce something better. He cannot say, folding his hands, "This is better of its kind than anything before, so here I rest upon the unimprovable." It is only in statesmanship there can be this indulgence.

Upon the present occasion, it is farther to be observed, that the military system has been tried under circumstances extraordinarily favourable. There has been a zeal in all departments for the common object, serving in lieu of unity of direction and authority, and overleaping the separation of departments, and their impediments. But this zeal is not to be counted on for the wear and tear of a war such as we have in prospect before us. A steadier, a more lasting motive power is needed to carry on the administrative machinery of our army in this great struggle for the preservation of Europe against the invasion of barbarism.

#### AGAIN ST BARNABAS!

We are threatened with a return of the scandal of St Barnabas, on a smaller scale. The honorable and reverend Mr Liddell, successor to the reverend and celebrated Mr Bennett in the parish of St Paul's, Knightsbridge, has been appealed against to his Bishop by members of his congregation. Wishing to do perfect justice to the honorable and reverend gentleman, whose doctrines do not appear to be brought into dispute, we shall take the liberty of so describing the matter as to avoid any possible imputation on the orthodoxy of his teaching.

Thus then it is. The honorable and reverend Mr Liddell has fitted up his parish church for musical and dramatic entertainments; but, as his hours of performance happen to be the hours proper for divine service, a number of plain church-going people among his parishioners object, and think themselves defrauded of their rights. Led by a vigorous churchwarden, they demand the restoration of their church to its true uses. They appeal to Mr Liddell, and Mr Liddell disdains reply. They appeal to the Bishop, and, as only a Blomfield can, the Bishop does make reply.

Of what have they to complain? They cannot pretend to say that the piece performed by Mr Liddell is not the "Church Service." And as a musical spectacle it is evidently popular. The manager draws crowded houses, and makes money. Moreover, people have heretofore borne with it, and why not still? Why are they not content to suffer in the future, what they have so well learned to suffer in the past? As the Bishop forcibly puts it—

If the practices complained of "are offensive to the parishioners of the district of St Paul, and bring scandal on the whole church," it is somewhat strange that the parishioners should have so quietly acquiesced in them for so long a time, and that I should only now be called upon by one of the churchwardens to interfere. The best proof that they are not generally offensive to the parishioners is to be found in the crowded congregations who attend the services at St Paul's, in their devout behaviour there, in the yearly increase of their alms and oblations.

Now let us see what these "practices complained of" really are, wherein their offensiveness or non-offensiveness consists, and how far, in the modern and fashionable sense of "overlooking" them, this Right Reverend father of our Reformed Church has discharged justly his episcopal obligations.

#### I.

The Churchwarden objects in substance that the performance of the Church Service opens with a procession, and a mustering of chorus, after the manner of the spectacle pieces usually presented in an opera house. The clergy-bell rings, as the theatre-bell rings, for the rising of the curtain. Then at once there is seen to proceed from the vestry a procession of about twenty, composed of choristers, boys, pew-openers, and others, followed by a clergyman who makes gestures that direct due attention to the next part of the show. Then there issue upon the scene the chief performers, Mr Liddell himself, his curates and others of the clergy, carrying one or more of the vessels, utensils, or properties belonging to the church; and this procession steadily marches up, in pompous ceremonial order, to a

high altar adorned with a large cross, and scattered over with flowers, lace-work, candlesticks, and other scenery, machinery, and decorations. The leading performer, moreover, as he approaches this cross, "bows to it" (we quote the churchwarden) "with theatrical gesture, and then, with other histrionic displays, incurvations, and bowings, places 'upon the credentia or diminutive preparatory altar, the vessel he has carried.'" Then "a curate advances," and, after going through the same kind of stage business, gives his vessel to the chief performer, who acts with it as before. Next follow other arrangements, bowings, and gesticulations which we have no space to detail; and then, at last, the members of the company "take their respective places in 'some symmetrical order, not easily defined, but so regulated as to produce the greatest scenic effect upon the spectators.'"

In reply to this the Bishop first throws out an opinion that it is a great pity to accuse Mr Liddell of it all, because the performances at Knightsbridge were not originally opened by him but by Mr Bennett; and thus Mr Liddell, having succeeded to Mr Bennett's business, is only carrying it on upon principles which he found already laid down. "You appear," says the prelate, "to have forgotten the fact 'that these forms were introduced, not by Mr Liddell, but by his predecessor eleven years ago, &c. &c.'" But how had they preceded so long, then, his own right reverend interference? Well, he does not deny that he might more properly have stopped them long ago; but who does not know that of all things on earth Doctor Blomfield prefers a compromise, and thinks himself always safest betwixt two extremes? "To some extent," he writes to the Churchwardens, "I may perhaps be liable to that charge, but not to the extent which 'you imagine.'" The Bishop had thought it good, in fact, like a prudent priest, to deal in convenient indulgences. "For the sake of avoiding fresh disturbances in the district 'I may perhaps have erred on the side of indulgence.'" The word is not ill chosen.

Having thus confessed himself "perhaps" a little in the wrong, the holy man proceeds next to rectify his error. For example, as to the parade of Mr Liddell's troupe like that of Mr Batty in the provinces, and the spectacular opening of the church entertainment—if that be decent, says the Bishop, it is not necessarily Romish, though it may be in the manner of the Church of Rome. And is it not decent? "It seems to me," argues the right reverend, "quite as 'proper that the persons engaged in the performance' (too apt word!) 'of the Church's offices, should walk to 'their places in regular order, as it is that they should 'straggle in one by one and take their seats as they may 'happen to enter the church.'" And then, after mentioning the custom in cathedrals for singing men to enter the church in procession, followed by the clergy two and two, he subjoins, in a happy agreement with these apposite comments, the following highly practical reply to the complaint. "To this custom, if there be no ostentatious display, I see 'no objection,' but—Romish business is well enough, if you can only get it quietly slipped in; the reverse of well, if you cannot—but, if it gave offence to pious persons, I should recommend its discontinuance." Can Bishop be expected to do more? If a parcel of obstinate men are bent upon setting their teeth at it, would a Jesuit himself be for thrusting it by main force down their throats?

#### II.

The churchwarden's next point of complaint is the style in which the Morning Service is given. At the first appearance of the procession in the church, the choristers had risen; and, the altar business being over, the performance of the Prayer Book is commenced, and carried through entirely in the form of song and recitative. This recitative, or intonation, is denounced by the churchwarden as "mumbling." What should be said, he complains, is not said, but mumbled in sing-song; and the absolution which has to be pronounced, is not pronounced, but is given in tones altogether inarticulate. In fact the only thing articulate in the whole business is its bastard Romanism.

To this the Bishop replies that he certainly dislikes the abolition of plain speaking, and the substitution of recitative, in reading public prayer, but he is really unable to forbid it. "All I can say in its favour is, that I had rather hear the 'prayers well intoned than badly read.'" The Right Reverend prefers clever foolery to clumsy sense.

#### III.

The churchwarden next complains, in the name of a large mass of the parishioners, that not only is the Divine Service at St Paul's Knightsbridge thus performed vocally, as it might be at the opera, but is accompanied throughout with bowings, genuflexions, and gesticulations, which are a fixed and regular part of the stage-business, and all of which he separately specifies.

In reply the Bishop opposes to the parishioners Mr Liddell's denial of the genuflexions and gesticulations, and offers them from himself a morsel of antiquarian information. "The practice of bowing on entering a church or chancel" was, he remarks, very generally observed "till within the 'last hundred years.'" He then takes some pains to justify Mr Liddell to his parishioners for doing what he had just declared that Mr Liddell says he does not do; so that if the eyes of the congregation be really deluded, and Mr Liddell is not lavish with bows during his performance, he cannot do better than submit to be duly instructed on this point by his Bishop, who becomes quite chatty on the subject. "I have been told by some old clergymen that when they were young 'it was the general practice.'" Do not be misled, however, my good Mr Liddell. "I do not observe it myself." The rule



should be not to do things of this sort "in an ostentatious and singular manner, so as to awaken suspicion or call forth observation." Put your candles on the table, but don't go to the extremity of lighting them. Leave your door ajar, but on no account open it; though the chances are that in either case Rome will know how to get in. So be it. But above all things, let us have no question about taking candles wholly away, or keeping doors locked altogether. The Bishop cannot leave the subject of gesticulation without another friendly word for Mr Liddell who denies the use of it. Congregations he thinks apt to be "too unobservant of the outward expressions of devotion; and it may be sometimes desirable that the clergy should set them a good example in this respect."

## IV.

Finally, the Churchwarden complains of the continual use of "divers vessels, utensils, scarfs or maniples (such as are used by priests of the Roman Catholic Church), veils, corporals, and other things unknown to the services of the Protestant Reformed Church, which are, at the Church of St Paul, either placed from time to time upon the said high altar, or borne, worn, or carried by the officiating clergy." And, he goes on to say, "I also complain of the veils of embroidered lace, of the bouquets of flowers, and other foreign frippery, which are constantly to be seen upon, or attached to, the said high altar, and in other parts of the said church." He complains that a part of the offertory money, meant by the Church for the poor, is appropriated at St Paul's to the purchase of this kind of trumpery. He complains, moreover, of the high altar itself; of the large cross upon it to which genuflexions are made; of the candlesticks; and of the diminutive preparatory altar, side-board, or credence table. And, for the removal of all these sham Romanist stage-properties, he requests the Bishop's intervention.

To the lace on the altar, and the flowers, provided they be always in moderation, the Bishop in his reply does not object; but he does mildly disapprove of the misappropriation of the Communion money to the purchase of them. Of the high altar he observes that it is only a tall altar, and that a tall is not a high one—any more than candles are lighted candles, or a door ajar is a door open. When he consecrated the church, he adds, "the height of the Communion table did not attract his notice. It is now a part of the goods of the parish," (!) and he doubts whether he has authority to interfere with it. So, too, with the cross upon it, of which, as the woman said of her unlawful baby that it was but a little one, he observes that it is "not large and massive as you describe it, but small and light"! And as this same cross, his lordship adds, "was on the table when the church was consecrated, though not seen by me, a large offertory dish being in front of it, I am not satisfied that I have authority to direct its removal." In other words, gentlemen parishioners, you must argue and settle that among yourselves. Neither to the Credence Table can his right reverence see any solid objection. And on the whole, therefore, he must say that he finds little in the management of St Paul's, Knightsbridge, with which he, as Charles James of London, feels able or disposed to interfere.

Such is this delectable correspondence, to which perhaps the best comment we can append will be the fact that, since it was made public, the complaining Churchwarden, in the teeth of Mr Liddell's most laborious and eager efforts against him, has been re-elected to his post to carry on the contest thus begun, and after his re-election was followed home by a triumphant crowd.

Are these most offensive Church scandals, then, to be revived and persisted in under Doctor Blomfield's express patronage? Are we to have these ridiculous practices, repulsive to all decent Protestant feeling, again sanctioned, countenanced, and encouraged in the bud, till their full-blown development into Romanism shall duly follow?

## THE QUIET POOR.

The condition of the people of St Philip's, Shoreditch, has been described recently in *Household Words*. They are types of a class which is no small one—the quiet poor, the people who struggle earnestly to obtain subsistence out of the workhouse, who abstain from beggary, and who are not brought under our notice by their crimes.

This district of Bethnal Green seems to consist almost wholly of such persons. A small space of ground is there covered with about fourteen thousand of them, weavers, costermongers, and others, each family lodged in a single room. In the whole place there is only half a drain. The inhabitants live, or die, over cesspools. And so universal is the poverty among them, that there are not more than six in the whole district who are so far what the world calls respectable, that they can afford to keep a servant. The mass of this population is subsisting upon earnings that average little more than threepence a day, for the maintenance of each body, great and small, with shelter, food, and clothing. The district, in short, is a region in which no hope lives, but in which thousands are bearing sorrow with a temper that we may perhaps best indicate by quoting the home scene that follows.

I went into one room in this unhappy place—this core of all the misery in Bethnal Green—and saw a woman in bed with a three weeks infant on her arm. She was still too weak to rise, and her husband had died when the baby was three days old. She had four other children, and she panted to get up and earn. It eased her heart to tell of her lost love, and the

portion of her story that I here repeat was told by her, in the close narrow room, with a more touching emphasis than I can give it here; with tremblings of the voice and quiverings of the lip that went warm to the hearts of all who listened:

"The morning before my husband died," she said, "he said to me, 'O Mary, I have had such a beautiful dream!—' Have you, dear?' says I; 'do you think you feel strong enough to tell it me?'—'Yes,' says he, 'I dreamt that I was in a large place where there was a microscopic clock' (he meant a microscope), 'and I looked through it and saw the seven heavens all full of light and happiness, and straight before me, Mary, I saw a face that was like a face I know.' 'And whose face was it, love?' says I.—'I do not know,' says he; 'but it was more beautiful than anything I ever saw, and bright and glorious, and I said to it, Shall I be glorified with the same glory that you are glorified with? And the head bowed towards me. And I said, Am I to die to-morrow? And the face fixed its eyes on me and went away. And now what do you think that means?'—'I do not know,' says I, 'but I think it must mean that God is going to call you away from this world where you have had so much trouble, and your suffering is going to be at an end, but you must wait His time, and that is why the head went away when you said, shall I die to-morrow?'—'I suppose you are right,' says he, 'and I don't mind dying, but O Mary, it goes to my heart to leave you and the young ones' (here the tears spread over the poor woman's eyes, and her voice began to tremble). 'I am afraid to part with you, I am afraid for you after I am gone.'—'You must not think of that,' says I, 'you've been a good husband, and it's God's will you should go.'—'I won't go, Mary, without saying good bye to you,' says he. 'If I can't speak, I'll wave my hand to you,' says he, 'and you'll know when I'm going.' And so it was, for in his last hours he could not speak a word, and he went off so gently that I never should have known in what minute he died if I had not seen his hands moving and waving to me Good-bye before he went."

Such dreams and thoughts belong to quiet poverty. I have told this incident just as I heard it; and if I were a daily visitant in Bethnal Green, I should have many tales of the same kind to tell.

But the whole sorrow of the case is not yet told.

The harvest time of these poor people is the summer. They always suffer in the winter, more or less. During the last winter prices have been high, and hawkers have been to a great degree unable to buy the little stores they sell; or else, when bought, they could not be retailed at prices suited to the pockets of their customers. How were men to live upon the spare money of families that for themselves barely could buy bread and rarely could buy coal? The result of the hard times that fell upon the poor last winter is now displayed in the form of bare rooms from which struggling families have sold or pawned every article of furniture. In many cases a pricked thumb, or a sprained hand, or some other petty accident, by disabling the chief worker for bread, has caused this dismantling of the narrow home.

For getting back their furniture, for recovering some of the lost ground, for paying debts incurred, these people who obtrude none of their sorrows on the world, are looking to the scanty harvests and the better times that spring and summer usually bring. They were recently found looking onward in this way, some already beginning to fear that they "had lost the spring," because there had been no signs of the usual bettering of their condition. They attend no more to the proceedings of the world by which they are surrounded, and believe themselves forgotten. They do not know, therefore, what risk there is that for the Czar of Russia's sake they will lose also their most precious summer. War times will maintain high prices, and the summer will be as the winter to these miserable people. It is terrible to reflect upon their condition as it may be next autumn, when the summer shall have gone without having shown them mercy, and there will be yet another winter frowning at their doors.

We wish earnestly that all men who are prosperous would pay attention to the quiet poor, not in this district only but wherever they may be. They do not demand notice for themselves. They are not squalid or vicious, they will work their hearts away for the most miserable hire, they work and help each other, they work and grieve and die. But because of their melancholy quietness let them not be forgotten. Private efforts cannot stir the entire mountain of sorrow, but it is not well for any one to fold his hands and say, the evil is so vast that it is hopeless to assist in looking for a remedy. At any rate the remedy of personal and private kindness well applied may keep the tears out of a great many eyes, and rescue not a few small households sinking now under the strong pressure of the times. In this one district of St Philip's, Shoreditch, which is but a little island in the world of sorrow, there is work for thousands of warm-hearted people who with scanty aid may do great service. We are speaking of this place in particular, only because it happens to have been brought recently within our knowledge. Its claims unhappily are not by any means exclusive.

How we are to help people with substantial charity, when they are not seekers of pity, and in most cases would be pained to receive coin as beggars, is a question which the will must find the way to answer. In the case of St Philip's, however, we should think it best to ask advice of the incumbent of the district, the Rev. Mr Trivett, of whom we are told that he is to be found working earnestly among his people unaided by one rich parishioner, spending his labour and his health in their behalf, and even compelled for daily pity's sake to suffer his own little pasture to be cropped by his unhappy flock.

We believe that the most effective single remedy that can be applied by legislation to the state of things on which we have here touched, will be the abolition of those laws of settlement which hinder a poor family from moving off the ground on which it starves, towards the ground on which it may obtain a living. But it is not by one measure, or in one generation, that the whole weight of this sorrow can be lifted from the land. The best is done when none of us forget that it exists, or neglect any effort that may help, though it help little indeed, towards its ultimate removal.

## EDUCATION IN ENGLAND.—1854.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE 'EXAMINER.'

Sir, Though war can drown a Reform Bill, it seems hardly to abate public anxiety upon the subject of Education; which indeed is only the more needful for the difficulties of the times that may be coming upon us. But public zeal in this matter is more intent upon promoting whatever calls itself education, than considerate about the intrinsic value of the article commonly supplied under that name; and to your present correspondent it seems that there is a greater waste of energy and means in this than in any other civil or philanthropic department of things. Lord Ashburton has lately laid his axe to the root of the tree; and I have heard one of H. M. inspectors of schools remark that *Robinson Crusoe* would be a better text-book than any now in use; an observation bearing in the same direction, viz., in favour of common sense and common truths as the primary objects of instruction; for the drift of that celebrated book is to exhibit the power and dignity of ordinary talents and ordinary virtues faithfully exerted in the most trying emergencies of real life.

Upon a sheet of white paper it would not be difficult to lay down a plan of instruction adapted to the universal necessities of youth, taking for our basis, not fancy or precedent, but the obvious relations of every man to the world he has to live in. To avoid however the appearance of pedantry and system, suffice it here to observe that our ordinary education is founded upon no intelligible principle, begins at no natural beginning, and follows no natural order, but strikes at once into a few secondary and arbitrarily-selected branches of knowledge, without connection or cohesion or direct bearing upon the business of life.

The grammar of two ancient languages, the catechism of one national church, these constitute the groundwork of the highest course of English education; and arithmetic and geometry are the only branches of catholic science included in it.

Our first-class public schools are called "Grammar Schools;" and a "well-grounded" gentleman schoolboy is one who is well up to his syntax and prosody, though he knows not the difference between his stomach and his bowels; or why the fire burns or goes out; or how the air and the waters circulate; or how a farm is conducted, a family maintained, a city supplied, or a kingdom governed.

The commercial and military schoolboy is better taught, inasmuch as he is taught things more to the purpose of his intended calling, whether it be the arts of trade or the arts of war; yet his education is merely technical, and for anything his schooling does for him, he may be as ignorant as the classical schoolboy of the book of nature and the history of man.

The village and charity schoolboy comes last and worst off, for he is more dependent upon his brief course of schooling, and has fewer indirect and collateral means of instructing himself. He is taught to read badly, to write and cypher better, and to answer biblical and miscellaneous questions briskly from memory; but he learns very little that remains with him, or that aids and directs his future life.

Female education in the upper classes is in some respects better. Young ladies are taught more of English literature and of modern languages than their brothers. But how much of their time is consumed in struggling after mere conventional accomplishments, and how little is imparted to them of real, simple, and natural knowledge!

The consequence of this universal want of education, properly so called, is seen in the multitude of ignorant men and frivolous women in every class of life. It is seen in our social and national prejudices, in the jealousies and discords of classes, and in one half of the follies and miseries of life. But perhaps it is seen most conspicuously in what is called the "religious world;" in the excesses of sincere zeal, and the misdirections of sincere benevolence; in low sectarian notions of the Divine nature and attributes; in denunciations of judgments and interpretations of prophecies; and in small punctilios of ritual and ascetic devotion; not to mention those weaker follies of the spiritual mind, which have recently convinced Professor Faraday of the low state of education in England.

There is great lamentation over the numbers of the poor who cannot read or write, who never go to school or church; but it is more lamentable still that such numbers who have every advantage in this respect should be so little either the wiser or the better for it. It cannot be all their own fault. If our schools were what they ought to be, the one thing needful would be to get everybody into them; but what school is there that turns out one boy in a hundred trained in the way he should go, or even thoroughly taught anything he can turn at once to account in any secular pursuit in life? The defect in the quality of our education is worse than the defect of quantity. Every man who has gone through school and college knows and feels how little of directly applicable knowledge he has brought away with him. He may have done his best there, and won the honours and rewards of the place. His time and pains may have been by no means wasted, but from the faults of the system they have not been turned to the best account for himself or for his country. He has, however, obtained the means of teaching himself—better late than never—which the parish schoolboy has not. His education goes almost for nothing; and there is a root of evil which sends up bitter weeds on every side of us. The fundamental error is one and the same; no boy in this country is rationally taught the duties of life. He learns indeed in the Catechism his duty to God and his neighbour, than which nothing



can be more complete in words; but what are words for the training of a man? He sees those rules daily broken or forgotten by the very teachers of them; and he is not made to see that everybody who breaks or forgets them thereby brings some evil or scandal upon himself or others. The lessons of Nature, which is the sternest moralist, are neglected in the schools, for theology denounces the world, and condemns what is natural as carnal and corrupt; and this heresy detracts unspeakably from the value of those religious principles upon which we are so anxious to found our education.

