

THE EXAMINER.

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THE POLITICAL EXAMINER.

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

THE PRINCE CONSORT ON STATISTICS.

"You can tell them that virtue is a fine thing," said one of Steele's colleagues to him, to induce him to write an essay for a periodical when there was little time for the preparation. And something like this is what the public generally expects to be told in a speech inaugurating a debate on a scientific subject. But in opening the session of the International Statistical Congress, his Royal Highness the Prince Consort did much more than elaborate a note of praise, he did not tell the meeting that statistical science is a fine thing, he told them with masterly discrimination what it is, and what it is not; to what end it serves, and to what it serves not, he showed its uses and abuses, and how it had got unmerited discredit. The Prince has made many good speeches, but none better than this, on a subject upon which he might not have been expected to be so well prepared, his thorough comprehension of which is, however, now placed beyond a doubt. His Royal Highness gracefully alluded to the fact that some twenty-four years ago he had "the privilege to receive his first instructions" in the higher branch of mathematics from Mr Quetelet, and it may be that from that eminent statistician he derived also his clear ideas of the domain of statistical science. A better source of instruction could not be found, but whatever may have been the source, the Prince is master of the subject.

The unjust unpopularity of statistics is thus explained by the Prince Consort:

Much labour is required to wade through endless columns of figures, much patience to master them, and some skill to draw any definite and safe conclusions from the mass of material which it presents to the student; while the value of the information offered depends exactly upon its bulk, increasing in proportion with its quantity and comprehensiveness. It has been little understood also from the peculiar and often unjustifiable use which has been made of it; for the very fact of its difficulty and the patience required in reading up and verifying the statistical figures which may be referred to by an author in support of his theories and opinions protect him, to a certain extent, from scrutiny, and tempt him to draw largely upon so convenient and available a capital. The public generally connect, therefore, in their minds statistics, if not with unwelcome taxation (for which they naturally form an important basis), certainly with political controversies, in which they are in the habit of seeing public men making use of the most opposite statistical results with equal assurance in support of the most opposite arguments. A great and distinguished French Minister and statesman is even quoted as having boasted of the invention of what he is said to have called "l'art de grouper les chiffres;" but if the same ingenuity and enthusiasm which may have suggested to him this art should have tempted him or others, as historians, to group facts also, it would be no more reasonable to make the historical facts answerable for the use made of them, than it would be to make statistical science responsible for many an ingenious financial statement. Yet this science has suffered materially in public estimation by such use, although the very fact that statesmen, financiers, physicians, and naturalists should seek to support their statements and doctrines by statistics shows conclusively that they all acknowledge them as the foundation of truth, and this ought therefore to raise instead of depressing the science in the general esteem of the public.

It is commonly said that anything can be proved by figures, but only as anything can be proved by words, if the positions be not carefully watched and misstatements corrected. Anything can be proved out of history, provided examples are sought in a dishonest spirit, and that their misrepresentation passes unquestioned. To this day there is as much controversy about the characters of Henry VIII, Elizabeth, Mary Queen of Scots, and the Stuarts, as about any conclusions to be drawn from statistics. Statistics are abused when resort is had to them not to ascertain a truth but to support a foregone conclusion, and to fit it with an argument. Some groups of facts will then be picked out having a certain bearing, while others will be kept out of view having an opposite tendency. Exceptional periods will be selected as general evidences, and all qualifying circumstances suppressed. It is by such disingenuous practices that facts are made to speak falsehoods. The facts are facts still in their proper places, and with their true relations and bearings, removed from which their apparent indications are deceptive. But the public does not detect such causes of error. Figures are set before it to bear out a certain conclusion, and are accepted without any inquiry whether or not they include all the facts necessary to the formation of a safe opinion. The brick is taken as specimen of the house. Partial and incomplete statements will be found the sources of error in almost all statistical controversies.

Another excellent passage in the speech of his Royal Highness the Prince Consort is the following:

It is difficult to see how statistical science, as such, should be subject to prejudice, reproach, and attack; and yet the fact cannot

be denied. We hear it said that its prosecution leads necessarily to Pantheism and the destruction of true religion, as depriving, in man's estimation, the Almighty of His power of free self-determination, making His world a mere machine, working according to a general pre-arranged scheme, the parts of which are capable of mathematical measurement, and the scheme itself of numerical expression; that it leads to fatalism, and therefore deprives man of his dignity, of his virtue and morality, as it would prove him to be a mere wheel in this machine, incapable of exercising a free choice of action, but predestined to fulfil a given task and to run a prescribed course, whether for good or for evil. These are grave accusations, and would be terrible indeed if they were true. But are they true? Is the power of God destroyed or diminished by the discovery of the fact that the earth requires 365 revolutions upon its own axis to every revolution round the sun, giving us so many days to our year, and that the moon changes thirteen times during that period, that the tide changes every six hours, that water boils at a temperature of 212 degrees, according to Fahrenheit, that the nightingale sings only in April and May, that all birds lay eggs, that 106 boys are born to every 100 girls? Or is man a less free agent because it has been ascertained that a generation lasts about thirty years, that there are annually posted at the post-offices the same number of letters on which the writer had forgotten to place any address; that the number of crimes committed under the same local, national, and social conditions is constant; that the full-grown man ceases to find amusement in the sports of the child? But our statistical science does not even say that this must be so; it only states that it has been so, and leaves it to the naturalist or political economist to argue that it is probable, from the number of times in which it has been found to be so, that it will be so again as long as the same causes are operating. It thus gave birth to that part of mathematical science called the calculation of probabilities, and even established the theory that in the natural world there exist no certainties at all, but only probabilities. Although this doctrine, destroying man's feeling of security to a certain extent, has startled and troubled some, it is no less true that, while we may reckon with a thoughtless security on the sun rising to-morrow, this is only a probable event, the probability of which is capable of being expressed by a determined mathematical fraction. Our insurance offices have, from their vast collection of statistical facts, established to such a precision the probable duration of man's life that they are able to enter with each individual into a precise bargain on the value of this life; and yet this does not imply an impious pretension to determine when this individual is really to die. But we are met also by the most opposite objection, and statistics are declared useless, because they cannot be relied on for the determination of any given case, and do only establish probabilities where man requires and asks for certainty. This objection is well founded, but it does not affect the science itself, but solely the use which man has in vain tried to make of it, and for which it is not intended. It is the essence of the statistical science that it only makes apparent general laws, but that these laws are inapplicable to any special case; that, therefore, what is proved to be law in general is uncertain in particular. Herein lies the real refutation also of the first objection, and thus is the power, wisdom, and goodness of the Creator manifested, showing how the Almighty has established the physical and moral world on unchangeable laws conformable to His eternal nature, while He has allowed to the individual the freest and fullest use of his faculties, vindicating at the same time the majesty of his laws by their remaining unaffected by individual self-determination.

The statistical knowledge which tells us what has been and what probably will be again, admonishes us on the one hand of good to be promoted, or on the other of evil the causes of which should be corrected. If, for example, we see crime diminishing with the extension of education, and of prosperity, we know what to endeavour to advance. On the other hand, when we find that in a given number of people, a section of the population, there will be found a murderer, so many thieves, and other malefactors, the fact does not argue an immutable law of necessity, it argues only the presence of peccant causes, which we should strive with all our might to combat and diminish. The stern truths of statistics do not preach submission to evil, but rather sound the trumpet-call to battle with it. And not less distinct is the call to the promotion of good, though with all due care not to come to hasty conclusions of cause and effect, nor to connect them without the evidence of ample observations.

THE SADDLE ON THE RIGHT HORSE.

The China war is bad, very bad, but it is not so bad as Mr Roebuck would represent it. It is not true that the original sin is the opium traffic. It is not true that we went to war to force an intoxicating drug down the throats of the flowery people. It is not true that we quarrelled with the Brother of the Sun because he endeavoured to maintain the defences of sobriety, and to protect his people against intoxication. The Chinese Government concerns itself about no such matters. Its real objection to the opium trade was not on the score of health and morality, for which it notoriously cares little or nothing, but there was an apprehension that the trade carried on by cash transactions, and not the exchange of articles of merchandise, was draining the empire of its silver. To prevent this or any other inconvenience or evil real or imaginary, the Chinese Government had a perfect right to prohibit and prevent the importation of opium; but though it had the will it had not the power to enforce its laws, and in this difficulty it called upon our authorities for assistance, which was very properly refused, for it would ill consist with the dignity and duties of one Government to place itself in the position of officer of customs to another. Suppose our Government was to complain to the French Government that brandy was smuggled into this country in great quantities, to the loss of the revenue and injury to the sobriety of the people, and to demand of the French authorities their co-operation

in the prevention of the traffic. What would be the answer? Simply, "It is your affair, not ours. It is for you to settle your customs' duties or prohibitions, and to enforce them by your own powers. Fiscal regulations which cannot be carried into effect are regulations which thwarting some great demand of the people, and it would be a great evil in such case for one Government to help another in bolstering up a bad system which would otherwise fall to the ground." The refusal to make the Queen's servants officers of customs to the Brother of the Sun was the grievance from which arose the first China war; and the treaty of Pottinger, which obtained praise it little deserved, made a concession of assistance, not going to the extent the Chinese had asked, but exceeding what was consistent with the dignity of an independent power, and politic. Next came the affair of the *Lorcha*, which had nothing to do with opium. Ill blood had been long brewing, and the occasion of the *Lorcha* gave it vent. Five thousand men would probably have settled that quarrel on the spot, and obtained peace for some time to come; but there is a preference for great operations, so an Ambassador and expedition were sent to the north, who extorted a peace with the obnoxious condition of a resident Minister at Peking. The Chinese protested vehemently against this demand, as calculated to lower the Imperial Government in the eyes of its subjects, in plain words, as of revolutionary tendency; but it was insisted on, though with an awkward intimation that the Envoy's residence or non-residence would depend on the Emperor's good faith, or deviation from it. The presence of her Majesty's representative was thus to be the outward and visible sign of her Majesty's dissatisfaction with the Court of Peking. The probability is that the Chinese Government was never in earnest in making this concession. It is the way with these people, when they are coerced, to promise anything required, with the resolution of flying from the engagement when the time comes for realising it. Deceits cost them nothing. They have no scruples. When the time came for the exchange of ratifications, what were the preparations on both sides? On ours there was a mission of peace composed of an Envoy, ten black gun-boats, and upwards of a thousand fighting men. To meet so pacific an array in a kindred spirit there was a river staked and barricaded and flanked with forts heavily armed with cannon. On both sides peace had strangely equipped herself for her purpose. The Chinese might, however, have fairly said to the Envoy: "The road is open to you, but not to a flotilla of gun-boats, which cannot be necessary for your safety, and the presence of which is both alarming and affronting to our people. You require us to yield to some of your European usages, amongst others the residence of a Minister at our capital, but is it usage with you for an Envoy to proceed to a friendly Court accompanied with ten pieces of heavy artillery, and land and sea forces in proportion?" But this plain course the Chinese did not take. A deceit suited them better. They pretended the forts were occupied not by Imperial troops directed to stop the passage, but by country people, and they thus succeeded in drawing our forces into an ambushade. What, let us ask Mr Roebuck, had opium to do with this affair? It was not opium, but a resident Envoy we were forcing down the throats of the Chinese. If Mr Bruce had been like the American Minister, unaccompanied by any armed force, no mischief would have happened; he might have refused to be carried to the capital in the fashion in which the American did not disdain to travel, but the miscarriage would have been no worse than that, and the lost opportunity of ratifying the treaty. But the repulse of our troops with grievous loss, after the concealment and falsification of the fact that the forts were thronged with Imperial troops, placed us in a position rendering submission impossible without loss of honour, and of the prestige which is our main strength in dealing with the Chinese. The war is a necessary war, we freely admit, to chastise and efface the disaster of the *Peiho*, and to seize some means of indemnity, but we deprecate a war on a great scale for diplomatic relations not worth a fig, nay absolutely detrimental. As Sganarelle says, there are faggots and faggots, so there are wars and wars; and it is a matter of evil choice, not of necessity, to make a war on a large scale when a smaller would suffice for the purposes of effacing and avenging a discomfiture.

A combined force of 30,000 men is not requisite to rattle down to the ground the Taku forts, and teach the Chinese our superiority in arms, notwithstanding their solitary success in the surprise of an ambushade. This lesson would indeed be more forcibly brought home by a small army equal to the operation than by a large one, and ten thousand men would probably be more than sufficient. But to efface and avenge is not all that Government proposes. Having a war it must be an ambitious war, and it must not only retrieve the disaster of the *Peiho*, but plant our standard in the enemy's capital, and force down his throat all the conditions of an obnoxious treaty. There may not be much to be apprehended from the resistance of the Chinese troops, but we have a sure and most formidable enemy in the climate, and the com-

bined forces will inevitably be much thinned by disease, especially by dysentery, the worst plague of an army. A constant current of reinforcements will thus be requisite either from India or from home, and England and France at the end of another year may have to place some sixty thousand men to the account of the Chinese war, dead and living. The expense of the transport and maintenance will, we need hardly say, be immense. But what of that if we succeed in extorting a stroke of the vermilion pencil, and establish a resident Minister at Pekin. Russia, it is pretended, has one, and is not that a reason for England having one too, at any price of blood and treasure? The Court of Pekin made most strenuous opposition to the stipulation of a resident Envoy, on the ground of its lowering the authority of the Government in the eyes of its people; but Ministers contend that this is proved to be a mere pretence by the concession to Russia. But the pretended Russian Ambassador, however, is known to be no more than a general officer sent by the Governor-General of Siberia, taking the opportunity of the periodical change in the College of Interpreters which has existed in Pekin for 150 years. All that Ministers could assert was that the Russian agent "had been at Pekin for several months," not venturing to allege that he was an accredited representative of the Czar, or that he had been received in that or any other character by the Emperor of China. But be that fact as it may, it does not follow that the argument of Mrs Grundy is good, never to be behind her neighbour in any extravagance. The trade of Russia with China is a bagatelle compared with ours, and the meddling of an Envoy is proportionately less dangerous, for in our view a resident Minister at the Court of an empire so peculiar as that of China can hardly play any other part than that of a busybody or Marplot. Every paltry local squabble will be carried up to him to be made an Imperial question; he will always have his hands full of griefs and wrongs; he will be the perpetual tormentor of the Court, and when he occasionally obtains compliance with his demands, it will be found that what is granted at the centre of authority is null and void in the place for performance. Mr T. Baring has spoken some excellent sense on this subject, and he is no mean authority where trade is concerned—

I find it is said that this war is to be carried on in favour of commerce. As one somewhat acquainted with commerce, I must say I don't believe that there can be a more unfortunate event than this war. I say that for the protection of trade and of those engaged in trade it is not necessary that we should insist upon going up to Pekin. If the noble lord had consulted those who are concerned in trade there, he would have learnt that it is not at Pekin that trade needs protection, but in those ports where commerce is carried on, and where alone British interests should be protected. The noble lord says, "Why do you accuse us when you, when Lord Malmesbury, recommended that our Minister should go up to Pekin?" The representatives of trade will tell the noble lord that these contests and struggles of party, so far from interesting them, are much against their interests; and if the only answer the noble lord can give us is that his predecessors did something like what he has done, then I say that trade does not care for either but laments the acts of both. The noble lord said, the whole thing is now changed; Russia has a Minister at Pekin, therefore we must have a Minister at Pekin too. Now, I don't want a Minister at Pekin unless it will benefit British interests, although Russia may have a Minister there. I believe Russia in old times had a representative at Pekin; but if we had a Minister at Pekin, and France had a Minister there, and the United States too, all they would do would be to quarrel with one another (hear, hear), to introduce a system of jealousy and confusion, as has been done in other countries by diplomatic bodies. We don't want diplomacy, but trade, in China (hear, hear), and we want protection in those places where trade is carried on.

THE FATE OF THE BANKRUPTCY BILL.

With the Bankruptcy Bill the last hope of a useful session has disappeared. The Opposition will blame the Government, and the Government will blame the Opposition with infinitely greater justice. Neither parties, in truth, are specially culpable, but rather both; in other words, the whole House, with its system, or no-system of transacting public business. Let the cause be what it may, the loss is considerable, great in proportion to the magnitude and excellence of the measure, for which the Government, and pre-eminently the Attorney-General, is entitled to credit, at all events. Next to the commercial public, the Government are the greatest losers by its miscarriage, and yet they will be taunted with its failure at many a Tory meeting in the recess, perhaps even at the candid capital of honest and agricultural Bucks. To say that time was wanting to carry this important Bill is nonsense. We have only to look at the precious hours wasted on measures either utterly frivolous or utterly impracticable. In another place we have held up to reprobation a night squandered in two motions on the subject of education, both hopeless as despair itself. How many clauses of the Bankruptcy Bill might not have been discussed and passed in the time occupied by Mr Adderley before dinner, and Messrs Whiteside and Hennessy after it? The driftless talking of the House is an abuse which has of late enormously increased, is increasing, and ought to be diminished. The House of Commons, to borrow the poet's words, "takes no note of time but by its loss." When it is gone, and the session is on its lees, with few of the pledges redeemed with which it commenced, then there is always a sincere or affected lamentation for results which might have been avoided with a little common sense; and the loudest complaints come often from men who have had most to answer for by their idle babble. The talkers of the House are too many in proportion to the men of business. When will constituencies cease to commit the fatal mistake of choosing their representatives by the length of their tongues instead of by the hardness of

their heads? For a busy nation like this, and a people who think themselves above all things practical, it is marvellous what a number of men they send to Parliament who are much better qualified to adorn debating societies, or to shine as the politicians of the tea-table.

THE MOTIONS ON EDUCATION.

It is a serious mistake, and one into which public men too often fall, to consider the importance of a question an excuse for pressing it at any moment on the attention of the Legislature. Not only is this error to be deprecated as wasteful of the time of Parliament, but it is practically injurious to the principles themselves which are urged out of season. We not only willingly acknowledge the excellence of Mr Adderley's intentions, but we wish well to the principle of his Bill, which the House of Commons on Tuesday night rejected by a large majority at the stage of its second reading. The Bill provided that no child under the age of twelve should be employed in continuous labour unless he was able to read and write, or unless an undertaking was given by his employers that at least twenty hours in every month should be set apart for his instruction. As Sir George Lewis truly said, there is no valid objection to such a regulation in the abstract; the principle of it having been already adopted in the Factory Act, and more recently with respect to children employed in the mines; but no less true was another observation made by the Home Secretary, that the laws of this country are not made or extended by the process of logical generalizing. Our legislation abhors abstract principles; its character is to deal with particulars as they arise, feeling its way from one case to another, changing little at a time, but always in the right direction, or that of the very principle from which it shrinks when presented to it in what Crambo would call its logical nudity. Hence the Chancellor of the Exchequer might well compare the difficulty of Mr Adderley's undertaking, especially at this period of the session, with that of carrying another Reform Bill. The empty benches were no proof of want of interest in the subject, but only of the hopelessness and uselessness of pressing it on the House in the midst of its midsummer perplexities. The House of Commons is not a debating club, discussing all questions at all times with equal propriety and appetite. Mr Adderley's motion was out of place as well as out of time, and Mr Gladstone judiciously suggested its removal to the Social Science Association, or the Statistical Congress now sitting.

An hour having been squandered on English education early in the evening, it was perhaps only agreeable to the fitness of things that three more should be wasted on Irish education after midnight. If Mr Adderley's attempt was desperate, what shall we say of Mr Pope Hennessy's? The House having negatived a proposition to extend national instruction on this side of the Channel, the member for the King's County rose to move its extinction altogether on the other. Here was a promising motion for Parliament in its July agonies; and it is to be remembered that the question of Irish education had already been debated this very session. The Irish members, moreover, are always exclaiming that Irish questions are defrauded of their fair share of legislative attention. We have in Mr Hennessy's motion a goodly specimen of the merciful use to which they turn the hours placed at their disposal.

It was a likely thing, was it not, that the House of Commons would fling the Irish schools to the dogs at the instance of this bashful gentleman, though modesty has such a winning charm. To be sure the success of the motion would have effectually redeemed the character of the session from barrenness; but tempting as such a bait was, Mr Hennessy might just as well have moved the repeal of the Union, and consequently the discussion which he provoked, with Mr Whiteside's assistance, was nothing but an unjustifiable killing of precious time. How often are we not tempted to wish that Time would for once use his scythe in his own defence, and revenge himself on his murderers.

Evil, however, comes out of good, so, as some hours were to be dissipated, the Chief Secretary for Ireland took care to save something for the public out of the waste. Mr Cardwell delivered a speech which must have made the assailants of the schools wish that they had not imposed the duty of speaking upon him. The system alleged to be a failure he proved to be triumphant beyond all experiments of the kind in this or any other country. He exhibited its progress and prosperity in contrast with all the obstacles it has had to overcome; tested its success by every criterion; showed it steadily gaining on the confidence and affections of the public; its roots always sinking deeper; its branches always spreading and bearing increase of fruit; he detailed the machinations against it, ultra-Protestant and ultra-Catholic, and demonstrated how they had come to naught. Its conspicuous merits had always been winning it new friends, and in many signal instances from among those who had been its sternest opponents. Not long ago the venerable Primate of Ireland, after resisting it for a quarter of a century, had acknowledged his error and even pleaded its cause in the diocese which he had so often marshalled against it. The Duke of Manchester has avowed his intention to be guided by Archbishop Beresford, since the publication of whose letter twenty-eight clergymen of the Established Church have applied to the Board to have their schools placed under its auspices. And, most remarkable conversion of all, only the other day the late

Irish Chancellor, Mr Joseph Napier himself, than whom no man had served more zealously or efficiently in the ranks of opposition, has laid down his well-battered arms. Perhaps when Mr Whiteside has retired in his turn from the representation of Dublin University, he also may find leisure to reconsider the educational question, with perhaps other facilities for coming to the right conclusion.

In figures Mr Cardwell's case was equally remarkable. The mere absolute number of children blessed with instruction by the National Schools, might itself disarm animosity. The man incurs an awful responsibility who, to serve any purpose, or gratify any party or any constituency, attacks a scheme of public instruction that sheds its inestimable benefits on 570,000 of the rising generation. Such is now the gigantic stature of this institution, which commenced in 1833 with little more than 100,000 pupils. Where is there any development of an educational system to compare with this result? But Mr Cardwell challenges every test, and in the following passage subjects it to the most trying of all.

Do you know any country in the world the education of which will bear a comparison like the one to which I am about to expose that of Ireland? Taking the whole population of Ireland at 6,000,000, you will find, according to the calculations usually made, that one-fourth of that entire number will consist of young persons between the ages of five and fifteen, or about 1,500,000 of the Irish population. If you take one-half of that number as the *bona fide* proportion of pupils attending school you will still keep close to the calculations commonly made in such cases. Now, notwithstanding the discouragement this system has had to encounter, not the least of which is the unfortunate opposition it has long experienced from those whom the right hon. gentleman has declared himself specially to represent, and who have had under their care a number of pupils not far short of, and sometimes even exceeding 100,000, you find that Ireland presents the remarkable fact that you have a population now under education nearly corresponding with that which you would expect by the ordinary calculation to be in attendance at school. Remembering, too, that all this is due to a system established only thirty years ago upon the failure of preceding systems, which for nearly an equal period had been striving with all the power and wisdom of the State to promote national education in Ireland, I think it cannot be—I believe it will not be—denied that it does present, upon the whole, one of the most gratifying instances of success to be found in the history of public instruction.

To prove how victorious the system has been over the most violent and systematic hostility, Mr Cardwell took the year 1853, the period of the Synod of Thurles, and showed how the schools have prospered since that date, notwithstanding all the denunciations of an assembly held expressly to put them down. He showed also that every province of Ireland, and every religious denomination, fairly participated in the general boon. The greatest number of pupils was in Ulster, where they were 189,000; the smallest in Connaught, where they were 84,000. To the Roman Catholics, of course, for obvious reasons, the lion's share of the benefits fall. The schools contain 478,000 children of the popular persuasion. Since the blue book of 1853, the increase of Roman Catholic pupils has been 54,000, this, while Ultramontaniam has been most rampant; the increase of Presbyterian children 19,000, and of pupils belonging to the Established Church, 4,400.

But these facts being undeniable, it is still contended that as a mixed system of education the National Schools have failed, and in dealing with this part of the case Mr Cardwell has been particularly successful. He shows that with respect to mixture the system has had all the success that any statesman had a right to expect; and he shows also (which is a point that has never before been so well handled), that there are great advantages arising from the schools being founded on the mixed principle, even though in practice the contemplated fusion of persuasions may not always take place to the extent desired.

But it is said—and the right hon. gentleman dwelt very earnestly on this part of the case, while the hon. and learned mover even thought it too manifest to condescend to adduce proof in support of the assertion—it is said, "You may have a widely distributed education, but you have totally failed in establishing a mixed system." Now, is it true that it has failed as a mixed system? In the first place, I differ from the right hon. gentleman, who thinks you attain no important end if you offer to a people a system of instruction which is in its nature really mixed. For what is an exclusive system, but one in which the tendency of each individualized and particular opinion is to grow and develop in the particular school, whereas in a system like that established in Ireland there is a tendency, by giving the same education, from the same books, to enlarge the general nature of the whole, to expand its principles, and produce a disposition even in pupils who may have been trained in different schools to mix in after life in the business and intercourse of society with greater facilities, greater freedom, and mutual adaptation, and with greater advantage to the public. But the case does not stop there. Where the population is not mixed of course the attendance at school is not mixed. And as in large parts of Ireland there is no mixture of the population, and as where there is there have been other schools maintained for the express benefit of the minority, who have naturally been attracted to them, of course it is not to be expected that the statistics should exhibit any great and favourable result in respect of mixed education. But if you examine the figures you will find that in Ulster, where the mixture of the population is greatest, eighty-four per cent. of the schools are mixed schools; in Leinster the proportion is forty-one per cent.; in Munster thirty-four per cent.; and in Connaught forty-nine per cent. Could anybody, then, looking to all the obstacles with which the system has had to contend, have anticipated a larger measure of success than that which has really been attained?

We hope to see Mr Cardwell's very able speech printed in another form, as most speeches require where the effect of the argument depends in many places upon figures and their correctness. His *ad-hominem* replies to Mr Whiteside were particularly happy. In what character does he, of all men, asked Mr Cardwell, come forward as the opponent of the National Schools? "He filled with honour" to himself the office of Attorney-General for Ireland under "the Government of Lord Derby. Is it in that capacity" he seeks to subvert a system with which the name of "Lord Derby will be for ever associated? Or does he" make the attempt as the representative of the University

"of Dublin? If so, I shall refer him to pamphlets and letters published by tutors and eminent members of that body, stating that the principle of the National Board has been for more than a century the principle of Trinity College itself!" Of the authorities to which Mr Cardwell alluded, he confined himself to quoting one, the recent public recantation of Mr Napier, than which the political literature of Ireland has hardly ever produced a greater curiosity, or a more gratifying performance.

THE CAMPBELL IS COME.