But this point of religious teaching I propose, with your permission, to examine more closely in another letter, for it is the known stumbling-block of all promoters of national instruction, and well deserves a separate and candid consideration. Meanwhile I venture to say that the religious difficulty, as commonly dealt with, is an insuperable bar to any and every scheme of education that shall be really national and at unity with itself.

I am, Sir, &c. T. S.

#### THE SUCCESSOR TO THE GODDESS OF REASON,

Since the Gallican Goddess of Reason, no other Divinity has descended among the nations until the advent of Nicholas, God of Massacres.

Chief priest to the Goddess of Reason was Maximilian Robespierre. The more exalted God Nicholas is supported and incensed by two high priests of equal dignity, the one called Francis, the other Frederick. Francis tripped up the heels of the priest who went before him in the procession, took his place, and walked on as if nothing had happened. Frederick is too weak to trip anybody up; but he gently shoves out of the road those who whisper in his ear to walk straighter and more erect. Nobody can be devouter than he is. Every night he prays to a God of his own, to pardon him for preferring another close at hand (meaning but not mentioning the God Nicholas), who might knock the crown off his head at the first sign of disobedience. Once in desperation he was about to start for the camp; but he had only put on one shoe, when it occurred to him that, after all, he might sleep more comfortably under his roof at home, and with a coverlet of eyder-down about his shoulders. He has frequently been heard to practise in his inner chamber words of blustering, out of a horn-book left there by his great-grandfather, or one before.

There have always been dissensions and quarrels about the precedence of deities and their priests. Even at the present day it is undecided whether the Goddess of Reason or the God of Massacres is the more worthy of worship. As possession is said proverbially to be nine parts in ten of the law, the God of Massacres seems to be the favorite. Men are ungrateful for past benefits; and indeed those on whom the Goddess of Reason once conferred them are no more. Before her divinity was acknowledged by acclamation, she had, in her universal charity, led many to the hospital, and many to repentance. Her priest, Maximilian Robespierre, was greatly more abstinent of another's goods and chattels than are Frederick and Francis. Different from them, he was a man of his word, and never, like them and the hyena, whined over the blood he was spilling.

We must now raise our eyes above all three, and even above the Goddess of Liberty herself; for the God of Massacres stands before us. Her priest offered up human victims to her; but he smote them down at one blow. The God of Massacres hurls fire among aggregate thousands, sings over their cries of agony and anguish; calls upon other Gods to rejoice with him; imprisons and tortures tens of thousands in dark and icy caverns; tears wife from husband, brother from sister, bride from bridegroom, and breaks the ring of espousal on the finger of the espoused with the sword's hilt or the armourer's hammer.

Verily great is the God Nicholas, and worthy to be feared and praised; worthy to be held in everlasting remembrance; worthy to be worshipped in high places; yea, in the highest accessible to the feet of Britons.

WALTER SAVAGE LANDOR.

#### THE COLONIAL CHURCH BILL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE 'EXAMINER.'

Sir, You have done good service by calling attention to the above suspicious measure. I venture to offer you a few brief suggestions on the subject.

It is complained by the promoters of the bill that in the colonies the established church is in an inferior position to the dissenting communities. Has it no countervailing advantages? No privileged connection with the government? No episcopal or other salaries charged on the consolidated fund? If it has these things, it is only in the same situation as its mother at home, whose want of liberty is generally supposed to be counterbalanced by her endowment.

Who is to define the synods or meetings which are to be legalised by the bill? What is to be the ecclesiastical franchise? Will the occupation of a sitting give a vote, or will the privilege be confined to communicants? This is no matter of detail which can safely be left unsettled. And then what are to be the powers of the synods? They are not, we are told, to modify the articles or liturgy. But are they to interpret them? Is every disputed point, such as in England would, in the last resort, be decided by the Privy Council, to be elsewhere determined by a colonial synod? Is such a body thus to acquire the power of settling the terms of communion, or in other words, of excommunication? And if not, what is to be the occupation of the synods? Why does the colonial church need synods more than we do at home? Has it not altogether the same rules to guide it? And for mere matters of dispute between bishop and patron, why pass a measure presuming that the bishop is always right? How Exeters and Oxfords would disport themselves under such a bill!

One vast advantage inherent in the constitution of our English church is the inability of any temporary majority to expel a minority from its communion. This may be called slavery, but for individuals it is liberty. The object of the Gladstone and Newcastle bill seems to be to abolish it in the colonies, with perhaps a dim hope of subsequently achieving a like result at home.

Your obedient servant,

M. A. CANTAB.

OUR GREEN FIELDS.—Every day the green meadows and the bright flowery slopes seem to retreat further and further. A long walk will scarcely bring the Londoner into contact with nature even now,—and if the rage for piling stone on stone continues—and no sufficient care is taken to prevent so undesirable a consummation—we shall find ourselves walled in on every side. One green spot—one breathing space—one happy playground—still remains to us in Hampstead Heath:—but even this is threatened with assault. Last year, and in previous years, strenuous attempts were made to induce the House of Commons to consent that this salubrious and beautiful suburb should be built on and inclosed. Parliament has steadily rejected all the instances brought to bear against the public right to an enjoyment of that open space,—and we hope it will do so still. This year the proposal takes a more insidious form. The bill has dropped the name of Hampstead, and taken that of Finchley road,—as if the fields affected by it were not the same. Parliament, however, must be on its guard against encroachment. London cannot well afford to part with Hampstead fields.—'Atheneum.'

#### THE LITERARY EXAMINER.

Jerome Cardan. *The Life of Girolamo Cardano, of Milan, Physician.* By Henry Morley. Two vols. Chapman and Hall.

This book is quite as good as the *Life of Bernard Palissy*, and we can hardly give it higher praise. The subject, which has peculiar points of attraction, is treated with a stricter adherence to authorities than was observable in Mr Morley's first book; and though the hero is less worthy of celebration, the biographer is no dealer in indiscriminate praise. He sees that why Cardan has almost perished with his time, is because, wonderful scholar as he proved himself, he belonged to his time so completely; and hence the object of the book is to show, by a faithful picture, at once both the man and the age. The perpetual marvel about Cardan, started by Bayle and repeated ever since, is that a scholar of such extraordinary genius should so often have seemed to be such an extraordinary fool; but this book satisfies its readers that it was precisely because Cardan's shrewd and clever writings contained the silliness of his time, and because his discreet and sagacious practice never passed beyond its limited philosophy, that he was at once the most successful of all the scientific authors, and the most popular of all the practising physicians, of that sixteenth century. The only great advance out of it that he ever made was in the field of Mathematics, and here, as is admirably remarked by his biographer, it was only because existing knowledge put him really in a right direction that his intellect was able to project itself into original discovery. No man knew so much that had been taught about so many things, but, in proceeding to add to what he knew, he never dreamt of turning into any other path than that in which his last acquisition left him. Occasionally Mr Morley speaks as if his medical practice was an exception; but here his great success appears almost wholly to have consisted in keeping the absurdities of other practitioners within cautious limits, in restrictions as to diet, in greater care of nursing, above all in abridging those enormous doses with which rival Sangrados were slaying half their patients.

So far it is not difficult to understand Cardan's character. But when a somewhat closer look shows us what he must have been in other respects, and of what a tissue of contrasts and contradictions his strange career was made up, the sort of curiosity is awakened which only such a book as Mr Morley's could satisfy. Till now Cardan's life has lain buried in his writings, and no man who had confessed so much was ever known so little. People talked about him, and that was all. This book reproduces him. Every page carries its evidence of a laborious and honest study of the man, of a real knowledge of his writings, of a thorough perception of his character in its most startling inconsistencies. The curtain rises on those distracted and turbulent Italian cities of three hundred years ago, and there passes once more across the scene the vicious and extravagant student, the laborious writer of books, the popular practising physician, the astrologer, the mathematician, the gambler of dissolute habits, the philosopher of untiring study, the man at whose feet the princes of the earth seemed to be pouring out their treasures, yet the man soon after both poor and old, lying on a desolate death-bed—who were all comprised in the person of Jerome Cardan. And as detached extracts would do little justice to the picture thus strikingly reproduced in Mr Morley's volumes, we think it worth the trouble of a brief outline or sketch that may more completely show the kind and amount of interest to be found in them.

The book begins with some sketches of a family scene which explain much of its subsequent contents. Jerome's father, Fazio Cardan, who was fifty-six when this only son was born to him, we find to have been a doctor and man of note both in law and medicine, with a quick but hard humour, careless of money but not generous, fond of society but scant of friends, and of undeniably good repute in all places but his home. Now long forgotten as a lawyer, he still claims a sort of remembrance as geometer and mathematician, but though Mr Morley very vividly depicts him as for the most part living with Euclid all his life, in a world of angles and right angles, he is yet quite unable to solve the problem of that little sickly boy, offspring of a doubtful connection with a widow twenty years younger than himself, whom he disregarded if not detested in childhood, whom in boyhood he used merely as a sort of foot-page to carry his bag of briefs through the sultry Milan streets, who was only very scantily taught until after he had passed his eighteenth year, who seized eagerly whatever was then vouchsafed him of arithmetic, geometry, and astrology, who made many restless attempts to change his half-menial life into one of scholarship and independence, and who finally carried into cards and dice what his youthful passion could find no better bent for, and employed his natural genius for mathematics in nicely calculating probabilities at the gaming-table. The first of Jerome Cardan's writings that has been preserved, begun in this early youth and finished when he was twenty-three, was an original and elaborate treatise on the science that belongs to games of chance. It displayed, according to Mr Morley, all the characteristic features of the author's personal history up to that time—the knowledge painfully acquired from the old unsympathising geometrician, the philosophic powers which neglect could not stifle in him, and the unhappy passion for play begotten of what so harshly surrounded him in those tender years. "If," the biographer wisely continues, "we could trace back the stories of the 'men who sin against us or before us in the world, perhaps 'we should refuse to be harsh judges ever. There is no

"truth in scorn, and there is no sadder aspect in the life of Jerome Cardan than the feeling which impelled him to say 'I have lived to myself and in some hope of future things I have despised the present.'"

Old Fazio at last consented, when Jerome was nineteen, that he should go to study at the university of Pavia. He was but a sickly lad, narrow-chested and short of stature, fair-faced and yellow-haired, with a great development of forehead, small intent eyes, a projecting under lip, large upper front teeth, and a harsh loud indistinct utterance, when thus launched into life with nothing to carry him through it but a fixed and resolute determination, by some means or other, to force himself into possession of a name that should be famous. He had the busiest of brains, and thus far only some smatterings of geometry to feed it with; yet already he was at work on three treatises, one upon The True Distances of Objects, another on Games of Skill, and a third on the Earning of Immortality. His father would have made him a lawyer, but he preferred to be a physician. Perhaps the weary recollection of the paternal brief bag in those hot streets of Milan, swayed him as much as the more magniloquent reasons he afterwards gave for this choice of medicine over law; but the biographer has faith in those philosophical grounds of preference, and appears to think the medicine even of that day a better basis to have built fame upon than the more contracted study of law. Nevertheless Mr Morley is obliged to admit in a subsequent page that no true science of medicine existed thus early, and he makes one of those subtle remarks which give not its least peculiar value to the book through which they are liberally scattered, when he adds that at that time the empiric really was the best physician, and "a quack doctor, who would use his eyes with conscientious shrewdness, dealt less death, not to say more health, about him, than the graduate who put trust in scholastic theories."

It was not in the empirical direction, however, that the young student Cardan drew notice to himself. He mounted by the regular steps of the scholastic ladder—taking part in public disputations, discoursing on dialectics, grounding himself in elementary philosophy, lecturing on Euclid, and writing sheets of mathematical commentaries, whenever he was not fishing, or singing, or gambling, or violently quarrelling, or listening to the warnings of spirits, or dreaming dreams. For the neglected health and silly superstitions of his childhood elung to him through life; and his ready and expert intellect was never in more clear or vigorous activity, than when the sickly disorders of his body were also declaring themselves in portents and omens of the most astounding credulity. A stranger student life altogether, wavering between fiercer contrasts, is not conceivable. His old father died just as he got his degree, and then the mother, whose relation to the cynical old juriconsult is never very clearly made out, with difficulty helps her son forward. But hardly have we satisfied ourselves that this wonderfully clever but not very reputable young scholar of four-and-twenty has barely enough to keep body and soul together, when we find him accepting the rectorate or lordship of the university of Padua, at a time when nobody else is fool enough to incur its expenses. And so he riots for a year in extravagant entertainments to students and professors, who laugh at him for his pains, his mother pinching herself all the while to support him in this "Sar-danapalan life," and himself eking out the rest at the gaming table. Of course he is rewarded for his trouble. He receives none of the rector's privileges, his year of office continues to be called "the last of the ten years in which there was no rector," and he has a hard fight to get out of it even his doctor's degree.

At last however Sardanapalus, aged 25, becomes Doctor of Medicine of Padua, settles himself as a practising physician in a little town called Sacco ten miles from Padua, and enlivens the intervals of his profession by playing cards and dice, by stabbing a friend in the face who cheats him at the game, by musical parties, by jovial entertainments, and by writing an elaborate treatise on Cheiromancy. It seems difficult to connect such pursuits with successful practice, and Cardan himself afterwards said that though with great labour he followed medicine in Sacco for six years, it produced but little profit to himself, much less to others. Yet, looking closely, we see traces enough of a most wonderful skill and aptitude for whatever he had in hand, and we miss only, what in all his life is more or less wanting, the self-respect and self-control that would have retained the admiration he excited. After six years' residence, notwithstanding the patients he had cured and the treatises he had written (two of which were destroyed by his cat), he had struck no root in Sacco; and he had meanwhile vainly tried to strike root in Milan. The physicians of that town refused him admission to their college, on the ground of his bastardy, an imputation he denies somewhat faintly, and under which perhaps he was not sorry to ride off from graver imputations.

Never do we get at any settled point in this strange man's life, however, whether it be of lowness or exaltation, that something the most unexpected does not follow. Thus, as soon as we find him near the end of his residence in Sacco, worn down by illness and non-success, we also find him, in spite of such omens (carefully recorded by himself) as the unusual howling of a dog under his window and the pertinacious croaking of ravens on his house-top, taking to himself for wife the daughter of a jovial ex-military innkeeper of the town, whose virtues are her only dowry. Then follow some years of manifestly hard distress, during which the Milanese physicians again shut their gates upon him, and he works hard with his pen to no good use, and



he has no patients, and he tries to console himself by a treatise on Fate to show that disappointments must be borne with equanimity, and he labours at another treatise on the Differings of Doctors, and he has a son at whose birth a gigantic wasp buzzes portents of evil, and to all his other ill-luck is added that of the gaming-table, and, having finally lost the jewels off his wife's neck, and the bed from beneath her, he is fain to make one more desperate effort upon Milan, not this time to demand admission to its college of Doctors, but a place in its workhouse for paupers. And then, in 1534, when we have descended with him to this lowest point of human misery, there starts up a friend who gets him that small college lectureship on geometry, arithmetic, and astronomy, from which all his subsequent eminence and successes appear to date.

For though he had still some five years of difficult and ill-rewarded labour, they were not years of destitution, and in the course of them he hit upon what was to prove his greatest resource, not simply for present advantage, but for future fame. Desiring to enlarge the attendance on his lectures, he enlarged the subjects of his course, taking in geography and architecture as well as geometry and arithmetic;—anxious at the same time to improve himself in these several subjects, he set to work on five separate treatises connected with them;—and, as he thus laboured at his argument on Spheres, at his little book on Circles, at his suggestions for Almanacks, at his dissertation on Ptolemy's Geography, and at his discourse on Euclid's Elements, the little circle of listeners in that Milan lecture-room widened in his busy fancy into an audience composed of all the lettered over Europe, and he prepared himself for nothing less than to get a hearing from them all. He would write books for the press, and so get himself talked about, and push himself into practice, and moreover so achieve for himself, besides wealth in his profession, a name that should be eternal. But though Cardan had this passion for posthumous fame, it never seems to have occurred to him that a man must generally hazard some present fame to make sure of it. The way to become celebrated in those days was to cultivate the language of scholars, but the way to have become celebrated for all days would have been to cultivate his own; and there can be no doubt that what obtained so wide a hearing for Cardan while he lived, is that which has so greatly limited his audience since his death. Latin now became his language; even so he wrote his most familiar letters to scholars among his countrymen; and he was resolved to be no longer content with Milan, but to have Europe for his listeners and applauders. So he got an old college chum, who was become master of a printing office, to print a book for him, and the book selected for the purpose out of his manuscript heaps was on the Bad Method of Practice among Physicians. It was dedicated to the friend who got him the Milan lectureship that had enabled him thus far to snap his fingers at the Milan doctors who still refused him his degree, and it had at once a large sale.

Cardan always disliked this first printed effort because of its many blunders and errors of the press, and because of the personal attacks to which it subjected him; but clearly one sees that all his better fortunes date from it. It professed to denounce seventy-two errors in the fashionable practice of his day; and perhaps nothing is so remarkable in it as that the shrewdness which detects so many real errors, should have failed to carry him up to one original truth. But such, as we have before remarked, was the character of mind in this extraordinary man, that, whatever he might have done to enlarge the knowledge of his day, he preferred rather to work within its limited boundary; and, except where it happened already to have opened in the right direction, he was for teaching (and in the case of physic it fortunately happened to be just now capital teaching), that to do nothing was better than to do too much. The doctors of course fell upon him, and said how could a mere mathematical lecturer know anything of medicine? but it is evident that some sensible people began to think his medicine also worth trying by way of experiment at least, for the next clear sight we have of him is at the bedside of one or two rather notable patients. Among them are the Marquis Avalos, and Senator afterwards Cardinal Sfondrato; and it becomes no matter of surprise to us that at last, in 1539, after twelve years of determined exclusion, the Milanese Doctorate are obliged to receive Doctor Jerome, and he starts as a regular licensed practitioner in his native city.

That was the year, too, when he published his Practice of Arithmetic, to which he not only prefixed his own portrait surrounded by a motto reminding the Milanese that a prophet is of no esteem in his own country, but also appended an appeal from the no-estimate of his unkind countrymen to the better esteem of scholars in all quarters of the world, praying of them to take notice that there were lying still unprinted in his study thirty-four works on such and such subjects which he then recited, and to the ultimate publication of which only could he look for any full vindication of his genius or assertion of his celebrity. Nor was the offer without almost instant results. "That was the beginning of my fame," he said afterwards: "of whatever glory I have earned that was the origin." A printer of Nuremberg sent him word that his types were at the scholar's service for any book he might choose to print, and a learned man of the same town offered to watch any such work through the press for him, and correct the proofs. Between 1539 and 1545 he was busily engaged in the laborious studies and quick-witted endeavours that resulted in the publication,—his *Algebra*,—which has done most for his reputation with posterity. But besides that Book of the Great Art, in which the whole doctrine of cubic equations

was first published to the world (and of which the history is given by Mr Morley in all its minute particulars, especially in the ingenious if not very ingenious achievement of poor heavy-headed Tartaglia's secret, with a vivid truth and completeness of detail that will interest the most unmathematical of readers)—besides that masterpiece, he had published in the interval Tracts on Judicial Astrology, sundry Nativities and Horoscopes, those Three Books on Consolation which one of our Queen Elizabeth's gentlemen-pensioners translated and issued in London before their author's death, other Five Books on Wisdom, a Treatise on the Immortality of Souls, another on the Contradictions of Doctors, satirical encomiums on Gout and on Nero, and (though on these the Censorship laid its veto of suppression) the Horoscope and Life of Christ.

In short, from the day on which he published his Practice of Arithmetic, Cardan proceeded with all possible expedition to become at once the most versatile and the most popular author of his time; and it is clear that, small as the rewards of literature then were, the mere number of his writings gave him in this as in other respects unusual advantages. He had already written sixty separate works (before he died he had published 131, and he left behind him in manuscript 111), though still but a physician of small practice, and an ill-paid mathematical lecturer. But the seed was all sown, and the harvest was to spring up suddenly. His poor wife was not at the reaping or garnering. As soon as land appeared in the stormy voyage they had sailed together she was suddenly taken from him. She died at the close of 1546, leaving him with that sole charge of two sons and a daughter to which he was of all men most unfit.

We here take the just remarks which Mr Morley makes on the position of Cardan at this period.