Covered with honours and distinctions, as well earned as were ever won by a British commander, Lord Clyde has returned to England, and the nation receives him with its heartiest welcome. The country wishes it had but one hand that all might share in the energetic greeting which the great soldier and successful general will accept from a few as the representatives of all. We rejoice to hear that his vigorous constitution has gone through its last and severest trial, tried by care and responsibility more than climate, with little more change than a browner cheek and a few additional grey hairs. May he long live the ornament of peace as he has been the bulwark of war, and a prudent counsellor at home after sustaining our honour and empire abroad. Here, at least, is one English general who has not been rewarded beyond his deserts, though in station he cannot be advanced higher, and he returns with a fortune proportioned to his rank. In these days, when honours and more substantial things have been so often in the inverse ratio of merit, especially in the profession of arms, it is gratifying to record this illustrious exception. In welcoming Lord Clyde to the repose which he has purchased by three years of toil, probably as severe and unremitting as was ever endured by the head of an army, we are aware that the repose of a man of such activity cannot possibly consist in a cessation of duty. He comes back, we have no doubt, to be useful in England as he was indispensable in India; and in our present state of armed peace, only too likely to be of long continuance, the addition of his cool head, strong sense, and great experience will be a most valuable reinforcement both to the councils of the army and the Government. To the youth of the country, in every walk of life, as well as in the career of Lord Clyde's adoption, we could not possibly point out a nobler or more encouraging example; a man self-raised, self-advanced, and self-distinguished, who has attained the summit of public distinction, not with the help of fortune's wings, or even any flight of what is commonly called genius, but by the arduous path hewn out with his own hands, by the mastery of his profession, by industry, perseverance, fidelity to duty, and the wise use of the times and opportunities that come to all, but which only the few grapple by the forelock.

MANCHESTER versus THE RIGHT HONOURABLE JAMES WILSON.

Not content with provoking the hostility of all Hindustan by the infliction of his "three tremendous taxes," Mr Wilson has the still greater temerity to provoke Manchester by a palpable assault on free trade. Manchester, so long as it confines itself to what it understands, and abstains from reckoning on a supply of cotton from the naked savages of Africa, is a formidable foe, and we will venture to predict that in the long run it will overthrow the right honourable gentleman who is now engaged in the unenviable task of stultifying the declarations and principles of his past political life.

As soon as we heard of Mr Wilson's taxation of the cotton manufactures of England, we denounced it as contrary to both policy and principle, and we now return to the subject more in detail. The tax imposed by the Indian Government, under the inspiration of its new finance minister, is ten per cent. on the value. This, however, is not on the invoice price or English value, but on the local price—that is, on the cost of the commodity in India charged with freights, profits, and expenses. Even this is not all, for the value on which the duty is levied is estimated at the highest rate which cottons had attained at a moment when the market was understocked which is now glutted. The actual tax at present levied is probably not less than an *ad valorem* duty of double the amount of the nominal impost.

New, a tax on the manufactures of one portion of an Empire in another portion may be expedient for the purpose of raising a revenue, and is simply a tax on consumption. Such is the case in our American and Australian colonies. But the matter is very different when the country in which the tax is imposed is itself a producer both of the raw material and manufactured article, and this is the case throughout all India. A fair import duty could exist here only by imposing an excise of corresponding amount on the home manufacture. Unless this be done, the whole amount of the import duty becomes a protecting one to the home manufacture.

An import duty on British cotton fabrics did exist under the Government of the East India Company, originally limited by statute to 2½ per cent. on the value. So long as the English manufacturers had only to compete with Hindu looms and Hindu distaffs, this impost although against principle, was endurable. This is, however, no longer the case, especially when the impost is multiplied, even by Mr Wilson's own showing, five-fold. English machinery,

with English capital and English superintendence, has been largely set up in India, with all the advantages of low-priced labour and a raw material on the spot, fit for the manufacture of the staple fabrics of Indian consumption. In short, a competitor with the English manufacturer under a British government has been created with a handsome protection. Against this the English manufacturer has to contend with fearful odds. The raw material, the lowest in quality and consequently the most costly in transport of any article of its class, has to be conveyed to him by a miserable land journey of from 100 up to 500 miles, and by a sea voyage never less than 12,000, while the manufactured article has to be sent to the consumer by the same length of transport.

The policy which we are pursuing in this case is exactly the same which we deprecate as injurious and narrow-minded on the part of America, but out of which has, however, sprung a strong, coarse, and durable manufacture which finds its way to all the markets of the world, and more especially to those of India and China, to compete with our own. In due course a similar factitious manufacture will acquire importance in India, and then our export of cotton manufactures to that country, which, in 1858, amounted to better than ten millions (10,235,076*l.*), will be reduced to a few fine fabrics, which cannot be made from the inferior cotton of India.

If the import duty on cotton is to be persevered in, the only fair course to pursue will be to impose a corresponding excise tax on yarn and tissues made with English machinery, leaving the Hindu looms and distaffs free as before. Otherwise, we shall be pursuing the very same course as if we had allowed the Irish agriculturists to grow tobacco with a bounty of 3*s.* a pound, or the English to make beet-sugar without payment of the sugar duty, to both of which ambitious but not honest speculations we put a stop by Acts of Parliament. We advise Mr Wilson to make peace with Manchester and his own political conscience by the abolition of the duty on twist and piece-goods.

THE CABINET AND THE LORD MAYOR.

The table-talk at the Mansion House on Wednesday was diversified with a pleasant discussion on the relative labours of her Majesty's Ministers and the Lord Mayor. The question was raised by the great Ventripotent himself, who, however, while he made a bitter complaint of the severity of his own toils, had the courtesy to add that "they were not to be compared with the labour imposed on the Prime Minister and his colleagues." This was sheer modesty, of course, on the part of "mine host;" and Lord Palmerston, while not inferior in politeness, probably hit the exact truth in declaring that "it would be difficult to decide which of the two, himself or the Lord Mayor, led the most laborious lives." Different as the toils of the dinner-table are from those of the council-board, we can easily understand that the former may be as arduous as the latter. It is easy also to see that there may be the same sacrifice of health in the dinner-service and service of the public; the stomach in one place, the head in the other, suffering alike in the discharge of duty. The prejudicial influences of excessive mental exertion on the health of her Majesty's Ministers were touchingly alluded to by the Lord Mayor, who was much too high-minded and urbane to dwell on his own corresponding griefs. It was left for Lord Palmerston to return the sympathies of the Mansion House with those of Downing Street, and we need hardly say that no man living can give sentiment for sentiment with a better grace. His lordship observed—

When the Lord Mayor adverts to the noxious influences which our avocations may have on our health, I beg leave to say there might be a course of life suggested to me by the entertainment now before us which might be still more deleterious; and that would be if every day of the week, every week of the month, and every month of the year, we were to indulge in the same splendid and luxurious repasts as that of which we have just partaken. It is the abstinence which we are compelled to practise which enables us to get through our work.

On the other hand, the gormandizing which the Lord Mayor of London is equally "compelled to practise" is itself his work; it not merely enables him to get through his business, but it is his business, and one which we much doubt if Lord Palmerston would accept in exchange for his own, although a moment before he had equalled the labours of his post with those of his entertainer. This, we fancy, is one of those cases where Horace's rule is at fault, that no man is content with his lot in life. Lord Palmerston is content with his fame and position, at the price of his head-work. The Lord Mayor, we venture to say, has no wish whatever to sacrifice his substantial turtle and venison for any amount of glory to be purchased by dining on a mutton chop.

After an interchange of compliments and sympathies, the Prime Minister did not lose the opportunity of addressing a few words to an audience beyond the horizon of the feast. They were important enough to claim the greatest prominence we can give them, and we, therefore, insert them here.

It has sometimes been the fashion to say that commerce enervates the mind of a nation; that it destroys the manly vigour to be found in nations not commercial. The history of the world is full of examples which demonstrate the fallacy of that opinion; and if any further proof to the contrary were wanting, that proof was supplied in the present year, when we saw 130,000 of the youth of this nation, most of them engaged in commercial pursuits, all of them employed in the civil avocations of life, submitting to privations and labours to which their previous habits had not accustomed them, and devoting all the energies with which nature has endowed them to the defence

of their native land. I think, ladies and gentlemen, that this is the noblest spectacle ever exhibited in any nation of the world. Precedents are not wanting where nations, when danger imminently threatens, when the enemy is knocking at their gates, have risen like one man, and, tearing themselves away from everything that constitutes the pleasures, enjoyments, and business of civil life, have prepared to shed their blood in the defence of their common country. But this is not an instance of that kind. It is said that the lion of the forest snuffs danger from afar, and prepares for resistance; and so it has been with the youth of England. An instinctive feeling has possessed them that circumstances might arise which would show that the means of defence previously existing were perhaps not equal to the emergency, and with a spirit almost prophetic—though I trust the prophecy may not be accomplished in an evil sense—they have proved their manly energy by arraying themselves in the numbers I have already stated, which, if there were need, could be doubled, trebled, or even quadrupled. It is an old saying that to preserve peace you should be prepared for war. Now, that is both true and untrue. It is untrue if it be meant that a nation assuming an aggressive attitude should create larger military and naval establishments than are necessary for its defence, and which, being evidently intended for encroachment on its neighbours, excite suspicion, distrust, and alarm. Instead of affording a security for peace, they are more likely to be a provocation to war. But far different is it when a nation acts as we are doing, and contents itself with possessing such an army and making such preparations as are necessary for simple defence, abjuring, not only by words, but by its conduct, all aggressive designs on others. I say that such preparations for a contest purely defensive constitute the best guarantee for peace. I trust we shall long continue to enjoy that security, and be in a situation to declare that peace we will have; because he who attacks us will rue the day when he made the attempt. What I have now said I hope will be taken in its proper sense, and viewed as a compliment to that noble body of Volunteers, who, I maintain, may be regarded as most active and valuable members of the Peace Society.

The public has not yet learned the nature of the Ministerial proposals founded on the Report of the Fortification Commission; but has not Lord Palmerston in the above eloquent and stirring passage indicated the true line of fortifications for our shores? Have we not the best as well as cheapest defence of the nation in the array which his lordship has so well described and extolled, and of which he so truly says, that it would be instantly trebled or quadrupled on the slightest hint of need? If a force like this has been displayed when "the lion has only snuffed danger from afar," what would be its dimensions were the scent strong in his nostrils? The true line of defence behind the wooden wall is the line of our young blood bristling with the bayonet and rifle. "Better a castle of bones than a castle of stones," as the stout old Irish chieftain of the Ardes was wont to say, when other men of his time were surrounding themselves with meats and ramparts.

NEGRO INFERIORITY.

A favourite dogma of the advocates of slavery is the inferiority of the negro, whom they place in the chain of the creation between the monkey and the white man. A Judge Thomas, of Georgia, bears a remarkable piece of testimony against this doctrine. He has lost a slave; the man, in the most literal sense of the word, has taken himself off, run away; and the judge advertises, offering a reward for his recovery. There is no want of appreciation in this case. Judge Thomas does not rate his lost negro Ben as a step above the ourang-outang. He describes him as "exceedingly intelligent, and a first-rate mechanic, equal, and, I think, surpasses any man in the State, white or black." So much for the intelligence of which the negro is capable. As to qualities, Judge Thomas says of Ben, "His character heretofore has been spotless." The man's first and only fault has thus been taking possession of himself. The Judge gives a list of the articles Ben has carried off, but the main property is his own black body. The Judge concludes his advertisement as follows:

From his former good character he could easily impose upon many of my friends, either to take him in charge or to put him on the cars. He went off with a black moustache, but, from his intelligence, I doubt not he will cut them off.

We should like to see Ben's account of his late master given with the same frankness. It would probably shake the title to mastery on the score of intellectual and moral superiority.

THE OFFENCE OF READING PRAYERS INSTEAD OF SINGING.

Mr Elliott, of the Thames Police-court, has come to a very startling decision in the case of Mr Rosier, charged with disturbing the service in St George's-in-the-East.

He was of opinion that every rector or incumbent of a church or chapel had a right to prescribe the mode of celebrating Divine service, and whether it should be a choral service, or otherwise. If a clergyman thought fit to order that the responses should be sung, and people read the responses in a loud voice, to prevent the singing of them, as directed by the minister, that was an offence within the meaning of the act. He was of opinion the defendant and others, by reading the responses loudly, wished to prevent the singing, and did disturb, vex, and trouble the minister. He fined the defendant 3*l.*

Everybody cannot sing, and because a man has not a voice for tune is he to be denied the part in the service which his devotional spirit and religious duty dictate? Is he not to be permitted to respond to the supplications because he cannot respond in certain notes of the gamut? Why, it will next be ruled, under the same principle, that a man is punishable for singing out of tune in church. Half a note flat or sharp will be a case for a fine of 3*l.*

Mr Elliott was of opinion that reading the responses loudly was proof of the wish to prevent the singing, but is it not quite possible that a man may deliver the responses loudly from a habit formed before Puseyite usages were introduced? Sir Roger de Coverley would certainly be fined if he were to rise from the *Spectator*, and wander into

St George's-in-the-East. We are glad to see that there is to be an appeal against Mr Elliott's decision, which is in diametrical opposition to the more sensible judgment of Mr Selfe.

LET WELL ALONE.

It was admitted by Mr Cowper, in reply to the deputation that waited on him on Thursday to remonstrate against the annexation of Kensington Gardens to Rotten Row, that "no representation had been made to him, either public or private, that equestrians required further accommodation." He had made the new road on the principle of giving "pleasure to all classes." But all classes were pleased with the old arrangements, except, perhaps, a few of the equestrians, whose dissatisfaction must have been slight, since not a murmur reached the Minister. We have heard of "the whisper of a faction," but there was not so much as a whisper here. Would it not be a good official rule in matters of this kind to wait for the expression of discontent? General silence does not prove that everything is perfect, but it is a tolerably fair warning against alterations always difficult to make with equal gratification and comfort to all parties. That Mr Cowper intended to increase everybody's enjoyments, we have not the least doubt; nor that he thought people generally would approve of his plan; but he now sees his mistake, and confesses his surprise on receiving a memorial from fifteen hundred inhabitants of the districts north and south of the invaded gardens. That the ride in Rotten Row is a daily delight to hundreds of pedestrians is very true, but thousands might enjoy the same pleasure, without any extension of the ride, if both sides of it were equally accommodated with walks and seats for their use. And if the ride requires prolongation, there are other ways, surely, to solve the problem, without trespassing on grounds hitherto exclusively devoted to pedestrians, and the charm and value of which to the majority of those who frequent them consists in their quiet, secluded, and sylvan character. There was no intention, we believe, to favour the public on horseback at the expense of the public on foot; but the former interest has been favoured at the expense of the latter, and this ought not to be done, even if it were more difficult than it can possibly be to gratify the gay chivalry of London with a longer course. We trust that Mr Cowper will see in the strong appeal that has now been made to him from the pedestrian world sufficient reason for retracing his steps. It will be time enough to resume his project, when he receives deputations equally numerous, and memorials equally strong, complaining that Kensington Gardens want a ride and a drive to complete their attractions.

The Week.

Fitly to inaugurate the new Constitution blood has been shed at Naples. On the evening of the 15th a collision took place between the people and the Royal Guard, provoked by the latter, who, while they shouted "The King for ever!" cried "Down with the Constitution!" In the conflict several of the inhabitants were killed and fifty wounded. The new Ministry, believing that this outrage was sanctioned by the King, sent in their resignations, all except M. de Martino: an assurance, however, on the part of his Majesty, that he viewed the conduct of the Royal Guards with extreme displeasure, caused them to resume their posts. The latest despatches from Naples state that the Royal Guard have been removed from the city, and the duties of the other troops entrusted to the National Guard. A strict investigation has been instituted with reference to the events of the 15th, and affairs, on the whole, seem favourable for the King and the present Ministry. From Sicily the news indicates an immediate attack on Messina, Garibaldi, at the head of 3,000 men, having effected a junction with the forces of Colonel Medici on the 14th, while on the following day the Neapolitan General Bosco sallied forth from Messina with 4,000 men and three guns, taking the direction of Barcellona, and marching, we presume, to his discomfiture.

By the official accounts transmitted to the French Government we find that additional massacres have taken place in Syria. On the 9th of this month the city of Damascus was attacked by the Druses, and 500 Christians are said to have perished. The Consulates, with the exception of the English, were burnt down, the Turkish authorities having shown themselves unable or unwilling to put a stop to the massacres, and French intervention is now openly spoken of, though not yet officially announced. General Trochu, the French Envoy Extraordinary, has left Paris for Syria, and it is reported that he is immediately to be followed by a division of the army of Lyons.

From India we learn that the prompt recall of Sir C. Trevelyan by the Home Government has produced the most beneficial effect; the success of the Income-tax Bill is reported as certain.

In the House of Lords, on Monday, Lord Clanricarde, in moving for certain papers connected with the Treaty of 1815, respecting the military boundary of Nice and Savoy, referred to the approaching Conference, and expressed a strong desire that the British Government should obtain from France some assurance that the principle of annexation, as sanctioned by the Treaty of Turin, should not be carried further. Lord Wodehouse thought this step inexpedient, while at the same time he concurred in the principle laid down by Lord Clanricarde, and stated that the

Government were ready to support the independence of Switzerland. Lord Stratford de Redcliffe said he felt no confidence in the results of the proposed Conference. The motion was agreed to. On Tuesday the fact of excluding coloured passengers from the society of white ones on board the Cunard steamers, which we described last week, was adverted to by Lord Brougham, and Lord Granville stated in reply, while he regretted that such should be the case, that Government had no power to interfere. Lord Wodehouse subsequently confirmed the intelligence relating to the massacre of Christians at Damascus. On Thursday, in an elaborate speech, very temperately argued, Lord Derby called attention to the mode of conducting the public business of the House, the gist of his observations being to the effect that so many Bills were sent up to the Lords by the Commons every session which could not possibly be passed; he accordingly proposed a select committee on the subject. Lord Granville concurred in a great degree with what Lord Derby had said, but did not think that Lord Derby's proposal would meet the acknowledged difficulty. The motion was consequently withdrawn.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer's plan for making provision to meet the expenditure already voted on account of the war in China was the principal feature of the proceedings of the House of Commons on Monday. After employing the sum derivable from the Paper Duty of the present year, which amounted to 700,000*l.*, he stated that it was his intention to meet the balance of 2,336,000*l.*, which remained to be provided for, by raising a million through an immediate duty of 1*s.* 11*d.* per gallon on ardent spirits, and by taking the remainder from the balance in the Exchequer. Progress was then made in committee on the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Bill.—On Tuesday the House rejected the Education Bill, the object of which was to provide that children under twelve years of age should not be employed in continuous labour unless they were able to read or write, or unless an undertaking was given that they would be educated for at least twenty hours in the week. The majority against the second reading was 122 to 51. A motion by Mr Butt for an address to the Crown on the question of National Education in Ireland was opposed by the Government, and negatived by 196 to 62. Lord Fermoy then moved that the rejection by the House of Lords of the Bill for the Repeal of the Paper Duties was an encroachment on the rights and privileges of the House of Commons, and it was therefore incumbent upon the House to adopt a practical measure for the vindication of its rights and privileges. Lord Palmerston urged that it was not desirable, after the resolution which had been come to, again to raise this important question. The Chancellor of the Exchequer also thought the motion was inopportune as well as indefinite, and the debate ended in the adoption of "the previous question" by a majority of 177 to 138, the motion being consequently lost.—On Wednesday the Coroners' Bill was read a second time, and the adjourned debate on the Metropolis Local Management Act Amendment Bill ended in its being committed.—When the amendment by Mr Henley on the 152nd clause of the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Bill (which treated of the question of traders and non-traders) came on for consideration on Thursday, the Attorney-General announced that, with the approbation of the Government, he proposed to withdraw the Bill, as it was hopeless to suppose that by the time it had passed through Committee the House of Lords could have time to discuss it. The Attorney-General's announcement was received with approbation by the House. The London Corporation Bill was also withdrawn. A motion by Sir C. Napier on the recommendation contained in the Report of the Commission on Greenwich Hospital, drew from Lord C. Paget the assurance that the Government would consider the Report during the recess, with a view to carry it into effect in the manner that was best for the public service. Yesterday, at the morning sitting, the Savings' Banks and Friendly Societies Bill was withdrawn in consequence of the first clause, which involved the principle of the Bill, being rejected. In the evening Lord J. Russell stated that he had made representations to foreign governments in favour of a reduction of the duty on the export of foreign rags, but he had not in any instance been successful. There was no likelihood of any concession from France. Amongst numerous miscellaneous subjects, the Home Secretary stated that the Government had resolved to renew the patent of the Queen's printer, so far as relates to the printing of the Bible. The Maynooth College Bill, opposed, of course, by Mr Spooner, was read a second time.

The meeting of the Statistical Congress, under the Presidency of the Prince Consort; the resolute resistance opposed to the recent encroachment on Kensington Gardens; the conviction of Mr W. H. Leatham, at the York Assizes, for corrupt practices at the late Wakefield election; the Orange outrage at Derrymacash on the 12th inst.; the arrangement by which the Rev. Bryan King withdraws for at least a twelvemonth from the parish of St George's in the East; the distress of the Coventry silk weavers; and the success of the Volunteer sham fight last Saturday, are the principal matters of domestic occurrence during the present week. Some light has been thrown on the mysterious murder at Roade, in Wiltshire, by the arrest and examination of Miss Constance Kent, one of the half sisters of the murdered child. She has been remanded till next Friday, and sent in the meantime to Devizes gaol.

At Kew Gardens, the roses on each side of the grand promenade are now in full flower; the orange and lemon trees are also in blossom; an avenue of roses in that part of the garden behind the Old Museum is just now a sight highly attractive to visitors.

Correspondence.

THE HOUSEHOLD BRIGADE.

Sir,—In my last letter I ventured to call your attention to the great change that had taken place and was taking place in modern warfare, and how it seemed to me that in no branch of the military service was this so apparent as in the present use of cavalry. I endeavoured to show, and I hope successfully, that to use bodies of mounted soldiers directly to attack bodies of infantry, never an easy task, was now no longer practicable. We rejoice in our heavy dragoons, and I admit that we have such powerful athletic men mounted on active substantial horses as, I believe, are equalled by no similar troops in the world.

Take our three regiments of Life Guards, let them walk quietly to Wormwood Scrubs, and I think every military man in the country will permit me to assume that they could on that spot of ground overthrow any equal numerical force of foreign cavalry the world could produce, even encumbered with the iron pots they wear on their heads, and with the iron pans in which their stomachs and backs are encased. The Life Guards as troops were a dead failure in the Peninsula; in marching the men crushed their horses, and when the animals got thin on chopped furze for corn and the thatch of buildings for hay, sore backs knocked them up by scores, while back sinews went to pieces, and they were in a deplorable condition. They returned home a mere parcel of animated skeletons. Recruited at length, they joined the Duke of Wellington in Belgium, marched out of Brussels, came fresh on the field of Waterloo, and proved themselves much better men than the Cuirassiers of Napoleon's splendid old Guard, whom they charged and overthrew. They had no harassing duty in the march upon Paris; Wellington knew better than to set them to ride after runaway light horsemen, whom they never could catch, they had short marches and good provender, and returned to England at the end of the war not much the worse for wear. The moment H.R.H. the Duke of York, then Commander-in-Chief, got them safe again at Knightsbridge, unmindful of all Acts of Parliament for punishing cruelty to animals, ignoring the well-attested fact that when our brave fellows were going down to battle with the French Cuirassiers, instead of seeking a cover for their less protected persons, many of them threw away their helmets and stripped off their jackets, engaging the enemy in their shirt sleeves. Deaf and blind to such a lesson, the Commander-in-Chief bound up our giants in iron garments, and added to the weight which had already so fatally oppressed their horses in the Spanish campaign. If your readers wish to behold the fruits of this egregious blunder, let them attend either of the regiments of the Household Brigade at their field-days at Wormwood Scrubs, and note the miserable plight in which the horses return to their barracks in London, from sheer exhaustion and the impossibility of their bearing the monstrous burden of giants y'clad in steel, wearing enormous boots, with a ton of iron in their swords and carbines; in addition to which each poor brute carries a prodigiously heavy saddle, and swelters in sheepskin. I revere the memory of Richard Cœur de Lion, that "mirror of knighthood." I have a great opinion of John of Gaunt. I take a great interest in those adventurous warriors who were smothered to death by the weight and heat of their armour, in *gentle passages of arms*, in the days of chivalry; I even tolerate the men in brass and iron armour, who ride before our Lord Mayor's carriage, and who are supposed to perpetuate the glories and breathe the spirit of William Walworth; and I have the greatest respect for our present Household Brigade. I cannot, however, look upon them as modern soldiers, but as curious relics of the olden time, fossil remains of the past, just as much out of place in the present year of our Lord, as would be one of Prince Rupert's troopers, with his buff coat, jack boots, and petronel. Well, I hear it said, but for the Life Guards what toys would the Duke of Cambridge and the Prince Consort have to play at soldier with, in the shape of cavalry, when great foreign princes visit her Majesty at Windsor? I really cannot answer such a question directly, but reply, surely let her Majesty have a well got up *Cent Gardes*, but don't keep a whole brigade, short though their numbers be, merely for show. I can remember the time when the Life Guards were excellent infantry as well as cavalry, when they carried a long fusil not quite so large as brown Bess in the bore, nor so heavy, they had cocked hats and extensive pig-tails; but let me tell you that these long fusils, cocked hats, and pig-tails were preferable to the short carbine, helmets, and load of armour worn at present, and with that ancient equipment the men would have been far more formidable to an enemy. At present the carbine with which these magnificent men are armed is a weapon which everybody knows to be useless, but to prevent the possibility of it being used they wear a breast-plate which entirely renders their placing it against their shoulders impossible. The French do not arm their Cuirassiers with the carbine, but with the horse pistol. If we must have men in armour their proper weapon is the heaviest revolver pistol. At present the French are reported to be re-drilling their light cavalry, and arming them with a rifle. If we are not to arm our Household Cavalry with a revolver pistol, then, I say, arm them with the rifle as Horse Grenadiers, off with their iron pots and pans, and dress, drill, and accoutre them accordingly. I do not pretend to dictate, Sir, far from it, how these household troops should be dealt with, I merely throw out suggestions; but as our army is small, so ought it to be the more perfect, nor ought we to leave those gallant fellows to be sneered at as are her Majesty's Beaufetiers, commonly called Beefeaters, our yeomanry cavalry, or any other obsolete and useless body of armed men.

Mouths without arms maintain'd at vast expense,
Useless in peace, in war a weak defence!

It is for experienced military men, fresh in intellect and still capable of service, to point out how we are to redeem our noble fellows from the ancient pipe-clay with which they are besmeared, and to place them in a position to vindicate their high renown and maintain their well-earned fame. I hope that public attention may be roused to this subject, and that a just and much needed reform may follow. If not, you will very soon find the Household Brigade shunned by those who seek to distinguish themselves in the army, as a service at

once expensive and gone by. With each succeeding hour the feeling that we are paying for an unserviceable corps must gain ground, and our brave men will consequently decline in public estimation. This is a state of things which ought not to exist. We owe more respect to a corps of gallant men who are the victims of pipe-clay and red-tape, and who, if relieved from that intolerable visitation, may be made useful as well as ornamental, and become a powerful defence to their country. CAVETO.

KENSINGTON GARDENS.

Sir,—I beg very earnestly to call your attention to the extension of Rotten Row through the most secluded part of Kensington Gardens, a piece of work scarcely yet a week old.

Surely, unless we intend the "upper ten thousand" to ride rough-shod over our heads, it does behove the representatives of the people, whether in the Senate or the Press, jealously to watch and resolutely to withstand such encroachments. It would almost seem as if at the present moment the aristocracy were visited with judicial blindness, so wilfully do they appear to tempt their own fate by trying to the very utmost the patience and forbearance of the English people.

Is it, I ask, by those who spend nine months of the year amidst the loveliest scenes of nature, and many of whom refuse to the passing stranger even a glimpse of their magnificent retreats, that the relief and relaxation of our few quiet spots is most urgently needed? Or by the true Londoners, compelled, whether they will or no, all the year round, to earn their bread amid the smoke, and bustle, and din of our great city—compelled in it to rear their children, whose very lives depend so much on fresh air, and to thousands of whom Kensington Gardens has been hitherto the one safe outlet, the one oasis in the desert, the one substitute for country life?

Already is the deed done; already, as in the parable of old, has the rich man seized on the poor man's lamb. It remains for us to say whether he shall be suffered to retain it, or rather to insist on its immediate surrender, ere he proceed to claim it as his own. So at least the case appears to me, and I have confidence that you for one will protest against such a grievous wrong. A CONSTANT READER.

THE LITERARY EXAMINER.

Lucile. By Owen Meredith, Author of 'The Wanderer,' 'Clytemnestra,' etc. Chapman and Hall.

Three narrative poems have appeared during the season now closing, namely, *Lucile*, by the writer signing himself Owen Meredith, *Virginia's Hand*, by Miss Power, and *A Man's Heart*, by Dr Mackay. Of the numerous volumes of minor poetry few have risen above the monotony of undistinguished cleverness; two or three, however, including Mr Stigant's *Vision of Barbarossa*, have been worth reserving for a word of welcome. Add to the list the poem of *St Stephen's*, some of Mrs Browning's poems on Italy, and the new matter in Mr Landor's *Hellenics*, and in this branch of literature the chief gains of the season are enumerated. But the gain is great that includes a work like *Lucile*, rich in the overflow of a luxuriant fancy, and more than any of its author's former works, ripe with a sense of what is true in character and life.

Until the book has been read fairly through, however, its right to the praise of truth may appear somewhat questionable. The story is defined, at the close of its first part, as a drama in which the actors are the Heart and the World. It is

The chant of man's heart, with its ceaseless endeavour;
As old as the song which the sea sings for ever.

It is the author's purpose, in the earlier portion of the poem, to show under the conventionalities of the world of fashion hearts panting and pining; and, perhaps inseparable from such a plan, there are many indications at the outset of a feeling not altogether sound or true. It is not until we have advanced far enough to enter into the whole spirit of the design, in spite of some fine strains of healthy feeling which should serve to re-assure us, that we find it easy to be quite free from distrust. Everybody is a demonstrator of his or her own moral anatomy. *Lucile*, while we know her only as a fascinating French widow, with the lover of her youth engaged to marry some one else, and falling into difficult relations of the heart with her, as well as into difficult social relations with the polished and worldly Duke who is her suitor, suggests an old French friend whom we perpetually meet in comedy and novel, and do not greatly esteem. When *Lucile* says

I have burn'd out within me the fuel of life.
Wherefore lingers the flame? Rest is sweet after strife.
I would sleep for awhile. I am weary.

and when the hero and his innocent wife are represented as having

Grown weary ere half thro' the journey of life,
we are tempted to feel in the poem what its author condemns in a society without freshness of enjoyment:

—Wherever we turn, and whatever we do,
Still, that horrible sense of the déjà connu!

So, when *Lucile* reappears in the second part of the poem, we are told that under her pale beauty

There yawn'd an insatiate void, and there heaved
A tumult of restless regrets unrelieved.

—but we read on and the void is filled, the restless regrets are still for ever. The hearts of the young husband and wife, prematurely old and weary, become fresh and warm again; the conventional Duke, gay leader of fashion outwardly, and inwardly moral volcano, becomes through honest work and noble suffering a hero; and in *Lucile* herself, developed with all the riches of the author's feeling and fancy, we have his highest and purest embodiment of intellect and virtue. First subduing her own nature, she

is content to spend all the treasures of her life and genius in offices of well doing, and from the heart of a woman thoroughly true and good, and ever ready for self-sacrifice, she finally diffuses health and strength into the hearts of all around her. Her story, told with a wealth of imagery and a charm of language that only a very few poets of our century have equalled, is of a woman's conquests in their grandest sense. Her's was

The mission of genius on earth! To uplift,
Purify, and confirm by its own gracious gift,
The world in despite of the world's dull endeavour
To degrade, and drag down, and oppose it for ever.
The mission of genius: to watch and to wait,
To renew, to redeem, and to regenerate.
The mission of woman on earth! To give birth
To the mercy of Heaven descending on earth.
The mission of woman: permitted to bruise
The head of the serpent, and sweetly infuse,
Through the sorrow and sin of earth's register'd curse,
The blessing which mitigates all: born to nurse,
And to soothe, and to solace, to help and to heal
The sick world that leans on her. This was *Lucile*.

It is a story meant to tell us that

No life
Can be pure in its purpose and strong in its strife
And all life not be purer and stronger thereby.
The spirits of just men made perfect on high,
The army of martyrs who stand by the Throne
And gaze into the Face that makes glorious their own,
Know this, surely, at last. Honest love, honest sorrow,
Honest work for the day, honest hope for the morrow,
Are these worth nothing more than the hand they make weary.
The heart they have sadden'd, the life they leave dreary?
Hush! the sevenfold heavens to the voice of the Spirit
Echo: He that o'ercometh shall all things inherit.

A little too much stress may probably be laid to the last upon the weariness of life, but the true cure for it is also manfully asserted. The poem opens with such pictures of the world as might have been presented by Lord Byron, and in verse bright with a richness of fancy and a facility of expression which Byron himself has rarely surpassed; but it rises to heights of its own, when, in its later scenes, it responds to empty plaints of sentiment with a brave call to Christian duty. The lightness and persiflage of the earlier cantos, in which there is yet a lightness and vividness of touch, joined to a keenness and truth of observation and character, which we should vainly look for in any other living poet, are more than counterbalanced by the solemn feeling and earnest teaching into which the poem deepens at its close. Over the bed of the wounded and heart-broken soldier—Alfred Vargrave's son—whom she is nursing and comforting, thus *Lucile* teaches:

'Trust to me!' (His two feeble hands in her own
She drew gently.) 'Trust to me!' (she said, with soft tone):
'I am not so dead in remembrance to all
'I have died to it in this world, but what I recall
'Enough of its sorrow, enough of its trial,
'To grieve for both—save from both haply! The dial
'Receives many shades, and each points to the sun.
'The shadows are many, the sunlight is one.
'Life's sorrows still fluctuate: God's love does not.
'And His love is unchanged, when it changes our lot.
'Looking up to this light, which is common to all,
'And down to these shadows, on each side, that fall
'In time's silent circle, so various for each,
'Is it nothing to know that they never can reach
'So far, but what light lies beyond them for ever?
'Trust to me! Oh, if in this hour I endeavour
'To trace the shade creeping across the young life
'Which, in prayer till this hour, I have watch'd through in strife.
'With the shadow of death, 'tis with this faith alone,
'That, in tracing the shade, I shall find out the sun.
'Trust to me!'

As to other poets of our day, so to the author of *Lucile*, the rough trials of war are not without their healthfulness and use. His poem closes on the battle-field of the Crimea, whose heroes it apostrophizes:

And you
Whom this song cannot reach with its transient breath,
Deaf ears that are stopp'd with the brown dust of death,
Blind eyes that are dark to your own deathless glory,
Silenced hearts that are heedless to praise murmur'd o'er ye,
Sleep deep! Sleep in peace! Sleep in memory ever!
Wrapt, each soul in the deeds of its deathless endeavour,
Till that great Final Peace shall be struck through the world;
Till the stars be recall'd, and the firmament fur'd
In the dawn of a daylight undying; until
The signal of Zion be seen on the Hill
Of the Lord; when the day of the battle is done,
And the conflict with Time by Eternity won!
Till then, while the ages roll onward, thro' war,
Toil, and strife, must roll with them this turbulent star.
And man can no more exclude War, than he can
Exclude Sorrow; for both are conditions of man,
And agents of God. Truth's supreme revelations
Come in sorrow to men, and in war come to nations.
Then blow, blow the clarion! and let the war roll!
And strike steel upon steel, and strike soul upon soul,
If, in striking, we kindle keen flashes and bright
From the manhood in man, stricken thus into light.

And again, in the same wholesome strain, this doctrine is taught by *Lucile*:

'I am but a woman, and France
'Has for me simpler duties. Large hope, though, Eugène
'De Luvois, should be yours. There is purpose in pain,
'Other-wise it were devilish. I trust in my soul
'That the great master hand which sweeps over the whole
'Of this deep harp of life, if at moments it stretch
'To shrill tension some one wailing nerve, means to fetch
'Its response the truest, most stringent, and smart,
'Its pathos the purest, from out the wrung heart,
'Whose faculties, flaccid it may be, if less
'Sharply strung, sharply smitten, had failed to express
'Just the one note the great final harmony needs.
'And what best proves there's life in a heart?—that it bleeds!
'Grant a cause to remove, grant an end to attain,
'Grant both to be just, and what mercy in pain!'

We are extremely limited in our space for extract, and we have preferred to take such passages, by no means the

best in point of poetry, which most strikingly express the author's moral design and purpose. But the range of thought and feeling displayed throughout the poem is very wide. There is the lightest social raillery, there is sound and truthful satire, and there is the manliest earnestness in dealing with questions of human life. There is a full sense of the poetry of nature in the earth and sky, varying between playful garden pictures and expression of the grandeur of the mountains or the glory of the sunrise and the sunset. Nor can the writing of such a poem have failed to give to its author some of that reward of genius worthily described in the one passage more that we must find room to quote. If the reward of work were but the praise it wins, he tells us—

Thrice better, *Næra*, it were
Unregarded to sport with thine odoriferous hair,
Untroubled to lie at thy feet in the shade
And be loved, while the roses yet bloom overhead,
Than to sit by the lone hearth, and think the long thought,
A severe, sad, blind schoolmaster, envied for nought
Save the name of John Milton! For all men, indeed,
Who in some choice edition may graciously read,
With fair illustration, and erudite note,
The song which the poet in bitterness wrote,
Beat the poet, and notably beat him, in this—
The joy of the genius is theirs, whilst they miss
The grief of the man: Tasso's song—not his madness!
Dante's dreams—not his waking to exile and sadness!
Milton's music—but not Milton's blindness! . . .

Yet rise,

My Milton, and answer, with those noble eyes
Which the glory of heaven hath blinded to earth!
Say—the life, in the living it, savours of worth:
That the deed, in the doing it, reaches its aim:
That the fact has a value apart from the fame:
That a deeper delight, in the mere labour, pays
Scorn of lesser delights, and laborious days:
And Shakespeare, though all Shakespeare's writings were lost,
And his genius, though never a trace of it cross'd
Posterity's path, not the less would have dwelt
In the isle with Miranda, with Hamlet have felt
All that Hamlet hath utter'd, and haply where, pure
On its death-bed, wrong'd Love lay, have moan'd with the Moor!

Before we part from a book that contains such noble promise of another poet to our country, we may call slight attention to occasional blemishes on its surface, arising from what we cannot but hold to be a departure from the sound theory of poetical composition. Question as to the relative advantages of rhyme and blank verse in a long metrical story that demands extreme variety of expression, and has no affinity to the old ballad tales, we shall not raise; but in our belief the discussion would necessarily turn upon the same grounds taken in Dryden's time for discussion of the rhymed and unrhymed drama, and would finally be decided, as that was practically decided, against rhyme. But the essential nature of verse, rhymed or unrhymed, is the same. By providing a fixed system of pauses and modulations of the voice it ensures a place of emphasis for every emphatic word, and thus gives to expression a peculiar vigour. One of these places of emphasis is the last word in a line, and no good English poet until these days ever marred his verse by putting unessential words into this prominent position. Neither does the author of *Lucile*, as our extracts will have shown, when he puts on his singing robes; but he appears too hastily to have accepted the doctrine that a story in verse should in its lighter passages be only metrical prose, and that it can be made colloquial simply by violation of the fundamental theory of verse. This is, of course, fighting vainly against nature. The mechanism of the verse must and will make its usual emphasis, and nothing is obtained but the jar of emphasis in the wrong place by such division as

for ever at hide
And seek with our souls—

or,
thinking of those
Strange backgrounds of Raphael.

As rhymed verse gives to the last word of each line a double claim on attention, the defect here is even more to be avoided than in blank verse, to the vigour of which also it is yet always fatal.

We have probably indicated, in these few words, what may serve to intercept from this poem, for the present at least, the full acceptance and praise to which on every other ground it is entitled. Its claims are too marked and various, however, not to obtain ultimate recognition. This may come when the author shall have determined his place in poetry by more matured productions; but it will come not less surely even if he should not publish again. For *Lucile* is remarkable for what it is, and not merely for the promise it contains. We know of no such performance of surpassing merit in English verse which has not sooner or later found fit and sympathising audience.

All Round the Wrekin. By Walter White, Author of 'A Londoner's Walk to the Land's End,' &c. Chapman and Hall.

Mr Walter White, who has written some of the best English holiday books for the man who cares to take his staff and make himself familiar with English soil, having taken his readers in former years to the Land's End and the Northumberland Border, takes us now to the centre of England, and invites us to walk round the Wrekin. 'All round the Wrekin' means, in Shropshire, England at large; but in England at large, it means more particularly Shropshire. Within the space thus indicated, are old ruined abbeys to tell of the past; with coal mines, iron mines, potteries, and great iron manufactures to tell of the present; and there is fair representation, not merely of the smoke and toil through which the wealth of England comes, but also

of the delicious repose of our best landscape scenery, and of some of the quaintest phases of a genuine and hereditary provincial life. Mr White, as we have seen heretofore, is a pedestrian, resolved really to see the truth of the English land and English life he talks about. He is at no loss for want of hotel accommodation.

In my first Shropshire ramble, I turned off at Shiffnal, and walked direct to the highest part of the hill through the black district of Horse Hays and Little Wenlock, and found the climb to the summit, up the steep slopes and scree, exceedingly fatiguing. Rest is perhaps the more enjoyable combined with the beauty of scenery, and I lingered so long as to find myself benighted, and in sportsman's phrase 'dead beat,' after a descent into byeways on the opposite side. No public-house was discoverable, and I was not sorry to fall in with a haymaker, who offered me a bed. His wife was as ready to be hospitable as he, and, on our arrival at the cottage, set about preparing tea, and then while I ate, took a pair of clean brown sheets from a chest and went up stairs. Soon my bed was ready in a room of which the window was not made to open, nor the door to shut, and where under the tiles the temperature seemed stifling. I was dropping off to sleep when hearing a stealthy step, I asked, "Who's there?"

"Beg your pardon, sir, only come to lay baby down."

I had noticed a little truckle-bed at the foot of mine: baby was laid therein, and the mother crept down stairs. By-and-by the stealthy step came again, and imagining the circumstances, I said nothing: the mother came in, drew the curtains softly across the foot of my bed, pinned them together, and then lay down beside her baby. Another half-hour passed, and another stealthy step was heard, and in the dim light I saw a white figure enter, and disappear behind the curtains. And then I knew that the hospitable rustics were crowding themselves painfully that I might have their bed; and remembered their favour the next morning when accompanying my gift with a short lecture about ventilation.

The book is well written, chiefly because it is written naturally, and as the free out speaking of fresh holiday impressions.

The Nature Printed British Sea Weeds: A History, accompanied by Figures and Dissections, of the Algae of the British Isles. By William Grossart Johnstone, F.B.S.E., and Alexander Croall, A.B.S.E. Nature Printed by Henry Bradbury. In Four Volumes. Vol. IV. Chlorospermeæ. Bradbury and Evans.

This volume of Chlorospermeæ completes the beautiful series of Mr Henry Bradbury's Nature Printed British Sea Weeds, the best pictures of algae extant. It is a treasure to the naturalist's library, because it brings the wealth of the sea-shore itself into the study, and it is a library in itself to the holiday keeper who will be hunting the sands of his watering-place during the next month or two. The text, in as far as it is scientific, is trustworthy, and close to its purpose; and the preface abundantly justifies the authors for not having attempted to popularize the information they were giving. It was not only the last thing they ought to have done, but, as the popular writing of the preface shows, the last thing they were able to do well. Excellent little essays on the geographical distribution of our sea weeds, and on the art of collecting and arranging them, are added to the work, which is closed with a full index.

FINE ARTS.

THE PICTURES OF THE SEASON. (Last Notice.)

The annual Exhibition at the BRITISH INSTITUTION of Works of Old Masters, and of the founders of the British School, is of great value to the public. The works of our own living painters, yearly exhibited at the various galleries open during the season, number not hundreds, but thousands, and there has been noticeable for some years past a striving forward of the whole mass representing British art, more easily to be recognised in the mass than acknowledged in the individuals who have contributed their best exertions to the common cause. It is pleasant to be able to add that of late there has been an increase every year in the number of works of merit. Probably the coming census may show noticeable increase in the proportionate number of men who live by the art of painting.

Wealth increases, and appreciation of the Fine Arts, though its common standard is yet far from high, grows on the public yet more rapidly: In the understanding of good music a remarkable advance has been made among us during the last twenty years. But as regards painters the demand for their work has outgrown the power of appreciating it, although power of appreciation also has been greatly strengthened. In art it is not true that men are moved more slowly by what passes through the ear than by those things which are submitted to the faithful eyes. Music may charm the savage, but a noble picture appeals only to the educated mind. Music excites emotions that all men possess, whereas painting not only appeals to the emotions, but demands thought and imagination, for without imagination nobody looking at a picture really gets over the vulgar sense of painted rivers an inch broad, and little figures set together in unchanging attitudes. Within their own domain, works of the musician as of the painter have relative values, which are only to be felt by ears and eyes familiar with many forms of composition. For the highest sense of the excellent in either art there is need of an equal amount of study as well as an especial genius. Of this we do not speak. But for the raising of the average public to a just and independent sense of merit in a picture, more opportunity of study must be given than is necessary to the cultivation of the ear for music.

In the National Gallery, especially now that its contents are properly laid open to the many by a thoughtful and informing catalogue, and also at South Kensington, Art may at all times be studied to advantage, and it is one merit of the annual exhibition of Old Masters in works contri-

buted by the possessors of our chief private picture galleries, that many may be incited by it to a new interest in the contents of our great public galleries, and a desire to study them a little carefully.

For the advancement of art it is most essential that the public taste should to the utmost possible degree be educated. There are more—many more—good painters than good musicians in this country at the present time, although there is a public much more honestly inclined to enjoy music than painting. Men may say what they will of Italy, but England is the painter's climate. Nowhere in Europe is the life of nature shown so vividly as in the transcripts of sun, shower, and shade, by English hill and stream, to be seen every year in the two Exhibitions of our WATER COLOUR PAINTERS. Our yearly display of new oil paintings at the BRITISH INSTITUTION, at the PORTLAND GALLERY in SUFFOLK STREET, in less degree at the Exhibition of the Works of our FEMALE ARTISTS, and especially at the ROYAL ACADEMY, becomes every year more thoroughly English. In solidity of thought and truth of sentiment, in determined effort to excel, and in patient application to secure the end desired, the English character gives healthy promise of full triumph to the English school of art. Our eyes are perhaps a little too fond of the bright primitive colours, of which the French painters of our day generally make too little use. But there is not only a solidity of conscientious work, but a sound natural poetry, distinguished from mere graceful or effective handling of a subject, that gives to the English pictures of the present season a character by which they are distinguished favourably from the clever works at the FRENCH GALLERY. It is true that French art in the London Exhibition is not represented at its best. While our French Gallery displays in each year not a few choice works, it contains too many that are painted in accordance with French notions of the English market. The GERMAN GALLERY has been annexed by France for works of Mile Rosa Bonheur; but there, also, Mr Holman Hunt stoutly upholds the majesty of England with his *Finding of Christ in the Temple*.

Mr Tom Taylor, in his 'Recollections of Leslie,' speaks of one of Leslie's earlier works, *Sir Roger de Coverley going to Church*, of which the first sketch is now in the British Institution, as a bold escape, from the conventional subjects to which art was too much confined, to matters of familiar interest. To a certain extent this is true, but a school of art beginning when Hogarth and Gainsborough were at its head must not be accused too strongly of a taste for the unreal, or rather for the continued imitation of a past reality. The set of Holy Virgins by men of the days of Masaccio which Mr A. Barker has lent to the collection at the British Institution expressed and awakened the life and devotion of their day. It is impossible for an Englishman of the nineteenth century to take more than historical interest in one of the Madonnas of Sandro Botticelli, Domenico del Ghirlandajo, or Lorenzo di Credi; but when he remembers that Ghirlandajo had Michael Angelo for an artful pupil, and that Di Credi was among the artists who brought their choice works to the fire at the bidding of Savonarola, the true life of such men is associated with their work, and we feel that we are to imitate them not by confining ourselves to the sort of truth they felt, but by putting ourselves in the same vigorous relation to the feelings of our time.

If the Dutch had produced Spensers and Miltons, their art would have been less rich in Boers regaling; but we are related closely to the Dutch. Philologists begin to think that the cradle of the Anglo-Saxon race was Friesland. The Dutch pictures of pastoral and peasant life belong to the same home feeling, the minute fidelity of representation to the same exact and patient habit by which English art is influenced. Rembrandt found poetry where it is recognized by none so readily as by an Englishman, in light and shade. Ruysdael, Cuypp, Hobbema, and most of the Dutch landscape painters excelled as English landscape painters do, in loving treatment of their native sky and soil; and the natural, homely Englishman still is for Dutch art next to his own. The same truth to the national character has deprived Italy of landscape painters, but has given to France her Watteau. While, therefore, we do not admit that the conventional in art has at any time prevailed to an extent sufficient to obscure its national character in every land, we are truly glad to observe how rapidly and completely English painters are in our day divesting themselves of all confusion of ideas as to the true aim of their genius and industry. In the EXHIBITION of this year there has been unusual accord between the mind of the day and the works of the painters through whom it should find expression. High art is now known to be that which deals with the visible truth of nature, whatever the size of canvas used or social dignity of the act represented. The noblest truth may be expressed in the simplest characters; but be that as it may, in proportion as the truth expressed is worthy to be uttered and complete in utterance will be the dignity of any work in which it is contained.

For the public at large, we may observe, it is most desirable that all guides and helps to the study of old masters, while they display their technical merits, should so clearly display the relation of each to his time and country that the natural action of society on art in our own day shall be fairly understood and heartily encouraged. While we are on the right road to an admirable school of art, our painters are being assisted greatly by extension of the public faith, that a picture is bad if it do not contain something that its producer heartily and truly felt, and has expressed to the extent of his power, with an absolute sincerity.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

SPEECH OF M. JULES FAYRE AGAINST THE BUDGET.—In the recent debate on the budget in the *Corps Legislatif*, M. Jules Favre spoke with freedom on the deceptive character of the report presented to the Chamber. In speaking against the budget he said he did not propose to enter into its details, but only to state in a general way the grounds upon which he and his friends persisted in the line of opposition marked out by their conscience and a sense of the true interests of the country. All the statesmen of the present day—if he might judge by their former speeches, scientific calculations, and violent attacks upon their adversaries—would have sworn that they would stand or fall by protection. But He, upon whom all regards were fixed, had spoken, and lo! all resistance vanished, incredulity gave way to faith, and France was told in a chorus of dithyrambs that she was never more glorious, more powerful, or better governed. For his own part he thought it prudent not to join without reserve the transports of admiration expressed in the report. The report assured them that the finances were never in a sounder state, and it presented the budget with a surplus of 1,544,985*fr.* But how was this surplus obtained? Why, the reporter himself admitted that they had not put down certain expenses which they classed as extraordinary; and it should not be forgotten that only last week the house had voted a sum of four hundred millions under the head of extraordinary expenses. Then, again, forty millions were obtained by suspending the sinking fund, and the second war decime was maintained. True, the report alleged that the best proof that the government wished to take this tax off was that it kept it on. That was a specimen of what he called a system of approbation at any price. A sum of twenty-four millions was got from alcohols, by imposing on them a heavy surcharge, which had been justly condemned only yesterday. This was the way in which the surplus was made up. It should be borne in mind that the public debt had in the course of a very few years been increased by two milliards of capital; that was to say, to the extent of one half of its anterior amount. If they were to go on in this way but a few years longer the country would be ruined. The reporter, who had dwelt with so much complacency upon the augmentation of the receipts, had forgotten to say that the taxes had increased in a precisely corresponding proportion. If the prosperity of a country were to be measured by the amount of taxes it paid, he would admit that France was never more prosperous than now. Enterprise had been unduly stimulated by a system of loans, which swallowed up the resources of the future and bequeathed serious embarrassments to posterity. Prosperity purchased by such heavy sacrifices was always at the mercy of one of those sudden changes which Providence sometimes kept in reserve. To show the danger of a blind confidence, he referred to prosperity speeches made in 1810, but four years before the fall of Napoleon. It was precisely because he now heard a repetition of the same language from a too concentrated power that he felt it a duty, at a moment when they were asked for a vote of confidence, to criticise the tendencies of the Government. After an interruption by Count de Morny, which led to a long altercation, M. Jules Favre went on to say that the constitution professed to be founded on the principles of 1789. Those principles were civil liberty, the liberty of the press, free public meetings, electoral liberty, and the responsibility of functionaries. Now, could anybody say that France was at present in the enjoyment of the conquests of 1789? (Some members cried "Yes, yes.") He would ask, for instance, whether the press was free? M. Belmontet (the poet laureate) said it was free for good, but not free for evil. M. J. Favre replied that in Austria also the press was said to be free. He would maintain that the principles of the constitution were habitually misinterpreted. Electoral liberty was no better guaranteed than the liberty of the press; in support of his position he proceeded to refer to several instances, and particularly to the last elections in the Haut Rhin and the Ile-et-Vilaine. The way in which the press was regulated led to an absolute and uncontrolled tyranny on the part of the administration. It was impossible to expose the slightest abuse. Functionaries considered the public as inferior beings, and their yoke was daily becoming more and more insupportable. They must be blind to the lessons of history if they supposed that a great nation would long endure such a regime as this without dissatisfaction. If no serious troubles took place the country would collapse into a profound indifference as regards public affairs, and a greater misfortune than this could not happen. He had spoken just now of Imperial France, and had done homage to the glory and genius which then presided over its destinies. But what had happened? Since there were no political institutions, but only an individuality—since all hung upon the will of one man, when that man fell, France twice opened her doors to a foreign invader. Republican France, on the other hand, twice repelled foreign invasion. The conclusion to be drawn from this parallel was, that a people was only strong on condition of being free; that independence, dignity, and political life were more valuable than apparently inexhaustible treasure; and that when a people had lost its liberties it should, before all things, unremittingly demand them back, and not give way to deceitful confidence, vain illusions, or blind enthusiasm.

MISCELLANEOUS FACTS.—The Patrie states that the Emperor has taken the initiative of recommending the different cabinets to recognise Spain as one of the "great powers" of Europe, which, supposing the claim to be admitted, will henceforth be six in number. It adds that the proposal, although not yet finally accepted, is favourably received in principle. The Spanish Government has resolved to send two ships to the coast of Sicily, and General Prim has arrived in Paris on a military mission.—The confidential agent of Garibaldi has arrived in Paris. He is most anxious to have an audience of the Emperor, but it is doubted whether the Emperor will receive him.—The Marquis de la Greca, who was charged by the fallen Neapolitan Cabinet with an extraordinary mission to the Emperor of the French, has also arrived in Paris, and was received by the Emperor at St Cloud on Monday. His mission is to ask for the co-operation of this Government towards effecting the alliance between Naples and Piedmont.—The Correspondance Bullier says that, "whatever may be the intentions" of Piedmont, the alliance between that power and Naples will take place, and that Piedmont, which has resisted for three weeks, will be "forced to cede!"—The Montieur announces that the project of law for the purchase of the canals has been adopted.—The Montieur de la Flotte announces that the Pomone frigate has left for Newfoundland with Commandant de Montagnac de Chanvaner on board. That officer carries with him full powers for settling the question of the limits of the French and English fisheries on the great bank—a matter which has occupied diplomacy for the last half century.—The French Scientific Congress will this year hold its meeting at Cherbourg, from the 2nd to the 10th of September.—A letter from Paris, in the Nord, says: "There is talk of reducing the duties on telegraphic messages. This would be a happy complement to the recent free-trade measures. The number of despatches sent in France does not at present exceed 500,000 a year, each costing on an average 8*fr.* 6*cs.* The number is very small when compared with that of letters sent by post, which is 250 millions."—The Montieur contains the promulgation of the Convention between the French and Belgian Governments in reference to the entry of French wines and spirits into Belgium. According to this Convention wines will pay in future an import duty of 31*fr.* 50*cs.* per hectolitre, and spirits of fifty degrees proof, 59*fr.* For every degree of proof above fifty spirits will pay 1*fr.* 18*cs.* in addition.