Prosperity had not come to Cardan, but he had brought it to himself; in spite of everything that had warred against him, he had at length achieved as a philosopher his conquest of the world. Dishonoured by his birth, discredited by his first training as a child, frowned upon as a youth by his university, rejected as a man by the physicians of his own town, with an ill-looking and sickly body, an erratic mind and a rough manner, a man to be disliked at first sight, and shrugged at by all that was dull and respectable; in spite of all, by the force of intellect and by the force of incessant, unrelaxing work, he had at last won ample recognition of his merits. He had used no worldly tact. His first published book would have been the last book issued by a prudent man, for it put new determination into the antagonism of his opponents. Nevertheless, he had steadily continued at his work, using a strong mind not as a toy but as a tool, and the result ensued which sooner or later must, in such case, always ensue. Man has but to will and work. The objects of a high ambition are not instantly secured. Cardan had not enough tact to create for himself popularity, but he had talent enough to create for himself fame. To create it for himself, laboriously, by endurance and exertion, because no man who moves at a lounging pace is likely to outmarch his neighbours. Jerome had forced his way up through years of discouragement, against contempt and poverty, in spite of severe bodily infirmities, and at the age of forty-four he was at length a recognised physician, occupying a professor's chair, and renowned throughout Europe as a man of letters. It should be remembered, however, that he had based his reputation on the writing of more works than there were years in his life, and that of those works none had been published until they had been reconsidered, polished, and rewritten more than once, commonly twice, but among his publications there are many passages that had been written five and even ten times by his pen before they were committed to the printer's types. The whole writings of Cardan, closely printed, constitute as heavy a load as any one man would desire to carry on his back. Very familiar with the pen, therefore, his hand must have become, for to the last he printed nothing that had not been thus written, rewritten, and again, and perhaps yet again and again, revised. "For," said Cardan, "they who write without digestion are like men who eat crude things: for a slight and temporary satisfaction they inflict upon themselves a grave and lasting harm." Even now we have not a right impression of the whole amount of student's work which Cardan's writings represent, for it remains to be added that his memory was very bad, and for the vast store of facts and illustrations in almost every department of the science of his day which his many books contain, he had to depend almost exclusively on written memoranda.

This persevering habit of hard work, then, was the root of Cardan's fame, for genius is a sap that will not go far to produce flower and fruit, still less to beget solid timber, if there be not in its due place, hidden from the world's eye, a root like that to keep it fresh and stirring. There were, however, other qualities in Cardan's writings to which we must look for an explanation of the very wide popularity that they obtained in his own day. He was not too much before his time. His intellect was strong and bold; he dared attempt all themes; and there were few of the world's mysteries on which he did not reason in his books; but while his power and originality of mind commanded universal recognition, learned and unlearned were glad to read the works of a philosopher who shared their weaknesses. He was perhaps loved by many not the less for being in certain respects weaker than themselves. On all the attractive and delusive pseudo-sciences of his own day, on ghosts, dreams, portents, palmistry, signs in the heavens and wonders upon earth, Cardan reasoned with good faith, and displayed in their discussion a profundity that flattered and encouraged shallower believers. Then, too, he wrote upon these and all things not only more profoundly, but more pleasantly than the great body of his neighbours. As a writer he was at once learned and amusing. His quick natural wit made him a brisk narrator even when he was most garrulous: there was pith in what he wrote, and his works always sparkled more or less with those well-considered and well-pointed sayings in which learned and unlearned equally delight. Mysteries of heaven and earth thus written about in a credulous and marvel-loving spirit, made the subject of a curious philosophy, would of course yield matter for attractive books. They were not less attractive because they were, or appeared to be, practical. Cardan had always a purpose in his writing. Astrology and kindred topics were supposed nearly to concern the daily interests of life; Arithmetic and Algebra concerned them really. "Make a book," said Cardan, in another of his aphorisms—"make a book that will fulfil a purpose, use will give it polish; then, but not till then, it will be perfect." Probably his popularity was more advanced by qualities of this kind in his writings than by the great and absolute merit of his discoveries in Algebra, whereupon chiefly his fame must rest. The Book of the Great Art must, however, have assured to Cardan among the most learned men of his day that high respect and consideration which could be secured from the more ignorant by works of less essential value.

When the scene again opens on Cardan, he is a Doctor of Medicine whose literary fame has attracted to him not only an overture to become physician to the Pope, which he wisely has declined, but a similar request to enter the King of Denmark's service, to which he has given the like refusal; and, at that very university of Pavia which he first entered as a neglected youth, he is lecturing for the large annual stipend of 400 golden crowns. After some five years, however, the disturbances of the time interfere with this professorship, and he is not reluctant to accept that invitation of Archbishop Hamilton to meet him in Paris, and prescribe for an asthma that afflicted him, which led eventually to his journey into Scotland itself, where he remained for some

ten weeks or so in personal attendance, at Edinburgh, on the illustrious Archbishop, greatly relieved his complaint, and received eighteen hundred golden crowns as his fee, besides a gold chain and an ambling horse, on which he very comfortably sets out for his ride back to London. Some thirty days or so was then the ordinary length of a journey thither from Edinburgh, and he had scarcely set foot in the English capital, when our young King, Edward the Sixth, summoned the world-renowned physician to his presence. What the philosopher thought of the prince, and what passed between them, Mr Morley shall tell the reader.

The impression made upon Cardan by the young king was, indeed, very great. "It would have been better, I think, for this boy not to have been born," he says, "or that being born and educated, that he had survived. For he had graces. Quite as a boy, he was skilled in many languages; Latin, his native English, French; and he was not unversed, I hear, in Greek, Italian, Spanish, and perhaps, yet others. He was not ignorant of dialectics, or of natural philosophy, or music. In his humanity he was a picture of our mortal state; his gravity was that of kingly majesty, his disposition worthy of so great a prince. The boy of so much wit and so much promise was by a great miracle being educated to a comprehension of the sum of human things. I do not here adorn the truth with rhetoric, but speak below the truth. . . . And there was the mark in his face of death that was to come too soon. Otherwise he was comely, because of his age and of his parents, who had both been handsome."

Edward, as described by Cardan, was "of a stature somewhat below the middle height, pale-faced, with grey eyes, a grave aspect, decorous, and handsome. He was rather of a bad habit of body than a sufferer from fixed diseases. He had therefore a somewhat projecting shoulder blade; but such defects do not amount to deformity, even when contracted from birth. Affections of his that were not habitual were to be called diseases, as a blindness and a deafness troubling him at times."

But, says the philosopher, after having pointed out various conjunctions of the stars, and pronounced among other things that the monarch would have trouble from quadrupeds, "he was a marvellous boy. I was told that he had already mastered seven languages. In his own language, French, and Latin, he was perfect. He was not ignorant of dialectics, and in all things teachable. When I had speech with him he was fifteen years old, and he asked me (speaking Latin with as much polish and promptitude as I could use myself):

"What is there in those rare books of yours on the Variety of Things?" For I was obtaining leave to dedicate them to him.

Then I: "In the first chapter I show the cause of comets, long sought for in vain."

"What is it?" says he.

"The concourse," I say, "of the light of the planets."

But the king: "How is it, since the motions of those stars are different, that it is not dissipated, or does not move in accordance with their motion?"

But I: "It does so move, only much faster than they, on account of the difference of aspect, as the sun shining through a crystal makes a rainbow on a wall. A very slight movement of the crystal makes a great change in the rainbow's place."

But the king: "And how can that be done when there is no *subjectum*, for to the rainbow the *subjectum* is the wall."

Then I: "It occurs as in the milky way, and by the reflection of lights. When many candle flames are lighted near one another they produce between themselves a certain lucid and white medium. Therefore, *ex ungue leonem*, as they say."

Having given this very candid illustration of the quickness of the king's intelligence, Cardan goes on immediately in a strain of genuine and hearty admiration. "This boy filled with the highest expectation every good and learned man, on account of his ingenuity and suavity of manners. . . . When a royal gravity was called for, you would think it was an old man you saw, but he was bland and companionable as became his years. He played upon the lyre, took concern for public affairs, was liberal of mind, and in these respects emulated his father, who, while he studied to be too good, managed to seem bad. But the son was free from all suspicion of crime, his disposition was completely trained to philosophic studies."

Somehow this gives one no bad notion of at least the self-possessed equanimity of that grave young gentleman-monarch, who jots down in his diary with equal nicety and precision the burnings of female heretics, the decapitation of his uncles, and the decapitation of a live goose in the game of "run" at the ring.

We must add what Cardan says generally of the English:

"It is worth consideration," he reported, "that the English care little or not at all for death. With kisses and salutatory parents and children part; the dying say that they depart into immortal life, that they shall there await those left behind; and each exhorts the other to retain him in his memory. Cheerfully, without blenching, without tottering, they bear with constancy the final doom. They surely merit pity who with such alacrity meet death, and have no pity on themselves."

But what do they look like, asks a speaker in the dialogue through which Cardan relates familiarly his impressions; what do they look like, and how do they dress?

"In figure," he replies, "they are much like the Italians: they are white—whiter than we are, not so ruddy; and they are broad-chested. There are some among them of great stature; urbane and friendly to the stranger, but they are quickly angered, and are in that state to be dreaded. They are strong in war, but they want caution; greedy enough after food and drink, but therein they do not equal the Germans. They are rather prone than prompt to lust. There are great intellects among them—witness Duns Scotus and Suiseth, who rank second to none. In dress they are like Italians; for they are glad to boast themselves most nearly allied to them, and therefore study to imitate as much as possible their manner and their clothes. And yet, even in form, they are more like the Germans, the French, and the Spaniards. Certain it is, that all the barbarians of Europe love the Italians more than any race among themselves. We were all nearly killed in Belgium, because I had a youth with me who looked much like a Spaniard. But perhaps these people do not know our wickedness."

"The English are faithful, liberal, and ambitious. But as for fortitude, the things done by the Highland Scots are the most wonderful. They, when they are led to execution, take a piper with them; and he, who is himself often one of the condemned, plays them up dancing to their death."

And you penetrated, says the questioner, as far as Scotland.—"I did, and it was a great pleasure to me to see so many provinces; this is at any rate one pleasure open to the living."—But the questioner then urges the discomforts that he must have endured; for example, those resulting from his ignorance of the language. "Truly so," replies Cardan. "And I wondered much, especially when I was in England, and rode about on horseback in the neighbourhood of London, for I seemed to be in Italy. When I looked among those groups of English sitting together, I completely thought myself to be among Italians: they were like, as I said, in figure, manners, dress, gesture, colour, but when they opened their mouths I could not understand so much as a word, and wondered at them as if they were my countrymen gone mad and raving. For they inflict the tongue upon the palate, twist words in the mouth, and maintain a sort of gnashing with the teeth. But then what pleasure could be taken here by one whose thoughts were with his children. I was so racked by the thoughts of those whom I had left at home, that for that cause only I was ready at once to seek and beg for leave to go on with my journey."

Nor was the great physician without cause for those racking thoughts of his home. There was the dash of gloom in the midst of all his glory. As he re-entered Milan after this journey, he could hardly have failed to think of the melancholy day, hardly twenty years gone, when he and his wife had sought the miserable refuge of its house of paupers. Now he was entering it as the most fashionable physician and the most successful scientific author of his time; as the man whom Pope and Emperor had sought; who had prescribed



for kings, princes, cardinals and archbishops; whose help the foremost men of the earth were grateful for; and whose now undisputed place was as principal physician in the very city which had most despised and trampled on his youth. But yet, between the extremes of so fierce a contrast, there remained, common to him still in both his glory and his shame, enough of the habits which had poisoned his youth and now survived its distresses, to afflict him through the sides of his children. He confesses to the last the bad example which he set in his motherless home. He had need of relaxation from toil, and he took it still in those tastes for music and gambling which filled his house with ill associates for children; and, during the hours when his better influence might have counteracted the evil, his learned pursuits of course engaged him, and he "could not see beyond his own table." So the best device he could hit upon to keep his little ones out of harm's way was to write them a little Book of Precepts; and, as they grew to manhood, to cut off his second son's ear when his extravagance and disobedience to precepts became intolerable, and turn his eldest son out of doors when he persisted in marrying a woman of infamous character. But, at the bottom of such intemperate indulgences of passion, Cardan was only too kind a father; and though he could not give back the ear he had violently taken, it was not long before he reopened the door he had as violently shut. That eldest son was he at whose birth the great wasp had formerly buzzed so much, and portents not less terrible now marked his new birth to his old father's love. Sad indeed was what they portended.

As usual in this life of fierce extremes, it was from the topmost height of prosperity that very suddenly, and to its uttermost depths, calamity yawned for him. The interval of five years since Cardan's return from Scotland had been filled to the full with professional success and literary fame, and the only check to his continued production of books was the still increasing number and rank of his patients. Of course he had assailants, too, as became a man of such extraordinary celebrity; and the rude personality of the first Scaliger's attack on him elicited that calm and crushing reply in which Scaliger was not even named, which should be the scholar's true model and example for ever when he would repel an intemperate assailant. Not only was he at the summit of celebrity in all things, but enjoying an easy professorship worth six hundred annual gold crowns, when the news of his son's arrest on a charge of having poisoned his faithless wife struck down all that brittle fabric of glory and prosperity, and bowed him to the earth with shame. He never fairly lifted his head again. To the wretched young man, who had indeed committed the crime with which he was charged, he clung with a desperate tenacity;—in the very dock, as though to proclaim his share in the neglects and temptations that had left youth unguarded from crime, he made as it were common cause with him;—stood up, when the guilt had been proved and all arguments of counsel were over, and himself elaborately argued on sixty-four pleas in mitigation of punishment;—and when, the judges having turned resolutely deaf ears to his piteous cry for mercy, the axe of the executioner fell, it seemed to fall at the same time on all that had given his own life any value. And this not so much in a moral sense as literally and actually. For he had spent nearly all his savings in the eager variety of his efforts to obtain mercy for his son; and the crowd of patients so suddenly attracted to him by the notoriety of his fame, the notoriety of his shame thinned quite as fast.

Though he lived sixteen years after the catastrophe, he never recovered the worldly position it took from him; and it will be no injustice to say that but for this its chief bitterness might have passed away. He still wrote books, still had some patients to prescribe for, still occasionally lectured; but insults multiplied upon him which he could no longer effectively repel, superstitions darkened around him, friends deserted him, charges of impiety, and of sins grosser (to man if not to the church), pursued him; and the last picture of him in his desolate age, just before his death in his seventy-fifth year, is of an old and strangely dressed man, walking with unsteady gait through the streets of Rome, wondered at by all who did not know him, and suspected of madness by all who did. One of his last writings had been a dialogue between himself and his father's ghost, in which the latter takes occasion to say to him, "What of your sons?" "Have you not lost them by your negligence and your licentiousness?" And so, with these bitter words on his lips, and connecting them with the author of his own embittered and neglected childhood, dies the famous physician and philosopher, Jerome Cardan. To quote the motto to the last chapter of his life, "he cometh in with vanity, and departeth in darkness, and his name shall be covered with darkness."

Nothing can exceed the pathetic because the simple and quite unaffected manner in which these incidents are related by Mr Morley. There are few things in romance more vivid or sustained than their interest, so perfectly natural, so strikingly dramatic. In objection we shall make only one remark. The candour of Cardan's accusations against himself and his own "negligence and licentiousness," not only in these years but all through his career, seems to us the only point on which perhaps a slightly undue stress is laid by the biographer on the too-favourable side for his hero. In that "unique candour" with which he publishes his faults, Mr Morley sees mainly but a sturdy truthfulness and innate generosity; though he admits that at times it was carried so far as to be "scarcely sane," and Tiraboschi had before observed of his celebrated

countryman that by the simple fact of his speaking so much evil of himself any one might perceive how very strange a man he was. Nevertheless we think it capable of another solution. A shrewd remark by Cardan himself is quoted by Mr Morley in the course of his volumes, in which he says that it seems to be in the grain of men to think themselves more miserable, and to wish others to think them happier, than they really are; and it will be no impugment of the truth of the remark to say that Cardan was a living contradiction to it, for it was much his habit to go against the grain of men. Certainly of him, therefore, we should be disposed to assert that if he had been either less miserable than he thought himself, or less happy than he wished others to think him, he could never have written as he did. To himself, in a word, we more than suspect that he palliated all the defects which to others he exaggerated. "What if I confess my vices?" he asks on one occasion, "Why marvel? am I not a man? And how much more human is it to acknowledge than dissemble. What we cloak, we protect; what we acknowledge, we confess and avoid." It is not difficult to discover a secret self-flattery in this; a surrender of so much of the world's good opinion, by way of compromise for what he would retain of his own. For it is a truth not to be got rid of, that Cardan never ceased to indulge the vice he never ceased to denounce; and even in the first sad shock of his son's guilt and shame we discover him resorting to the dice-box for relief.

But this is not a subject to pursue harshly, and we prefer to close it with what Mr Morley remarks generally of the humane and liberal spirit justly noticeable in Cardan's controversial writings.

He claims for himself, and that also justly, the merit, that if he attracted to himself few friends, he never broke a friendship, and that if he found himself forsaken for a time by one of those few friends, he never used unkindly, whether as public accusation or as private taunt, knowledge obtained in confidential intercourse. He had a rugged love of truth and justice; he remembered benefits, and when affronted could afford deliberately to abstain from seizing any offered opportunity of vengeance. He governed his pen better than his tongue, and carefully restrained himself from carrying into his books the heat he could not check in oral disputation. He left enemies unnamed, and though he now and then is found devoting some impatient sentences to writers who had treated his opinions rudely, yet it seems at first sight absolutely wonderful that a man so sensitive and so irascible, so beset by harsh antagonists as the weak-bodied Jerome, should have filled so many volumes with philosophy and so few pages with resentment. The wonder ceases when a closer scrutiny displays the difference in intellectual and moral weight between Cardan and most of his opponents.

That is truly said, and the same tolerant and truthful spirit characterises throughout this well-written life of a great, weak, wayward, profound, most laborious scholar. To all readers we commend the book as a most conscientious one. It is the result of a diligent and unsparing study of Cardan's collected writings, and when we add that these occupy ten thick and ponderous folio volumes, and are all written in the familiar Latin of the sixteenth century, we give some idea of the toil by which only such a result could be obtained. No one had attempted it until now. Neither Bayle nor Tiraboschi had advanced much farther than into Jerome's *professed* autobiography (*De Propria Vita Liber*), which is not only the least but also the least valuable part of his personal confessions. Nor was it as to himself alone those books of the old physician were so liberal of secrets. They vouchsafe us little histories and full-length portraits of almost every one that had exercised an influence on his fortunes, with graphic touches reproducing them in those "habits as they lived" which again, in Mr Morley's book, in all their lively or gloomy contrasts, only serve to show off the more forcibly the old philosopher himself,—in his wretched neglected childhood, in his vicious, laborious, and disastrous youth, in the glorious successes of his manhood, and in the superstition, shame, and desolation of his old age.

*Reginald Lyle.* By Miss Pardoe. Three vols. Hurst and Blackott.

The hero of this novel is a childless *millionaire*, who, after a long life of toil in Mexico, returns to England for the purpose of finding among his numerous relations a worthy inheritor for his wealth. He has little or no faith in the existence of real disinterestedness, and doubts from the outset the possibility of being welcomed for his own sake. Nevertheless he resolves upon making the experiment, which has for years been the object of all his thoughts. He confides his project to his lawyer, whose friendly assistance he claims, in testing his kindred. Mr Lyle's purpose, if he can discover one amongst them whose moral qualities attain the standard which he has fixed, is to endow that one with all he dies possessed of, attaching to the bequest a single condition, which is kept a close secret from all but his confidant.

The personages who are subjected to Mr Lyle's test are three nephews and the widow of a fourth. The first of these is a West India merchant with a family of daughters, apparently in very flourishing circumstances; the next a bachelor, who has a government office and a good salary; the lady is the head of a fashionable school at Clapham, with two sons; and the last is an orphan, who, in addition to poverty, has not what is called *la main heureuse*. Against this nephew the rich Mr Lyle conceives a strong prejudice, nor does he manifest any very sincere interest in the rest, his belief being that all are alike unworthy.

The various pursuits and personal traits of the actors in the story afford scope for clever delineation of character. Mrs Stainton, the scheming, match-making, fashionable school-mistress, is very well drawn; and the government clerk, Mr Lancaster, has many points of amusing originality about him. The plot, moreover, is well developed, the mystery on which the interest hinges being reserved as a positive surprise to the last. We may object, perhaps, to the ex-

trême selfishness which in all but one instance marks the conduct of the heirs expectant, as being too manifestly displayed; but it cannot be denied that, in the use of the materials she has chosen, Miss Pardoe shows considerable skill. One characteristic of the novel is the vein of sound common sense which runs throughout it, and which will make it acceptable not only to those who take it up for amusement, but to more thoughtful readers.

*Watkins's Commercial and General London Directory and Court Guide for 1854.* Extending on the north to Camden Town, south to Camberwell, east to the East India Docks, and west to Bayswater; with Environs. March Edition. For the Proprietor: Longman and Co.

Watkins's *Directory*, now in its third year, is a rival to Kelly's, and is chiefly remarkable for its great cheapness. In bulk it approaches nearly to the size of our old friend the 'Post Office Directory,' and the compilation seems to have been made with considerable care. The existence of such a rival no doubt stimulates the giant that is master of the field with new determination to maintain his mastery, and the commanding strength of the giant aforesaid compels equally strenuous effort to contest the ground with him. By such contest the public gains, and in this vast town the need for a directory must be so great that a supply of the want from two sources can scarcely overstock the market. The *Directory* of which we are now speaking is good; and if it is not quite so good or complete as Kelly's, compensation is made to many people limited in means who need directories, by the fact that it supplies all that they are ever likely to require, at wonderfully little cost.