NAPLES AND SICILY.

DISTURBANCES AT NAPLES.

The progress of events in Naples is marked by the following telegrams:

Turin, July 13.—News from Naples to the 10th states that the King had summoned the former camarilla. It was believed that those devoted to the old régime would be again called to power. The population was quiet. Ships were being armed, and troops sent to Messina. Pianelli commanded the citadel, where an outbreak had taken place among the troops, a portion of whom shouted "Louis I for ever!" and others "Francis II for ever!" Twelve soldiers had been wounded.

Naples, July 14.—Patrols are constantly traversing the streets. An inspector of the former police was stabbed the day before yesterday in the Strada di Toledo. Proclamations of Garibaldi and Settembrini against the Bourbon dynasty have been distributed here. The first one says: "I am Royalist, but prefer Victor Emmanuel, who will lead us against the Austrians."

Naples (via Turin), July 17.—A conflict has taken place between the troops and the people in consequence of a popular manifestation in favour of the refugees who had disembarked at Naples. Several persons were killed. The Ministry has been dismissed. The Commander de Martino only will remain in the new Cabinet.

Florence, July 18.—The Nazione, of Florence, says: "At Naples, on the evening of the 15th inst., the Royal Guards committed violent excesses against the inhabitants, shouting at the time 'Viva il Rè.' Several persons were killed, and fifty persons wounded. An inquiry has commenced. The King has visited the barracks, and held energetic language to the troops. The people are quiet, but irritated."

Paris, July 18.—Despatches received here from Naples to the 17th inst. give details of the conflict which took place in that city on the 15th inst., stating that it was provoked by soldiers of the Royal Guard, who shouted, "The King for ever!" "Down with the Constitution!" Notwithstanding this demonstration the King adhered to constitutional principles, and the Ministers therefore consented to remain in office.

Genoa, July 19.—Despatches received from Naples state that the Government had ordered the removal of the Royal Guard from Naples. The other troops were to be consigned to the fortresses, and the posts intrusted to the National Guard.

CHANGE OF MINISTRY IN SICILY.

The "unintelligible telegram" which we published last Saturday has since been explained. Instead of "The Africa was stopped at Palermo, &c.," it should have been: "La Farina was arrested at Palermo, and obliged to leave in half an hour, by Garibaldi's orders." The official Journal of Palermo describes La Farina's expulsion as follows: "On Saturday, the 7th inst., by special order of the Dictator, were banished from our island Signors Giuseppe La Farina, Giacomo Grisocelli, and Pasquale Totti. Signors Grisocelli and Totti, Corsicans by birth, are of those who have contrived to concert themselves with all the police authorities of the Continent. The three expelled persons were in Palermo conspiring against the actual order of things. The Government, which is vigilant to the public tranquillity, and should not be the least disturbed, could not any longer tolerate the presence among us of such individuals, who had come here with culpable intentions." La Farina has since published his account of the differences between General Garibaldi and himself. The following are the principal passages: "The causes of my differences with General Garibaldi, since it is desired that I should speak at any cost, were as follows: I believed, and still believe, that the only salvation for Sicily is immediate annexation to the constitutional kingdom of Victor Emmanuel, the most ardent wish of all the Sicilians, already manifested by the chiefs of more than 300 municipal bodies. General Garibaldi believed, and perhaps still believes, that the annexation should be postponed till the liberation of all Italy, including Venetia and Rome, has been effected. I believed, and still believe, that it was a great act of imprudence to confide a share of authority and of the public forces to Ministers like Crispi, unpopular (I do not know whether rightly or wrongly) with the great majority of the Sicilians; to Ministers like Raffaele, Bourbonist in 1847, Republican in 1848, deputy of Filangieri and member of the Bourbon Municipal Government in 1849; or to a notorious Mazzinian like Mario; or to abhorred Bourbonists like Scordato and Miceli, who, after betraying the revolution of 1848, have fought against the insurgents in 1860; or, lastly, to men who have been made infamous through all Europe as the inventors of most atrocious torments against the Liberals. General Garibaldi believed, and still believes, that the union of such elements can be useful to the national cause. It grieved me that every method was tried of discrediting in the eyes of the public the Piedmontese Government and statesmen to whom Italy owes so much; it grieved me that the men most devoted to the national cause, and who have done and suffered the most in the Sicilian revolution, and all the most able and intelligent men should be excluded from the administration of public affairs; that all administrative order should be disregarded; that all the tribunals should be closed; that there should be no force to protect public security; that men of no reputation or of bad reputation (with three or four honourable exceptions) should be chosen governors of districts, with full powers; that furious opposition should be made to the institution of a national guard, the only palladium of order in a country where there are neither magistrates, nor gendarmes, nor police; it grieved me that the country, while most averse from Mazzinian notions, should be made the nest of the most incorrigible Mazzinian in Italy; it grieved me, in fine, that while the press was intimidated to such a degree that a journalist was threatened with death for having written a short article against Mazzini, the Precursore was permitted to appear—a journal edited by the former editors of the Italia e Popolo, which in one of its numbers declared that the Piedmontese Government wished for the annexation of Sicily, in order that it might hand her over to the Bourbons of Naples and thus gain their alliance. These are the reasons of my discontent, which I manifested frankly and without bitterness to General Garibaldi, who, during the first days of my stay in Sicily, was always courteous and kind to me, notwithstanding accusations of my being Count Cavour's friend, of my having voted for the Savoy and Nice treaty, and having thwarted his enterprise in Central Italy. That my views coincide with the public opinion of Sicily is shown by the fact of the Crispi Ministry having had to give way before a popular demonstration, although the Dictator had declared that it had his entire confidence. It is further shown clearly by the names of the new Ministry, Natoli, La Loggia, D'Aita, La Porta, and Lanza, all honest and respectable men, inclined to immediate annexation to a free and constitutional Government."—The following are the exact changes which took place lately in the Sicilian Cabinet in consequence of the incident of M. La Farina: Baron Natoli, Minister of Foreign Affairs, has been replaced by M. La Loggia, who is succeeded in the Departments of Public Works and Public Instruction by A. Amari; Father Ottavia Laoya, Minister of Public Worship, and M. Santo Canali, Minister of Justice, have resigned their posts, their united portfolios

being confided to M. Errante; M. Daita, Minister of the Interior, is replaced by M. Interdonato. There is consequently a complete change in the Ministry, although there are only three new Ministers.

DESERTIONS FROM THE NEAPOLITAN NAVY.

Letters have been received from Palermo to the 13th inst., confirming that the Veloce had passed over to Garibaldi, and stating that this vessel had left Palermo and returned on the 12th inst. in company with some transport steamers. The Courier de Paris gives minute details of the desertion of the Veloce. It is a ship of eight guns, carrying besides eight field-pieces in its hull. The crew consisted of 170 men and ten officers. The Veloce had been employed to transport some royal troops to Melazzo. On putting out to sea from that port, the captain, whose name is Anguissola, made a speech to his officers, explaining to them the real state of things, and asking whether they would not consider it a patriotic act if they were to rally to the flag which had gloriously floated during the last war against the eternal enemies of Italy. Before the captain had finished he was interrupted by cries of adhesion, and he at once steered for Palermo, where he was enthusiastically received. It is confirmed in several quarters that Lieut. de Flotte, of the French navy, an officer of great merit, the man whose election for Paris, together with MM. Carnot and Vidal, was made the pretext for various severe laws against "Socialists," is with Garibaldi, and there is a rumour that he will be made Admiral of the Sicilian fleet. Despatches from Cagliari assert that two other Neapolitan vessels had passed over to Garibaldi.

The Opinion Nationale has received by telegraph the following important news from Messina, under date of July 15: "On the 14th, Garibaldi, at the head of 3,000 men, effected a junction with Medici. On the next day, the 15th, General Bosco, with 4,000 men and three guns, sallied forth from Messina, marching in the direction of Barcellona. A battle and an attack on Messina seem, therefore, imminent. The French consulate at Messina is crowded with people, who ask to take refuge on board the steam-ship Descartes. The consul has protested against any bombardment of the town until sufficient time has elapsed for foreigners to leave it." "The Naples correspondence of the Presse says that when the Veloce deserted the King's ships refused to go in pursuit of her. George Manin has quite recovered from his wounds received at Calatafimi and Palermo, and has been promoted by Garibaldi to the rank of major. A letter of the 11th inst. from Palermo says: "The Neapolitan man-of-war that deserted and came yesterday into our harbour is the Veloce steamer, carrying a few guns only. She belonged in 1848 to the insurrectional government of Sicily, and was then called the Indipendenza. After the submission of the island, she escaped to Marseille, where the Neapolitan government obtained her sequestration. The Veloce was sailing off Messina, when she carried out her project of desertion, long since matured, and her commander is the son of Count Anguissola of Naples. Garibaldi went on board the Trentalini, an American steamer, to receive the commander and his officers, all of whom he embraced; then he went to inspect their ship, where he was cheered by the crew. He then harangued them on the deck as follows: "Italian soldiers and seamen! you have set Italy a noble example, by abandoning the flag of the tyrant to unite yourselves under that of the Italian nation. With men like you Italy will be Italy. The Italy that strangers have hitherto downtrodden—that has been the laughingstock of the powers, and the bloody theatre of their ambition, will take rank among the greatest nations of Europe, and will cause her voice to be heard in their midst. No one will any longer come and dispute with us this land, which, in ceasing to excite the insolent compassion of the foreigner, will awaken his admiration. You belong now to our family; in the name of our common country I express to you the sentiments of the deepest gratitude. I am ready to do individually for each of you and your families whatever you stand in need of. Should any one of you wish to leave us again, of which I am not apprehensive, he shall have the means to do so; if you wish to remain, every one of you shall be regarded as a son that has deserved well of his country." Another letter, from the same hand, and dated the 18th, says: "My anticipations respecting the object of the Veloce's cruise were well founded. She returned here last evening having two transports in tow."

THE PAPAL STATES.—No other disturbances have taken place in the Umbrian Marches but at Todi, where the Sardinian escutcheon had been erected and tri-coloured flags hoisted. A detachment of pontifical troops arrived there, and imposed a fine on the commune, to be, however, reimbursed by the rioters. A secret consistory was held at Rome on the 13th, in which it is stated that the Pope pronounced an allocution against the evil attempts, the violence, the arrests, and condemnations to which the priests were subjected in the Romagna and the Duchies. The Patrie of the 14th contains the following: "There is no foundation in the rumours that the French army of occupation in Rome will be reduced by a brigade, or that General Goyon has been recalled. Should the General return to France it will only be in virtue of temporary leave of absence." The Duke de Grammont arrived at Rome on the 12th instant, and, on the 14th, had a long conference with his Holiness.

AUSTRIA.—In Thursday's extraordinary sitting of the enlarged Reichsrath an autograph letter of the Emperor, addressed to the President, and dated the 17th inst., was read as an Imperial message. In this letter his Majesty notifies his resolution that the establishment of new imposts or the increase of those already existing, the determining upon the amount of direct taxation, the imposition of Excise dues, and the introduction of stamp duties on legal transactions, and, finally, the concluding of new loans, shall in future only be effected with the consent of the enlarged council of the Empire. The official Dresden journal publishes a message from Vienna, stating that the Emperor of Austria and the Prince Regent will hold a conference next week at Töplitz.—Several Vienna journals state that some other German Sovereigns, especially the Kings of Bavaria and Saxony, will take part in this Conference. It is confirmed that Count Reehberg will accompany his Majesty.

THE SYRIAN MASSACRES.

Accounts of further massacres have been received, the scene of these fearful occurrences being Damascus, where five hundred Christians have been slaughtered, amongst whom was the Dutch Consul. The Moniteur of Tuesday contained the following despatch from the French naval commander in the Levant:

"Beyrout, July 11, 1860.—The attack of the Druses on the Christians at Damascus commenced on the evening of the 9th, when many men were killed, and women carried off for the harems. It is said that the consulates were burned down, with the exception of the English consulate. The French, Russian, and Greek consuls took refuge in the house of Abd-el-Kader. The attitude of the Turkish authorities was indecisive, and was rather injurious than useful to the Christians. Three thousand Turkish soldiers arrived today. The fears of the Christians are redoubled, and the Commissioners Vely and Namik are expected with impatience."

The Patrie of Thursday evening says: "Great agitation prevails at Aleppo and at Killis. Fears were entertained for the Christian inhabitants of those places. The Mutualists at Belbeck, in the Pachalic of Acre, appeared very ill-disposed. The Catholic Bishop of Latakia had taken refuge on board a French steamer, with all the monks of the Convent of Zialet. The state of things in Syria appeared altogether

to be very grave. The originators of the disturbances seem to have connexions with some other points of the Ottoman territory."

A telegram from Beyrout of the 5th contains the following: "A Christian having killed a Turk, from whom he had received provocation, the inhabitants took to arms, ill-treated the Christians in the streets, and compelled the authorities to head the murderer. The presence of the vessels prevented greater misfortunes, but there is an enormous emigration of Christians taking place, and thousands of Maronites and many wounded encumber the streets, being fed and nursed by the French sisters of charity. M. de Laroncière is proceeding along the coasts, supplying provisions to the wretched refugees, and defending the port of Saïda. The Christians of Damascus no longer quit their houses. The French consul displays the greatest energy, being supported by Abd-el-Kader with 1,200 Algerines. M. Portales, a French cotton-twist manufacturer on the Lebanon, has saved the Christian inhabitants of the neighbouring villages, having granted a refuge to 1,800 persons, and driven back the enemy. The Pasha affects to negotiate for peace, but the Maronite tribes are claiming indemnities."

The Constitutionnel of Wednesday publishes an article, signed by M. Grandguillot, in reference to the massacres. M. Grandguillot says: "Turkey is either powerless or has no foresight. The evil which has been committed is great, but Europe having knowledge of the same will neither permit its continuation nor its renovation, and will remember her duties towards populations who have been too long oppressed, and for three centuries have endured servitude to Turkey."

It is not doubted that an imposing force will be despatched from France to the coast of Syria, and it is even said that 4,000 men have been ordered to embark immediately from Toulon. The Pays says that this force is insufficient, and does not doubt that France, responding to the cry of despair from the Eastern Christians, will speedily send more. The Patrie says, "There is not an hour to lose; later would be too late; we should arrive soon enough to chastise the Druses, but not to save the Christians." The Presse suggests a very curious reason for the escape of the English consulate from the outrages which it seems from the despatch in the Moniteur were perpetrated upon all the other consulates in Damascus. The Druses, says the Presse, not seeing a cross in front of the English consul's house, did not suppose the inmates to be Christians. The new steam-ship of the line, Fontenoy, which had been ordered to proceed from Toulon to Naples, has now received fresh instructions, and is preparing to sail for Syria. She is to receive on board an Envoy-Extraordinary.

The Moniteur of Thursday says: "The Sultan has addressed the following letter to the Emperor, under date July 16: 'I have it at heart that your Majesty should know with what grief I have learnt the events in Syria. Let your Majesty be convinced that I shall employ all my powers for establishing security and order in Syria, and that I shall severely punish the guilty parties, whoever they may be, and render justice to all. In order to leave no doubt whatever of the intentions of my Government, I have entrusted this important mission to my Minister for Foreign Affairs, with whose principles your Majesty is acquainted.'"

The following is the latest news from Syria: "Since the 11th inst. no other incident has taken place. The state of things continues to be very grave. The Christians were leaving the interior and emigrating towards the coasts in order to be under the protection of the European vessels. Thirty-two thousand persons had already arrived at Beyrout and Saïda."

The Moniteur of yesterday publishes the following: "In presence of the deplorable events of which Syria is the theatre, and which have caused deep emotion throughout Europe, the Government of the Emperor has deemed it its duty to communicate its views without delay to the Cabinets of the other great Powers and to the Porte, in order to concert the measures which circumstances demand. It is stated that the Sultan has despatched to her Majesty Queen Victoria a letter similar to that addressed to the Emperor of the French."

Toulon, July 20.—Great activity prevails here in the arsenals and forts. Transport steamers are preparing for departure.

UNITED STATES.—The Asia, from New York on the 3rd, and Halifax on the 4th, has arrived. The Japanese embassy took their departure from the United States on the 30th June in the frigate Niagara. The Great Eastern having been cleaned and renovated was opened for public exhibition on the 3rd of July, and was visited by one thousand five hundred persons, the price of admission being one dollar. The 84th anniversary of the Independence of the United States was being celebrated with great enthusiasm when the Asia left New York. It commenced as usual the night before, by fires, a firemen's fight, and a grand display of patriotism and crackers. A large meeting of the Democratic party was held in Tammany Hall, New York, on the 2nd inst., to ratify the nomination of Mr Douglas for the Presidency and Mr Johnson for the Vice-Presidency. The Administration and the secession movement were strongly denounced. Important advices had been received from Mexico by the arrival of the steamer Arizona at New Orleans, from Brazos. Private letters from Monterey, authenticated by statements of a similar tenor from Matamoras, state that General Zaragoza, commanding the Liberal forces, had defeated Miramon, and taken him prisoner near Salamanca. A division of Miramon's troops, under General Ramirez, had also been defeated by Ortega. The locality of the latter engagement is not given. In the States of Nueva Leon, Coahuila, and elsewhere, efforts were being made to further the return of Comonfort to power. Advices from the Bay Islands, under date of Ruatan, 20th of June, state that the cession of the island to Honduras was unfavourably looked upon. Fifty troops had arrived from Belize to maintain order. The people object to the treaty, and it would probably be amended. Californian advices by overland mail are to the effect of the 12th June, from San Francisco. The Indian troubles appear to have been quelled, and all apprehensions from them to be at an end. The regular troops would still, however, protect the settlements and the Pony Express route. The miners who had abandoned their claims through fear of the Indians, were rapidly returning, and the mining reports were flattering. The trial of Judge Terry, who shot Senator Broderick, having been removed by change of venue to another court, it was thought it would result in a verdict of acquittal. Trade at San Francisco had been steady, and there was an increased demand for some descriptions of goods, but only to a limited extent. Some more valuable guano discoveries in the South Pacific were reported. The American Secretary of Legation to China had arrived at Washington, bearing the ratification of the treaty, and an autograph letter from the Emperor of China. The Melita, from Quebec on the 7th inst., has arrived. The case of the capture of Miramon's two steamers, Marquez and Habana, which was recently tried at New Orleans, had been decided, the judge having declared these steamers not to be lawful prizes, and ordered their restitution. The claim for indemnity was withdrawn. A meeting of the Breckenridge-Lane Committee had been held at Syracuse, in which it was resolved to make preparations for running the electoral ticket. The New York Democratic State Convention had nominated thirty-five candidates to support the nominations of Breckenridge and Lane.

BAY ISLANDS.—The treaty by which her Majesty agrees to recognise the Bay Islands as a part of the Republic of Honduras, and to relinquish the protectorate of that part of the Mosquito territory within the frontier of Honduras, has been laid before Parliament. It states that the treaty is entered into by her Majesty in consequence of "the peculiar geographical position of Honduras, and in order to

secure the neutrality of the islands adjacent thereto, with reference to any railway or other line of interoceanic communication which may be constructed across the territory of Honduras on the mainland." Honduras engages not to cede the islands to any other state. There are clauses stipulating that the islanders shall retain perfect freedom of religious belief and worship, public and private, and that their property and that of the Mosquito Indians shall be respected, and both are to be at liberty to remove if they think fit, or remaining, are to have the rights of natives of Honduras. Any claims of British subjects are to be settled by a mixed commission. For the next ten years Honduras is to allow 5,000 dols. a-year to the Mosquito Indians for the purpose of education, and the improvement of their social condition.

INDIA.—The advices by this mail are from Calcutta to June 4, and from Madras to June 9. The report of the select committee on the Income Tax Bill was presented on the 26th of May. Mr Wilson said he had read nothing since the 18th of February to alter his opinion of the measure; that the bill is in all important respects the same as at first, and that it has the unanimous support of his colleagues and the Governor-General. At the meeting of the Legislative Council on the 2nd of June, Mr Wilson presented the report on the Bill for Licensing of Arts, Trades, and Professions, and stated that no material alteration had been effected in the bill in committee, but an addition had been made to it of very great importance. One of the means by which it was proposed to improve the revenues of India was a tobacco tax, but the government at that time had reserved the consideration of the best manner of levying it. They have at last come to the conclusion that the best mode in which they can impose this tax, which will least interfere with trade, and will enable the revenue to be collected at the smallest expense to government, will be by a license tax. Government has therefore thought it proper to add special clauses to the License Bill to effect this. The Hurkaru says, "Lord Canning has given his strong adherence and support to Mr Wilson's measures, and there is no doubt they will be carried, with a few modifications in detail." The dissatisfaction among the people of Oude, consequent upon the imposition of an income tax, is reported to have subsided. The troops sent against the Mahsood Wuzerehs have returned to the Punjab, having destroyed several towns and captured large numbers of cattle. A portion of the Yoonzaleen levy stationed at Martarhan has mutinied and deserted. The mutineers are being pursued. Lord Canning had returned to Calcutta. Lord Clyde had left for England. Sir H. Rose had reached Calcutta. A telegram from Bombay of the 22nd inst. says: "A large meeting of the natives has been held, voting an address of sympathy to Sir C. Trevelyan. News had been received here from Zanzibar that a French frigate, on being refused certain concessions, fired upon the town, and landed marines. The Imam then surrendered." The Times correspondent at Calcutta writes on the 11th of June to say that the facts of the recall of Sir C. Trevelyan and his replacement by Sir H. Ward were known all over Calcutta on the 9th inst. "I cannot," he says, "better explain the effect produced by this prompt action on the minds of the native zemindars, who formed the only opposition on this side of India, than by transcribing the remarks which appeared that same evening in their leading organ, the Hindoo Patriot. After alluding to the fact of the recall, that journal adds: 'The success of the income-tax scheme now becomes sure. No opposition, perhaps, that will now be raised in India will avail. All will be identified with the Madras minutes, and all will share the fate of their author.' Regarding the appointment of Sir H. Ward to Madras there is but one opinion among all classes, and that is favourable.

CHINA.—The advices from Hong Kong by this mail are of May 23. The following is from the Overland China Mail: Sir Hope Grant still remains in Hong Kong, but preparations are making for his departure northward on the 30th of this month. General Sir Robert Napier had already left. The continued delay of Lord Elgin excites disappointment; and it seems doubtful whether military operations can effect much, or almost anything, this year. A great part of the British force is in movement for Chusan, where it is supposed that it is to rendezvous. The French force is reported to be about to rendezvous at Che-foo, on the coast of Shan-tung and in the gulf of Pechelee; and there will be also a station for British stores and troops on the opposite side of the gulf. It is whispered that Sir Hope Grant may perhaps occupy Tien-tain before he attempts to take the Taku forts. A confidential correspondent, in a position to obtain good information, writes to us: "The reports I get from Peking are to the effect that the defences of the Taku forts are very substantial, and that the Chinese have been practising gunnery till they fire with great precision." This is borne out by a visit of H.L.M.S. Forbin to the gulf of Pechelee, which has reported that an extensive line of fortifications has been erected on the banks of the Peiho from its mouth upwards. It also appears from the Peking Gazette that trenches or rifle pits are to be used by the Chinese, and from their own invention. If an attempt is made to take the Taku forts there will doubtless be some hard fighting. While we write a considerable portion of the force is on the move northwards, in transports which were to rendezvous at Taitam Bay, on the other side of this island, from whence, after they were collected, and a fair wind arose, they were to sail northward under the convoy of her Majesty's ship Sampson. The troops thus starting are Bedingfield's battery, Pennycook's battery, the 2nd battalion of the 60th Rifles, the 3rd Buffs, the 2nd battalion of the 1st Royals, the 1st battalion of the 31st Regiment, the 44th Regiment, with the 8th and 19th Punjab infantry. Their destination we think is Chusan, for the present. The troops armed with rifles carry in their pouches forty rounds of ordinary ammunition and sixteen of metallic cartridges. The latter are waterproof, and would be serviceable in the mud of the Peiho, but doubtless no such affair as that of last year will be repeated now. Each vessel also carries a reserve of ammunition sufficient to supply 200 rounds for infantry, and 100 for artillery and engineers. But the men are provided to meet, as well as give, wounds, for each of them is supplied with a linen bandage, which we trust they may have little need to use. The island of Chusan has been placed in charge of an Allied Commission, composed of Mr Hughes, of her Majesty's consular service; M. de Méritens, attaché to the French Legation; and Captain Gritton, Royal Marines. They have published proclamations intimating their authority, and forbidding anyone to establish himself at Ting-hai without their permission. In Canton, business is still in a most unsatisfactory condition, in consequence of the gradual approach and reported success of the insurgents. The imperial troops recently sent out against them have been compelled to retire after sustaining a severe defeat. Great consternation prevails at Canton, and it is not at all improbable that the allied forces may be called upon to cross arms with the rebels in defence of that city. In the north also the rebels have obtained some success. In Japan doubts have ceased in regard to the death of the Regent. In Yedo the houses of the foreign ministers are examined every night, lest any persons intending mischief should be concealed in them. The British commissariat is trying very hard to procure 1,000 horses there for service in China; and the Governor of Yokohama is said to have applied to the foreigners in order to purchase all the firearms they can spare for the services of government. Advices were received on Wednesday of the arrival at Aden of the Bombay, Calcutta, and China mails. The telegram states that the China exchanges were unaltered, and that hostilities are "certain to commence." Her Majesty's steam transport Assistance had been lost in Deep Bay, Hong Kong, and the French steamer Reine des Clippers had been burnt at Macao.

Henceforward all bankers' parcels will have to bear an extra stamp of 6d., the same as all other registered parcels.

STATE AND CHURCH.

THE COURT.—The Prince Consort left Osborne on Monday morning for Buckingham Palace, to preside at a meeting of the Statistical Congress which assembled in London on that day. His Royal Highness returned to Osborne on Tuesday. On Thursday the Queen, the Prince Consort, and the Royal family paid a visit to the steam yacht Fox, preparatory to her departure to make the Arctic portion of the survey for the North Atlantic telegraph.

PROGRESS OF THE PRINCE OF WALES.—Captain Wilson, commander of the Great Britain, arrived in London from Montreal, reports having exchanged signals with her Majesty's ship Hero, having on board the Prince of Wales and suite, on Wednesday the 11th inst. at noon, in lat. 49 45 N., long. 9 15 W., accompanied by the Ariadne steam-frigate. The Hero and Ariadne were also spoken July 12, lat. 49, N., long. 11 W., by the Parliament, Irvine, arrived at Havre.

THE PRINCESS FREDERICK WILLIAM OF PRUSSIA.—The accouchement of the Princess Frederick William at Potsdam is expected to take place in a very short time. Sir James Clark, accoucheur to her Majesty, has been sent for. The precise period of the arrival of the Queen is as yet uncertain.

THE BISHOPRIC OF DURHAM.—A congé d'elire has been ordered, empowering the dean and chapter of Durham to elect a bishop of that see, in the room of Dr Longley, now Archbishop of York; and Dr Villiers, now Bishop of Carlisle, is to be elected.

CONSULAR APPOINTMENTS.—Mr J. N. Dupuis, now Vice-Consul at Naples, is appointed her Majesty's Consul at Poti, in the Black Sea. Mr George E. Stanley, now Vice-Consul at Jeddah, is appointed Consul at that port.

ST GEORGE'S IN THE EAST.—It has been rumoured, on very good authority, that there is now every probability of a discontinuance of the Sunday disturbances in the unhappy parish of St George in the East. The Rev. Bryan King, the rector, has obtained a year's leave of absence from the Bishop of London, and will leave England for Bruges with his family on Wednesday next. A reverend gentleman of moderate views, now officiating at a west end church, and a friend of the bishop, has been appointed to act during the absence of the rector. The Times says that Mr King's place will be taken by the Rev. Septimus Hansard, who has been long employed as a hard-working curate in one of the districts of Marylebone. His views are those of a sound and liberal Churchman, unconnected with either of the two parties which have occasioned or fomented the recent disturbances.

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.—BRIGHTON.—This election contest has resulted in the election of Mr James White, who was returned by a majority of 346 over Mr Moor, and of 1,040 over Mr Goldsmid, the numbers at the close of the poll being as follows: White, 1,588; Moor, 1,242; Goldsmid, 548.—SLIGO.—The Conservative electors of Sligo have unanimously agreed to support Mr F. Macdonagh, Q.C., as a candidate for the seat about to be vacated by the Right Hon. J. Wynne, M.P. The other candidate on the Conservative interest, Major Folliott, has retired. No Liberal has yet announced his intention of soliciting the suffrages of the electors.—STAFFORD.—Viscount Sandon has announced himself as a candidate here. He professes entire independence from party influence, and in politics may be considered a Liberal Conservative.—DONEGAL.—Lord Hamilton was returned without opposition on Tuesday. He declared for a Conservative Government.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—In the week ending last Saturday the number of deaths registered in London was 1,016, exhibiting an increase on that of the previous week, which was 919. Measles carried off 61 children. This disease is at present the most fatal of those that form the zymotic class. Only 9 deaths from smallpox were returned in the week, showing a clear decrease in the mortality of this complaint. Scarletina was fatal in 29 cases, diphtheria in 5, diarrhoea in 21. Two widows died at the ages of 95 and 96 years. Last week the births of 935 boys and 819 girls, in all 1,754 children, were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1850-59 the average number was 1,488.

THE FREE HOSPITALS.—Royal Free Hospital, Gray's Inn road: The number of patients relieved at this hospital during the week ending July 14 was 2,463, of which 719 were new cases.—Metropolitan Free Hospital, Devonshire square, City: The aggregate number of patients relieved during the week ending July 14 was, medical, 1,116; surgical, 483; total, 1,599; of which 482 were new cases.—City of London Hospital for Diseases of the Chest, Victoria-park: The number of patients relieved at this institution during last week was 992, of which 169 were new cases.—Samaritan Free Hospital for Women: The number of patients relieved at this hospital during the week ending July 14, was 835, of which 136 were new cases.

Obituary.

LORD ELPHINSTONE died on Thursday in King street, St James's, in his 53rd year. After having filled the office of Governor of the Madras Presidency from 1837 to 1842, he returned to England; but shortly after again visited India in a private capacity, and travelled much through Hindostan as well as in Cashmere. Having again returned to England, he was a Lord in Waiting to the Queen from 1847 to February, 1852, and from January to October, 1853, when he was appointed Governor of Bombay. It was during the latter part of his tenure of this office, on the occasion of the outbreak of the Indian mutiny, that Lord Elphinstone displayed an amount of tact and resolution which secured him the hearty goodwill of all parties. On the suppression of that outbreak he received the thanks of Parliament for his great services, was made a Grand Cross of the Bath, and also created a Baron in the Peerage of the United Kingdom. His lordship had only recently returned to England, having prolonged his stay in India at the express request of the Government. That delay, however beneficial to the public interest, proved fatal to a constitution already enfeebled by a tropical climate and worn out with work. Lord Elphinstone returned to England only to expire; he sank from no organic disease, but from sheer exhaustion, and has thus added another to that long list of public servants whose lives have been sacrificed in the faithful discharge of their onerous duties.

LIEUT.-GENERAL LORD SANDYS, Colonel of the Scots Greys, died at Ombersley Court, Worcestershire, on the 16th inst., in his 69th year. He entered the army in 1810, and served in the Peninsula, France, and Flanders. The present peer's mother was created a baroness, with remainder to her four younger sons successively. Lord Sandys is succeeded in his title by his brother, Lord Arthur Marcus Cecil Hill.

THE REV. JOSEPH SORTAIN, the celebrated preacher at Brighton, died somewhat suddenly on Monday last, after a very long indisposition. Mr Sortain was a very remarkable man, and had great powers of description and command of language. His sermons were very original, and were carefully thought out and prepared in his mind, although he seldom made more than one or two notes. His popularity was attested by the vast congregations which attended his chapel, among whom were often found the leading men in literature and science. Mr Sortain was an acute reasoner, a sound philosopher, and an able divine. He was also a good mathematician, a modern linguist, and a fair Hebrew scholar.

SIR WILLIAM HORNE died at his residence in Harley street, on the 13th instant, aged eighty-seven. He was called to the bar in 1798, became a King's counsel in 1818, and was Attorney-General to Queen Adelaide in 1830. In 1831 he entered Parliament as M.P. for Newton, and was one of the first representatives of Marylebone. He was Solicitor-General under Earl Grey's Ministry, and succeeded Lord Denman as Attorney-General in 1832. This he resigned in 1834, declining a seat on the bench as one of the Barons of the Exchequer, and gave place to the present Lord Campbell. Eventually he was appointed to a Mastership in Chancery, but resigned that office in 1853. The deceased married in 1800 Miss Hesse, by whom he has left a numerous family.

MADAME EMILIE ZULAVSKY KOSSUTH died on the 29th ult., at Brooklyn, New York, aged forty-three. She was a sister of Louis Kossuth, and had been in the United States since the memorable visit of the distinguished Hungarian exile.

MILITARY AND NAVAL INTELLIGENCE.

MISTAKES OF THE FRENCH NAVY BOARD.—In a discussion on the Budget of the Marine, or navy estimates (in the Corps Legislatif), the Vicomte de Kervéguen made a speech which seems to show that the French navy board is not less liable to mistakes than our own. After exposing many abuses and hardships in the system of pay and pensions and the personnel of the service, he attacked the matériel itself. He asserted that all the French ships of the line were too low in the water, and could not fight their lower tier of guns, even in a slight breeze. The American and English navies had now adopted an infinitely superior mode of construction. The Bretagne, so superb a ship to look at, had one tier almost under water—it was so, in fact, when first launched, until artificially raised; and even now the lower ports were almost always obliged to be kept shut. The vessel had cost 240,000*l.*, and had an engine of 1,200-horse power. But she burnt 120 tons of coals per day, and had only stowage for 400, which rendered her steam power next to useless. Five or six other ships of the line, which he named, were fitted with engines of such unequal powers that it was impossible they could ever combine their movements with any effect. An engine of 500-horse power could never keep pace with one of 1,200. Six first-rate frigates have been constructed, which the speaker also named. The machines were too heavy, the vessels sank too deep, were slow when they steamed, and incapable of sailing. Each had cost 120,000*l.* The Souveraine was especially bad. When tried at Cherbourg for Admiral Larrieu, who was going to the South Seas, it was found she could only sail, and the admiral was obliged to take the Duguay-Trouin, ship of the line, instead. The Souveraine was declared unfit for navigation. The Impératrice Eugénie was obliged to have her screw changed, and when a commission was sent to try her, the conclusion was found to be so great that in three days she would be shaken to pieces. The old screw was then replaced with no better result. "All this was deplorable." The duty of constructing vessels was given to engineers who had never been put to sea. Ten frigates are all begun at once on the same model, and if one prove a failure all the rest are so. The frigates blindés M. de Kervéguen also pronounced to be "failures." They were made to carry 570 men, thirty-six guns, four months' water, and fifteen days' coal, but they would only carry twelve guns and five days' coal; and a naval commission had decided that they should only take 100 charges per gun instead of 400, so that after a combat of three hours' duration they would be short of ammunition. The gunboats were equally bad and unsafe. He had seen four nearly lost at Cadix because they were such bad sea boats. The new double-decked transports for China cost as much as ships of the line, and yet carried only four guns, and must be laid up in time of war as incapable of defending themselves. The speaker saw no inconvenience in mentioning these things openly, because every English consul knew them, and kept his government au courant with what was going on. The government commissioner, General Allard, made a very indifferent defence to this attack, complaining of its "unexpectedness," and able, seemingly, to deny only one fact—viz., that of the Bretagne having been artificially floated. The government was evidently very much discomposed by the exposure, as all governments are apt to be on such occasions. It may serve to allay the foolish "panics" which render ourselves so ridiculous on the other side the water.

REVIEW BY THE QUEEN AT EDINBURGH.—Her Majesty has been pleased to intimate her intention to hold a review of volunteer corps at Edinburgh on the 7th of August. The commanding officers of corps desiring to attend must intimate their wish to the Secretary of State for War, through the lords-lieutenant of their respective counties, before the 1st of August, and they will then be admitted, as far as space and number will permit. Immediately after receiving this application each corps will be informed whether it will be possible to accept the offer.

DEPARTMENT CHANGES AT WOOLWICH.—The committee on military organisation, of which Sir James Graham is president, has presented a report to the War Department recommending important alterations with respect to the existing regulations for the government of the several departments of Woolwich Arsenal. At present each department is presided over by a separate head, which has resulted in much complication and inconvenience, and it is now recommended that the whole establishment shall be under the government of a director-general to be appointed by her Majesty, and to whom the superintendents of the manufacturing department will be subordinate. It is also recommended that the office of Director-General of Artillery, last filled by General Cator, and abolished about four years since, shall be re-established. It is expected that Colonel A. Tulloh, Superintendent of the Royal Carriage Department, the senior officer at the Royal Arsenal, will be promoted to the office of Director-General.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.—Captain J. J. Stopford has been appointed Naval Aide-de-Camp to the Queen, vice Captain Watson, deceased.—The fleet of blockships now at anchor in the harbour of Portland consists of the following vessels: The Colossus, 80; Majestic, 80; Cornwallis, 60; Ajax, 60; Edinburgh, 60; Hogue, 60; Pembroke, 60; Hawke, 60; Blenheim, 60; Russell, 60; and Dauntless, 31.—The finding of the General Court-martial which assembled at Chatham a few weeks since for the trial of Capt. Savage, of the Royal Engineers, and Lieut. Harver, has been published. Both officers have been acquitted.—The Army and Navy Club have expelled Mr Stone, who lately brought an action against Lord Llanover in the Court of Queen's Bench.—The greatest volunteer movement yet witnessed in Lancashire took place on Saturday at the Aintree race-course, near Liverpool, when Col. M'Murdo held an official inspection of the various volunteer corps of Liverpool and the adjacent towns and districts. Altogether there were assembled on the ground 4,700 volunteers, of whom 1,730 belong to the Artillery. At the close of the review, Col. M'Murdo said he was sure her Majesty would be satisfied if she was informed by the Secretary for War of the efficiency of the volunteer force in that part of the country.—Sir A. Malet, her Majesty's Envoy at Frankfort-on-the-Maine, has presented a handsome silver goblet to the Salisbury or First Wiltshire Volunteer Rifles, as a challenge cup, to be shot for by the members of the corps. The contest for it is to take place on Wednesday, the 25th inst., at 300, 500, and 600 yards.—The camp at Brown-down has been broken up, and the troops which have been stationed there for rifle practice have returned to head-quarters in Portsmouth garrison. The troops composing the garrison will be brigaded on Southsea common as often as may be practicable during the remainder of the summer.

THE VOLUNTEER SHAM FIGHT.

The miniature battle, which drew such a motley crowd of spectators to the beautiful neighbourhood of Chislehurst on Saturday that one might have fancied the Derby-day returned, passed off with considerable success on the whole, in spite of a formidable delay which intervened between the hour fixed for its commencement and the time when it really began. The volunteers did their duty fully and well. Had the battle been in earnest instead of in sport, those who took part in it could scarcely have acted in stricter accordance with military discipline, or carried with them a more serious and earnest aspect. Owing to the bad arrangements of the railway people, the troops did not reach the ground till a very late hour, and it was seven o'clock in the evening before the proceedings began. Previous to the signal for attack, which was given at seven o'clock, the first brigade of the second or attacking division was formed in a field in the rear of Bickley Wood, and formed the left point of the attack. The brigade was about 1,200 strong, consisting of three battalions, the first formed of the West Middlesex, under the command of Major Compton, consisting of five companies of the West Middlesex Rifles, 260 strong. The second battalion was under the command of Captain Wilkinson, consisting of two companies of the 14th Middlesex (Highgate); two companies of the 29th, or North Middlesex, commanded by Captains Ross and Cameron, and consisting of about 100 men; two companies of the 20th, or Railway Rifles, about 80 men, under Captain Houghton; one company of the Hornsey Rifles, 50 men, under Captain Warner; and one company of the Hampstead, under Captain M'Innes, about 30 men. The third battalion consisted of the 19th, Working Men's College, three companies, about 130 men; the 3rd Tower Hamlets, under Sir E. F. Buxton, two companies, or about 60 men; the 7th Surrey Rifles, under Major Beresford, two companies, about 120 men; the 4th Surrey, under Captain Emans; the 8th Surrey Rifles, under Captain Yeatman; and the 9th Surrey Rifles, under Captain Hastie. This brigade was under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Lord Radstock and the Marquis of Abercorn. Lord Valletort and Major Chitty acted as aides-de-camp to the commanders of this brigade. The second brigade, commanded by Colonel Thorold, was the stronger force, and consisted of the South Middlesex; the 1st battalion, commanded by Major M'Pherson; the 2nd battalion, by Major Farrell, consisting of the 3rd, 4th, 8th, 13th, 18th, 21st, and 34th Kent Rifles; and the 3rd battalion, commanded by the Hon. Colonel Lindsay, consisting of the St George's Rifles; Civil Service, Lord Bury; Paddington Rifles, General Donning; the Scottish Rifles, 1st company; the Artists, Captain Phillips; and the Barnet Rifles, Captain Taylor. This brigade was posted on the right of Bickley Wood, near Mr Dent's Park. The signal for the battle having been given, a small body of the 3rd battalion of the 1st division, composed of the 32nd Middlesex Volunteers (all six foot men, and wearing scarlet uniforms), together with the Engineers, advanced from their position of defence towards the park, and opened fire upon the wood at the western end of Bickley Park. The men thus detached were supposed to form part of the division marching to join the main body of the army on Chislehurst Common to the south. The idea seemed to be that a very formidable enemy was in ambush in the wood up the hill opposite, and the defending force were suddenly called upon to make a retreat with as little loss as possible. But being without cavalry and artillery, the only resource was to throw out bodies of skirmishers, which manoeuvre was executed with amazing rapidity and in excellent order by the men under Colonel Hicks's command. The firing was very regular, and was well sustained as the parties gradually retreated down the hill from the wood towards the brook. Arrived at the brook other companies came to their aid, and they again marched up to the wood and opened fire. Upon this large body of the enemy emerged from the wood and formed in extended column, the advanced guard moving forward upon the skirmishers and pouring in successive volleys with excellent precision. The skirmishers retreated with what haste they could until they approached the wood where they had at first been placed, when a column of the defending force marched up to the front, and returned the fire in a brilliant manner, first in separate companies, and finally by the whole strength of the battalion. The latter then retired to a favourable position behind some limekilns, where they rallied and met the advancing party, consisting of the 3rd, 14th, 19th, and 20th Middlesex, and the 4th, 7th, 8th, and 9th Surreys, Truman and Hanbury's Brewery Rifles, and the West Middlesex, with a very severe fire, which echoed over the hills, and brought the leaves down from the trees in thousands, like a storm of wind in October. Ultimately, however, the limekilns were taken, and from this point a change was made in the subsequent movements of the two bodies. It was now evident that the attack made upon Colonel Hicks's division was but a feint to cut off his retreat with the City Brigade, the Six Feet Guards, and the 12th and 33rd Kent. The main attack was clearly coming from the right of the enemy, and Colonel Hicks accordingly extended his left upon the slope of the hills facing the enemy's column, now drawn up in close line. The second division, forming up in contiguous columns of companies in a field at a short distance to the south of the park, was now seen in motion. The South Middlesex Rifles, under Major M'Pherson, cautiously advanced, and threw out some of their skirmishers, but seeing the enemy in great force on the hills, fell back, after exchanging a few shots with the outposts of the enemy. The second battalion now came on the ground in great force—it consisted of the 8th, 13th, 18th, 21st, 25th, 34th, 3rd, 4th, and 16th Kent Rifles—and was followed by the third, consisting of the St George's, the Paddington, the Scottish, the Civil Service, the Artists, and the Barnet Rifles. The volunteers had now shown the whole of their strength, and Colonel Hicks carefully reconnoitred the force opposed to him. At last, however, after some marching and counter-marching, the second brigade, led by Colonel Thorold, advanced up the hill crowned with yet unconquered battalions of Citizens and men of Kent. They reserved their fire until the men were well within range, and then, hurriedly calling in their skirmishers, poured in a terrific fire upon the advancing line. This was one of the finest sights of the day; the evening was getting just a little dusky, the brightness of the sun had ceased, and in this slightly diminished daylight the lines of fire at each discharge were seen distinct and bright through the white smoke which partially concealed the men. With the rapidity of lightning the small tongues of flame played from the right of companies along the extended line; and then came one, and another, and another simultaneous well-delivered volley, which seemed as though the crest of the hill were vomiting fire and smoke. It was readily replied to by the attacking party, who, however, showed some signs of weakness, owing, no doubt, to the steep ascent which they had to climb. At length, however, they wavered, turned their backs on the enemy, and retreated in the most admired confusion down the hill, their retreat causing immense laughter to the thousands of spectators, and in which the volunteers, as they came helter-skelter down the hill, joined as heartily as they could. The gallant colonel had, however, made one omission; he neglected to protect his right flank. The division that had taken possession of the limekilns had rallied their forces, and were seen advancing in line along the slope of the hill. Thorold saw that the time had come when his discomfited brigade might retrieve the laurels which they had lost. The men were lying down to avoid the fire of the enemy, and the gallant brigadier, seeing the decisive moment had arrived, and following an illustrious example, shouted, "Up, Guards, and at 'em." The commanders of battalions and regimental officers gave a ready response; the ditch—we beg pardon, the river—was crossed. An officer of one of the corps, bearing a small green flag, dashed in like the Roman standard bearer; his men followed; there was a general advance up the hotly-con-

tested hill; Hicks, the victorious, experienced the vicissitudes of war, and was in turn the vanquished commander. The South Middlesex were the first to obtain possession of the height, and these, aided by supports from the other division and battalion, gradually pushed on, following up the totally defeated defending army, who retired, however, in excellent order to the extreme eastern limit of the park, where victory was declared to be on the side of Viscount Ranelagh and his gallant brigadiers, Lord Radstock and Colonel Thorold. As the victorious troops swept past the Grand Stand, and drove the enemy before them, they were loudly cheered, and the greatest enthusiasm was displayed by the spectators. The grand event of the day was now concluded, and the sun, as his last rays glistened upon the bayonets of the men marching to bivouac over the brow of the hill, seemed to smile approvingly upon the efforts of that earnest and patriotic band. Many an oft-repeated cheer did they get as they went past in quick step, and many an applauding word given from the lips of fair ones of high degree, who, unused as they are to spontaneous demonstrations of the kind, could not restrain the well deserved "Well done, Volunteers!"

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Monday, July 16.

NEW ZEALAND.

Earl GRANVILLE, in postponing the second reading of the New Zealand loan bill, took the opportunity of stating that the reports of the outrages by the natives in that colony had been much exaggerated.

SAVOY AND NICE.

Lord CLANRICARDE moved that an humble address be presented to her Majesty for a copy of a letter addressed by the Foreign-office to the late Duke of Wellington in 1815 concerning the military frontier of Savoy, referred to in Lord J. Russell's despatch to Lord Cowley of April 24. He prefaced his motion by expressing his high sense of the importance of the French alliance to this country, and of the propriety of maintaining it, although he could not allow that its maintenance was to be preserved by allowing the international law of Europe to be violated. Proceeding to trace the course of the negotiations which had been carried on on the subject by France, Sardinia, and England, and the conduct of the various governments engaged therein, upon which he severely animadverted, he characterized the annexation of Savoy as a flagrant violation of international law, and as a spoliation which, as nothing could justify, ought to deter this country from hastily joining in any Congress to acknowledge the treaty of annexation. If, as had been alleged, this treaty involved a geographical necessity, we ought, before entering into any Conference, distinctly to understand where such geographical necessity was to end, or such necessity might be extended to Genoa, Geneva, and other places. The treaty between France and Sardinia had entirely disregarded the guarantees of 1815. There was no doubt that a secure military frontier would be very advantageous to Switzerland, but the real defence of Switzerland consisted in the union of the great Powers to maintain its neutrality, and not by signing guarantees at Conferences. If, however, it was decided that we are to go into Conference, we ought to have a clear understanding, or at least some assurance as to what tone is to be taken, before we enter it, as we might otherwise appear to sanction the late proceedings by our presence, without gaining any adequate advantages for the interests of Europe. He concluded by impressing upon the government the propriety of England speaking candidly and frankly to France upon the necessity of allaying by assurances of peace to England, as well as Germany, the restlessness of the public mind in Europe, a restlessness which placed this country in a position of suspended hostilities.—Lord WODEHOUSE, in assenting to the motion, addressed himself to the main point of Lord Clanricarde's speech, whether this country should or should not go into the Congress, and in doing so considered the circumstances attending it. The only question to be taken into deliberation was as to the feeling of Switzerland, and that had been clearly expressed by Switzerland demanding of the great Powers that a Conference should be held. After such an appeal it would be impossible for her Majesty's government to refuse to participate in the Conference, as it would lower Switzerland in the eyes of Europe. It would be superfluous to ask France for guarantees that no further territorial acquisitions should be made, as the European settlement depended upon treaties, to maintain which every effort would be made. It did not follow that by attending the Conference her Majesty's government would necessarily ratify the treaty of annexation, but they might by their attendance obtain such conditions as would secure the independence of Switzerland, and allay the present disquiet of the public mind.—Lord STRATFORD DE KEDCLIFFE would confine himself to the very narrow point of this extensive question—viz., whether this country should attend the Congress or not. The subject was surrounded by so much danger that he should have been more pleased to have heard that the government had come to some distinct understanding with France on the matter before agreeing to go into the Congress. He could not agree with Lord Clanricarde on the necessity of the French alliance, as he thought nothing tended more to produce quarrels in Europe than the close alliance of the two most powerful countries in it. The question of the independence and neutrality of Switzerland (the inhabitants of which he highly eulogized) was one of the greatest importance to Europe, and he thought that the relative geographical positions of Savoy and Switzerland justified the anxiety which had been expressed by the Swiss in the present crisis. If he were convinced that any guarantees for the independence of Switzerland would be secured by a Conference, he should most cordially approve it.—Lord BROUGHAM expressed his approval of going to the Conference, as the many conduct of the Swiss had attracted to them the sympathies of Europe. He did not believe that France had gained, either territorially or strategically, by the annexation of Savoy and Nice as much as she had lost in the opinion of Europe by that proceeding. He could not agree with Lord Stratford de Redcliffe's opinion on the French alliance. He (Lord Brougham) thought it was of the greatest importance to the interests of the two countries and the surest guarantee for the peace of the world.—The motion was then agreed to.

Tuesday, July 17.

CONVEYANCE OF COLOURED PASSENGERS BY THE CUNARD COMPANY.

Lord BROUGHAM called the attention of the house to the fact that persons of colour, free citizens of the United States, had been refused a first-class passage on board one of the Cunard steamers.—Lord GRANVILLE was not astonished that the attention of the house had been called to the case, but it was a case of contract, and one in which the government, of course, could not interfere.—Lord BROUGHAM said, in a similar case which took place some years ago, an action had been brought against the captain of the vessel, but, although damages could have been recovered, the case was compromised.

THE MASSACRES IN SYRIA.

In reply to Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, Lord WODEHOUSE said it was unfortunately true that the government had received accounts confirming the statements in the newspapers of the massacre of Christians at Damascus. No fewer than 500 of the Christian population had been murdered. The Dutch Consul was killed, the American Consul was wounded, and all the consulates, with the exception of the British, burnt.

Thursday, July 19.

PUBLIC BUSINESS.

The Earl of DERBY called attention to the mode of conducting the business of the house, and adverting to the small number of bills which, after six months' toil, had been passed, urged the necessity of improving the system, which he observed was more at fault than the Legislature itself. He granted that the House of Commons was better fitted for originating, and the House of Lords for revising, bills; but he could not approve of the manner in which the lower house treated measures which were sent down to them from this house. Confusion was the result, and a large number of bills had to be regularly abandoned at the close of every session. He could not himself venture to suggest a remedy, unless, perhaps, that it would be judicious to regard the prorogation as an adjournment, so that measures might be resumed in a succeeding session at the same stage at which they were left off in the preceding session. At all events the subject was one that might be fairly referred to a select committee, and he begged to propose a motion to that effect.—Earl GRANVILLE, whilst admitting the existence of the evil, confessed that he was unable to suggest a remedy. It was desirable, perhaps, that inquiry should be made; but he thought the best way of doing that would be through the appointment of a joint committee of the two houses. At present, however, no steps could be taken, in consequence of the advanced period of the session, and the soreness felt by a section of the House of Commons at a recent proceeding of their lordships.—After some discussion, the motion was withdrawn.

Friday, July 20.

The local taxation return bill, the annuity tax abolition (Edinburgh), and the metropolitan building act (1855) amendment bill, were read a third time and passed. The tithe commutation bill, the burial grounds (Ireland) act amendment bill, the registration of births (Scotland) bill, the Court of Queen's Bench act amendment bill, and the inclosure (No. 2) bill passed through committee.

The mines regulation and inspection bill, the tramways (Ireland) bill, the Isle of Man harbours bill, the Dominica hurricane loan bill, and the admiralty court jurisdiction bill were read a second time.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Monday, July 16.

EDUCATION COMMISSIONERS' REPORT.

In answer to Mr Adderley, Mr LOWE said the education commissioners hoped to be able to make their report by the end of the present session.

ISSUE OF THE BRONZE COINAGE.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said, in answer to Mr Hopwood, that the new coinage would be struck almost immediately, but probably two months must elapse before there could be a sufficient accumulation to commence the issue, which would probably take place not later than the end of September.

THE CHINESE WAR.

On the report of the committee of supply of the vote of 443,896*l.* for arrears due to the Indian government on account of the last Chinese war, Mr ROEBUCK took occasion to condemn the war with China as utterly indefensible as regarded either the interests or the honour of England. The war began, he said, by an attempt to force opium upon the people of China, and he asked whether the people of this country would tolerate the forcible introduction of arrack into Liverpool. We bombarded Canton, and compelled the Chinese government to agree to a treaty stipulating, among other things, to allow a British minister to reside at Peking. But the origin of the war being unjust—and this had been admitted by the Chancellor of the Exchequer—we were now sending a large force and spending millions of money to enforce a treaty the result of that unjust war.—The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER admitted that this was a question which could hardly be too much discussed, and that, in dealing with eastern nations, we should adopt the principles of truth and fair dealing. As to the merits of the quarrel with China, he denied that the treaty was one which the Chinese government was not bound to fulfil; he thought it was a valid contract. The question was not whether this or that provision in it ought to be enforced, but whether a treaty recognized by the Emperor of China should be set at naught.—The report was then agreed to.