## MARCH 24.

Sharp crocus wakes the forward year;  
In their old haunts birds reappear;  
From yonder elm, yet black with rain,  
The cushat looks deep down for grain  
Thrown on the gravel-walk: here comes  
The redbreast to the sill for crumbs.  
Fly off! fly off! I can not wait  
To welcome ye, as 'ho of late.  
The earliest of my friends is gone.  
Alas! almost my only one!  
The few as dear, long wafted o'er,  
Await me on a sunnier shore.

W. S. L.

## TO WALTER SAVAGE LANDOR.

Oh, wise in youth, and young in wisest age,  
Landor, true prince! on whom thy royal rights  
Laid royal duties in thine heritage  
Of soft Thessalian vales, and Alpine heights!  
The generations of the just shall be—  
More brave, more blest for thine heroic reign;  
Thy hills are calm with castles for the free,  
Thy vales are rich with roses, grape, and grain!  
A fairer Athens, and a freer Rome  
Thou bidst us rear: and when this age is old,  
A staliel than the high Augustan dome,  
Thy venerable memory shall hold!  
Wherever Freedom, Truth, and Beauty build,  
God's gladdening light thy marble fame shall gild.  
Boston, U. S., March 30, 1854. ESPERANZA.

## THE THEATRICAL EXAMINER.

## ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.

*Matilde di Shabran* seems to have been revived here not so much for its own sake as for the sake of displaying thoroughly the power of the Covent Garden company. For its own sake it is well worth hearing, though it may not on that account alone have deserved the honours of a revival.

It is well that opera-frequenterers should be allowed an opportunity of hearing such a work as this, for whoever has heard it knows Rossini better than before. In a greater effort, the master comes to us with the direct purpose of compelling our respect and admiration; in a piece like this, recklessly dashed off as it was in a few days, to please the good-tempered public that enjoys itself over the humours of the Carnival, the composer does not stand upon his guard, and the familiar view we get of him thus causes us to understand him as we understand a friend. Perhaps a fourth part of this opera was written in bed—Rossini, we think, wrote in bed sometimes—it is certainly not composed ambitiously; strains that had been used by himself in former operas were welcome to appear again, if they recurred to him again; and though the libretto was atrociously absurd, that did not matter. The beauty *Matilde* was to subdue the beast *Corradino*, and the beast's was to be "a part to tear a cat in." Rossini had no taste for tearing cats, and cared as little for the tremendous situations furnished to his pen as the public, before so ridiculous a story, could be supposed likely to care. He toned the plot all down by his treatment of it to a conventional level, and made out of the heaviest libretto in existence a light entertainment full of airy strains of playfulness and delicacy.

To hear *Matilde di Shabran* is to hear Rossini at ease, making music as if for his own amusement, sometimes starting a fresh strain, and sometimes remembering himself, but always displaying naturally the most characteristic features of his genius. It is an opera chiefly remarkable for the number and great beauty of its concerted pieces for from four to eight voices; it also contains one or two charming duets, not many solos. The pleasure of the music is enlivened by the humours of one of those buffo characters,—a wandering *improvisatore*, a true carnival personage,—for which none ever knew better than Rossini how to provide hints in his music, and which no man knows better than Ronconi how to sing and act.



## FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

## RUSSIA AND TURKEY.

**TURKEY.—THE RUSSIAN FLEET IN THE BLACK SEA.**—The 'Invalide Russe' gives an account of the easy and effectual manner in which the Russians were allowed by the British and French Admirals in the Black Sea to withdraw their troops from and burn the forts on the Circassian coast:

After the occupation of the eastern shores of the Black Sea in the last war against Turkey the Government had directed its attention to the suppression of the infamous traffic in women and children, who form the principal article of commerce between the mountaineers of the Caucasus and the Turks. With this object, it had erected all along the coast between Ghelendjik and Gagri a series of temporary posts, and had established cruisers by means of galleys of a particular construction, manned by Cossacks from the Sea of Azoff. Thanks to this measure, fearlessly executed by the Cossacks, the object of humanity which the Government had proposed to itself had been until now achieved. At present, the circumstances under which these posts had been built having changed, it became necessary to consider that in consequence of their position they had no land communication with each other, and that their garrisons therefore, left completely isolated from the main body of our forces, could not be of any service in the general system of our future operations. On these grounds the Aide-de-Camp General Prince Menschikoff was ordered to suppress these posts, after having withdrawn the garrisons. Prince Menschikoff has accomplished this service with the success which accompanies all the operations of the fleet in the Black Sea. On the 3rd of March he despatched from Ghelendjik the steamer Molodets, under the flag of Vice-Admiral Sédrébrakoff, towing rowboats; the Crimea, under the flag of Rear-Admiral Panfiloff, towing the Mamai transport ship; the Odessa, towing the Bzyb; the Chersonese, towing the Gostogal; the Boiét, towing the Kodos; the Mogoutchy, towing the Témes; and the Argonaut, towing rowboats. In coasting along the shores of Circassia, and whenever they arrived opposite a post, they left the vessels necessary for the embarkation of the garrisons; but on approaching Navaghinsk two steamers, the one French, the other English, were signalled. The embarkation was suspended, and measures were taken to prepare for action; however, the enemy's ships remained in the offing, passed before ours, and the embarkation was resumed. In the meantime, opposite the post Véliaminoff, these two steamers stopped the hired transport Bzyb; two officers hailed her and addressed to her commander, Lieutenant Teheyschiff, the following questions:—"What steamers have you seen near the post of Navaghinsk?" Answer—"Some Russian steamers of war." "What are they doing at that point?" Answer—"There is an Admiral there, and he has not told me his instructions." "Who is burning the posts, you or the Circassians?" Answer—"We." "Why do you burn them?" Answer—"Because such is the order given." "Where is your fleet?" Answer—"I don't know, but I believe it to be at sea, and very near." After having received these answers the two steamers departed, having described themselves as the Mogador and the Sampson. On the 5th the whole expedition anchored at Novorossisk, where it disembarked the garrison of the posts of Navaghinsk, Golovine, Lazareff, Véliaminoff, Tenghinsk, and Novotroitsk. Storms had prevented the squadron of Rear-Admiral Voukitch embarking the garrison of the post of St Esprit. The removal of this garrison took place between the 9th and 10th by means of the steamer Gromonosses, aboard which was sent Colonel Skolkoff, aide-de-camp of the Emperor. From all these posts, besides the garrisons, which make up an effective force of 5,000 men, they embarked all the families of the soldiers, the workmen, and a great part of the stores of the Crown. The rest, as well as the buildings, were burnt, and the fortifications were blown up. Our military resources have thus been augmented by an important body of picked troops, accustomed to war by long service in the centre of an unsubdued country.

**THE FLEETS IN THE BLACK SEA.**—The 'Patrie' states, on the authority of a letter from Baltchik, of the 4th inst., that the combined squadrons remained at their anchorage in the Bay of Kavarna. They were keeping a sharp look out on the coast as far as Odessa, and the communications of the Russians by sea were completely cut off. This circumstance had a very sensible effect in paralysing the operations of the Russian generals, who previous to the arrival of the Allied Fleets had continued to receive supplies by the coasts of the Crimea. Now, the invading army is compelled to draw all its provisions from Bessarabia in the midst of enormous difficulties. It is reported that Mustapha Pacha, on leaving Kara-Sou, announced to his army the arrival of the French and English troops. General Selim Pasha, who was at Baha-Dagh, had arrived at Kara-Sou. This General had supported very serious combats on the passage of the Lower Danube by the Russians. He retired in good order according to instructions from Omar Pasha on the point of the concentration of the army. The announcement of the arrival of the allied armies had produced the greatest effect among the Turks. Omar Pasha has united his troops in a good position, and does not fear a battle.

**PROTRACTED MILITARY PREPARATIONS.**—The Constantinople correspondent of the 'Times,' writing on the 7th inst., points, in the following account, to the want of adequate military preparation by the allied Governments for the impending struggle with Russia:

"The French force which has arrived at Gallipoli includes two Lieutenant-Generals and three Generals of Brigade. They have turned the dervishes out of their convent, which they are about to convert into an hospital. The men are at present engaged in sinking wells and preparing for the reception of a considerable force. Yet officers, both French and English, are far from satisfied with the position of affairs. They complain that neither the Governments nor the people of the two nations appreciate the magnitude of the struggle, the vastness of the resources required, the backwardness of our preparations, and the time that must elapse before our armies can act efficiently. The few French troops at Gallipoli are all who are as yet on Turkish ground; and even this handful of men are obliged to borrow Turkish tents to defend themselves from the weather. The town itself is not large enough to accommodate 10,000 men without a general expulsion of the inhabitants. 3,000 horses are daily expected, and no place has been prepared for them,—it is even recommended that a detachment should be sent to cut wood at Lampeaki, for the purpose of constructing stables. Three months is considered the shortest time which must elapse before a force can be concentrated at Varna able to take the field with fair prospects, and if hesitation or timidity find a place in the councils of statesmen or generals, the summer may be passing away before a campaign begins, which must close again in October. From the number of military men here, and the active part which almost all will have to take in the coming struggle, these matters are continually discussed, and in a closer and more practical manner than is usual in general society at home. There certainly does not prevail in this capital that overweening confidence and that contemptuous estimate of the Russian power which are universal at present in London society. On the contrary, men who know the Danube and the Dobrujscha as well as the neighbourhood of Charing Cross are forced to confess the skill and foresight of the Russian tactics; and it is among such chiefly that I find alarm expressed at the slight concern which the British public give themselves as to the means of carrying on an offensive war against overwhelming numbers, in the heart of a desolated country, and amid a disaffected population. It must be remembered that Bulgaria has been eaten up by the Ottoman armies. For a space of ten months provisions of all kinds have been taken from the peasantry, who have not received one piastre in exchange."

**CONDITION OF THE ALLIED FLEETS IN THE BLACK SEA.**—The same writer observes on this subject:

"Whatever may be the case with the land armaments, there is no doubt that the fleet is in capital condition. The men are well and in good spirits; practising with shot and shell goes on continually, terrifying the Pasha of Varna with the belief that the Russians are at hand. The entire crews, from the admirals and post-captains downwards, will be glad that the singular state of things is over by which Russian vessels could only be requested to go back to port, and every man had the affair of Navarino before his eyes, and the danger of finding victory over an obstinate enemy described by statesmen as a 'disastrous circumstance.'"

**THE INSURRECTION IN EPIRUS AND THESSALY.**—Advices of the 2nd of April, from Epirus, by way of Ancora, fully confirm the disasters

*Matilde di Shabran* was revived before a full house, which at first listened coldly, but as the business went on, the force of a good company singing its best began to tell upon the audience, the beauty of the concerted pieces was felt, and long before the end of the first act it had been warmed more than once to a complete enthusiasm. As a means of displaying to the best advantage the power of vocalization possessed by a company of singers, this is indeed one of the best operas that could have been chosen. It enabled Madlle Bosio to achieve one of her highest triumphs, and has, in one night, done more to make the public acquainted with her merits, than might otherwise have been effected in a month or two. It has confirmed the good reputation of Madlle Marai, and has shown the efficiency of the Covent Garden company in its main body. Signor Lucchesi earned much credit in the trying part of *Corradino*, and Signor Tagliafico again showed himself to be one of the most valuable working members of the company. We suppose that it was the purpose of this revival to increase and establish the reputation of the general company, to obtain ampler acknowledgement of the powers of Madlle Bosio, and to enable the public to admire Ronconi in a part admirably calculated to display his comic power. These at any rate are the purposes here answered.

It was to be expected that *Matilde di Shabran* would hold the stage but for a few nights, and therefore, although thoroughly well produced, it has not been mounted in the costly style that is thought worthy of the fame of greater operas. Its re-production will have been no failure, even should it be presented only twice or thrice, since it will have brought a very large addition to the credit of the house. We shall not be surprised, however, if it prove much more attractive than its antecedent failures might induce us to suppose. When it was last produced in London, and supported by Madame Persiani, by Rubini, Tamburini, and Lablache, all that is best in the second act, including a duet which is now one of the triumphs of the night, was omitted, and a long scene was retained that spoiled by ridiculous excess the comic part. This is now very judiciously cut out. In other respects also the opera, when it was last produced, was altered in a way which must have helped greatly to assure its failure.

## THE EASTER ENTERTAINMENTS AT THE THEATRES.

The theatres are keeping Easter pleasantly. At DRURY LANE an opera has been established with a company more efficient than might have been supposed, judging from the character of the dramatic troupe which lately occupied its stage. Madame Caradori is the prima donna, seconded well by Madlle Sedlatzek. Herr Formes is the main star on the other side; and the rest of the company is by no means contemptible. The band, too, is in good order, and has Herr Lindpaintner for its conductor. We believe that if pains be taken to secure real merit for the performances, the Drury Lane opera for the million will hold its ground. It began work with *Norma*.

Mr Buckstone has established a fresh attraction at the HAYMARKET in the shape of another of those *revues* which Mr Planché seems to be disposed, and he only is able, to naturalize among us. It is now "*Mr Buckstone's Journey round the Globe*"—in Leicester square. The dulness of that great O is enlivened by a dream, in which Mr Buckstone is of course able to see anything, and sees everything likely to illustrate town talk with good scenic effect, whether it be Gibraltar, Constantinople, seas of ice, elephants on their heads, or Chinese impalers. The entertainment proves attractive, being in its nature a compendium of all current attractions.

At the PRINCESS'S Theatre Mr Charles Kean has produced for Easter a close adaptation of one of the pieces popular at the Gymnase, called *Faust and Marguerite*. It is a French making up of the old materials of Goethe's plot into an effective melodrama. It is beautifully produced with four fine old German scenes, and with effects and groupings carefully studied after Retzsch and others. Mr Charles Kean is the Mephistopheles of the piece, a dry, humorous, and indeed somewhat good-humoured demon. The success of this spectacle also is complete.

The public has reason to regret selfishly the private troubles of the manager, Mr Charles Mathews, from whom they were wont to expect the most brilliant of their Easter entertainments. A clever little proverb, however, *Give a Dog a Bad Name*, has been added to the stock of mirth supplied at the LYCEUM, which is a stock large enough to satisfy the crustiest explorer after wholesome holiday fun.

At the ADELPHI there is an *Overland Journey to Constantinople*, with some account of Lord Bateman and the Fair Sophia, written by Mr Brough. With the curtailments to which it has no doubt already submitted, this piece, well got up and famously supported by a host of our best comic actors, will doubtless for some time maintain its place in the bills under Messrs Reade and Tom Taylor's best of all Adelphi dramas, *Two Loves and a Life*.

At the OLYMPIC Mr Robson's genius has been made the sole basis of Easter mirth. Mr Robson appears in three pieces, the last being that in which he sings the song for which—nothing as it is, by itself; or rather, we may say, considerably worse than nothing—he has achieved so marvellous a popularity. "Vilkins and his Dinah." Such inducement alone proves sufficient to ensure crowded houses at the little theatre which Mr Wigan is conducting.

At the STRAND Theatre there is a burlesque of *Richard the Third*, and at the MARYLEBONE a merry fairy piece has been successfully produced under the title of *The Magic Branch*.

of the insurgents. On the 15th March Osman Pasha took the command of Arta. Strong Turkish corps are continually moving between Arta, Preveza, and Janina, in which last-mentioned city 8,000 men are now assembled. The insurgents have retired into the mountains. The 'Pays' publishes the following from Athens, dated the 6th:—"The insurrection in Epirus and Thessaly has made very little progress. The chiefs are more disunited than ever, and consequently there is but little unity in their acts. Tzavellas gives himself up to drink, and Negri, a rich and respectable Greek, has abandoned him. The government continues to follow the same course as before. The following fact will give an idea of the amount of affection which the government of Athens bears to those of France and England. An individual sent to the government a plan for making fire-ships, destined to set fire to our fleets. The government took the proposition into consideration, and sent it to a committee for examination. The committee declared that to carry the plan into practice was impossible, but that still the inventor was entitled to a recompense for the idea." The English, Austrian, French, and Swedish ministers did not attend the *Te Deum* on the 6th, when the anniversary of the independence of Greece was celebrated. The English and French Ministers have addressed a strong note to the Government of King Otho, but there is reason to believe that the infatuation of King and people is too great to allow of its proper influence. The government appears to expect countenance, or at least connivance, from Austria and Prussia, and people say that let the worst thing happen, France and England may be separated on this branch of the Eastern question. The *Zucgor* reports that the expulsion of the Greeks is going on at Constantinople; but a private despatch states that Roman Catholic Greek subjects are allowed to remain. A Greek vessel with ammunition has been captured at Eubœa. A despatch from Constantinople of the 10th states that three hundred Greeks, who had landed at Volo, in Thessaly, have been put to the sword, with the exception of a few who were saved by going on board the Austrian corvette, *Caroline*.

**THE GREEK INSURRECTION.**—A correspondent in yesterday's 'Times' denies the statement made in that paper some days ago, to the effect that Greek merchants in England had subscribed large funds in aid of the Greek insurrection. The 'Globe' says: "We have every reason to believe that several leading Greek merchants in London make no secret of their having given practical effect to their notorious sympathy with the insurrection, by very considerable pecuniary donations."

**MISCELLANEOUS FACTS.**—According to Constantinople mercantile letters of the 6th of April, Baron Bruck has issued orders to all Austrian vessels to quit Constantinople. A misunderstanding is said to have arisen between Lord Redcliffe and Baron Bruck.—Lord Stratford has addressed a circular to the British Consuls condemning the Greek insurrection.—Since the combined British and French squadrons have entered the Black Sea, there has been a continual movement of steamers between Constantinople and Varna. Twenty-five French naval officers and thirty British midshipmen have been detached from the fleets in the Black Sea, and passed through that city on their way to join the Baltic fleet.—It appears that General Wysocki is to be the commander-in-chief of the new Polish legion in the service of Turkey.—A very large number of the subjects of King Otho resident in Turkey have acknowledged allegiance to the Sultan, and will remain in the country.—A letter from Bucharest, in the 'Wanderer' of Vienna, states that Mr Biagini and M. Duprat, the former an English and the latter a French subject, had been flogged for having spoken in a disrespectful manner of the Emperor Nicholas. They were, at the date of the letter (14th), at the military hospital. They have not been able to lay a complaint before their respective consuls, as those functionaries are absent, and the agents left by them in their places have received official notice that if they continued their functions they would be transported into the interior of Russia.—Lord Carlisle arrived at Constantinople on the 5th by the French steamer, and left two days after for Varna.

**FRANCE.—MILITARY MOVEMENTS.**—On Tuesday morning after a week devoted to the hospitable pleasures of the capital, Lord Raglan, Lord De Ros, and their staffs left Paris by the Lyons Railway for Marseilles. The Duke of Cambridge, with the rest of the officers, followed on Wednesday, not however, by the same route, but by Vienna and Trieste. The Duke arrived at Strassburg on Thursday morning, and left again for Frankfurt, accompanied by M. de Toulougeon, one of the Emperor's Aide-de-Camp. It is stated that the object of the Duke's journey to Vienna is diplomatic; or else to be present at the marriage of the Emperor of Austria. M. Hubner, the Austrian Minister in Paris, has left for the latter purpose. Prince Napoleon and his staff left Toulon for Constantinople on Monday on board the *Rolland*, ship of war. General Bizot, commandant of the Polytechnic School, has been appointed to the command in chief of the engineers of the army of the East. Colonel Ardent has arrived at Paris, to render an account of the mission which he has fulfilled conjointly with General Burgoyne. Rear-Admiral Boxer, accompanied by his flag-lieutenant and Mr W. Burton, from the Admiralty, passed through Paris, on Tuesday morning, en route for Constantinople. Marshal St Arnaud left Paris on Sunday by the Lyons Railway, for Constantinople, to assume the command of the army of the East. He will embark at Marseilles. Two English officers, Brigadier-General Rose and Major Claremont, have been nominated by the English Government as *attachés* to Marshal St Arnaud, and by way of a reciprocal compliment, the French Minister at War has appointed Lieutenant-Colonel Guilhen de Lagondie, chief of the staff of the 7th military division at Besancon, and Chef d'Escadron Vico of the staff of the 8th division at Lyons, to attend Lord Raglan. On the 11th inst. 200 marines embarked on board the *Infexible*, the *Tage*, and the *Jemapper*, which were waiting in the roads for orders to make sail for the Baltic. Five other ships and three frigates will follow them without delay. The journals of Bretagne announce that a number of regiments, both infantry and cavalry, destined eventually to take part in the expedition to the Baltic, were being put in order of march. St Brieux will become the centre of a corps of from 5,000 to 6,000 men.

**MISCELLANEOUS FACTS.**—The 'Moniteur' states that the Prussian Minister presented a letter from his Sovereign to the Emperor on Wednesday.—The opening of the whole line of railway between Paris and Lyons was some time since announced for April, and it is still said that a single line between Chalons and Lyons will be laid down before the end of the month, but the company intends to make use of this single line in the first instance exclusively, for the purpose of hastening the completion of the railway, and, as now arranged, the great event of the opening of this entire line to the public is fixed for May 31.—The Archbishop of Paris (M. Sibour), and the Bishop of Orleans (M. D'apanloup), are likely to be rival candidates for a seat in the French academy. It is said the government leans to the archbishop, who represents the Gallic church against ultramontaniam.—Mr Laing, M.P., chairman of the Crystal Palace Company, accompanied by Sir J. Paxton, Mr Boothby, one of the directors, and Mr Grove, the secretary, had an interview with the Emperor on Monday at the Tuilleries. His Majesty expressed great interest in the success of the undertaking, and promised to send contributions from the Imperial manufactories of Sevres, the Gobelins, and Beauvais. He also said that a deputation fully representing France should be present at the opening of the palace next month.—The new horse railway now in operation from the Place de la Concorde to Passy is to be continued from the one terminus to Sevres and St Cloud, and from the other along the quay to Vincennes.—A "communicated note" in the 'Patrie,' announces, on the authority of a



letter from Constantinople of the 5th, that Colonel Dieu was at that date with Omar Pasha, and in perfect health.

SPAIN.—A very remarkable decree, attributable to the exertions of Lord Howden, has appeared in the 'Madrid Gazette,' announcing the intention of the Spanish government to put an end to the slave trade, and to give satisfaction to Great Britain. According to the terms of the decree, all slaves are to be immediately registered, after which time any slave found in the island of Cuba without a copy of the register, containing date, domicile, and description, will be looked upon as fraudulently imported, and declared ipso facto free; and secondly providing for and organising the introduction of white labourers.

UNITED STATES.—By the Africa we have advices from New York to the 5th inst. In the House of Representatives at Washington Mr Campbell, of Ohio, introduced a resolution requesting the President to open negotiations with England, with the view of ascertaining upon what terms the latter Government would consent to the annexation of Canada to the United States! The resolution was rejected by a majority of 119 to 28. The bill for increasing the navy by six steam frigates has passed by a considerable majority. Massachusetts and Indiana have petitioned Congress against the introduction of slavery into any territory from which it is excluded by the Missouri compromise. The Governor of New York has vetoed the Maine Liquor Law, which it was proposed in the Legislature to extend to New York. The Senate of Ohio had adopted the following resolution:—"Resolved, that our senators in Congress be instructed, and that our representatives be requested, to use their best endeavours in favour of establishing reciprocal free trade with the Canadas, and the opening of the navigation of the river St Lawrence to the commerce of the United States." In New York the ship carpenters, caulkers, sparmakers, boiler-makers, plasterers, bricklayers, and dock men were out on strike. The latter were demanding an increase of two dollars per day. Several fires have occurred in different parts of the Union. In Washington street, New York, 100,000 dollars worth of property had been destroyed. A threatened duel between two members of the House of Representatives, Messrs Cutting and Breckenridge, has been compromised. The latter gentleman proposed to fight with rifles. The dispute arose during a debate on the Nebraska bill. The Franklin has since brought accounts to the 8th inst. No news had been received of the arrival at Philadelphia of the steamers City of Glasgow and City of Manchester. The former vessel was in her 40th day from Liverpool, and it was feared she was either lost or beset by ice in the Atlantic.

BRAZILS AND THE PLATE.—The Severn has brought accounts from Buenos Ayres, March 4; Monte Video, 6; and Rio de Janeiro, 17. Five thousand Brazilian troops have passed from the Rio Grande into Monte Video to support the Monte Videan government. Her Majesty's ship Portland left Rio on the 10th of March, Stromboli on the 12th, Centaur on the 14th. Ships remaining—Madagascar, bearing the flag of Rear-Admiral Henderson; and screw steamer Rifleman. The Russian man-of-war that was at Rio has vanished. It is supposed she has gone round into the Pacific. A British man-of-war has been for some time in pursuit of her.—The thirteen provinces of the Argentine Confederation persist in maintaining the presidency of General Urquiza, whose installation under the new federal constitution was to take place on the 4th of March.

THE WEST INDIA MAIL.—The La Plata has arrived, with dates from Jamaica to the 27th ult. In that island, as in the West Indies generally, there was a great want of shipping; cargoes were all ready, but no tonnage to take them away. Since the departure of the last mail nothing whatever had occurred of any interest in Jamaica politics. The Assembly is still in session, doing nothing. We are informed that a petition was in course of signature to the home Government for the purpose of inquiring into the propriety of suspending the constitution of this colony for a series of years. The Assembly having voluntarily abdicated its functions, it was confidently expected that Sir Henry Barkly would use all the constitutional means in his power for dissolving it, thereby entailing taking the sense of the constituency of the island. From British Guiana we learn that the Combined Court had closed its session, after having made liberal provision for the public institutions of the colony. The new Governor had arrived, and met with a good reception.—Commodore Anderson had received despatches from the exploring expedition on the Isthmus of Darien, which state that the American party from the United States sloop Cyane had not been seen or heard of, and there was every reason to believe they had been murdered by the Indians.—The Panama Railway will be finished by next August.—Disturbances had broken out on the Isthmus, in consequence of the New Granadian Government attempting to impose a poll tax on the persons crossing. The Americans resisted the tax. At Greytown the old dispute about the land on the American side is again revived. At Carthage the French admiral had demanded satisfaction for a national outrage, and had obtained it.—From California we learn that two American men-of-war were anchored off the headquarters of Gen. Walker, to prevent any reinforcement to the Fillibusters.—General Castilla is getting stronger in Peru, where the rule of President Echenique is drawing to a close.

THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—The Hydaspes has brought accounts to the 25th of February. The election of representatives in the Upper House of Parliament at the Cape was nearly complete. Almost every seat had been contested. Sir G. Clerk, formerly Governor of Bombay, has, it is said, twice declined the governorship at the Cape. The abandonment of the Orange River Sovereignty, where it is alleged that gold has been discovered, gives great dissatisfaction to the colonists. The subject of the discovery of gold is attracting great attention at the Cape. Some samples came home by the Hydaspes, for the Government.

ALBANIANISM. To the Editor of the 'Examiner.' Sir, When you say "the Albanian cannot resist the motive power of dollars" you extend the limits of Albania. How many courts in Germany are purely Albanian! How purely Albanian is the whole of Greece, under the king we imposed on her, with other heavier impositions than the Osmanli ever imposed. Greece in all ages has been essentially republican; even Spain was republican under her kings; and there continued to be municipal institutions under the Byzantine emperors. Again must Greece be democratic before she is independent and must be independent (probably for long) before she is honest. But I will return to Albanianism. Beside the sword and Minié rifle, there are two other weapons of wide range and sure effect. Nicholas can teach us the use of one; Napoleon the First taught us the other. We have shown ourselves to be very indifferent scholars under both masters. The repeated appeals and manifestoes of Bonaparte roused both soldier and citizen: the Pyramids repeated them to the Alps. There is indeed no voice among us which can be heard beyond a chamber or a magazine, and therefore our proclamations would be but voices crying in the wilderness; but we have vaults well stored with dollars, or dollars' worth, and it would be economy to disburse them. Soldiers are to be bought cheaper anywhere than in England; and how few are the officers in the Russian army or the Russian diplomacy above the reach of bribery. In this case, bribery is not corruption; it only falls upon it. Gold, like opium, is sometimes a sedative, and sometimes a stimulant; we may apply it as the case requires. In regard to the subjects and allies and neighbours of Turkey, we could bring under her standard, or within her influence, tribes and nations innumerable. We could arm them efficiently, and provision them throughout several campaigns, with less money than Mr Pitt expended

in the last twenty days of his administration. Your Correspondent, in his admirable directions "How to conduct the War," has enforced my opinions with his higher authority. No paper of equal energy, no speech in Parliament of equal comprehension, has awakened the people of England to look steadily at their present condition. Once more I warn the inadvertent, as this great writer has done, that, unless we drive Russia from her seaboard, she will at a future and no less distant day be mistress of Europe, and arbitress of Asia. Within half a century the Americans themselves will be constrained by her to maintain by force of arms their power and influence over the Pacific. Long before that day they will find the necessity of expelling her from their own continent. Peter the Great (for great he was) was sober (which he was not always) when he wrote his will. It was dictated by no dream of ambition, but suggested by computation. He could not compute, however, the future greatness of a nation at that time in its infancy, like his own, and with limbs less vigorous; he could not foresee that America, like the Grecian daughter, would be the support of a parent, shut up in decrepitude and decay.—WALTER SAVAGE LANDOR.

FOREIGN GLEANINGS.

Lord Howden has addressed a note to the Spanish Government requiring that it shall close its ports against Russian privateers, if Russia issues letters of marque.

Great preparations are being made for the approaching nuptials of the Emperor Francis Joseph with her Royal Highness the Duchess Elizabeth Eugenia in Bavaria. The solemnisation of this event remains fixed for the 23rd inst. The ratification of the marriage settlements were signed on the 4th inst., and in due form exchanged on the 7th.

The owners of Russian merchant vessels in the ports of Cadiz, Setubal, and Lisbon, have ordered them to be sold.

The Sardinian Government has issued an order prohibiting any privateers under the Russian flag from being armed, provisioned, or harboured, with their prizes, in Sardinian ports.

The Queen of Spain has annulled the soldiers of the Regiment of Cordova who took part in the revolt at Saragossa.

The railway from Turin to Susa, on the southern side of Mont-Cenis, is to be opened to the public in the course of the present month. The line from Verona to Caeglio by Brescia has just been opened to circulation.

By order of the Piedmontese Government the Duke de Valentinois has been set at liberty, and the option allowed him either to return to Monaco by sea, or to France by land. He has selected this latter course.

The Ministerial crisis in Denmark is over. The Cabinet remains. Bishop Monrad, Andra, Hall, Bierring, and others, have been dismissed.

Letters from Berlin say, that the Grand Duke Alexander, the heir presumptive to the Russian crown, is about to visit Germany, and to make a long stay. He will go in the first instance to Berlin, and afterwards to Darmstadt.

The British minister at Copenhagen has announced officially to the government that Sir C. Napier, having entered the Baltic, has orders to employ all necessary means for enforcing a strict and effective blockade of the Russian ports in that sea, and in the Gulf of Finland. The minister of Foreign Affairs has announced this important fact to the mercantile community, recommending them to avoid the dangers to which they would be exposed by infringing the regulations established by the British admiral.

PROGRESS OF THE WAR.

ARRIVAL OF BRITISH TROOPS AT GALLIOLI.—The steam-ship Golden Fleece, which left Malta on the 31st ult. with Gen. Sir G. Brown, a large number of officers, and nearly a thousand rank and file of Rifles and Sappers and Miners, arrived at Gallipoli in the night of the 5th inst., and on the 8th landed the first body of troops of the British expedition which has reached Turkey. The delay in the disembarkation of the men is ascribed to the want of the necessary preparations for their reception. The Golden Fleece was 135 hours making the passage. The following officers went out in the Golden Fleece: 1st division staff—Lieutenant-General Sir George Brown, Lieutenant-Colonel Sullivan, Assistant Adjutant-General; Captain Hallwell, 28th Regiment, Assistant Quartermaster-General; Captain Macdonell, 1st battalion Rifle Brigade, A.D.C.; Captain Whitmore, 30th Regiment, A.D.C.; Staff-Surgeon 1st class, Alexander. There were 27 officers, 39 sergeants, 15 buglers, and 774 rank and file of the Rifle Brigade; 10 officers, 10 sergeants, 4 buglers, 181 rank and file of the Sappers and Miners, on board the Golden Fleece. The whole were conveyed without casualty. The Vulcan has since arrived with the 44th Regiment, and three companies of the 50th. The Kangaroo, with the 93rd Regiment, and other detachments. The troops were well. It is probable that by this time the main body of the English troops assembled at Malta have reached Gallipoli.

STRENGTH OF THE RUSSIAN FORCE IN THE DOBRUDSCHA.—Valuable as is exact information respecting the effective strength of the Russians in the Dobrudscha, it has hitherto been exceedingly difficult to obtain, and the most contradictory statements have been put forward on the subject. The 'Daily News' furnishes the following statement on the authority of a military correspondent, whose position on the spot exempts him from ordinary liability to error. At the end of the first week in April, the "First Active Operating Corps," as the force in question is called, numbered 48,618 men. Its commander is General Luders, chief of the Fifth Infantry Corps, and his army is thus classified: Three divisions of Infantry, amounting to 36,600 men; one division of Light Cavalry, 3,840 men; four brigades of Foot Artillery, 3,168 men; one battalion of Chasseurs, 900 men; one battalion of Sappers and Pontoniers, 950 men; and four regiments of Cossacks, 3,200 men: giving a total of 48,618 men, with 160 guns. "It is not to be supposed," adds this correspondent, "that the Russians are idling about, because they have not startled the world with any extraordinary feats. They are employing the time in the most profitable manner, by strengthening their position on all sides, whether for attack or defence. Hospitals, depots, and communications are not made and secured in a day. The movements of a Russian army are always slow, but steady. Patient perseverance has often won for them the day."

WARLIKE OPERATIONS ON THE DANUBE.—The 'Vienna Presse' gives some particulars of a sharp battle which took place on the 4th inst., at Giditch, near Kalafat, and which ended in the defeat of the Russians. Achmet Pasha, the commandant of Kalafat, thinking the opportunity for attacking the Russians too favourable to be missed, marched out upon them with a strong force, and attacked them in their position at Giditch. The struggle was long and bloody, but was at length decided in favour of the Ottomans by a brilliant charge of the Turkish cavalry, under Iskender Bey (Count Kinsky), on which after great exertion, the Russians were driven from the place with immense loss. The captors at once occupied the village in force, and have since thrown into it a strong garrison from Widdin.—A letter from Shumla of the 2nd inst. states the total force of the Russians on the south side of the Danube at nearly 50,000. They have advanced to Babadagh, and hold all the country of the Dobrudscha as far as the Kara-u, whence a mur d'orillon and an old Roman wall extend to Kostendje, on the Black Sea. Many officers (French and English) are of opinion that the Russians are concentrating a very large force in this district, and it is also expected that another passage will be attempted above Rustchuk, between which and Widdin little opposi-

tion could be offered by the Turks, and we know that the Russians have already made large preparations of boats and pontoons on the Wallachian side. Omar Pasha seems perfectly aware of his great deficiency in cavalry, and the disadvantage of risking an engagement on the open plains of Bulgaria. He is therefore concentrating as many troops as possible, principally infantry, in the neighbourhood of Shumla. There are now there upwards of 20,000 men, and reinforcements are constantly arriving from the reserve at Adrianople and some of the posts on the Danube. Ismail Pasha, the hero of Cistak, arrived on the 30th, with five battalions, from Turtukia. He is one of the ablest generals the Turks have, and at the present moment is a great acquisition, as there is an urgent demand for good staff officers.—The following telegraphic despatches, dated the 18th inst., have been received from Vienna, but their contents have not yet been confirmed: "The important frontier town of Fokshani, in Wallachia, which had just been fortified, has been destroyed by fire. All the Russian stores, provisions, arms, clothing, ammunition, and all the military hospitals, have fallen a prey to the flames. The Russians occupy Kostendje."—"In a former despatch you were informed that Russian troops had been seen on the Servian territory; this evening's papers have a communication from Orsova, of the 16th, which states that on the 14th the Russians occupied Turnu-Severin. On the 15th the Cossacks crossed the Danube at New Orsova, a Turkish fortress on one of the Danubian islands, and occupied Wartsierova. The Turks bombarded the place. According to these accounts, it is not clear whether a regular passage of the Danube is intended at that spot. It is also affirmed that all the Russian ports in the Black Sea are declared in a state of blockade. A part of the fleets has anchored before Odessa."

SIR C. NAPIER'S MOVEMENTS IN THE BALTIC.—We have at length some certain intelligence respecting the movements of the fleet after it left Kioge Bay on the 12th inst. Early on the following morning it passed the northern part of the Danish Island of Bornholm, from which twenty-five sail were described, and after manoeuvring for a time east anchor off the Swedish coast. The next day, the 14th, it continued its course towards the Swedish island of Gothland. Before leaving Kioge Bay on the 12th inst. Admiral Napier officially declared that he would blockade all the Russian ports in the Gulfs of Finland and Bothnia. A Captain Christiansen, of the ship Fyer, who has arrived at Swinemunde, from Ronne, a small town in Bornholm, states that on the night of the 13th a heavy cannonade was heard from that island. A letter from Elsinour of the 12th states that contradictory reports had been received there respecting the exact state of the ice in the Gulf of Finland. The British Admiral, however, having been informed that the Russian division at Swensborg was preparing to quit that port, it was considered probable that the sea in that direction was free from ice. That division is said to consist of 18 ships of the line. A letter from an officer on board H.M.S. Hecla, dated Copenhagen, the 13th April, states that Sir C. Napier had sent a competent party to the Island of Gothland, to ascertain if there was any good anchorage there for the fleet, and if water could be provided. In returning, the officer fell in with the Dauntless, on her way back from the Gulf of Finland, with intelligence that the ice had cleared away as high up as Helsingfors, and that six or seven Russian sail of the line were anchored there under the strong batteries. Sir C. Napier, who was then in Kioge Bay, on hearing this news, at once put to sea, and was reported on the 19th off Gothland. The Hecla will rejoin Sir Charles immediately, together with the Dauntless, Gorgon, and one or two other steamers, which were all at Copenhagen on the 13th. It was the Alban, steam-sloop, and not the Amphion, screw-frigate, which got aground near Copenhagen. She is now afloat. Seven Russian merchant vessels, captured by the squadron of Admiral Plumridge, had been sent into Kioge Bay and were lying there on the 18th inst.; they were laden principally with salt. The Austerlitz has left Kioge Bay to join Sir C. Napier. A telegraphic despatch from Hamburg on Thursday, states that the number of Russian vessels captured is increased to ten. The Alban left the Copenhagen Roads on Thursday to pilot five French ships through the Belt. A Kiel letter of the 16th inst. states that it was understood that the Dauntless brought word to Copenhagen on the 12th that eighteen Russian ships of the line were lying at Helsingfors, and might soon be attacked. They seemed as if they intended, as soon as it became possible, to put over to Revel. Admiral Plumridge was watching them with four frigates, which, before this, will have been reinforced by the arrival of Admiral Napier with a strong division.—The Tribune frigate, Captain Carnegie, arrived at Copenhagen on the 16th, with from sixty-five to seventy prisoners taken from the Russian and Finnish merchant vessels captured. One vessel was captured off Dago Island, four between Gothland and Riga, and another near Bornholm—all of them Finnish ships. The first was taken on the 9th, a couple more on the 11th, and the remainder on the 13th inst. The cargoes consisted principally of salt, olive oil, and a little wine. The crews were exceedingly fine-looking men. The Tribune passed the fleet on its way to Gottska Sound, near the Farö Islands. There was still some ice in the Gulf of Finland, but not enough to interfere with the cruising of the frigates watching the Russian movements.

THE DECLARATION OF WAR READ TO THE FLEET.—A letter from a naval officer in the fleet thus describes the reading of the official declaration of war, and how it was received by the fleet: April 4.—At noon to-day the Old Duke looked as if she was dressed for a holiday—she was covered with flags, forming a general signal to the fleet which had anything but a holiday signification—it was the commander-in-chief's declaration of war, and ran, word for word, as follows:

"Lads! War is declared, with a bold and numerous enemy to meet. Should they offer us battle, you will know what to do with them. Success depends on the precision and quickness of your fire. Also, lads! sharpen your cutlasses, and the day is your own." The Blenheim, Captain the Hon. F. T. Pelham, immediately answered, "Ready and willing;" the Neptune, Captain Smith, "Ready;" and every ship manned her rigging and gave three such cheers as are seldom heard in those waters. Ourselves and all the ship's company were then called upon deck, and Commodore Seymour read the signal to us; and the men were beginning to follow the example of the other ships, when the old admiral came forward, and, leaning over the poop railing, said:

"Now, my lads! You have just heard what the commodore has said to you, and all I have to say is, you must be cool and collected—don't throw your shot away. A shot fired in the air or the water is of no use. Make every one of them tell; we have quite a different system now to what we had in the last war. I have no doubt some of you have been in action before, but it will be different to what you have been accustomed to; but Admiral Chads showed you the other day that a shell bursting between decks is not so dangerous as you imagine, and if one comes on your deck, you must lie down, and it won't hurt you more than the common splinters of an ordinary action. Should we meet the Russian fleet at sea, as I dare say we shall, you will know how to dispose of them. We will now man the rigging, and give three cheers for the Queen. God bless her!"

The men rushed to the rigging and gave three times three for the Queen and one cheer more, and three for the commander-in-chief. This was followed by the rest of the fleet, and peal after peal came floating over the water, until the most distant sounded like the echo of the other. Hands were piped down—men under punishment were forgiven, and an extra glass of grog given each man at supper-time. The flying squadron of paddle-wheels, under Admiral Plumridge, left us immediately after for the edge of the ice. They are gone to watch the movements of the enemy, and to look after some ships laden with sulphur and lead, which are in "a fix" in the ice. They will be prizes worth taking, if they turn up.