PUBLIC BUSINESS.

On the order for going into a committee of ways and means, Mr NEWDEGATE moved a resolution to the effect that, during the remainder of the session, opposed notices and orders should not be proceeded with upon which debate should arise after one o'clock in the morning.—Sir G. GREY said the subject was no doubt of considerable importance, and, looking at the late hours to which the sittings of the house were protracted, he was not surprised at the motion, for the sake, not only of members, but of the officers of the house. The proposed rule, however, would lead to great public inconvenience if an obstinate minority, or even a single member, chose to take advantage of it.—After a short debate, the motion was withdrawn.

SUPPLY.

The house then went into committee, and the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER made his statement of the manner in which the government proposed to meet the expenditure voted in supply on account of the China war. In February, he observed, the provision made for the war was 850,000*l.*, to be charged upon the finances of the year 1859-60, and double this amount upon those of the year 1860-61, making together 2,550,000*l.*, which was the whole provision the government proposed to make on account of the expedition to China before they knew that we should have to conduct warlike operations. The vote was increased by other items. The whole of the charges for the expedition to China up to the present period, so far as the government had cognizance of them, amounted to 5,400,000*l.*, to which must be added 450,000*l.* due on account of the former war. The whole of the 850,000*l.* charged upon the finances of 1859-60 had been paid out of the produce of the taxes, the revenue of the year having been so productive. But, although the condition of the revenue up to the close of June was eminently satisfactory, and even exceeded the expectations of the government, he did not recommend any interference with the estimate of the revenue he had made in February. He then proceeded to state the mode in which the government proposed to provide for the recent vote of 3,800,000*l.* Taking the 500,000*l.* included in the provision in February, together with the surplus of revenue, then estimated at 464,000*l.*, but which was reduced by errors and miscalculations to 264,000*l.*, and 700,000*l.* the produce of the paper duty available for the financial year (if it should please the House of Commons that the duty should be levied), these three items would amount to 1,464,000*l.* Deducting this sum from 3,800,000*l.* there remained to be provided for 2,336,000*l.*, which the government asked the committee to be authorized to raise partly by taxation, and partly by other means. They proposed to obtain the sum of 1,000,000*l.* by an additional duty upon ardent spirits of 1*l.* 11*d.* per gallon on the various descriptions charged under the excise and customs. The effect would be to raise the duty on British spirits to 10*s.* per gallon, on colonial spirits to 10*s.* 2*d.*, and on foreign spirits to 10*s.* 6*d.* He explained at some length the reasons which had weighed with the government in making this addition to the spirit

duties (which would be permanent), and why they considered it practicable and timely, and likely to produce the results they anticipated. He was aware, he said, that there were special circumstances which occasioned some uncertainty in the calculation of the produce of the duty, and it would be necessary to accompany the augmentation with some modification of the duty on wine; and he had therefore assumed an addition of only 1,050,000*l.* to the revenue of the financial year. This would reduce the sum of 2,336,000*l.* to 1,286,000*l.*; and that sum it was proposed to provide for out of the balances in the Exchequer, which would admit of the withdrawal of even 2,000,000*l.* It would be his duty to ask the committee for an immediate vote, in order to secure the change of the duty on the commodity; and he added that it was not the intention of the government to make any further demand upon the taxation of the country on account of fortifications, the subject of which would be brought before the house on a future day.—After a brief discussion and a few explanations, the resolutions moved by the Chancellor of the Exchequer were agreed to, as well as other resolutions respecting excise licences, malt credit, hop credit, obicory, contract-notes, &c.

BANKRUPTCY AND INSOLVENCY BILL.

The house then, in committee, resumed the consideration of the clauses of this bill. A large portion of the discussion was engrossed by the 152nd clause, abolishing the distinction between traders and non-traders, it being objected that, considering the acts which by the bill would authorize an adjudication of bankruptcy and its consequences, the clause would operate with oppressive severity upon non-traders without more safeguards than were provided by the bill; and Mr HENLEY moved an amendment, the effect of which was to limit the bill to traders.—Before the discussion of the clause terminated the Chairman was ordered to report progress.—Upon the report, in a conversation as to the principle of comprehending non-traders in the bill, the ATTORNEY-GENERAL said he was not bound to the principle.

REFRESHMENT HOUSES AND WINE LICENCES (IRELAND) BILL.

On the order for going into committee upon this bill Mr HENNESSY, urging various objections, moved to defer the committee for three months.—This motion was seconded by Colonel DUNNE.—Lord J. MANNERS, advertent to what had been said upon Mr Newdegate's motion in the early part of the evening, objected to the government bringing forward such a question for discussion at so late an hour, and moved that the debate be adjourned.—The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER justified his proceeding with the bill, and the motion for the adjournment of the debate being negatived, the house divided upon Mr Hennessy's amendment, which was negatived by 136 to 38.—The house then went into committee upon the bill, but the Chairman was soon ordered to report progress.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

THE PAPER DUTY.—By Sir J. TRELAWNY: Of his intention to renew the motion of which he had given notice some time ago, to the effect that the House of Lords having, by their vote on the paper duty repeal bill, assumed the responsibility of conducting the finances of the country, the House of Commons would postpone the consideration of the supplies until the Lords had thought fit to pass that measure.

PARTY PROCESSIONS IN IRELAND.—By Mr COGAN: That on an early day he should move for leave to bring in a bill to restrain persons from carrying party flags or banners in Ireland on the 12th of July.

Tuesday, July 17.

At the morning sitting Mr Adderley's education bill, which provided that no child under twelve years of age should be continuously employed in a factory who was not able to read and write, was opposed by the government, and was rejected by a majority of 122 to 51.—The spirit duties bill was, on the motion of the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, recommitted, for the purpose of inserting in its clauses the new spirit duties proposed in Monday's budget.—The house went into committee on the sale of game act, in which a new clause was added, on the motion of the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, imposing a licence of 2*l.* for the sale of game in Scotland and Ireland, as well as in England.

THE LURGAN RIOTS.

At the evening sitting, in reply to Mr Cogan, Mr CARDWELL said that, happily, the government had not received intimation of the deaths of any more persons. With respect to the receipt of any further intelligence, all that he had received was a telegraphic message that there was a disposition to further disturbance, but a large additional force of constabulary had been sent to Lurgan, and was still there. He might say, generally speaking, that every endeavour had been made to stop further disturbance.

NATIONAL EDUCATION IN IRELAND.

Mr BUTT moved that an humble address be presented to her Majesty, representing that this house had learned with regret that many of her Majesty's subjects in Ireland were prevented by conscientious objections from availing themselves of the benefit of the funds voted by this house for the promotion of national education in Ireland, and praying her Majesty to direct inquiries to be made whether such changes might not be made in the rules under which that grant was distributed as would enable all classes in Ireland to enjoy the advantages which that grant was intended to secure to the Irish people. He complained that of the large sum voted by this house for national education a large portion both of Roman Catholics and of Protestants declined to avail themselves. Those who did accept the grants disliked the system, and only tolerated it in default of a better. If, indeed, the plan accomplished its purpose of giving a mixed education to the children of Ireland something might be said for it, but, in point of fact, the education was not mixed. Protestants attended the Protestant schools, and Roman Catholics attended the Roman Catholic schools. His plan of remedy was that the government should lend its support to all schools, whether founded on Roman Catholic or Protestant principles, that would undertake to give a good secular education, and submit to the visit of a national inspector of education. He was not for a compromise of religious principle, which could only end, as the present system did, in a hollow and unreal union. But he did not ask the house to take this opinion from him, and therefore he proposed that her Majesty should issue a Royal commission to inquire into the whole subject.—Mr HENNESSY seconded the motion.—Mr WHITESIDE, who had a similar motion on the paper, said he would not under the circumstances bring it forward, but would give his cordial support to the motion now before the house. In doing so he wished to put forward the objections entertained to the present system by the Protestant clergy and laity of Ireland. He claimed for that body the same attention and respect which was lately accorded to the objections of Dissenters in the case of the census bill. Their objection was this—that by the rules of the school neither clergyman nor schoolmaster was permitted so much as to quote or refer to the Bible, or to mention the name of God during the hours when the children were assembled for combined instruction. He quoted several cases that had occurred in Ireland to show that this objection was no mere hypothetical one. Even if the plan of combined education were practicable in itself, the national system in Ireland was not of that character, for the rules were evasive, lax, contradictory, and their true constructions were confessedly not understood either by the laymen, the inspectors, or the lawyers that were

connected with the board. Of the rules that were called fundamental there was not one that was not more or less violated. This was especially the case with the Presbyterian schools of Ulster, and with the nuns' and monks' schools. In each of these schools the education was denominational and exclusive, and altogether opposed to the national theory of united education. In point of fact, in order to conciliate parties, the government had relaxed the rules till all parties but one were admitted on their own terms—the only class excluded was the clergy and laity of the Established Church. He contended that the government ought either to relax their rules for the parish schools of the Establishment, as they had done for the Presbyterians and the monks, or that they should confine themselves to giving a good secular education, and leave religion in the hands of the patrons of each school.—Mr CARDWELL eulogised the national system, which he said had steadily grown from 789 schools and 107,000 pupils in 1833, to 5,496 schools and 570,000 pupils last year. To show that all denominations took advantage of the system, in proportion to their numbers in the country, he showed there were 478,000 Roman Catholic children in the schools, 59,000 Presbyterians, 79,000 of the Established Church, and 2,500 Dissenters. Ever since the promulgation of the Statutes of the Synod of Thurles, which many people imagined would have withdrawn the whole Roman Catholic youth from their schools, there had been an increase of 54,000 Roman Catholic children and of other denominations in proportion. In fact, Ireland now had that proportion of children at school which the most sanguine friends of education considered to be the proper proportion for her population. He denied that the cardinal rules of the system had been violated, either in the case of the Presbyterians or the monks. The oligarchy of the Establishment might be received on the same terms with the Presbyterians if they would accept them; and as to the monks, though formerly they were admitted as teachers, on the ground that they were not in holy orders, yet that practice was altered, and though monks once appointed were not disturbed, yet none were now appointed teachers. The system, he contended, was working its way through the country—one large landowner after another was giving in his adhesion to it; a whole generation had grown up under its influence, and he hoped the house would not now consent to abandon it.—Mr LEFROY regretted that Mr Cardwell held out no hope of modifying the system so as to meet the conscientious objections of the members of the Established Church.—Mr HENNESSY, amidst general expressions of surprise, moved the adjournment of the debate, in order to allow Lord Fermoy to introduce his motion on the paper duties, which was seconded by The O'Donoghue.—Mr OSBORNE said Irish members were always complaining that Irish business was neglected, and now when a question of great importance to that country was under discussion they refused to proceed with it. He did not think this conduct would satisfy their constituents.—Lord PALMERSTON said this was one way of getting rid of a motion which would be much better disposed of by a deciding vote.—The house divided, when the motion to adjourn the debate was negatived by a majority of 177 to 66.—Mr HENNESSY then proceeded with the debate, and complained that a system which was repudiated both by Protestants and Roman Catholics was forced on the people of Ireland by those who called themselves the Liberal party.—Mr BUTT then replied, when his motion was negatived by a majority of 196 to 62.

THE HOUSE OF LORDS AND THE PAPER DUTY.

Lord FERMOY then rose to move, "That the rejection by the House of Lords of the bill for the repeal of the paper duties is an encroachment on the rights and privileges of the House of Commons; and it is therefore incumbent upon this house to adopt a practical measure for the vindication of its rights and privileges." He complained of the apathy shown to this question in the House of Commons, which was very different from the state of feeling out of doors. Delegates from fifty towns in the kingdom had recently met in this metropolis to protest against the aggression of the Lords, and this he urged as the vindication of the course he was now taking. He agreed with the theoretical portion of the resolutions proposed by the Prime Minister, but he thought that theory should be followed up by a practical result. What he recommended was that the bill should be sent back to the upper house for their re-consideration.—Lord PALMERSTON declined to discuss this question over again. The house had already expressed its opinion on this subject, and for his own part he was quite ready to rest on the resolutions proposed on a former occasion; and he therefore hoped the house would support him in now moving the previous question.—Sir J. TRELAWNY declared that rather than witness this aggression he would prefer to see the French occupy Yorkshire, because they would soon be removed, whereas he feared this usurpation of the Lords would never be removed.—Mr CLAY agreed with the motion, but regretted that it had been brought forward, for it would not be carried; and, rejected as it would be, it would become the record of their shame. There was no concealing the fact that on this subject popular opinion was in favour of the financial sagacity of the House of Lords. He concluded by reading a homily to his friends of the Radical party on the jealousy and suspicion with which they regarded the present government.—The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER supported the previous question, and characterised the practical part of the resolution as amounting to words and nothing more. If they were prepared to act let them act, but don't let the house make mere abstract promises to act.—Mr OSBORNE reminded the house that the first person to recommend action against the House of Lords was the Chancellor of the Exchequer himself. But all the action Mr Gladstone proposed to take was, what was known in military circles as "marking time." He amused the house by giving an account of a great meeting of the Liberal party, held in the tea-room of the house, and which consisted of twenty-two persons. He had himself been dragged against his will into voting for the repeal of the paper duties, and he could not help feeling that the conduct of the House of Lords was correct, but unconstitutional. For himself he felt the house was in a degrading position, but as the motion of the noble lord would not mend matters, he should take refuge in the previous question.—Mr DISRAELI recommended the party opposite to wash their political dirty linen in some other place than the House of Commons. Annual parliaments, to be sure, were out of fashion, but, perhaps, an annual meeting at Willis's Rooms might be advisable. As to the case before them he thought it was very important. He supported the resolutions moved the other night by the Prime Minister as an adequate vindication of the privileges of the House of Commons. If we adopted the present resolution we should stultify all that was done before. But was it else than stultification if, to suit the convenience of opposing members in the Cabinet, this house was to be asked to meet this question with a side wind, instead of a direct negative. He hoped the house would take a manly and straightforward course, and not evade the motion with this shabbiest of all courses that could be taken. If the noble lord should alter his amendment to this effect he would give him a cordial support.—Sir G. GREY denied that the government wished to unsettle their former decision on this question.—Lord FERMOY replied.—The house divided, when the previous question was carried by a majority of 177 to 138.

Wednesday, July 18.

In committee, the first eighteen clauses of the highways bill were passed.—On the motion of Mr COBBETT, the coroners (No. 3) bill was, after discussion, read a second time, and committed *pro forma*.—The order for the county rates expenditure bill was discharged.—After some debate and a division on the question of going into committee, the house went into committee on the metropolis local management amendment bill, and it passed through that stage, though

not without some opposition and discussion, and one or two divisions on certain clauses.—The amendments in the tenure and improvement of lands (Ireland) bill were further considered and agreed to.

WAYS AND MEANS.

In committee of ways and means the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER moved that, towards raising the supply granted to her Majesty, there shall be charged and paid for and upon every promissory note made in the United Kingdom for the payment of any sum of money exceeding 4,000*l.*, now chargeable with the stamp duty of 2*l.* 5*s.*, the following rate of stamp duty in lieu of the said duty now chargeable thereon, that is to say, for every 1,000*l.*, or part of 1,000*l.*, of the money thereby made payable, the duty of 10*s.*—which was agreed to.

The medical act amendment bill, the turnpike trusts arrangement bill, the highways rates act continuance bill, and the Oxford University bill were severally read a third time and passed.

Thursday, July 19.

At the morning sitting the landlord and tenant (Ireland) bill was committed and progress made to the 35th clause, when the sitting was suspended.

WITHDRAWAL OF THE BANKRUPTCY BILL.

At the evening sitting the house went into committee on the bankruptcy and insolvency bill, and the 152nd clause having been put from the chair, the ATTORNEY-GENERAL rose and stated that this clause, which abolished the distinction between traders and non-traders, was likely to produce so much controversy that it had become hopeless to expect that the house could give the measure the consideration it required, and send it up to the House of Lords in time to receive their sanction in the present session. Under these circumstances he had, with the approval of the government, reluctantly arrived at the determination to withdraw it. He hoped, however, that the time which the house had spent upon it thus far would be found hereafter not to have been thrown away, and that he should be able to re-introduce it at a period sufficiently early next session to ensure its passing both houses. He then moved that the chairman should leave the chair, for the purpose of discharging the order.—Sir H. CAIRNS admitted that the Attorney-General had taken a course that was most advisable under the circumstances, and was sure the committee would join in expressing the debt of gratitude that was due to him for the labour and pains which his hon. and learned friend had devoted to the subject, and which he hoped would not be thrown away, but be successful in a future session. He suggested, however, that when the question of bankruptcy was resumed by the house, great advantage would be gained if the measure were not in the first instance directed to consolidating the entire law of bankruptcy, but confined to the changes proposed to be made in the law.—Mr MALINS thought the Attorney-General had exercised a sound discretion in abandoning the measure at the present time.—Sir J. PAKINGTON complained of the intention of the government not being sooner made known.—Lord PALMERSTON said the government had been extremely reluctant to give up all hope of carrying the bill through, and had clung to that hope to the last.—Mr HENLEY congratulated the Attorney-General upon his coming to the conclusion to abandon the bill, and recommended him, in any future bill, to leave out the non-trading part, which involved a vast change of the law, and against which good reasons might be urged. The motion was agreed to, and the chairman left the chair.

THE REPORT OF THE NATIONAL DEFENCE COMMISSION.

In reply to a question from Mr Disraeli, Lord PALMERSTON said that he intended making a statement with reference to the recommendations of the commissioners on national defences the first thing on Monday next.

PAPERS RELATING TO THE INDIAN ARMY.

Mr HORSMAN, with reference to certain papers on the subject of the amalgamation of the Indian army, complained that these papers, which were, he said, essential to the consideration of that question, had been kept back, and that the Secretary of State for India had not met the call for them with the fairness and plain-dealing which members had a right to expect either from a gentleman or a minister of the Crown.—Sir G. GREY expressed his surprise and regret that Mr Horsman should have taken an opportunity, without notice and in the absence of Sir C. Wood, of making an attack upon his character, and Mr G. T. BARING declared that there had been no withholding of papers, and that there was not the slightest ground for the charges brought against Sir C. Wood.

THE GREENWICH HOSPITAL COMMISSION REPORT.

Sir C. NAPIER moved a resolution, "That it is the opinion of this house that the report of the Committee on Greenwich Hospital should be carried into effect." He taxed all the Boards of Admiralty for the last seventy or eighty years with having paid too little attention to the hospital; its iniquities, he said, had been laid bare in the report, copious extracts of which he read.—The motion was seconded by Admiral WALCOTT.—Lord C. PAGET said he was not prepared to agree to the motion as it stood, and Sir C. Napier had given the best possible reason for not agreeing, inasmuch as he had found fault with some of the recommendations in the report. If the terms of the motion were altered, and the proposal was that the report should be considered with a view to its being carried out, he would not oppose it. All the suggestions in the report could not be carried out without coming to parliament. During the recess the question would be taken up by the government, and next session they would be prepared to make some recommendations to parliament.—The motion was supported by Sir M. SEYMOUR and Mr BRISCOE.—Lord J. RUSSELL observed that it was the intention of the Board of Admiralty to consider the report with the view to carrying into effect such of the recommendations as were conducive to the public service, for no one had proposed that all should be adopted.—Alderman SALOMONS thought the proposal of Lord C. Paget very reasonable, and hoped it would be adopted.—Sir J. PAKINGTON was not prepared to go the length of voting that the whole of the recommendations in the report should be carried into effect. His impression when at the Admiralty was that the state of the hospital was not satisfactory, and that an inquiry should be made. An inquiry had taken place; a very full and able report had been made, and the house had heard the intentions of the government with respect to it. He thought Lord C. Paget had met the motion in a very fair spirit.—Mr LINDSAY and Mr HENLEY objected to tying the government down to all the details in the report.—Lord PALMERSTON hoped, after the pledge given by the government, the discussion would not be prolonged, and that they might go into committee.—After some further debate, Sir C. NAPIER consented to modify his motion, but not so as to meet the suggestion of the government, and it was negatived.

The house then went into a committee of supply upon the navy estimates. The votes agreed to, after undergoing a long discussion, were ordered to be reported.—The report of the committee of ways and means was brought up and agreed to.—The London corporation bill was withdrawn.

Friday, July 20.

SAVINGS BANKS.

At the morning sitting the house went into committee on the savings bank and friendly societies bill, one of the financial measures of the Chancellor of the Exchequer.—On the first clause being put,

Mr S. ESTCOURT condemned the principle of the bill, which was embodied in this clause, on the ground that it would give the Chancellor of the Exchequer too great a power in dealing with the money of depositors in savings banks, and moved that the clause be struck out.—The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER defended the clause, and a discussion of some length ensued, terminating in the rejection of the clause by 116 to 78.—The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER then announced, that as by the vote to which the house had come the main object of the bill was defeated, he should withdraw the bill.—The CHAIRMAN then reported progress, and the order of the day was discharged.

The refreshment houses and wine licences (Ireland) bill was considered in committee, but had advanced only to the sixth clause when the sitting was suspended.

SYRIA.

At the evening sitting, Sir J. FERGUSSON asked the Foreign Secretary if it were true, as reported, that English troops had been placed on board French ships to be conveyed to Syria, and if it was intended by her Majesty's government to act in conjunction with that of France in suppressing the disturbances in the Lebanon and at Damascus.—Lord J. RUSSELL replied that he had no intelligence of any British troops having been placed on board French ships with a view to their being employed in Syria, but the French government were in communication with the Great Powers of Europe, and he believed the Porte also, for the purpose of considering whether a convention might not be arranged for assisting to put down the horrible massacres in Syria. The matter was still under the consideration of her Majesty's government as well as of the French government, and there was no intention on the part of the latter to act alone. Ships of the line would be stationed on the coast, but the forces on board would not go into the interior.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION.

On the motion for adjournment until Monday, Sir C. WOOD defended himself from the attack which had been made upon him without notice and in his absence from the house the previous evening by Mr Horsman. He vindicated himself from the charge of having conducted himself with arrogance and unfairness towards hon. members who required information respecting the affairs of India. He denied that he had intentionally suppressed or withheld necessary papers; and declared that between him and the Indian Council the intercourse had been frank, full, and free, and, with very few exceptions, all their decisions had been unanimous.—Mr HORSMAN, considering that Sir C. Wood's complaint was that he had been attacked in his absence, would like to know how it was that the spirit had moved him to leave the house before he (Mr Horsman) rose to address it. Sir C. Wood had no reason to complain that he had not seen him quit his seat, and believed him to be present when he suddenly and mysteriously disappeared. He now repeated that there had been great difficulty in getting the information which the house required; that they had been misinformed with regard to the papers in the office; that those which were promised had been suppressed, and that Sir C. Wood had endeavoured to pass the bill for amalgamating the Queen's and the Indian armies without their production. Again, he said, therefore, that the right hon. gentleman had not treated the house fairly. He had not given them time; he had hurried on the measure unduly; he had overridden his council, and had not, until a pressure had been brought to bear upon him, given them an opportunity of recording their opinions upon it. Mr Horsman concluded by declaring that he did not modify or retract a single syllable of what he had stated on the previous evening.—Lord PALMERSTON had never heard a more lame apology or excuse for the most discourteous and unfair proceeding that had taken place within his memory in the House of Commons. He hoped and believed the member for Stroud was the only member in the house who would have so conducted himself on the occasion. No one had a right to assume that, because he saw a particular member or minister in his seat at one time, he must necessarily be there during the rest of the night. The fact was, that the right hon. gentleman had come down with this unfair and unhandsome attack prepared in his head and his pocket, and any man of common feeling or generosity, or who knew the sociable obligations between man and man, would, before he made such an attack, have taken the trouble to ascertain whether his right hon. friend was still in his place or not. According to the member for Stroud, he was in possession of the key-hole of the Indian Council. He knew how the majorities and minorities went, and even what were the feelings of the members of council; but he (Lord Palmerston) entreated him to confine this mysterious knowledge of his to the council, and not to extend it by giving the house to infer that he had his ear also at the key-hole of the cabinet.

KENSINGTON GARDENS.

Mr E. JAMES inquired whether the sanction of the Crown had been given to the establishment of the new ride in Kensington gardens.—Mr Hubbard, Sir J. Pakington, and Colonel Dickson defended the change; and Lord Enfield objected to it, and asked if any demand of any kind had been made for it.—Mr W. COWPER said he had not acted as he had done owing to any representations, but the change had originated with himself; his idea being to extend the facilities for riding in a part of Kensington gardens very little used, and at the same time to afford the amusement of looking at equestrians to persons on foot, which he had observed was very popular. The ride would only be open in the summer, and when it was closed in the winter he would ascertain which way the preponderance of opinion went with regard to it.

FOREIGN RAGS.

In reply to Mr Puller, Lord J. RUSSELL said, although some of the continental governments had promised to consider the question as to the taxes or restrictions on the export of rags, nothing had yet been done; that the French government were favourable to a change of the system of prohibition for a system of duty on the export of rags, and that that government had not claimed a diminution of the customs' duty on French paper imported into this country.

PRINTING OF THE BIBLE.

In answer to Mr Baines and Mr Dunlop, Sir G. C. LEWIS said that after duly considering the recommendations of the committee on the patent to the Queen's printer, in reference to the printing of the Bible, he had come to the conclusion that the Bible could not be sold more cheaply, if the printing were thrown open, than under the present system, and therefore it was intended still to restrict the printing of the authorised version to the Queen's printer and the two universities.

ORANGE DEMONSTRATIONS IN IRELAND.

Mr COGAN called attention to the exhibition of orange flags on the towers and steeples of a great number of churches in the north of Ireland on the 1st and 12th July, and asked whether the government intended to propose any legislative enactment to further restrain the public exhibition of party banners and flags in Ireland? He urged the necessity of something being done to put an end to the system of organised party displays, which was destructive of peace and goodwill in Ireland.—Mr DAWSON also objected to the system, which he designated as the curse of Ireland.—Mr CARDWELL said that last year the 12th of July passed over satisfactorily in Ireland; and it was only in two places, Armagh and Lurgan, where any disturbances took place. He had a long list of churches on which flags were exhibited. It was intended to apply to parliament this session to alter the law so as to make it efficacious in preventing these party exhibitions.

THE FORTIFICATIONS.

On the motion of Lord PALMERSTON, a resolution was agreed to that the house would, on Monday next, resolve itself into committee of the whole house for the purpose of making provision out of the consolidated fund for the expense of certain fortifications and works.

MAYNOOTH.

Mr CARDWELL, in moving that the Maynooth College bill be read a second time, explained the position of the college in respect to the defraying of the annual repairs, and the mode in which the government proposed to provide for them and for the completion of the college, as established by the act of 1845.—Mr SPOONER moved to defer the second reading for three months. He objected to the bill, he said, on conscientious grounds, because it proposed to apply the public money to a college where the doctrines taught were contrary to the Word of God, and subversive of that religion which the Sovereign of this country was bound to maintain.—This amendment was seconded by Sir W. VERNER.—Mr WHALLEY objected to the bill, because it would remove the annual grant for the college from the power of the house, by enabling the trustees to borrow money on the security of the grant with the authority of parliament.—Mr GEORGE thought it his duty to support the second reading of the bill, because it did not add one shilling to the existing grant, but, as a matter of convenience, authorized the application of funds already voted.—Mr BUTT objected on a different ground, because the bill would abrogate a pledge given by parliament, that the repairs of the college should be defrayed out of the public purse.—Mr NEWDEGATE supported the amendment. He reminded the house that they had already refused a grant for repairs, and that, if they passed this bill, they would sanction an unlimited borrowing power. Ample funds were raised by Roman Catholics for other purposes; why not apply them to Maynooth?—After a few remarks by Mr BELLEW, the house divided, when the second reading was carried by 135 to 57.