The 'Plymouth Mail' gives the following extract from a letter dated H.M.S. Neptune, Kioege Bay, April 9:

"Last Tuesday, our ship's company were all called aft on the quarter-deck, and when assembled, Admiral Corry addressed us as follows: 'My dear boys, you are going to read to you a speech made by the commander-in-chief, Sir Charles Napier, by telegraph this morning, and I hope when you hear it read, you will respond to it as this ship's company, or when you hear it read, when they hear the words of that paper any other ship's company, ought, when they hear the words of that paper read' (pointing to a paper held by Captain Hutton). Capt. H. then stepped forward and read the signal. When he had done reading, the captain, in a short, curt style, thus addressed us: 'There, you hear that. Now I know there is no ship can do more than the Neptune. You have always known well since I have had the honour to command you, and therefore I am proud of you; yes, proud of you; and I know the Admiral's feelings with regard to you are the same as my own; and we are quite sure when you go to active service (which you will do very shortly), you will do as this ship's company ought to behave. I have every confidence in you. You have all heard of the deeds of your forefathers, how they upheld the honour of old England, and many of you here present are no doubt the sons of those gallant fellows; and I hope—but there, I know you will follow in their wake, and feel certain there are no two Russian liners of the same class as ourselves, nor two of any other nation, that we could not engage, ay, and take them too.' Here the old captain hit the deck with a thump, that had it been the head of a Russian, he would have quickly cried out for mercy. When the men found the captain had done speaking, they paused an instant, as it were, to concentrate all their energies, for the next moment they sent up a cheer from the bottom of their hearts. Another and another followed in quick succession, and then three more, and then after that they seemed wild with enthusiasm, and then came the cry three cheers for "Old Charley," and away flew our tars into the rigging, tops, and cross-trees, and gave three cheers for the commander-in-chief; then came the cry, "three cheers for our own admiral" (Corry), and three roars we gave him, and never were three cheers more deserved. The admiral and captain were standing on the poop at the time—the latter joining in the cheer, and the former waving his cap in acknowledgment as blithely as any boy in the ship. There are a variety of rumours when we are to commence, but nothing is known for certain—the sooner the better seems to be the word with all hands."

**THE FRENCH FLEET FOR THE BALTIC.**—The following is a list of the French contingent of the Baltic fleet, which has just left Brest: The Indefatigable, ship of the line, Vice-Admiral Parseval-Deschenes, commander of the squadron; Captain Clavaud, head of the staff; Captains de Surville and de Russel, officers of the staff; Captain Perenneau, &c. Jemappes, ship of the line, Captain Duparc, commander; Captain de Langle de Carry, second in command. Le Tage, Captain Fabre, commander; Captain Mequet, second. Breslau, ship of the line, Rear-Admiral Penaud; Captain Selva, aide-de-camp, &c. Darien, frigate, Captain Didot. Pour-ou-venir, frigate, Captain Prudhomme de Borre. Semillante, frigate, Captain Chiron de Brossay.

**RUSSIAN DEFENCES.**—The Emperor Nicholas, anticipating that the works erected on the coast of the islands of Aland would not be in a state to resist the attacks of the English fleet, has caused them to be evacuated by the troops, who have carried with them all the guns and military stores, &c. The Emperor had also ordered all the pilots and all men capable of bearing arms to emigrate to the mainland in Finland, and also to remove all vessels, large and small, boats, &c., to the ports on the mainland; and in case that cannot be done, to sink and destroy them so that not a vestige shall remain. This same system of national defence and voluntary destruction has been organised, and will be followed, whatever may be the consequences, throughout the whole extent of the Russian shore from Helsingfors to Cronstadt. From the seaside St Petersburg is protected by the fortresses of Cronstadt, which, lying on an island, commands the narrow channels through which large vessels have to approach the capital. At the back of the island, towards the coast of Finland, there was also a channel through which vessels of the size of a sloop could pass, but this was blocked up at the beginning of the century by means of piles and huge blocks of stone, and a week since large square stones were sunk until the passage was completely impassable. An attack on Cronstadt is therefore only possible from the narrow channel, which in its various twistings and turnings is commanded, for a distance of nearly four English miles, by the fort in front of the island. All signs, such as buoys, posts, &c., have been removed. It is stated that strong iron chests charged with powder and other combustible materials are sunk into the sea, and connected by means of wires with a galvanic battery outside. Above the chests is some machinery, which, on being touched by the keel of a passing vessel, causes two galvanised wires to come into contact, which produces an electric spark, and with it an explosion. A hundred submarine mines of this kind are said to have been sunk in the channel leading to Cronstadt. Military men in St Petersburg are divided in their opinions as to whether the fortifications of Cronstadt will be able to resist the heavy artillery of the ships. Four of the forts are formed of enormous granite cubes, the fifth is of loge. The greatest danger for Cronstadt is that these forts may be taken one after the other, as each of them will be exposed to the united fire of a great number of vessels.

**NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.**

**REINFORCEMENTS FOR THE BALTIC FLEET.**—The following ships are being rapidly prepared for the Baltic: Majestic, 91 (screw), Capt. J. Hope, C.B.; Hamibal, 90 (screw), Capt. the Hon. F. W. Grey; Nile, 91 (screw), Commodore Martin, C.B.; Ganges, 84 (not yet commissioned); Formidable, 84 (do.); Eurydice, 26 (sailing vessel), Captain Oummaney; besides a great number of small steamers. The St George, 120, Captain Eyres, C.B., remains in the Downs.

**NAVAL MEMORANDA.**—Letters from officers in the Baltic fleet complain bitterly of the want of a commissariat. Exchange at Copenhagen on bills is ruinously high, stock of all kinds extravagantly dear. The officers are much in want of money, but are loth to cash their bills at such a loss.—A British man-of-war has been sent from Rio into the Pacific to look after the Russian frigate which was lately at that port, but which has disappeared.—The following promotions have taken place: Captains for rank—J. A. Paynter, C. Prevost, Sir W. Wiseman, and N. Vansittart. Commanders for rank—W. G. A. Gordon, F. J. C. Strode, and G. O. Wille.—The launch of the Royal Albert, 131 (screw) has been postponed to Saturday, May 13, when it will then take place in the presence of the Queen, Prince Albert, and several of the members of the Royal family, and the ceremony of naming her will be performed by the Princess Royal.—The launch of the Cossack, screw steam-frigate, pierced for 30 guns, with one large pivot gun, all on the upper deck, built for the Emperor of Russia by Mr Pitcher, ship-builder, Northfleet, took place on Saturday. She seems a remarkably firmly-built vessel, on good lines. She is to be completed for active service by her new owners, the British Government.—Rear Admiral Berkeley is awaiting the arrival at Portsmouth of the Portland, 50, from the Pacific, and the Centaur steam frigate from Rio, both which ships will be ordered to the Baltic immediately. The dockyard artificers are ready to make any defects good on board on their being reported, and the authorities of the Clarence victualling yard are ready with lighters to send provisions out to them, so that no delay whatever will occur in getting them to sea again.—An order was received on Saturday morning by the Commander of the Coast guard in Galway, calling upon all the men under 50 years of age, to hold themselves in readiness to join the navy at a moment's notice. A similar order has also been addressed to the crew of the revenue cutter Amphitrite.—A further supply of revolvers, amounting to 2,000, has been ordered for the Baltic fleet. This will make in all 4,000 for Sir Charles Napier's force.

**DEPARTURE OF TROOPS FOR TURKEY.**—The Cunard screw steamer Melita sailed on Monday from Liverpool, with 40 men of the 19th Regiment, 27 servants, 38 horses, and 300 tons of Government stores.

A number of officers sailed in the Melita, including Brigadier-General Sir J. Campbell; Captain Snodgrass, A.D.C.; Colonel Hastings Doyle, A.A.G.; Major Pakenham, and Major Airey. Two divisions of the 17th Lancers embarked at Portsmouth on Tuesday in the Pride of the Ocean and Ganges transports, which were towed out to Spithead by Government tugs, on their way to the seat of war in the East.—On Wednesday evening Major-General the Earl of Lucan, commanding the cavalry of the expeditionary force, left London for Dover, from whence he will proceed as quickly as possible to Marseilles, where he will embark for Gallipoli. Lord Bingham, son to the earl, and on his staff, is already in Turkey, and Captains Walker and Charteris, also aides-de-camp, started on Sunday. On the same evening the second division of the 39th Regiment embarked at Queenstown, and were shipped on board the transports Courier and Simaranda, which sailed on Thursday for the seat of war.—The whole of the first division of the Royal Artillery for service in the East have now embarked in nineteen horse-transport ships, and are on their way.—Five troops of the 8th Hussars have embarked during the week at Plymouth.—A large staff of veterinary surgeons proceed to the seat of war, with a proper supply of medicines and other requirements necessary for the safety of the horses. Contracts have been entered into with persons in Turkey, recommended by the Ottoman Government, for a periodical supply of forage for the horses.—On Thursday morning the main body of the 19th Regiment of Foot, numbering nearly 800 rank and file, left the Tower for Woolwich, where they embarked for Turkey.—Among the passengers who left Southampton on Thursday, in the Ripon, are the following officers, attached to the English expeditionary army in the East: Brigadier-General Airey, Brigadier-General Buller, C.B., Colonel Maule, Colonel Lord W. Pualet, Major Airey, Major Mackenzie, Captain Hackett, Lieutenant the Hon. H. Clifford, Dr Forteach, Assistant-Surgeon Langham, Judge-Advocate Romaine, Assistant-Surgeons Cassell and Miller, Colonel Allan, Captains Lankey and Morris, Paymaster Pope, Assistant Commissaries-General Fonblanque, Edwards, and Routh, Deputy-Assistant Commissaries-General Downs and Hawkins, Lieutenant Dennie. The whole of the above officers are to land at Malta, as the Ripon will continue her voyage to Alexandria. It is expected that by the time this steamer reaches Malta that island will be pretty well cleared of troops, and that there will be plenty of opportunities of proceeding to Gallipoli. The Ripon also takes out twenty-eight horses belonging to the staff of Brigadier-General Airey, a considerable quantity of baggage and Government stores, and 200 packages of ammunition, ball cartridges, &c.—The second division of the 39th Regiment embarked at Queenstown on Wednesday, on board the transports Courier and Timandra for the seat of war. The right wing and three companies of the 14th, under Lieutenant-Colonel Barlow, left Limerick for Cork on Thursday, and to-morrow the left wing, under Major Watson, will proceed by the same route, to embark at Cork in the Bombay for Malta.—The 1st Royals embarked at Plymouth yesterday for Gallipoli on board the Andes screw steamer, one of the Cunard line.

**MILITARY MEMORANDA.**—Up to the present time, the Government have taken up no less than seventy-four vessels, and on Monday further tenders were invited to be sent in.—Arrangements are in progress for placing the commissariat department of the service in Ireland under a staff responsible for the proper and regular supply of food and forage for the cavalry and infantry.—An offer of a Polish legion has been made to Government by Major Stawinski, and has been referred by Lord Aberdeen to the Secretary of State for War and the Colonies.—Major-General Sir J. Thackwell, G.C.B., is appointed inspecting general of cavalry during the absence of the Duke of Cambridge in Turkey. Colonel P. Taylor, K.H., has been appointed to the staff at the Cape of Good Hope, in succession to Major-General Yorke, who has succeeded to the office of military secretary at the Horse Guards.—Nearly every officer, military and naval, has taken a revolver with him. The Duke of Cambridge has taken four. The cost of an ordinary revolver is 3l. The non-commissioned officers of the 8th Hussars were so convinced of the usefulness of the weapon that they actually pawned watches and other valuable articles, derived from habits of prudence, to obtain them.

**THE LATE GOVERNMENT SEIZURES.**

**THE SEIZURE OF VESSELS IN THE THAMES.**—A correspondence has taken place respecting the seizure of the vessels ordered by the Russian Government to be built by Mr Pitcher, of Northfleet, by which it appears that Mr Pitcher was entirely blameless. Mr Bernal Osborne, replying to the letter from Mr Pitcher, says:—"I am commanded to acquaint you, that on inquiry being made by officers from the department of the Surveyor of the Navy as to the circumstances under which the two vessels in question were being built by you, you behaved in the most candid manner, and afforded every information, stating that they were being constructed for the Russian Government, and that in subsequent communications with you on the subject of the transfer of these vessels, and their equipment for the purpose of being fitted and adapted for her Majesty's service, you have afforded every information and facility. Their lordships command me to add, that so far from having reason to complain, they are of opinion that throughout this transaction you have behaved with perfect candour and honour."

**THE SEIZURE AT GLASGOW OF MARINE ENGINES FOR RUSSIA.**—It is quite true that two pairs of engines were seized in the establishment of the Messrs Napier, at Glasgow, last week; but some additional facts may not be uninteresting. These engines were ordered in July, 1852, by a Colonel Schwabbe, and, although it was not so stated in the contract, the Messrs Napier had no doubt whatever that they were intended for the Russian Government, and they made no secret that such was their opinion. When Lord Palmerston inspected the works, during his visit to Glasgow in autumn last, Mr Napier, jun., pointed out the engines to his lordship, and intimated that they were under construction for Russia. When war became imminent the Messrs Napier entered into communication with the Admiralty on the subject of the engines, and on the 23rd of February last they stated in writing that they believed the engines to have been ordered on Russian account, but that they would not allow them to be shipped without giving information to the British Government and obtaining its authority. On the 7th of March last Colonel Schwabbe wrote at length and formally to the Messrs Napier, stating that he had assigned, on the 3rd of that month, the engines to the house of Merck and Co., of Hamburg, and that one of the partners of the firm was then in London to implement the assignment, and to undertake to pay the remaining instalments due on the completion of the engines. Immediately on receiving this document the Messrs Napier sent a copy of it to the Admiralty, and thus matters rested until the broad arrow was painted on the engines on Tuesday. It would thus appear that the Napiers were no parties to the attempt to send the engines clandestinely out of the country. The result is likely to be, that the British Government will acquire the engines, pay the remaining instalments, and guarantee the builders from any claim from Russia on the advent of peace.

**AMERICAN DECLARATION AGAINST PRIVATEERING.**

The New York Chamber of Commerce held its regular monthly meeting on the 6th inst., during which, after the transaction of preliminary business, Mr W. R. Jones introduced an important series of resolutions, having reference to the system of carrying on maritime warfare by means of privateers, condemning it in strong language, and sustaining the principle that free ships shall make free goods, and the neutral flag shall give neutrality to the cargo. Recent proceed-

ings relative to the same subject in the British Parliament were referred to with approbation. The following were the resolutions agreed to:—

1. That in the opinion of this Chamber the system of carrying on maritime warfare by means of privateers is contrary to the dictates of sound morality, inconsistent in its spirit with the principles of justice and humanity, and that the time has arrived when it should not be tolerated by the laws of civilised nations.—2. That the depredations of privateers on private property occasion much individual distress and ruin on the one hand, without any adequate national benefits on the other. That modern warfare can be carried on effectually without resorting to such means of individual suffering and private plunder, which fall almost entirely on the commercial classes.—3. That the efforts now making in Europe to extinguish privateering by arrangements to be consummated among the diplomatists of the Old World call for the co-operation of the Government of the United States.—4. That the treaty made by the United States and Russia, in 1785, negotiated by the far-seeing and keen-sighted Franklin, whereby both Governments bound themselves not to issue commissions to privateers, discloses the policy of that early day, and is well worthy of our support at this time.—5. That this Chamber notices with great gratification the movement of Mr Gibson in the House of Commons, on the 17th of March, praying her Majesty to give special instructions to the officers commanding her Majesty's cruisers in the event of war to abstain from interfering with neutral vessels on account of any goods or property not contraband of war contained therein, and to direct her ministers to consider the policy of entering into treaty stipulations with foreign countries on the principle that free ships shall make free goods, and the neutral flag give neutrality to the cargo; and that this Chamber consider that these principles should be sustained by the Government of the United States in all its negotiations with foreign Powers.—6. That in the opinion of this Chamber, in view of the magnitude of the tonnage of this country and its rapid increase, it is incumbent upon the Government of the United States to exert a leading influence in this reform, whether they regard the demands of justice and humanity, or the interests of our citizens, so much exposed on every ocean.—That a memorial be prepared and signed by the officers of this Chamber, addressed to the President of the United States, asking him to open negotiations with other Powers for the suppression of privateering; and, also, for the recognition of the principle that free ships make free goods.—8. That another memorial be prepared by them, and addressed to the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States, asking them to pass such laws as will in their own opinion check and essentially put a stop to privateering."

Colonel Lee desired to embody in the same document the subject of impressment of seamen. It had never been settled by treaty with England, and was but imperfectly understood. After some debate, it was decided to be inexpedient to agitate the subject at the present juncture. This question thus coming up on the original resolutions, they were at once adopted, and a committee of five was appointed to prepare an appropriate memorial to be forwarded to the President of the United States, and the representatives in Congress. Messrs Perit, Jones, Curtis, Phoenix, and Kelly, were appointed as such committee.

**ENGLISH AND RUSSIAN DIPLOMACY.**

Sir G. H. Seymour, lately our Ambassador at St Petersburg, was at the Easter dinner this year, and addressed the company at some length. On his health being drunk, he said that the compliment belonged rather to the system under which he had been brought up than to himself individually. That system was a remarkably simple one. It was, in fact, nothing more than keeping one's eyes open, and speaking of things, not as they might be agreeable to the English Government, but as they appeared to him at the time—in other words, calling things by their right names. This system was an extremely simple one, but unfortunately it had not been observed abroad, and to its non-observance he attributed much of the evils with which we were now threatened. In Russia nothing of the sort prevailed; hence the misfortune which had now befallen the world. He was persuaded that nothing could be more incorrect than the intelligence which was conveyed to Russia from all parts of Europe, and therefore that nothing could be more false than the conclusions which were drawn from that intelligence. What did they write from the provinces of Turkey? Why, that every sort of horror was committed against the Christians—that Greek priests had been burnt, that churches had been destroyed, that women had been shamefully ill-treated, that the extermination of the Christian religion had been attempted—stories which made his hair stand on end until he discovered that there was not one word of truth in them. What did they write from London? He was sorry to say that John Bull was represented as a very material fellow—that he was excessively intent upon his Three per Cents., and his mines, and his railway stock—that he was rather addicted to creature comforts, to buying and selling in the morning, and to eating and drinking in the evening; and that he was particularly indisposed to interrupt his prosperity by meddling in affairs in which he had no direct concern. Of course he was not now alluding to the despatches of Prince This or Count That, but was talking of the reports that were generally current in St Petersburg. He came next to France. And what did they say of France? They said, "Here is a country which has just emerged from one great political revolution, and is wholly bent upon avoiding another." The principal men of this country are intent upon realizing large fortunes; the Court itself is very imperial in its sympathies; and, above all, the idea of a close connection between England and France was reckoned a myth—a thing to be talked of, but which could never be realized. The result had been what we now witnessed. The Emperor of Russia had plunged his country into a war; and we were thus alienated for a moment from a Power with which we had long held amicable relations, many of whose sympathies were with us, and one-half of whose produce the merchants of England not only purchased, but paid for beforehand. He would not conceal from them also that there were kind hearts among the Russian people, and, when the present mist of prejudice should be dispelled, there was many a friendly hand among them which it would give him real pleasure to be the first to shake. He could tell them that the English Minister to the Court of St Petersburg was a very small man. He might do what he could, but his voice was of small account; and this was the culminating point of the case. It was not what was said to the Emperor of Russia in English, but what was said to him in his own language. That was what decided the question; and he was convinced that if there had been one man of character who had the courage to declare the truth to his Majesty, he would never have embarked in this unfortunate career. But, if we had lost on the one side, we had gained on the other; and the grave circumstances to which he had alluded had produced an approximation to that which, perhaps, no other circumstance could have brought about. Need he say that he referred to the alliance of England with France? In every language there were certain words of peculiar importance and significance. When we said of a man that he behaved in a gentlemanly manner, or acted in the character of a gentleman, we bestowed upon him the highest meed of praise that it was in our power to offer, and we meant that such a man would not only fulfil, but would even go beyond his engagements. In the French language the words *loyal* and *loyauté* had the same meaning, and it might be allowed to him, in speaking of the French Government, to say that, as far as his powers of observation extended, these terms were peculiarly applicable to them, and that nothing could be more *loyal*, nothing more marked by *loyauté*, than the proceedings of the French Government. One slight circumstance had occurred which appeared to him not to have attracted the attention it deserved among the arts—dodges, he believed, was the modern word—resorted to for the purpose of separating the English and French Governments. It would be observed that the Emperor of Russia had meted out very different treatment to the French Minister from that which was awarded to her Majesty's Minister. For instance, he (Sir G. H. Seymour) received one fine



winter's morning an intimation that his back would be more agreeable to the Emperor than his face, and that it was very desirable he should name a day when he would be prepared to return home. Nothing of the sort was done to the French Minister; but it happened that this little act was foreseen and discountenanced, for the French Minister, upon hearing of this treatment, wrote to request that the same passport might be sent to him, and off he went. It was possible, therefore, and probable, that the long centuries of hostility and jealousy between the French and English Governments would be succeeded by as many centuries of peace. Lately there had resounded through the streets of Paris cries of "Vive la Reine Victoria," and "Vivent les Anglais!" To these cries he was sure he might respond, and that this country would respond, by shouts of "Vive la France!" "Vive la Empereur," "Vive le Defenseur des Droits de l'Europe!" (Cheers.)

Sir G. H. Seymour then said that he would not detain them longer. If any observation had appeared in his speech tinged with asperity, he hoped they would excuse it. He dared to say that many of them, in travelling, had experienced the discomfort, when arriving at a station, of finding that they had left an umbrella or a carpet bag behind them, and they would therefore excuse any annoyance felt by a poor traveller like himself, who had left behind him the whole of his luggage, and who therefore naturally felt a little excitement on the subject. (Cheers and laughter.)

THE CONFIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

The 'Journal de St Petersburg' of the 31st of March (12th April), contains an article commenting on the publication of the secret correspondence between the Cabinets of Russia and England, and of the confidential communications of Sir H. Seymour. It commences by stating that party-spirit and bad faith have not been wanting to draw from the relations of Sir H. Seymour the most hazardous consequences and the most false interpretations. It is denied that the Emperor wished to conclude a treaty or protocol with England, or that there was any question of a plan by which the two Cabinets might dispose, without the concurrence of and without respect to the other Powers, of the provinces governed by the Sultan; but that the idea of the Emperor was one of an understanding, perfectly general, upon certain eventualities, that each of the two parties should arrive at as soon as possible. And lastly, the state of the question is stated to have been a simple exchange of ideas, upon the word of a gentleman (d'une parole de gentleman), in order to engage both, with the intention of avoiding political combinations that might be contrary to their mutual interests.

It is then (continues the article) supremely unjust, not to say dishonourable (déloué), to endeavour to seek, in the motive which induced the Emperor to open with England a correspondence (pourparlers) on this subject, the intention to engage that Power to dispose of, with himself, beforehand, the possession of Turkey. Nothing was further from the ideas of his Majesty than the notion of a partition, effected by anticipation. The expectations of the Emperor related to the future, not to the present; his views were quite eventual. The design of his Majesty in explaining himself so frankly was solely to avoid any incident of a nature to affect the intimacy which he desired to maintain in his relations with England; to prevent all differences, all misunderstandings, and any kind of divergence which events uncertain but possible might suddenly bring about between Great Britain and himself, if they had been left entirely out of their reciprocal foresight. The two Courts might have differed in opinions upon the greater or less imminence of the catastrophe which was foreseen; but, in the event of that catastrophe, what were the views expressed by the Emperor? He disavowed expressly, for himself, any desire or intention of possessing Constantinople. He made beforehand an engagement not to establish himself there in a permanent manner. This disavowal, this engagement, is confirmed by the Cabinet papers. Is it conceivable after this, that in the face of verbal and written declarations—declarations so formal and so obligatory—that the English Ministers would have had the courage to accuse his Majesty, in their places in Parliament, of ambitious purposes, and of projects of conquest upon the capital of the Ottoman empire? Such a forgetfulness of the word of the Emperor, added to that of all propriety in language, which they have employed towards his august person, was assuredly intended in order to authorise the imperial government to address a direct appeal to their conscience, referring to the assurances (confidences) which so evidently attest the disinterestedness and the purity of the political views of his Majesty.

The article further alleges that not only have the character and the motive of his overtures been intentionally misunderstood and misrepresented (entendés), but it has even been sought to use them as a means of attempting to persuade other Powers that if the Emperor, on this occasion, addressed himself more particularly to England, it was only because he paid no regard to their opinions or their interests.

We content ourselves with remarking that the subject of these discussions was brought confidentially to the knowledge of the Sovereigns of Austria and of Prussia. And, as far as concerns France, it is essential to remember that the epoch at which they were brought about was precisely that in which that Power created at Constantinople, in respect to the possession of the Holy Places, the difficulties which successively have produced the present crisis, and in which its ambassador in Turkey had just employed all his energy to supplant our influence there.

The article concludes by saying that the observations made in it will suffice to reduce to its just value all that falsehood and exaggeration which malevolence has attributed to the language of his Majesty. In the eyes of impartial men, the publication which has just been made will prove only one thing—the abuse of a generous confidence, which has not been appreciated, and the injustice of suspicions which have been made the pretext of a disastrous war, for which, had it not been for them, there would have been no cause.

COUNTER DECLARATION OF THE EMPEROR OF RUSSIA.

A Supplement to the 'Journal de St Petersburg,' of the 1st (13th) April, contains the following important document:—

DECLARATION.

France and Great Britain have at last openly left the system of disguised hostility which they had adopted towards Russia, especially by the entrance of their fleets into the Black Sea. The result of the explanations which they have given of that measure was of a nature to lead to a rupture of reciprocal relations between them and the Imperial Cabinet. This last fact was shortly followed by a communication in which the two cabinets, through their respective consuls, invited the Imperial Government to evacuate the Danubian Principalities within a given term, which England fixed at the 30th of April, and France, still more peremptory, at the 15th of the same month.

With what right did the two powers thus pretend to exact everything from one of the two belligerent parties, without demanding anything from the other? This is what they have not thought fit to explain to the Imperial Cabinet. To evacuate the Principalities, without even the shadow of a fulfilment, by the Ottoman Government, of the conditions to which the Emperor made the cessation of that temporary occupation subordinate—to evacuate them in the brunt of a war which the latter was the first to declare, whilst it is actively carrying on offensive operations, when its own troops occupy a fortified point of Russian territory—was already a condition inadmissible in substance. The two powers wished that to form it should become still more inacceptable. They fixed a term of six days for the admission of the Imperial Cabinet, at the expiration of which, a refusal, or the absence of any reply whatever, was to be by them regarded as equivalent to a declaration of war. To a summons so partial in its tenor, as practically inexcusable as it was insulting in its terms, silence was the only reply compatible with the dignity of the Emperor. Consequently, the two governments have just publicly made known that Russia, by her refusal to accede to their demand, has constituted herself towards them in a state of war, the entire responsibility of which will rest upon her. In the presence of such declarations it only remains for the Emperor to accept the situation which has been made him, reserving to himself to employ all the means which Providence has put in his hands to defend with energy and constancy the honour, independence, and safety of his empire.

Independently of the message by which the Cabinet of London announced its resolution to the two Houses of Parliament, it has, in a supplementary declaration, explained the motives which induce it to take up arms, and has recapitulated the origin and the incidents of the question. The Imperial Government thinks it superfluous to return to a discussion on this subject. All its preceding documents

seem to it to have exhausted the polemic. The recent memorandum of the 18th February, published on the occasion of the rupture of diplomatic relations, and which contains up to that point the whole historical exposition of the question, will have sufficed to demonstrate to whom, whether to Russia or to the two maritime powers, belongs the initiative of the provocations, and what disastrous (funeste) chain of circumstances the false position in which they still more provokingly, the two cabinets, led them on by decrees to take others there all the successive concessions made by Russia for the maintenance of peace, before as well as after the Vienna note, whilst the increasing exactions of the two courts engaged them day by day more and more still further in the path of a war with us. The occupation of the Principalities, which is taken now *apres coup*, as a pretext for this war, did not prevent the opening of negotiations. It would not have any more prevented their continuation, or rather these negotiations would have led to something long since, if the powers had not suddenly, without any good reason, completely changed the bases which they themselves had laid down in the first note concerted at Vienna. The objections made by the Porte to certain passages of that note were not sufficient either to nullify the rest. The essential substance remained intact, and the Imperial Government had the right to regard all the points which the Ottoman Porte had not contested as acquired for any ulterior proposition. Such was not done. An attempt was made to impose entirely new conditions upon us; what had hitherto been admitted was declared inadmissible; the complaints of Russia were ignored, as also any claim on its part to an equitable separation, and all its counter-propositions rejected without discussion. At the same time, measures contrary to its rights as a belligerent power, coincident in the time, measures contrary to its rights as a belligerent power, were adopted, as if to Black Sea with the conditions transmitted from Vienna, were adopted, as if to impress a character of compulsion to any adhesion on its part. Finally, all the honours of the retreat were cleverly cut off from it by an imperious summons, such as Russia never before received within the whole period of its history, even at the time when a conqueror at the head of armed Europe invaded its territory.

Not being able to close their eyes upon the insufficiency of the motives for a disastrous war, and upon the want of proportion which exists between its effect and its cause, the two powers are obliged to exaggerate its object by bringing the most vague accusations against Russia. They allege that their honour and material interests have been hurt—projects on our side of aggrandisement and conquest in Turkey—the independence of the Porte, and even that of other states; finally, the balance of power in Europe, which, according to them, is threatened by our excessive preponderance. All these general imputations rest upon no foundation whatever. We have never attacked the honour of the two courts. If that honour has been placed in jeopardy, it has been done by themselves. From the very onset they have adopted a system of intimidation, which naturally would fall upon the side of the weaker. They made it a point of *amour propre* to induce Russia to bend to them; and because Russia would not consent to her own humiliation, they say that they are hurt in their moral dignity. Materially, their interests have not been hurt by us either. On the contrary, it is they who hurt our interests much more seriously by attacking us in the North and in the South, in our ports, and on different points of our coasts. The policy of aggrandisement and conquest which they attribute to Russia has been refuted by all her acts since 1815. Of her neighbours in Germany, and in the North, is there one which during the last forty years has had to complain of an attack, or even of an attempt at an attack, upon the integrity of his possessions?

As regards Turkey, although we have been at war with her, the peace of Adrianople exists to attest the moderate use we have made of our success; and since then, at two intervals, the Ottoman Empire has been saved by us from imminent ruin. The desire of possessing Constantinople, if that empire should fall—the intention of forming a permanent establishment there—have been publicly, too solemnly disavowed, for any doubts to be entertained on that subject; show not originates in a distrust which nothing can cure. Events, not only against whether the powers of Russia have struck the most fatal blow. As a price for the interested services given to her, she has already renounced by treaty the distinguished privilege of every independent power—that of making peace, or declaring war, at its own free will, at the moment and on the conditions it may itself deem most advisable. She will be forced to subscribe to an engagement which will give equality of civil and religious rights to all her subjects. Russia will sincerely applaud so important a guarantee, obtained in favour of all the Christians in Turkey, if it succeed in assuring it to them in a really efficacious manner. But in presence of a revolution which would so profoundly alter all the constituent bases of the Ottoman Government, Russia has the right to be surprised at an engagement by which the Sultan confined himself to confirm religious privileges already existing, and emanating from our treaties with him, should have been declared an attempt against his sovereignty and his independence. It is for Europe—not for the two powers—to decide if the general equilibrium really runs the risks which are attributed to it from the supposed excessive preponderance of Russia. It is for it to examine which weighs heaviest to day upon the freedom of action of states—Russia left to herself, or a formidable alliance, the pressure of which alarms every neutrality, and uses by turns caresses or threats, to compel them to follow in its wake. Europe will also decide if, during the last years, it is from Russia that we have come to possess the most hostile to the rights of sovereignty, and to the independence of every state; if in Greece, Sicily, in Naples, in Tuscany, it is for or against the rights that she has declared; whether in Germany between the great governments she has sought to sow discord, or to re-establish union; whether, morally in Lombardy, and materially in Hungary, her efforts have not been consecrated to the maintenance of equilibrium; and whether the blows that are preparing against her, the isolation in which it is hoped to place her, by handing over the political world to a far different sort of preponderance, will not rather be the annihilation of that equilibrium.

We thus see to what the vague generalities used against Russia are reduced. But the last especially of these grounds of accusation suffices to understand the true motive of a war for which, judged by its apparent grounds, there is no reason; and it is so contrary to the moral, industrial, and commercial interests of the entire world, that it will really accelerate the ruin of the very empire which it made the pretext to save from an imaginary peril. The true motive was publicly proclaimed by the English Ministers, when they asserted before Parliament that the moment had arrived at last when it was necessary to abate the influence of Russia. It is to defend that influence, not less necessary to the Russian nation than it is essential to the maintenance of the order and security of other states, that it is to sustain the independence and territorial integrity which are the bases of it—that the Emperor, obliged in spite of himself to embark in this contest, is about to devote all the means of resistance which are furnished by the devotion and the patriotism of his people. He trusts that God, who has so often protected Russia in the day of trial, will assist him once more in this formidable struggle. He sincerely laments the infinite evils which are about to fall on humanity; but, at the same time, he feels it to be his duty to protest solemnly against the arbitrary pretensions laid down by the two powers, which throw upon him alone all the responsibility of them. They are free, without doubt, to adopt against Russia such measures as may be convenient to them; but it does not belong to them to lay the consequences to his charge. The responsibility of the calamities of a war belongs to the power which declares it, not to that which is bound to accept it.

St Petersburg, March 30, 1854.

MR URQUHART AT MANCHESTER.

A meeting was held at the Manchester Corn Exchange on Wednesday, which had been called for the purpose of affording Mr David Urquhart an opportunity of expressing his views of the Eastern question and the war. Mr David Urquhart had summoned the meeting in a personal address to the inhabitants, in which he said: "The nation is plunging into a war. In ignorance, it believes it to be against Russia. I know that it is made in concurrence with Russia, and this knowledge it is which urges me to make to you this proposal. It is with Turkey, and ultimately with France, that you will fight, unless your hand be stayed. You have brought a revolution upon Turkey; you will bring it also upon Europe, and ultimately experience it at home." The meeting was attended by more than 1,000 persons, many of whom, however, were evidently attracted by curiosity rather than sympathy of sentiment. Mr Alderman Heywood consented to preside, on condition that free discussion and a fair hearing were allowed to every person who might wish to address the meeting.

Mr Urquhart read the following letter from Mr Bright, M.P., in reply to an invitation he had given the honourable member to be present:—

"Rochdale, April 18.

"Dear Sir,—I have to thank you for your note of the 15th instant, inviting me to a meeting to be held in Manchester to-morrow. I am not astounded at your audacity in calling the meeting; on the contrary, I believe in your sincerity. I regard your resolution to appeal openly to your countrymen as courageous and proper. If I agreed with you on this Eastern question—if I had one starting-point—if our sentiments in regard to it were in harmony—I should feel it my duty to be at your side. But the fact is, that we differ widely in almost every point, except in the condemnation of this war; and I do not think I should do anything for the cause of peace by appearing to go with you, when, in truth, there is little agreement between us. I believe the war to be altogether unnecessary, and that nothing can be said either for its justice or its expediency. I believe, further, that after having permitted the country by a series of blunders to drift into war, the Ministers who have chiefly spoken on the subject, with the exception of Lord Aberdeen, have misrepresented the facts of the case, and have thereby misled public opinion. With regard to the professed objects of war, I believe them to be impossible of attainment, and that Russia, in her wildest dreams of ambition, never imagined so many calamities to Turkey as have been brought upon that devoted country in a single year by the friendship which our Government has professed towards her. It is a melancholy circumstance that the English public—not examining, and not reflecting—

accepting, with a child-like simplicity, the declarations of statesmen, whose only present bond of union is a partnership in the guilt of this war, and relying on the assertions of a press, more anxious for a trade in newspapers than for truth, should give their sanction to proceedings as much opposed to their own interests as they are to every principle of morality. Our countrymen fancy they are fighting for freedom, because the Russian Government is a despotism; they forget that the object of their solicitude is no less a despot; that their chief ally, but the other day, overthrew a republic, and imprisoned or expatriated the members of a freely elected Parliament; that they are alternately coaxing and bullying Austria (whose regard for freedom and justice Hungary and Italy can attest) to join them in this holy war; and that the chief result of their success—if success be possible—will be to perpetuate the domination of a handful of the followers of Mahomet, from among millions of Christians, throughout the provinces of European Turkey. There was a time when it was fashionable to have sympathy for Greece. Now, Athens is to be re-occupied by English and French troops if a strong anti-Turkish feeling is manifested there. Five years ago English Liberals wished success to the insurrections in Italy and to the war for independence in Hungary. Now the efforts of the Greeks for freedom are pronounced ill-timed, and we, who are sending our fleets and armies to perfect their subjugation to the Turks, are the best judges of the moment when their fetters should be struck off. The people, or a portion of them, are drunk with a confused notion of fighting with Russia. They confound the blowing up of ships and the slaughter of thousands with the cause of freedom, as if there were any connexion in matters wholly apart. I cannot hope to change this feeling, and fear you cannot. Time and experience alone will convince them, perhaps when too late, that a great national crime lies at their door."

This letter was received with mingled cheers and hisses. Mr Rainforth moved, "That it is not safe to enter into war without a thorough knowledge of the circumstances."—Mr Roland seconded the motion; and it was agreed to.—Mr Conyngham moved, "That the English people having been indifferent to its external relations for many years, it is expedient that it now employ itself in comprehending them."—Mr Pore seconded, and Colonel Chesney supported the motion.—Mr R. J. Richardson, of Salford, moved an amendment, to the effect that the motion reflected upon the intelligence of the people of Manchester, and that they were capable of thinking for themselves.—Mr Storey seconded the amendment, which was negatived.—Mr A. Watkin proposed a second amendment, "That this meeting, occurring in opinion with the great majority of the British people that the war with Russia in defence of Turkey is a just and necessary war, desires to express its earnest wish that the war may be carried on with the utmost vigour, and continued until the power of Russia shall be reduced within such limits as will be consistent with the peace and safety of the world (loud and general cheering), and that in furtherance of this view the restoration of Poland, Hungary, and Italy to the state of independent nations, having free institutions, is greatly to be desired." (Renewed cheering.)—Mr Power seconded the amendment.

Mr Urquhart then rose to address the meeting, and was received with cheers.

He said the result of our sending troops to the East must be that the English contingent of 25,000 men would take Constantinople, while the French would get possession of that padlock of the Turkish empire, the Dardanelles, and that, in fact, the troops sent to the East were sent for a Russian aid. (Cries of "No, no!" and hisses.) Did the meeting object to his entertaining an opinion? Our troops would never fight the Russians; we should require a head to fight the Russians. They were fighting against a necromancer. It was a body fighting against mind. God had given power of body to the English, capacity of mind to Russia. And did they think that the relationship was changed because they had the power of moving armies? He would tell them this—that the whole of these events were planned by Russia long ago. Let them not think that the matter was to be decided upon the Danube. People here were listening for the thunder of guns in the Dobruzcha; while, in Turkey, they were waiting for the indications of thought here.—Mr Urquhart drew a retrospect of the past wars between Turkey and Russia, dwelt on the danger of revolutions in Europe involved in the war, and our own danger in reference to India, and on the secret correspondence by which our Ministers had entered into a bargain with Russia for the partition of Turkey. (A gentleman inquired when that bargain was made?) When they got the English Government holding secret communications with the very Power to resist whom its whole policy was directed, what could be the object of concealment? If it was not that there had been infamy, the men must have been fools. It was his object to excite their attention to the fact that they had been bought and sold. He took these means to save himself with them, and he was labouring to save both them and himself. He might have sold them if he liked, but he was determined to save them. This, then, was the bargain—Constantinople for Russia, and Egypt and Candia for the English. Mr Urquhart said, the Great Napoleon might have had the same bargain, and read his statement, made at St Helena, to that effect. (The speech was interrupted by cries of impatience, laughter, and incredulity, about equally mingled.)

The chairman decided that Mr Watkin's amendment was not an amendment; but the meeting solved the difficulty about dealing with it, by expressing a wish to have both motion and amendment, and accordingly carried each of them. A third resolution was carried, to the effect that an association be formed in Manchester for the purpose of acquiring and disseminating constitutional and diplomatic knowledge; and this concluded the proceedings.

STATE AND CHURCH.

THE COURT.—Her Majesty will hold drawing-rooms on the following days: Thursday, 27th inst.; Thursday, May 11; and Saturday, May 20, to celebrate her Majesty's birthday. The Queen will also hold levees on Wednesday the 3rd of May and Friday the 9th of June.

CIVIL PROMOTIONS.—The Queen has appointed the Right Hon. Sir James R. G. Graham, Bart., to be a Civil Knight Grand Cross of the Bath. J. K. James, Esq., of Hertford street, Mayfair, has received the honour of knighthood. H. U. Addington, Esq., was on Saturday sworn of the Privy Council, and took his seat at the board.

THE FOREIGN OFFICE.—Mr Addington has resigned his office of Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, which he has held since March 4, 1842. He entered the service of the Foreign-office in 1807. After having been successively attached to the missions in Sicily, Spain, Berlin, Stockholm, and Switzerland, Mr Addington was appointed secretary of legation at Switzerland in 1814; at Copenhagen, 1821; at Washington, 1822; and minister-plenipotentiary at Frankfurt in 1828; and at Madrid in 1829. Mr Addington is succeeded as permanent Under-Secretary of State in the Foreign Department by Mr E. Hamond, who entered the Foreign-office in 1824, and who has been a clerk of the first class since 1841, at the head of one of the departments.

THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR.—The *bal costumé* of the French ambassador, which her Majesty the Queen intends to visit, is appointed for the 12th proximo.

A WINDFALL FOR THE PRINCE OF WALES.—Mr Holford, the rich merchant, who long resided in the Regent's park, died on the 9th of April, and has left his large fortune to the Prince of Wales. The other day we found a Scotchman, Sir Andrew Wylie, bequeathing about a million sterling to the Czar; we now have another wealthy man (an American, we believe) also selecting a royal legatee, but of a far more worthy stock.