THE MILITIA.

On the order for going into committee upon this bill, Colonel Gilpin, Sir J. Fergusson, and Colonel Bowley offered suggestions on the subject of the militia.—Colonel DUNNE opposed the bill, and moved the adjournment of the debate.—Mr S. HERBERT promised not to lose sight of the suggestions. He resisted the motion for adjournment, which was negatived.—The house went into committee, but the Chairman was ordered to report progress.

IRELAND.

SERIOUS ORANGE RIOTS.—The Twelfth of July did not, it appears, pass over without a serious, if not fatal, breach of the peace in Ireland. The papers published on Saturday morning gave accounts from Lurgan, in the County of Armagh, of a fearful collision at Derrymacash, near that place, in which no less than sixteen persons of the Roman Catholic party were wounded, two, it is feared, mortally. One version of the affray is as follows: Large parties of those connected with Orange Societies, or sympathising therewith, including women and children, entered Lurgan from the country districts, and were accompanied with fifes and drums; there were several thousands in all, and they attended Divine Service in the parish church and afterwards separated to return to their respective homes. One of the parties, on arriving at about two miles and a half from Lurgan, was met at a place called Moyntags, near Derrymacash, by Roman Catholics, and a riot ensued. The disturbances having continued for some time, some of the Protestants returned to a Protestant house in the neighbourhood, and there procured firearms, with which they returned to the spot, and fired at the Roman Catholics, sixteen of whom were wounded, and two of them (T. Murphy and C. McCann) are not expected to recover. The riot occurred near to a Roman Catholic chapel. Ten arrests were made, some on the declaration of the dying men. An investigation was held in Lurgan, when five of the prisoners were discharged, two admitted to bail, and the other three committed for further inquiry. The correspondent of the Freeman's Journal, writing from Lurgan, Monday night, says: "The excitement caused by the sanguinary Orange outrage at Derrymacash still continues. The more the entire conduct of the Orange party on the 12th is inquired into, the more clearly is their murderous purpose at Derrymacash exposed. A few stones having been thrown, chiefly by women, an Orange party had their guns and pistols at hand, and fired with the dreadful effect already made known. Murphy's case is hopeless; he may linger some days. Nine of the Orange party are in Armagh gaol, and warrants are being issued for seven more, who are to be arrested to-night. Should any of the wounded Catholics die, it is feared there will be bad work, as the Catholics generally are greatly exasperated. On the night of the 12th, about 2,000 Orangemen, armed, went to cross the Bann, about seven miles from this, to carry on the war; but the ferry was removed in time. Thirty additional policemen arrived here to-day; eight men have been sent to Derrymacash."

THE ENCROACHMENT ON KENSINGTON GARDENS.

On Thursday a numerous deputation, headed by Lord Enfield, M.P., Sir J. Shelley, M.P., and Mr Edwin James, M.P., from the vicinity of Kensington and Bayswater, waited upon the Right Hon. W. Cowper, M.P., Chief Commissioner of Public Works, to present a memorial, signed by 1,500 inhabitants of the districts mentioned, praying that the new horse road and carriage drive through Kensington Gardens may be immediately abolished, and the gardens restored to their original state. The deputation consisted of the Recorder of London (Mr Russell Gurney), Mr E. Antrobus, J.P., Mr J. C. Horsley, A.R.A., the Rev. G. Reynell, Mr W. Payne, Mr W. R. A. Boyle, the Rev. R. W. Mape, Mr H. Burslem, the Rev. R. Buckmaster, the Rev. J. Gaitakell, Mr R. Green, vestry-clerk of Kensington, and about forty other gentlemen, members of the Kensington Association.

Lord Enfield, in introducing the deputation, stated that the experience which the inhabitants of Kensington had when, in consequence of the Great Exhibition of 1851, a road was made temporarily through Kensington Gardens, had convinced them of the danger which would result to the lives and limbs of pedestrians, and more especially children, were this new road in connexion with the ride at Rotten Row to be permitted to be continued. He had ridden over the ground on the previous day for the purpose of forming his own judgment, and he was firmly convinced that it was not only an infringement on the rights of the public, who had for many years had the opportunity of enjoying Kensington Gardens as a place of recreation, but absolutely dangerous. He begged to remind the right hon. gentleman that these encroachments upon the comforts of the people ought not to be made recklessly, and that if they were there would in all probability be great public demonstrations and excitement in the matter. Indeed, he could assure the Hon. Chief Commissioner that he believed he had but little support in either House of Parliament upon the point, and therefore he hoped to see the road abandoned, and Kensington Gardens at once reclaimed. (Loud cries of "Hear.") Mr Russell Gurney then read the memorial, and said it had been signed with the utmost alacrity by 1,500 persons of all ranks in two days, and, if they had only made the matter more public, the signatures would have been multiplied tenfold. Not only were the beautiful flower-beds destroyed, but the greatest danger from the horse-riding would result to nurses and children. Sir J. Shelley said his table was daily covered with letters from his constituents and others, begging him to use what influence he possessed to prevent this act of Vandalism for the mere advantage

of the aristocracy being carried out. He warned the right hon. gentleman that, if he persisted, they would have to make an appeal to her Majesty, as unless that was done an impression would get abroad that her Majesty sanctioned the proceeding, and it might lead to some serious public disturbances on the part of the working classes and mass of the people, who felt that they were being deprived of their rights. Mr Edwin James agreed with Sir J. Shelley that a persistence might lead to a popular excitement, so deep was the interest felt in the question. His own belief was that her Majesty would not tolerate this proceeding. Mr Boyle, Mr Antrobus, Mr Banting, and other gentlemen addressed the Hon. Commissioner, and contended that while the Ranger could restrict these encroachments in Hyde Park, the only appeal was to the Crown in places like Kensington Gardens.

The Hon. W. Cowper combated the argument that there was any distinction with respect to his own authority in Kensington Gardens and in Hyde Park, and he must say that the way in which the name of her Majesty had been introduced by his hon. friends, Sir J. Shelley and Mr James, he considered most unconstitutional and uncalled for. It was on the Minister who advised a particular course to be taken that the responsibility rested, and in reference to the position he held he (the Hon. Mr Cowper) was fully prepared to take upon himself that responsibility. He believed that in carrying out this ride he was not only paying deference to the feelings of the riding public but of the walking public also. ("No, no.") As a proof of this he appealed to the hundreds of pedestrians who daily delighted to sit or walk and see the equestrians in Rotten Row. The three points urged against this new ride were its danger, that it destroyed the quiet of Kensington gardens, and also injured the beauty of the gardens. He could not see that either of those points was sustained. He must confess he was surprised at the number of the memorialists, as from what he had heard he considered people were generally in favour of it. ("No, no.")

In answer to Lord Enfield, the Hon. Mr Cowper admitted that no representation had been made to him, either public or private, that equestrians required further accommodation for riding than Rotten Row, but he had made the road on the principle of giving pleasure to all classes. He further said, if a good case were made out, he had no objection to make such alterations as would obviate any inconvenience or danger to the public.

At a meeting of the representative council of the parish of Marylebone, on Saturday, the following resolution was unanimously carried: "That this vestry desires to express its dissatisfaction at the attempt which has been made to form an equestrian ride in Kensington Gardens, since, in its present condition, it is peculiarly adapted, and would otherwise be especially dangerous to the comfort and convenience of children, invalids, and pedestrians generally."

Latest Intelligence.

SATURDAY, JULY 21.

NAPLES AND SICILY.

NAPLES, July 19 (Evening).—A rigorous inquiry has been instituted in reference to the events of the 15th inst. The regiment of the Royal Guard have been removed from Naples, and the National Guard has commenced its services. These measures have made a favourable impression, and a manifestation has taken place, some of the inhabitants shouting, "Hurrah for the King! Hurrah for the troops!" Several houses were illuminated during the evening. The army has taken the oath to the constitution, on which occasion the King delivered an address. Proclamations of the King to the army and the people have likewise produced a good effect. The ministry is supported by public opinion.

Naples (via Genoa), July 17.—The officers of the Royal Guard did not take part in the conflict on the 15th inst. between the soldiers and the people. Some of the former shouted "Long live Maria Theresa." The Minister of the Interior has officially received 44 emigrants, who arrived at Naples on the 16th inst. Some of the officers of the Marine have taken the oath to the constitution, on condition of not being ordered to fight against Italians. General Clary has asked for reinforcements. Several officers of the navy, artillery, and the engineer corps have tendered their resignations.

Palermo, July 18 (via Marseilles).—Some of the Ministers have resigned. Turin, July 20.—The Opinions says, relative to the alliance with Naples: "We do not believe that negotiations have been commenced up to the present time. If overtures are made, it may be predicted that, in view of the present state of things at Naples, they will not result in the conclusion of an alliance."

SEIZURE OF BRITISH STEAMERS BY THE NEAPOLITAN GOVERNMENT.

(From the Liverpool Daily Times, July 20.)

By a special despatch from our foreign correspondent we are informed that a Liverpool steamer, the Ellen Vannin, and four other steamships, have been seized by the Neapolitan Government. The cause assigned for the seizure is, that the Government, having learned that Garibaldi had funds in the hands of Neapolitan agents, suspected that they were in treaty for purchase of these vessels; and, accordingly, orders were issued to seize and detain them at Naples. This circumstance has caused great excitement among the commercial community.

PARIS, Friday.—The Patrie contains the following: "It is asserted that the most energetic measures are about to be taken, in concert with the Porte, for proceeding to the relief of the Christians in Syria." The Patrie also says: "Advices received from Syria are of a grave nature. Great anxiety was felt at Beyrout respecting the fate of the Christians who had taken refuge in the south of Kerouan, and the number of 45,000, and who were surrounded by the Druses and Mutualis in much greater numbers."

MARSEILLES, July 20.—The journals announce the arrival of General Trochu. M. Osmont, colonel of the general staff, left to-day for Beyrout. The Commissariat will leave for the same place on Sunday. Ten large transport steamers are completing their preparations for departure at Toulon.

A Paris letter in the Journal de Rouen contains the following intelligence, but the number of troops mentioned seems greatly exaggerated: The despatch of Captain de la Roncière le Noury, of which the Moniteur has given an analysis, describes the situation of Syria as so very serious that a report has been drawn up in the War Department, proposing to send out to that country an expedition of 25,000 men—a large number, it is true, but considered necessary on account of the mountainous state of the country, which is not unlike Great Kabylia. The Emperor at first expressed the desire that only 12,000 men should be sent, and it was intended to place them under the command of General Trochu. But if 25,000 men be despatched, a marshal—probably Neil or MacMahon—will have the command. It is said that the regiments to be taken have been designated, and that the greater part of them are to be chosen from the army of Africa. We are assured these measures are adopted in accord with the guaranteeing Powers, and that the representatives of England, Russia, Prussia, and Austria were duly informed of the Emperor's intentions. The Ottoman Government is also aware of the preparations that are being made; but they have no political character, and are only intended to bring about the pacification of a country which has been

so often stained with blood. The Imperial transport Moselle left Toulon on Wednesday, for Beyrout, with provisions and stores for the succour of the Christians in Syria. Another vessel is fitting out with a similar destination.

HUNGARY.

PESTH, July 20.—On the occasion of a torch-light procession for the Superintendent Szakos, which had been arranged notwithstanding the prohibition of the police, a crowd assembled. It was dispersed by the interference of the military. Several arrests were made, but no persons were wounded. Tranquillity was restored before midnight.

INDIA.

By the arrival of the overland mail we have received advices from Bombay to June 22, and from Calcutta and Madras, via Bombay to the 12th and 14th of June respectively. The news is unimportant. The chief topic in the Indian papers is the recall of Sir C. Trevelyan. A public meeting of the members and subscribers of the Bombay Association and other native inhabitants of Bombay was held in the Town Hall on the 19th ult., for the purpose of voting an address to him, prepared by the managing committee of the association. There was assembled on the occasion a very numerous crowd of members of every section of the native community, and Parsees, Hindoos, Mahomedans, and Marwarrees were unanimous on the propriety of the address to be adopted. Mr Wilson, at the latest dates, was suffering from sickness, and had been for a short time unable to attend the meetings of the Legislative Council at Calcutta. Sir J. Outram had proceeded on a sea voyage for the recovery of his health. It was looked upon in Calcutta as not improbable that Sir James will make this year the last of his Indian service. Nothing new is reported of the indigo commission, which was still sitting, except that the fact has been established before it that there had been a complete understanding between the ryots and some wealthy natives in Calcutta, whose dislike of Europeans is notorious. The seat in the Legislative Council, vacant by the resignation of Sir C. Jackson, has been filled by Sir M. Wells, one of the Puisne Judges. The Bombay member, Mr Le Geyt, has also left for Calcutta in bad health. Sir Hugh Rose, the new Commander-in-Chief, was waiting for his patent. The Bombay Telegraph of the same date says: The Begum of Oude is not dead as was reported. She is alive, and is hale and hearty; but apparently quite sick of the miserable life she is leading in the hills. Her son, Birjiskuddur, is said to be unwell. The native impression is that the Gorkhas will, on no account, give up the Begum, because the Rance of Lahore was not given up by them when she was demanded by government. Ferozshah, one of the Delhi Shazadabs, and the colleague of Tantia Topce during his declining fortunes, has managed to elude all his pursuers, and to reach a haven of temporary safety. He arrived at Candabar in March last; and after a short sojourn there, proceeded on to Persia; whence, we suppose, he will proceed Macca-wards—being a religious zealot, rather than a political intriguer. A special telegram from Calcutta states that the ship Jane Leech was lost off the Sandheads on the 18th inst. All hands saved.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.

PROPOSED CONCENTRATION OF THE LAW COURTS.—The Report of the Royal Commission on the selection of new sites for the courts of law has just been issued. The Attorney-General's scheme for appropriating the entire space between Carey street and the Strand is carefully considered by the Commissioners, who are unanimously in favour of adopting that scheme. They propose that the different offices, fourteen in number, shall all be brought together; that the law courts, instead of sitting at Westminster, Guildhall, Basinghall street, and Doctors' Commons, shall be domiciled together. The site is midway between the Temple, Lincoln's inn, and Serjeant's inn, where most of the solicitors and counsel dwell. It is proposed, should the plan be adopted by the House of Commons, that the first building to be erected shall be one for the registry of the Court of Probate and for the Divorce Court, as these departments stand in need of proper accommodation more than any other. This the Commissioners estimate can be accomplished in two years from this time, providing that a bill be passed this session; otherwise it will be more than three years before the first buildings can be erected, because the Office of Works will have to give the usual notice for the acquirement of the necessary property.

THE LONDON AND EASTERN BANKING CORPORATION.—It has been officially notified that on the 26th inst. a further call is proposed of 100*l.* per share on the proprietors of this Corporation. The call was wholly unexpected, and has created considerable dismay. It was hoped in the first instance that a return of 16*l.* per share out of the original 50*l.* paid might have been made, but not only has the whole of the share capital vanished, but such bolders as have been able have had to meet one call of 50*l.* per share, and are now required to find 100*l.* more. Branksea Castle, the property of Colonel Waugh, is said not to have realized sufficient to clear off the mortgages. Colonel Waugh, by the last accounts, was living in good style in Paris. Mr Stephens, the manager of the London and Eastern Bank, who attempted to relieve himself of his liabilities in the Scotch Bankruptcy Courts, but only passed a portion of his examination, has, it is alleged, been lately seen in London.

SUPERFLUOUS.—The Emperor is said to be about to establish a National Rifle Association. Considering the case of Nice and Savoy, the Empire itself seems something like a National Rifle Association already—composed of Louis Napoleon, Cavour, and Company.—Punch.

THE ECLIPSE.—The following telegram was received on Wednesday evening from an English *savant* attached to the expedition which proceeded to the north-east of Spain: "Miranda, July 18.—Our success has been complete. We have two photographs of red flames, which prove that they belong to the sun. We have secured many photographs of other phases."

THE VOYAGE OF THE FOX.—The Fox, which was to leave Southampton yesterday, to make the Arctic portion of the survey for the North Atlantic Telegraph, is fitted out with every possible convenience for her interesting voyage, on which it is hoped that she will not be occupied longer than until the end of November. She will, most probably, proceed by the north of Scotland direct to the Faroe Islands, where it is anticipated she will not be delayed longer than two or three days in selecting a favourable landing place for the cable. On leaving the Faroe Islands she will proceed direct to Iceland, making deep-sea soundings by the way. Captain Young and his officers will be engaged on the east side of Iceland in sounding for and selecting a favourable place for landing the cable; whilst the survey of the interior for the land line will be simultaneously carried on by Dr Rae and his party, consisting of Colonel Shaffner, Mr Woods, and the two Danish members of the expedition. After visiting the west coast of Iceland, at a point selected by Captain Young, the Fox will proceed to some point on the southern coast of Greenland, making deep-sea soundings and examining the character of the bottom as she continues her voyage. Here again Captain Young and his officers will be engaged in examining the various bays, for the purpose of determining the favourable point for the east of Greenland termini, while Dr Rae and his party will make an exploration of the interior through ground never yet crossed. After visiting the west coast at some point near Julianahab, whence the cable will be carried across to Labrador, the Fox will take the proposed route to Hamilton Inlet, on the Labrador coast; and, after making a complete survey of

the inlet, she will return direct to Europe. In addition to the primary object of the voyage—viz., the survey for the North Atlantic Telegraph, the officers composing this expedition will take every opportunity of observing and recording such scientific facts as will increase the amount of knowledge at present possessed in reference to the geographical, geological, and mineralogical features of this portion of the globe.

THE GREAT EASTERN.—The special correspondent of the Times on board this vessel writes from New York on the 7th inst., as follows: "The Great Eastern still lies alongside the wharf in Hudson River, opened to visitors, though it must be confessed that the Americans don't show any very overwhelming amount of anxiety to go on board. During the last two days the weather has changed from almost tropical heat to cold winds and heavy rain, and, of course, on these days very few indeed paid the great ship a visit. Even, however, taking the two first days of exhibition as the standard by which to judge of the daily number of visitors throughout the month, the prospect of any large surplus of dollars accruing to the company does not seem very hopeful. Even the most sanguine calculations do not give more than 3,000*l.* sterling a month, and the great probability is that it will be very little over 2,000*l.* The New York papers, without a single exception, have written strongly against the charge for admission being as much as a dollar; and whether their objections have thrown cold water on the affair, or whether, as seems more likely, the price is really too high, it is certain that the enthusiasm with which the ship was at first hailed is fast dying out. A little longer and it will have sunk to zero, and be past all possibility of ever again reviving in America. It is to be hoped that before this reaction has time to spread the directors will lower their rate of admission to a half-dollar, and if such a change is to be made it cannot be done too soon. Already the New Yorkers are almost as much accustomed to the vessel as the Londoners were, and here, as elsewhere, when the attraction of novelty is gone all other attractions soon follow."

THE NEAPOLITAN PRISONS.—A Naples correspondent of the Nord gives details of the horrors of the Neapolitan prisons: "The recent amnesty, by opening the doors of the numerous prisons, has revealed the horrors which took place there, and the state in which they were kept, a state far surpassing the frightful description given of them by Mr Gladstone. Many of the unfortunates who have just emerged into daylight were fearful to see—emaciated, stupid, indecently naked, as they were. Hair, and beard, and nails of many years' growth, rendered still more frightful these victims of police ferocity. Fourteen young men had been kept four years in solitary confinement, and their sole fault was that of having been at college with Ageseio Milano, who had left college six years when he attempted the late King's life. Many of these, though they were not thirty years old, had quite grey hair. But all their sufferings are nothing in comparison to those of the gentleman Attanasio Drammis, a friend of Milano's. Soley and unjustly inculpated in the attempt of the latter by friendly letters which he had addressed to him, in perfect ignorance of his intentions, this unfortunate man was kept shut up in the damp and filthy dungeons of Santa Maria Apparente for four years, without seeing a living soul or hearing a human voice. Once in twenty-four hours an invisible hand gave him a morsel of bread and a drop of water. For some time after his release this man remained in a state of bewilderment at the daylight and life around him. He has now set off to serve under Garibaldi, and Longo and Dillifani, who were thirteen years in prison, have also left with the same intention."

CRYSTAL PALACE.—Saturday, July 14. On payment, 1,332; by season tickets, 1,411; total, 2,743.—Total for the week ending Saturday, 71,386; total visitors since the opening of the Palace, June 10, 1854, 8,756,347. **ADMISSIONS DURING THE PRESENT WEEK.** Monday, July 16. On payment, 5,924; by season tickets, 446; total, 6,370.—Tuesday, July 17. On payment, 4,833; by season tickets, 606; total, 5,439.—Wednesday, July 18. On payment, 10,664; by season tickets, 1,601; total, 12,265.—Thursday, July 19. On payment, 4,288; by season tickets, 977; total, 5,265.—Friday, July 20. On payment, 4,305; by season tickets, 466; total, 4,771.

SOUTH KENSINGTON MUSEUM.—During the week ending July 14 the visitors have been as follows:—On Monday, Tuesday, and Saturday (free days), 5,941; on Monday and Tuesday (free evenings), 4,635. On the three students' days (admission to the public 6*d.*), 1,924; one students' evening (Wednesday), 200. Total, 12,700. From the opening of the Museum, 1,548,110.—**MUSEUM OF PATENTS, SOUTH KENSINGTON.**—Number of visitors for the week ending July 14, 2,843. Total number since the opening of the Museum free daily (May 12, 1858), 242,481.

TOWN AND COUNTRY TALK.

Lord Clyde arrived at Dover, from Calais, on Wednesday. He looked much the same as when he embarked from Dover to suppress the Indian mutiny, except that the bronze on his countenance was a tinge deeper, and his hair a trifle grayer. An address was presented to him, to which he replied in suitable terms; he then proceeded to London.

Mr C. Hawkins, who had been summoned to Rome by a telegram to see Cardinal Wiseman, returned to London on Wednesday, having left his Eminence in a state that gives hopes of his ultimate recovery from the severe illness he has lately been suffering from. A most painful operation was necessary, which Mr Hawkins most skillfully performed.

At the Chelmsford Assizes, on Wednesday, a young man named Bowtell, a labourer, was found guilty of altering a signal on the Eastern Counties Railway, with intent to obstruct the engines and carriages travelling upon the line, and to endanger the safety of the passengers. He was sentenced to twelve months' hard labour.

Another of the rascally organ-grinders, a fellow named Giovanni Farinelli, was on Wednesday fined 20*s.* at Bow Street, for persisting in his nuisance before the door of a gentleman who was ill, and for violent abuse when ordered away.

The Exeter and Yeovil Railway, which is an extension of the London and South-Western Railway, was opened on Wednesday. It is forty-nine miles in length.

The opening of the Sittingbourne and Sheerness Railway took place on Wednesday. It is about eight miles in length, and passes through important districts connecting Sheerness, Chatham, and Woolwich.

A new church is to be erected in Paddington, the district for which will be taken out of the parish of St John. The church has been suggested by a resident there, who will defray the cost of erection, and provide for it a liberal endowment of 300*l.* per annum. A site has been secured, and plans prepared. The Rev. S. H. Hansard, curate of St Mary's, Bryanston square, will be the first incumbent of the new church and district.

The Guarantee Fund subscribed for the International Exhibition of 1862 now amounts to 335,000*l.* It is understood that the Royal Commissioners for the Exhibition of 1861 are willing to grant the use of a part of their estate at South Kensington for the exhibition, and that a portion of the buildings to be erected will be permanent, available for future exhibitions of art and industry.

The whole of the large and valuable collection of drawings, diagrams, plates, preparations, and other articles used by Dr Lindley, in illustration of his botanical lectures while Professor at University College will shortly be sold by Mr Stevens.

It appears that during the terrific gales of the few months that have passed of the present year, the lifeboats in connection with the Royal National Lifeboat Institution have been instrumental in rescuing 115 of our fellow-creatures from a watery grave.

At Liverpool, on Monday, Winslow, who is charged with the murder of four persons by administering poison (antimony) to them,

was again brought before the stipendiary magistrate, and remanded for another week until the chemical analyses, which were then in progress, had been made.

It was finally resolved, at an adjourned special general meeting of the members of the Smithfield Club on Tuesday, to remove the annual show from Baker street to Dixon's Lairs, Islington, where a company, called the Agricultural Hall Company, has undertaken to erect a suitable building, provided the Club will pledge itself in honour to a twenty-one years' lease.

The new customs arrangements for examining passengers' baggage at the Southampton docks have come into operation. Instead of the baggage of passengers being taken to the warehouse and every package opened and examined, one package only belonging to each passenger is examined, and that close to the landing-place. The passengers are thus enabled to leave almost immediately after landing.

The Duke of Argyll has consented to preside at the annual meeting of the Lancashire and Cheshire Association of 120 Mechanics' Institutes, to be held in the Free Trade Hall, Manchester, in the ensuing autumn, and to distribute prizes and certificates to the candidates who successfully competed in the recent examinations of 2,500 adult male and female members attending night schools in these mechanics' institutions.

At the Oxford assizes, on Saturday, in the case of Gardner v. Harrup, the plaintiff, who is a farmer at Chipping Norton, obtained 300*l.* damages from the defendant, the noted shampooer and rubber, at Brighton, damages for not using proper care and skill in the treatment of a stiff knee-joint, brought on by rheumatic gout, and which the defendant had undertaken to cure.

A beautiful drinking fountain was opened in the Green Park, at the expense of a lady, last week. It is ten feet high, and composed of three basins, forming an hexagon, each basin being four feet six inches diameter. The water flows from a lion's mouth at each angle.

In the Court of Bankruptcy, on Tuesday, Mr Commissioner Holroyd delivered judgment in the case of Messrs Bishop and Farbridge, East India merchants, of Cornhill, whose application for a certificate was recently before the Court, when they were opposed on several grounds. He adjudged that the certificates of the bankrupts be suspended for three years from the day of hearing the application, and that when granted they be of the third class, and that the bankrupts be without protection for six months.

On Tuesday the Princess Victoria Gouaramma, daughter of the late ex-Rajah of Coorg, was married to Lieut.-Colonel J. Campbell, of the Indian Army.

On Thursday Mr Rosier, of Ratcliff highway, was charged at the Thames Police-court with having made a disturbance, on Sunday morning last, in the church of St George's in the East, during the celebration of Divine service. The evidence was taken at great length, Mr Rosier denying that his mode of reading the service, on which the charge was grounded, was disturbance of public worship. Mr Elliott considered the case proved, and fined Mr Rosier 3*l.* Notice of appeal was given.

The churchwardens of Woolwich have issued a notice to the effect that in consequence of church rates having been refused during the past two years, they are compelled to appeal to the inhabitants for voluntary contributions to pay for the necessary repairs of the parish church.

ASSIZE INTELLIGENCE.