ELECTION OF THE BISHOP OF SALISBURY.—A special chapter of Salisbury Cathedral was summoned on Saturday, for the purpose of proceeding to the election of a bishop of that see. Her Majesty's *congé d'elire* was read, and with it the royal recommendation that the Rev. W. K. Hamilton, of Merton College, Oxford, and late preacher of Salisbury, might be elected to fill the vacant see. After the usual







signed it, and affixed to the seal of their arms. Done at London on the tenth of April, in the year of grace one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four.

CONVENTION BETWEEN AUSTRIA AND PRUSSIA.—A telegraphic despatch from Berlin of yesterday's date states that on Thursday an offensive and defensive alliance between Austria and Prussia was signed by Baron Manteuffel on the one side, and Baron Hess and Count Thun on the other.

We call attention to two important documents which appear in another part of to-day's 'Examiner.' The counter declaration of the Emperor of Russia, in reply to the separate declarations of war of France and England, and the comments made in the 'Journal de St Petersburg' on the confidential correspondence recently made public.

The following telegraphic communication has been received from Vienna, dated yesterday evening:—"The 'Oest. Correspondenz' announces the Austro-Prussian Alliance, adding that the recently concluded European Protocol of the 9th should be enforced in a way besecming the dignity and interests of Germany. Austria strongly protests against any movement in Montenegro, and the export of arms from Austria to Montenegro is prohibited.

A notification from the Chancellor of the Exchequer, inviting tenders for 6,000,000l. of Exchequer bonds in three series of 2,000,000l. each, bearing three-and-a-half per cent interest, and redeemable respectively in four, five, and six years, was received yesterday afternoon at the Stock Exchange.

A prize was towed into Portsmouth at six o'clock yesterday evening by her Majesty's screw revenue cruiser Argus, Commander Granby. The prize, which is a very fine one, was fallen in with and boarded off Beachy Head. Her name is the Froign, 440 tons and fifteen men, Weekman, master, and she left Lisbon on the 25th ult., laden with salt, wine, &c., for Abo.

The 'Times' of this morning contains the following respecting the Chevalier Bunsen:

"Some doubt has been expressed as to the intention of the Prussian Government, which we announced some days ago, to recall Chevalier Bunsen, who has so long filled with ability the post of Prussian Minister in London. The information received by us almost simultaneously both in this country and from our correspondent at Berlin was correct, though we should have great satisfaction in thinking that the publicity we gave to this intrigue, and our intimation of the effect it was likely to produce in Western Europe, may have suspended the execution of the measure, and checked the triumph of the Russian party in the Prussian Government.

Moses Moses, the Honddsditch "fence," was yesterday committed for trial on several fresh charges.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.

THE WAGES MOVEMENT.—The propositions of the Mediation Committee to the Preston operatives have been rejected. There has been an extensive strike at Stockport; it has already reached to nearly 10,000 hands.

"The state of affairs at Stockport, and the consequent withholding of the usual 250l. or 200l. which was weekly received from that town in Preston, with the short time and the reduced wages in other localities, have been productive of much mystery in the proceedings of the delegates in Preston. Hitherto it has been the custom of the power-loom weavers' executive to chalk on the shutters of obnoxious persons the sum received from Blackburn, or the aggregate amount of the whole subscriptions received on the Sunday, at their meeting in the Temperance Hall; and also to have printed on that day a list of the moneys received from the various subscribing districts.

NEW RUSSIAN TELEGRAPHIC LINE.—The Czar has just completed arrangements by which we may learn the London news of the morning almost, perhaps quite, as soon as our merchants see their newspapers. The electric telegraph has long been in operation between St Petersburg and Warsaw, and for some time numbers of men have been employed in completing the line, which is to extend from Warsaw to the Prussian frontier.

THE CRYSTAL PALACE.—The precise day is not yet fixed, but there is no longer any doubt that the Crystal Palace will be opened by her Majesty towards the end of May. The progress made during the last few weeks in every portion of the works is satisfactory; and, though the interval between this and the end of May seems extremely short for what remains before then to be accomplished, if the heads of departments keep steadily at their posts, and get their subordinates by constant supervision to exert themselves to the utmost, the opening will be all that can reasonably be expected.

DEAD BODIES UNDERNEATH A RAILWAY.—On Saturday a deputation from the parish of Lambeth waited upon the directors of the South Western Railway Company, to ascertain if it was true that they had let nine arches of the railway, in the most crowded part of the parish—namely, between the Waterloo station and the Westminster road—as depositories for the dead of as many parishes and unions as the Necropolis Cemetery Company have entered into contracts with to convey the dead to Woking.

LIGHT IN RAILWAY CARRIAGES.—A correspondent of the 'Times' writes as follows: I had occasion to go down the Eastern Counties line some fourteen miles, and took a third-class ticket. I got into one of the dirtiest carriages to be seen in this or any other civilised country. But let that pass. On my return in the evening I had to grope my way into one of these said carriages, and after some time felt a vacant seat. Some less fortunate had to stand. On reaching the next station, a guard pops a lantern into our cell—that's the proper name—glances round it, opens the door, and what?—calls out "Plenty of room, and be as quick as you like."

LANCASHIRE DIALECT. To the Editor of the 'Examiner.' Sir, It is pleasanter to take a turn in Lancashire than in Russia: it must be a short one. I find the notice of a lecture by Mr Gaskell on the Lancashire dialect, and remarks on the Simnal cake. It may be derived from the Anglo-Saxon *synble*, a feast, a word very like *synblum*, which means the same in form of picnic.

MR BOUNDERBY'S HOUSEKEEPER.—Mrs Sparisit had not only seen different days, but was highly connected. She had a great aunt living in these very times called Lady Scadgers. Mr Sparisit, deceased, of whom she was the relict, had been by the mother's side what Mrs Sparisit still called "a Fowler." Strangers of limited information and dull apprehensions were sometimes observed not to know what a Fowler was, and even to appear uncertain whether it might be a business, or a political party, or a profession of faith.

TOWN AND COUNTRY TALK.

The very extraordinary case, known as the "St Fergus Murder," has just been tried before the High Court of Judiciary at Edinburgh, and the alleged murderer, Dr Smith, has been acquitted.

A return has been printed by order of Parliament, showing the increase and diminution which had taken place last year in the public departments. The increase in the number of persons was 1,478, and the total sum 105,672l. 7s. 7d. The diminution was in number 236, and in amount 48,013l. 13s. 6d.

Within a distance of five miles from the Royal Exchange there are twenty eight districts, as appears from the census of religious worship, in which there is a deficiency of accommodation for worship below the number required to provide for fifty-eight per cent. of the population, varying from 8,723 to 51,551, or in the aggregate a deficiency of 641,151 sittings.

The two persons injured on the London and North Western Railway, near Mossley, on the 10th inst., when the driver was killed by the train going off the line, died in the Manchester Royal Infirmary yesterday week. One of them was Mr Schoeps, of Manchester, and the other Hellam, the stoker, of Leeds.

Letters for officers, seamen, and marines, serving in the undermentioned ships, will be in time to be forwarded, if sent to the Admiralty on or before the 26th of this month:—Her Majesty's ships Assistance, Resolute, Intrepid, Pioneer, North Star, Enterprise, and Investigator.

The Harbinger steamer from Australia, which arrived on Tuesday, brought remittances in gold to the value of 293,368l. The Africa, from New York, brought about 40,000l. in silver; and the Sovereign of the Seas, from Melbourne, arrived, bringing gold to the value of 149,336l. The total importation in one day amounts therefore to 482,704l.

Mr T. E. L. Mostyn has issued an address to the electors of Flintshire, soliciting their suffrages. He is the only candidate at present in the field, but some opposition is spoken of.

The Lord-Lieutenancy of Fife, vacant by the death of Admiral Wemyss, is, it is said, to be conferred on the Earl of Elgin.

On Tuesday Sir E. B. Lytton delivered an address to the members of the Literary Institution of St Albans. The Town Hall was crowded, and the speaker was loudly cheered.

By the demise of Alderman Hooper, a vacancy occurs in the Governorship of St Bartholomew's Hospital.

An inquest was held on Wednesday in the Queen's Prison, to ascertain the cause of the sudden death of Mrs Elizabeth Hardy, aged 74, authoress of the Jesuitical tale called "The Confessionals," and other works of a similar description. The deceased had been in the Queen's Prison for the last two years, for debts amounting to 250l. A verdict of "Natural death" was returned.

A private letter from Gibraltar, dated the 12th inst., states that the North of Europe Steam Navigation Company's steam ship Tonnin, chartered to Government and carrying Sir Colin Campbell and a portion of Lord Raglan's Staff, together with inferior and non-commissioned officers, thirty rank and file of the 19th Regiment and sixty-two horses, reached Gibraltar, after a passage of four days and twenty hours, the quickest on record.

In the Court of Queen's Bench, yesterday, a rule nisi was granted, on application for a new trial in the case of Lumley v. Gye.

In the case of the Queen v. the Eastern Archipelago Company, which was heard before the Lord Chancellor on Thursday, the petition was dismissed.

There are already four candidates offering themselves to the Liberal party in Cambridge; the Hon. F. Campbell, Mr Adair, Mr Mowatt, and Mr Edwin James, Q.C.

Prices of Stocks, Railway Shares, &c.

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

Table with columns: SHARES OF, RAILWAYS, PAID, CLOSING PRICES. Lists various railway and public companies like Blackwall, Brighton, Bristol and Exeter, etc., along with their share prices.



THE FUNDS.

MONDAY.—Consols for money, which left off on Saturday at 87 1/2 to 87 3/4, were first quoted at 87 1/2 to 87 3/4, and the last official transactions were at 87 1/2 for money, and 87 1/2 for the 11th of May. The Reduced Three per Cents. were dealt in at 86 1/2 to 87; Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents. at 87 1/2 to 87 3/4; Bank Stock closed at 213 to 215; India Stock, 225 to 230; India Bonds, 4s. dis. to 2s. premium; and Exchequer-bills, par to 4s. premium.

SATURDAY MORNING, ELEVEN O'CLOCK.

Table with columns: BRITISH, Price, FOREIGN, Price. Lists various financial instruments like Consols, Do. Account, 1 per Cent. Reduced, etc.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

As Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending on Saturday, the 15th day of April, 1854.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Table showing financial data for the Issue Department, including Notes Issued, Government Debt, and Silver Bullion.

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Table showing financial data for the Banking Department, including Proprietors' Capital, Public Deposits, and Other Deposits.

Trade and Commerce.

Smithfield Market, Monday.—The arrival of cattle and sheep from the Continent into the port of London during the past week has been moderate. The official Custom-house returns give an entry of 115 oxen, 212 cows, 394 calves, and 1,495 sheep, making a total of 2,256 head.

FRIDAY.—Although the supply of meat was not very large at Smithfield to-day, nevertheless the trade was dull for every description; and beef and lamb, except very choice kinds, fell 2d. per stone.

Table with columns: Prices per Stone, At Market. Lists prices for Beef, Mutton, Veal, Pork, Lamb, Beasts, Sheep, Calves, Pigs.

Corn Market.—Monday.—A very short supply of English wheat at market was readily disposed of at prices fully equal to those of Monday last.

Table with columns: Wheat, English, Foreign, Barley, English, Foreign, Oats, English, Scotch, Irish, Foreign. Lists prices for various grains.

FRIDAY.—Wheat: The arrivals have been liberal, and the advance in prices checked. Barley: Arrivals moderate; market quiet.

IMPORTATIONS

Table with columns: Wheat, Barley, Oats, Malt, Flour. Lists quantities and prices for various commodities.

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

War-Office, April 18.—32nd Regiment of Foot: Lieut-General Sir W. Cotton, G.C.B., from the 98th Foot, to be Colonel, vice Lieut-General Sir R. Armstrong, K.C.B. deceased.

Office of Ordnance, April 17.—Royal Regiment of Artillery.—Gentlemen Cadets to be Second Lieutenants: F. W. de Winton, vice Booth, promoted; A. H. C. Hamilton, vice Jonge, promoted; E. C. Cuthbert, vice Winn, promoted; E. A. M. Lloyd, vice Brackenbury, promoted; P. Jackson, vice Markham, promoted; J. Tucker, vice Porter, promoted; B. F. Schreiber, vice E. P. B. Turner, promoted; M. Tweedie, vice Cromartie, promoted; R. L. Lyle, vice Teasdale, promoted; L. Griffiths, vice Lyons, promoted; W. R. Lluellin, vice Torrione, promoted; H. J. F. E. Hickey, vice J. T. B. Brown, promoted.—Corps of Royal Engineers: Gentlemen Cadets to be Second Lieutenants, with temporary rank: P. H. Scratchley, vice Cox, promoted; G. N. Kelsall, vice Savage, promoted.

Bankrupts.—J. H. T. V. Hughes, Westbourne grove, Bayswater, chemist. [Buchanan, Basinghall street.—J. Sunmarrsall, Little York place, St Marylebone, carpenter. [Hare and Whitfield, 1 in the Court, Temple.—H. Anstey and W. Waiton, Birmingham, drapers. [Motteram and Knight, Birmingham.—C. Bramer, Sheffield, wood dealer. [Ryalis, Sheffield.

Dividends.—May 9, D. Jenkins, Mile-end road, licensed victualler.—May 9, R. Northover, Chesapeake, land manufacturer.—May 9, R. F. Miller, Hammersmith, coach builder.—May 9, J. White, East Cowes, Isle of Wight, ship builder.—May 9, J. Todd, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, distiller.—May 10, J. Kay, Prestwich, Lancashire, calico manufacturer.—May 16, R. Rutherford, St John's, Newfoundland, merchant.

Certificates to be granted, unless cause be shown to the contrary, on the day of meeting.—May 10, J. C. Corderoy, Hammersmith, omnibus proprietor.—May 10, T. Ward, Goswell street, hosier.—May 10, W. Hart, Chester, banker.—May 10, J. Kay, Prestwich, Lancashire, calico manufacturer.

Scotch Sequestrations.—W. I. Rowell, Glasgow, merchant.—J. K. Clark Glasgow, merchant.

Friday, April 21.

War-office, April 21.—2nd Regiment of Life Guards: Ensign Lord E. M'D. Vane, from the 57th Foot, to be Cornet and Sub-Lieutenant, by purchase, vice the Hon. C. S. B. Hanbury, promoted.—Royal Regiment of Horse Guards: Capt. R. H. R. H. Vyse to be Major, by purchase, with the rank of Lieut.-Col. in the Army, vice Brevet Lieut.-Col. the Hon. H. Pitt, who retires; Lieut. F. H. Vyse to be Capt. by purchase, vice Treawney, who retires; Lieut. D. J. Baillie to be Capt. by purchase, vice Vyse; Cornet the Hon. J. B. J. Dormer to be Lieut. by purchase, vice Vyse; Cornet J. I. Jones to be Lieut. by purchase, vice Baillie.—7th Light Dragoons: Lieut. C. C. Fraser to be Capt. by purchase, vice the Duke of Beaufort, promoted, by purchase, to an Unattached Majority; Cornet M. D. Brisco to be Lieut. by purchase, vice Fraser.—13th Light Dragoons: Assistant-Surgeon L. Armstrong, from the Staff, to be Assistant-Surgeon, vice Dumbreck, who exchanges.—16th Light Dragoons: Cornet W. B. Lennard has been permitted to retire from the Service by the sale of his Commission.—1st or Grenadier Regiment of Foot Guards: Ensign a.d. Lieut. F. C. Keppel to be Adjutant, vice R. Bradford, who resigns the Adjutancy only.—2nd Regiment of Foot: H. P. Hifferman, Gent. to be Ensign, by purchase, vice Laurie, appointed to the 4th Foot.—4th Foot: Ensign J. W. Laurie, from the 2nd Foot, to be Ensign, vice Cowell, appointed to the 2nd Foot; Serjeant-Major R. Laver to be Quartermaster, vice Cowell, appointed to the 2nd Foot; Serjeant-Major R. Laver to be Quartermaster, vice Cowell, appointed to the 2nd Foot; Serjeant-Major R. Laver to be Quartermaster, vice Cowell, appointed to the 2nd Foot.

Deaths.—On the 15th inst., at the house of her brother in Chancery Lane, Caroline, the elder daughter of the late Mr Henry Reynell, in the 68th year of her age.—On the 17th inst., at St Alban's, J. R. Henslow, Esq., in his 84th year.—On the 17th inst., at Hounslow, J. Such, Esq., aged 80.—On the 18th inst., at Southport, R. Saunders, Esq., aged 90.—On the 18th inst., at Chipping Ongar, Mrs Harlock, in her 85th year.—On the 18th inst., at Cheltenham, Mrs Ward, in her 96th year.—On the 18th inst., at Yarm, Yorkshire, Mrs M. de la, in her 80th year.—On the 18th inst., at Hampton-court Palace, Mrs Platts, in her 71st year.—On the 14th inst., at Dedham, Essex, the Hon. Georgina Penrose, sister of Lord Keane.—On the 15th inst., at Horsham, in her 89th year, Mrs Marriott.—On the 15th inst., at 7 Bloomsbury square, A. Aikin, Esq., in his 81st year.—On the 16th inst., in Foley place, Mr D. Gaven, aged 81.—On the 14th inst., at Cheltenham, Admiral Mackellar, aged 86.—On the 16th inst., at Richmond, Lady E. F. Assheton, in her 91st year.—On the 16th inst., in his 84th year, the Rev. R. Massey, rector of Eccleston.—On the 17th inst., in her 84th year, Mrs Baines, of Islington.

"READY, AYE, READY."

The new song in honour of Admiral Napier. Sung by Mr Sims Reeves, written by Charles Jefferys, composed by Howard Glover, Price, 2s. 6d.

COLOSSEUM, REGENT'S PARK.

Admission, 1s.—The original PANORAMA of LONDON by the celebrated artist, Mr. J. M. W. Turner, Esq., exhibited daily, from half-past Ten till Five; the evening from Seven till Ten.—Music from Two till Five, and during the Evening.

CYCLORAMA, ALBANY STREET, NOW OPEN

with a magnificent PANORAMA of NAPLES, the great RUPTION of VESUVIUS, and DESTRUCTION of POMPEII, A.D. 79, with the present state of the City. These Views have been long in preparation, and will be exhibited with all the resources of this vast Establishment.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.

PATRON.—H. R. H. PRINCE ALBERT. The SEAT of the WAR, showing the principal places on BERNABOPOLE, the entrance to the BLACK SEA, BATTLE of NIPOPE, and DESTRUCTION of the TURKISH TOWERS of the 'Illustrated London News' EXHIBITED in a NEW SERIES of DISSOLVING VIEWS.

PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.

The Sub-Fourth Concert will take place, at the Hanover Square Rooms, on MONDAY EVENING next, the 24th of April. Programme: Sinfonia (M.S.), Concerto for Violin, Herr Mendelssohn; Overture, 'Roses of Fingal,' Mendelssohn; Overture, 'Vocal performers: Madame Clara Novello, and Signor Cosca. To commence at 8 o'clock, 11. 15. Single tickets 1s. Double tickets 2s. 6d. to be had at Messrs Addison and Walker, 20 Regent street.

ROYAL OLYMPIC THEATRE.

Monday and Tuesday the 26th and 27th (Wednesday the 28th excepted), will be performed THE HAPPIEST DAY OF MY LIFE. Principal Characters by Messrs F. Robson, Leslie, Vincent, White; Miss P. Horton, Mrs Chatterley, and Miss Marston. After which, a New Comedietta, called TO OBLIGE HENSON, Characters by Messrs Emery, F. Robson, Leslie; Mrs Stirling and Miss Wyndham. To conclude with THE WANDERING MINSTREL, Jem Baggs, Mr F. Robson.

ROYAL OPERA, DRURY LANE.

On MONDAY, TUESDAY, and FRIDAY, LUCREZIA BORGIA. Lucrezia, Madame Caradori; the Duke, Mr Hamilton Braham.

SOCIETY OF PAINTERS in WATER COLOURS.

The Fiftieth Annual Exhibition will open at their Gallery, 5 Pall Mall, East, on Monday the 24th of April. Admittance, 1s. Catalogue, 6d.

FLOWER-POIS and GARDEN SEATS.

JOHN MORTLOCK, 250 Oxford street, respectfully announces that he has a very large assortment of the above articles in various colours, and sells at an early inspection. Every description of useful CHINA, GLASS, and EARTHENWARE, at the lowest possible price, for Cash.—250 Oxford street, near Hyde park.

HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY of LONDON.

Notice is hereby given that the EXHIBITIONS of FLOWERS and FRUIT, in the SOCIETY'S GARDEN, in the present season, will take place on the following Saturdays, viz: May 13, June 10, and July 7; and that Tuesday, April 25, is the last day on which the usual privileged Tickets are issued to Fellows of the Society.

ART-UNION of LONDON.

The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING to receive the Council's Report, and to distribute the amount subscribed for the purchase of Works of Art, will be held at the Theatre Royal Lyceum (by the kind permission of CHARLES MATHEWS, Esq.) on Tuesday the 25th inst. at Eleven for Twelve o'clock. The receipt for the current year will procure admission for Member and friends.

CONSUMPTION and its CURATIVE MEANS.

A popular treatise with cases most successfully treated, by JAMES HONEYWOOD, M.B., F.R.S.E. Licentiate, &c. 54 Nelson square, Blackfriars road. Sold by Messrs, 63 Cornhill, price 1s.—Hours of Consultation, from Nine till Four daily.

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