The trials at the various assizes, reported this week, exhibit an unusual number of murderous cases. Want of space compels us to summarize the results. At Oxford, on the 12th, Ann Barker, a servant, was tried for throwing her infant child, about thirteen months old, down a very deep dry well, from which it was most providentially rescued. Sentence of death was recorded against her. At Winchester, on the 14th, two soldiers, named Conway and Farrell, were tried for the murder of Mary Ann Rowe, at Aldershot, the prisoners having been seen with the deceased on the night of her death, and having a purse of hers in their possession. The evidence was not conclusive, and they were acquitted. At Winchester, on the 16th, another soldier, named Hymes, was convicted of the murder of Ann Sheir, at Gosport. He committed the act when in a state of intoxication. It was accompanied by the most brutal violence, but there was no previous malice, and he received an excellent character. He was sentenced to death. At Winchester, on the 17th, Whitworth the artilleryman, who cut the throats of his wife and six children at Sandown fort in May last, was brought up for trial, but owing to his mental powers having become almost entirely extinct, he was unable to plead, and the usual order in such cases was accordingly made. At the same place, on the same day, a young man named Simpson was tried for attempting to murder Sophia Rowe, a girl with whom he lived. She had requested him to cut her throat, which he did, and then he attempted suicide. He was found guilty, and sentence of death was recorded against him, the judge stating that though the sentence would not be carried into effect, a long term of imprisonment awaited him. Also at the same assizes, three soldiers named Connor, Madden, and Fitzgibbon, who had been concerned in an affray at Portsmouth, which resulted in the death of one Clewney, and the stabbing of a labourer named Kirby, were convicted of wounding with intent to do grievous bodily harm, and were sentenced each of them to four years' penal servitude. At Leicester, on the 17th, Hannah Holmes, aged sixteen, a domestic servant, was indicted for poisoning Samuel Wells, her master. She was found guilty, with a strong recommendation to mercy, but was sentenced to death. At York, on the 18th, Thomas Kirkwood, aged 30, was indicted for the wilful murder of Elizabeth Ann Parker, at Hull, on the 23rd of April last. The evidence showed that the prisoner was insane, and the jury returned a verdict of "Not guilty." At Nottingham, yesterday, J. Fenton was tried for the murder of C. Spencer, at Walkeringham, in that county, on the 6th of March. He was found guilty, and sentenced to death. At Salisbury, H. Waite was tried for killing his wife, but was acquitted.

THE MYSTERIOUS CHILD MURDER AT ROAD.

APPREHENSION OF MISS CONSTANCE KENT.—The Home Secretary has despatched Inspector Whieber, of the metropolitan detective police, to Road, for the purpose of endeavouring to dissipate the mystery which still hangs over the murder of the child of Mr Kent. The inspector reached Trowbridge from London on Sunday evening, and proceeded next morning to Road, where he had an interview with the magistrates by whom the inquiry has been conducted. In the course of the conference Elizabeth Gough, the nursemaid, was brought before the Bench and was liberated. The Rev. R. Crawley said a reward would be immediately offered, 100*l.* by the Government and 100*l.* on the part of Mr Kent, to any person giving such information as should lead to the conviction of the perpetrator of the crime, together with a free pardon to any accomplice not being the actual murderer. The nursemaid had been discharged, and had been informed that she was at liberty to go where she liked, and she had stated her intention of returning to the discharge of her duties at Mr Kent's house. It was then announced that the inquiry would be adjourned till Friday. Mr Ludlow, magistrate, wished it to be known that the house had been re-examined and re-searched in every possible way; and that every inmate, except the infant, had been called on to state what they knew in reference to the matter. The best superintendents of the force had been engaged in the investigation, and it was only an act of justice to the police and to the magistrates to state that they had used their utmost exertions in endeavouring to trace out the guilty party. The two servants mentioned by Mr Kent as having formerly lived in his employ, and as being parties likely to have had

an ill-will against him, had both been found out by the police, and it was proved that they were many miles distant from the scene of the murder on the night of its occurrence. At the conclusion of the sitting Inspector Whicher, accompanied by Superintendents Foley, Woolfe, and others of the county constabulary, proceeded to Mr Kent's residence, and made a further inspection and search of the premises. Yesterday another act in this mysterious drama was performed. When the magistrates met pursuant to adjournment, Mr Inspector Whicher appeared, having Miss Constance Kent, a half sister of the deceased child, in custody. The accused walked with a firm step from her father's house to the hall, but was in tears. She was accommodated with a seat in front of the magistrates' table. She sat with her eyes fixed on the ground throughout the inquiry. The clerk to the magistrates read the information of Whicher, the inspector of detective police in the metropolis. It was as follows: "I have been engaged since Sunday last in investigating the circumstances connected with the murder of Francis Saville Kent, which took place on the night of Friday, the 29th of June last, at the house of his father, situate at Road, in the county of Wilts. From my examination of the premises the scene of the murder, and from inquiries and information received, I have reason to believe that the said murder was perpetrated by an inmate of the house, and I suspect that Miss Constance Kent is implicated in the crime, and I pray for a warrant to apprehend her. Evidence was then taken. Elizabeth Gough deposed: I am nursemaid in the service of Mr Kent. I recollect the 29th of June last. I had charge of the deceased child, and put him to bed as usual, about eight o'clock. I saw him sleeping in his cot, with his face towards the wall, a little after eleven. I then retired to rest as usual. Mrs Kent came up about half an hour after, and shut the door when she left. I missed the child the following morning about five o'clock. I did not wake till that time after I went to sleep. The little girl was lying uncovered, and I got up and looked across, and saw the little boy was gone. I lay down again, and at six o'clock I went to Mrs Kent's room, and knocked there, but got no answer. I afterwards went to Mrs Kent's room a second time at about a quarter past seven. In the interval I had got the water for the second child, and had dressed her. Mrs Kent was then in the dressing-room. I had communicated the loss to her, and afterwards saw the child brought into the house. He was then quite dead. W. Nott sworn: I am a shoemaker, residing at Road hill. On the morning of the 30th of June a man called and told me that Mr Kent had lost his child. I went out and saw Mr Kent going to Trowbridge. I then went to the house with a man named Bengier. We came to the bottom of the plantation, and I said we would look for a dead child if the living one was not found. We went to the closet, and to our horror saw a pool of blood on the floor. I said, "Oh, Bengier, it is as I predicted." I then went to the house, and asked for a candle, and when I had got it and returned to Bengier, he said, "Here is the dear little thing." He took out the child and a blanket, and took them into the house. The child's throat was cut to our horror and amazement then, as it is now; when it was lifted up its little head fell off almost. The body was taken into the kitchen. Miss Kent and Miss Elizabeth Kent came into the room. I can't describe their horror. I and the constable went round the premises, but could discern nothing more. The servants and neighbours also came in and saw the child. That is all I know. Inspector Whicher sworn—I am an inspector of detectives. I have been engaged since Sunday last in investigating the circumstances connected with the murder of Francis Saville Kent, which took place on the night of Friday, the 29th of June last, at the house of his father, situate at Road, in the county of Wilts. In company with Captain Meredith, Mr Superintendent Foley, and other members of the police force, I have made an examination of the premises, and believe that the murder was committed by some inmate of the house. From many inquiries that I have made, and from information received, I sent for Constance Kent on Monday last to her bedroom, having previously examined her drawers and found a list of her linen which I now produce, in which were enumerated, among other things, three night dresses as belonging to her. I said to her, "Is this a list of your linen?" She replied, "Yes." I said, "In whose writing is it?" She said, "It is my own writing." I said, "Here are three night-dresses; where are they?" She said, "I have two; the other was lost at the wash the week after the murder." She then brought me the two which I now produce. I also saw a nightdress and cap on her bed, and asked whose they were. She said, "They are my sister's." The two she brought me had been worn. This afternoon I again proceeded to the house and sent for the prisoner into the dining-room. I said, "I am a police officer, and I hold a warrant for your apprehension, charging you with the murder of your brother Francis Saville Kent, which I will read to you." I then read the warrant to her, and she commenced crying, and said, "I am innocent!" which she repeated several times. I then accompanied her to her bedroom, where she put on her bonnet and mantle, and brought her to this place. She made no further remark to me. I now ask for a remand for a few days, and on the next occasion I believe I shall be able to show the animus which existed between the prisoner and the deceased, and to search for the missing night-gown, which, if in existence, may possibly be found. To Wednesday or Thursday next I think will be ample time. After some further consultation the prisoner was remanded till Friday next, and was removed to Devises Gaol in custody of Inspector Whicher and Superintendent Woolfe.

THE COVENTRY RIBAND WEAVERS.—The city continues to feel great anxiety and uncertainty, arising out of the difference between the manufacturers and their work-people. Great distress prevails among the poor weavers, and numerous instances might be cited of women and children suffering the utmost pangs of want and hunger. A case is given on credible testimony of a famishing mother removing some "pluck" from a butcher's stall, and when pursued by the tradesman, in company with a policeman, she was found with her children eating the meat in its raw state. The butcher, however, was too much affected by the wretchedness of the scene and the famished children to give the mother into the custody of the policeman, but gave her some pecuniary assistance. The board of guardians is unable to afford relief to the large number of applicants who come before them, and a committee has been appointed for the management of a relief fund. Sir J. Paxton and the Right Hon. E. Ellice have each sent 50l. A meeting of some 8,000 to 10,000 silk weavers and others interested in the trade of Coventry was held on Monday. Mr Read, a factory weaver, spoke of the strong and warm sympathy which had been awakened towards them by the accounts of their sufferings which had been recorded in some of the papers. The town and vicinity of Coventry are still in a very excited state, in consequence of this unfortunate strike, and the misery and destitution which it has entailed. The silk weavers have issued an appeal to the working men of England and the conductors of the public press.

Prices of Stocks, Railway Shares, &c.

THE FUNDS.

MONDAY.—Consols were done at 93 1/2 to 94. Bank Stock left off at 230 1/2; Reduced and New Three per Cents, 93 1/2 to 94; India Stock, 217 to 219 1/2; India Bonds, 7s. to 3s. discount; and Exchequer Bills, 1s. disc. to 2s. prem. Rupee Paper, 97 1/2 and 102 1/2.

to 321; Rupee Paper, 97 1/2 and 102 1/2; India Bonds, 7s to 3s. discount; and Exchequer Bills, par to 2s. premium. THURSDAY.—Consols for money were done at 93 1/2 to 94, and for the 9th of August 93 1/2 to 94. Bank Stock left off at 229 to 230 1/2; Reduced and New Three per Cents, 93 1/2 to 94; India Stock, 219; Rupee Paper, 97 1/2 and 102 1/2; India Bonds, 7s. to 3s. discount; and Exchequer Bills, par to 2s. premium. FRIDAY.—Consols for money were done at 93 1/2 to 94, and 93 1/2 to 94 for the 9th of August. Bank Stock, 229; Reduced and New Three per Cents, 93 1/2 to 94; India Stock, 219; Rupee Paper, 97 1/2 and 102 1/2; India Bonds, 6s. to 2s. discount; and Exchequer Bills, 1s. to 4s. premium.

SATURDAY MORNING, ELEVEN O'CLOCK.

Table with columns: BRITISH, Price, FOREIGN, Price. Lists various financial instruments like Consols for Money, Do. for Account, \$per Cent. Reduced, New 3 per Cents, Long Annuities, Bank Stock, India 5 per cent, Exchequer Bills, India Bonds, Do. Stock.

RAILWAYS AND PUBLIC COMPANIES.

From the list of Messrs Holderness, Fowler, and Co., Stock and Share Brokers of Change Alley, Cornhill.

Large table with columns: SHARES OF, RAILWAYS, PAID, CLOSING PRICES. Lists various railway and public companies like Blackwall, Brighton, Bristol and Exeter, Caledonian, Chester and Holyhead, Eastern Counties, Edinburgh and Glasgow, Great Northern, Great Southern and Western, Great Western, Lancashire and Yorkshire, London and North Western, London and South Western, Midland, Norfolk, North Staffordshire, West Midland and Oxford, South Eastern, South Wales, North Eastern, Berwick, North Eastern, York, East Indian, Great Indian Peninsula, Madras, Northern of France, Paris, Lyons & Meditran, Fusion, Paris and Orleans, Southern of France, Western and North-Western of France, Australasia Agricultural, Peel River, South Australian, Van Dieman's Land, British American, Canada, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, Anstraxia, London Chartered of Australia, Oriental, Ottoman, South Australia, Union of Australia, British North American, City, Commercial of London, London and County, London Joint Stock, London and Westminster, Union of London, Crystal Palace, General Steam, Peninsula and Oriental, Royal Mail, Grand Junction Water Works, West Middlesex Do., East London Do., East and West India Docks, London Do., St Katherine's Do., Imperial Gas, Phoenix Do., United General Do., Westminster Chartered Do., Alliance, Atlas, Eagle, Globe, Guardian, Imperial Fire, Ditto Life, Law Life, London Fire and Ship, Marine, Rock.

Trade and Commerce.

Metropolitan Cattle Market, MONDAY.—The arrival of cattle and sheep into the port of London from the Continent during the past week has been large. The Custom-house official return gives an entry of 1,638 oxen, 713 calves, 6,772 sheep, 766 pigs, and 20 horses, making a total of 9,909 head, against 9,407 head at the corresponding period of last year, 9,670 in 1858, and 10,608 in 1857. The supply of beef to-day was large, the number of beasts on sale being 4,160, of which a large portion were foreign. The trade was slow, but former prices were maintained—4s. 4d. to 5s. 10d. per stone of 8lb. Of sheep and lambs also there was a large supply, the number returned being 29,200 head. The mutton trade was not brisk, but prices ruled firm, at 4s. 4d. up to 5s. 6d. per stone. There was no reduction either for lamb. The best quality of veal was a little cheaper. Pork was a little cheaper. The price of fodder is slightly lower, but if the rain of to-day becomes more general, it is likely to go higher. THURSDAY.—There was again a limited supply of beasts to-day, and mostly foreign. Trade ruled much about the same as on Monday last, except for lamb, for which there was a better demand, but no advance could be obtained, the top price being 7s. per stone of 8lb.

Table with columns: Prices per Stone, At Market. Lists various commodities like Beef, Mutton, Lamb, Veal, Pork, Beasts, Sheep and Lambs, Calves, Pigs.

Corn Market, MONDAY.—The weather in the past week has been fine and dry, except Friday. Wheat—English was held at 2s.; Foreign, at 1s. advance. Barley—a decline of 1s. Oats—1s. per quarter dearer. Flour—good useful quality could have been bought at 29s., Norrioks at 39s. 6d.

Table with columns: Wheat, English, Foreign, Oats, Scotch, Irish, Foreign, Beans, English, Foreign, Peas, English, Foreign, Tares, Flour, English, Foreign. Lists various agricultural products and their prices.

FRIDAY.—Wheat—A good demand at fully last Monday's prices. Barley—a decline of 6d. to 1s. per qr. Oats—commanded attention at late rates. Flour—1s. advance, but barrels as at last Monday's prices.

IMPORTATIONS

Table with columns: Into London from July 9th, 1860, to the 12th of July, 1860, both inclusive. Lists Wheat, Barley, Oats, Malt, Flour, English and Scotch, Irish, Foreign.

HAY MARKET.—Per load of 36 trusses: Hay, 24 0s. to 25 10s. Clover, 24 15s. to 26 10s.; Straw, 22 5s. to 23 14s.

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, July 17.

War Office, Pall Mall, July 17.—4th Regiment of Light Dragoons: Capt. F Cornwallis to be Maj. by p. v. the Hon C J Kelch-Falconer, who retires; Lieut W Serlison to be Capt. by p. v. Cornwallis; Cornet T Gist to be Lieut. by p. v. Serlison—7th Light Dragoons: Lieut W E Shaw, from the 18th Light Dragoons, to be Lieut. v. Giles, whose transfer from the 14th Light Dragoons, has been cancelled—Ri Artill: Assist-Surg G Evans, from the Staff, to be Assist-Surg, v. Cumming, deceased—Ri Engrs: Brev Col R J Nelson to be Col, v. Wright, removed as a General Officer; Brev-Maj P B Whittingham to be Lieut-Col, v. Nelson; Sec Capt R H Stothard to be Capt, v. Whittingham; Lieut C P Carey to be Sec Capt v. Stothard—Grenadier Regt of Foot Guards: Maj and Brev Col F W Hamilton, C.B., to be Lieut-Col, without p. v. Brev-Col C A Lewis, promoted to the rank of Maj-Gen; Capt and Lieut-Col and Brev-Col the Hon H M Percy to be Maj, v. Brev-Col Hamilton; Lieut and Capt and Brev-Maj W A M Barnard to be Capt and Lieut-Col, without p. v. Brev-Col the Hon H M Percy; Ens and Lieut and Adjt the Hon W E S West to have the rank of Lieut and Capt; Ens and Lieut H O Gould to be Lieut and Capt, without p. v. Brev-Maj Barnard; R B Martin, Gent, to be Ens and Lieut, by p. v. Gould—Coldstream Regt of Foot Guards: Capt F W Freemantle, from the Rifle Brigade, to be Lieut and Capt, v. F H A Seymour, who ex-Gras—11th Foot: Ens H R Lewis to be Lieut, by p. v. Dixon, who retires—13th Foot: Assist-Surg J Clarke, M.D., from the Staff, to be Assist-Surg, v. O'Brien, appointed to the Staff—15th Foot: Lieut W Starke to be Capt, by p. v. H E Elliot, who retires; Ens J F Grant to be Lieut, by p. v. Starke—32nd Foot: Lieut H E Bennett to be Capt, by p. v. Brev-Maj Macginnis, who retires; Ens A Bishop to be Lieut, by p. v. Bennett—33rd Foot: Ensign J M Shipton to be Lieut, by p. v. Willis, prom—58th Foot: Lieut W B Russell to be Capt, by p. v. A H Russell, who retires; Ens F F Murray to be Lieut, by p. v. H Russell—65th Foot: C Y W D S Campbell from the 79th Foot, as stated in the Gazette of July 3, has been cancelled—74th Foot: Lieut M S M Crummen to be Capt, by p. v. Venables, who retires—Rifle Brigade: Lieut and Capt F H A Seymour, from the Coldstream Guards, to be Capt, v. Freemantle, who exchanges.

Depot Battalion.—Lieut-Col F Burton, from the 97th Foot, to be Lieut-Col, v. Brev-Col R C H Taylor, retired upon half-pay. Unattached.—Lieut F R S Flood, from the 53rd Foot, to be Captain, without purchase. Commissariat Department.—Commissariat Clerk J F W DesBarres to be Dep Assist-Commissary-Gen; Commissariat Clerk W Fryer to be Dep Assist-Commissary-Gen. Hospital Staff.—Assist-Surg T M O'Brien, from the 18th Foot, to be Assist-Surg to the Forces, v. Clarke, appointed to the 13th Foot; J R Thomas, Gent, to be Assist-Surg to the Forces, Evans, appointed to the Ri Artill. Chaplain's Department.—The Rev T C Stanley to be Chaplain of the Fourth Class. Brevet.—Col C Wright of the Ri Engrs, to be Maj-Gen, v. Bolton, deceased; Capt W Peddie, on half-pay, Unatt, Staff Officer of Pensioners, retired on full-pay, to be Maj in the Army, the rank being honorary only. The undermentioned promotions to take place consequent on the promotion of Col W B Ingilby, Ri Artill, to be Maj-Gen, in succession to Lieut-Gen Dromey, C.B., Ri Artill, who died on the 21st June, 1860: Lieut-Col H M'Gee, 3rd West India Regt, to be Col; Maj H J Savage, 91st Foot, to be Lieut-Col; Capt C E Astell, half-pay, 45th Foot, Staff Officer of Pensioners, to be Major.

Admiralty, July 16, 1860.—Corps of Royal Marines: Lieut-Col and Brev-Col T C Moore to be Col-Second-Commandant, v. Hunt, retired on full-pay; Capt and Brev-Maj H Marriott to be Lieut-Col, v. Moore, prom; Capt and Brev-Maj S N Lowder to be Lieutenant-Col, v. Browne, retired on full-pay; Capt and Brev-Maj E T P Shewen to be Lieut-Col, v. Fosbrooke, retired on full-pay; First Lieut T G S Meheux, to be Capt, v. Marriott, prom; First Lieut W T Savary to be Capt, v. Lowder, prom; First Lieut G Brydges to be Capt, v. Shewen, prom; Second Lieut W H V Tom to be First Lieut, v. Meheux, prom; Second Lieut R C Harvey to be First Lieut, v. Savary, prom; Second Lieut C F La Coste to be First Lieut, v. Brydges, prom.

Bankrupts.—F B R Read, Leadenhall market, butcher. [Selsby, Fen court, Fenchurch street.—J G Sullivan, Blackman street, Southwark, boot and shoe manufacturer, [Abrahams, Gresham street.—W Kilby, Church End, Willesden, builder. [Melton, Bedford row.—L Levy, Gravel lane, City, merchant. [Lawrence and Co., Old Jewry chambers.—B James, Brierly hill, carrier. [Bristol, Brierly hill.—J Cooper, Newport, Monmouthshire, outfitter. [Brittan, Horner, —W H Edmonds, Wroughton, Wiltshire, horse dealer. [Kineir, Swindon.—G Le Batt, Exeter barracks, messman. [Scoble, Exeter.—G Holdgate, Halifax, grocer. [Holroyd and Cronhelm, Halifax.—J W Armstrong, Manchester, yarn agent. [Richardson, Manchester.—G F James, elastic web manufacturer. [Richardson, Manchester.

Dividends.—August 8, B and W Pearson, Stratford-upon-Avon, coal dealer.—August 7, W Harris, Manchester, merchant.

Certificates to be granted unless cause be shown to the contrary on or before the day of meeting.—August 7, J W Welch, Manchester, warp sizer.—August 7, J Wall and J Buxton, Manchester, wholesale grocers.—August 9, T Sweetlove, Great Bridge, Staffordshire, chemist and druggist.—August 6, T Palmer, Wellesborne, Warwickshire, malster.—August 8, S Hall, Oldswinford, Worcestershire, carpenter.—August 7, A Wale, Nottingham, hosier.

Scotch Sequestration.—W Miller, West Kilbride, farmer.

Friday, July 20.

Bankrupts.—R K Philp, Great New street, Fetter lane, publisher. [Ashhurst and Co., Old Jewry.—J Raven, Fish-street hill, City, wholesale and retail stationer. [Keene, Lower Thames street.—G Dixon and J C Adcock, Aldersgate street, coach lace manufacturers. [Mardon, Christchurch chambers, Newgate street, coach lace manufacturers. [Bernoudsey, leather merchant. [Lawrance and Co., Old Jewry chambers.—J Walker and J Neeve, Southwark-bridge road, builders. [Crowdy, S-jeant's-Inn, Fleet street.—J Green, Philpot lane, City, commission agent. [Miller and Horne, George yard, Lombard street.—M L J Lavater, Strand, India rubber manufacturer. [Preston, Astin friars.—A F Whitburn, Enfield, brewer. [Hewitt, Princes street, City.—W Hughes, Leicester, grocer. [Haxby, Leicester.

Dividend.—August 10, P Sampson, Hythe, Kent, boot and shoe maker.

Certificates to be granted, unless cause be shown to the contrary on the day of meeting.—August 6, M Perry, Bloomsbury market, passe partouts manufacturer.—H Trenter, S' Matthews' street, Ipswich, butcher.—August 10, P Sampson, Hythe, Kent, boot and shoe maker.—August 10, E Jones, Fenchurch street, hosier.—August 14, C Rosch, Devises, Wilts, hosier.—August 15, A Wale, Berwick-upon-Tweed, draper.

Births.—On the 12th, at Dromoland, Lady Inchiquin, of twin daughters.—On the 14th, at Barnes, the wife of T H Merriman, Esq., of a daughter.—On the 14th, in Cavendish square, the wife of Lieut-Col F L'Esrange Astley, of a son.—On the 15th, at 12 Chester square, Lady Rose Lovell, of a daughter.—On the 16th, at Beverley, the wife of Lieut-Col B G Lyard, of a daughter.

Marriages.—On the 7th, Col Lyons, to the Hon Adelaide Matilda Yelverton, second daughter of Viscount Avonmore.—On the 14th the Rev. S Buss, to the daughter of S Buss, Esq.—On the 14th, F Chichester, Esq., to Elizabeth Maria, daughter of C A Severne, Esq.—On the 15th, the Hon R P Nevill, to Louisa Julia, only child of S A Severne, Esq.—On the 15th, the Hon R P Nevill, to Louisa Marianne, second daughter of Sir C Fitzroy Maclean, Bart.—On the 17th, C Collins, Esq., to Kate, second daughter of C Dickens, Esq., of Gad's-hill place.

Deaths.—On the 9th, at Wells, in her 81st year, Mrs Knollys.—On the 10th, at Whitley, W Usherwood, Esq., aged 93.—On the 13th, in her 80th year, Mrs Burt, of 33 King street, Covent Garden.—On the 7th, at Ryde, J Martin, Esq., aged 83.—On the 15th, at Sandwich, Mr De Bock, aged 83.—On the 15th, in his 85th year, G Gregory, Esq., of Harleston, Lincolnshire.—On the 16th, at Bath, E Gray, Esq., in his 85th year.—On the 15th, at Horstow, aged 96, Mrs Tuffnell.—On the 16th, at Peckham, Mrs Miter, aged 82.—On the 9th, in her 88th year, at Heurbury, Mrs Wray.

FURNITURE and DECORATION. MEDAILLE D'HONNEUR, EXPOSITION UNIVERSELLE 1855. JACKSON and GRAHAM invite the NOBILITY, GENTRY, and Families about to decorate or furnish, to visit their spacious show-rooms, galleries, and manufactory, at 35, 37, and 38 Oxford street, and Perry's place, Freston place, and Newman's mews adjoining.

BENSON'S WATCHES. "All that can be desired in finish, taste, and design."—Globe. "Perfection of Mechanism."—Morning Post. Gold Watches, 4 to 100 guineas; Silver, 2 to 50 guineas. Send two Stamps for Benson's Illustrated Pamphlet, descriptive of every construction of watch now made. Watches sent to all parts of the kingdom free by post; India and the Colonies, 5s. extra. 33 and 34 LUDGATE HILL. Estab. 1749.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, COVENT GARDEN. Last week but one of the Season. EXTRA NIGHT. To-morrow, MONDAY, July 23, will be performed (for the fourth time these five years) Meyerbeer's Grand Opera LE PROPHETE.

Fides Jean of Leyden Mlle Gailing Signor Tambertik On TUESDAY next, July 24 (for the last time this Season), LUCREZIA BORGIA. Genaro Signor Mario Don Alfonso Signor Ronconi Maffio Orsini Madame Didie, and Lucrezia Borgia Madame Grisi (Her last appearance in this character). After which LES AMOURS DE DIANE.

EXTRA NIGHT—Combined Entertainment. On THURSDAY next, July 26, the Second Act of FIDELIO. Leonora Mlle Gailing. After which NORMA. Follie Signor Tambertik Norma Madame Grisi (Her last appearance in this character).

On FRIDAY next, July 27, GRAND MORNING CONCERT in the FLORAL HALL (for the last time this Season). Conductor, Mr COBTA. Pit Tickets, 7s.; Amphitheatre Stalls, 7s. and 5s.; Amphitheatre, 2s. 6d.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL ADELPHI. Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr Benjamin Webster. Reproduction of the Popular Adelphi Drama, THE HARVEST HOME. Continued success of Miss Julia Daly. On Monday, and during the week, THE HARVEST HOME. Messrs J. L. Toole, P. Bedford, David Fisher, Billington, Stuart, C. J. Smith, Powell, Eburne, Romer, Misses Woolgar, K. Kelly, H. Simms, and Laidlaw. THE POOL OF THE FAMILY. Miss Julia Daly, and Mr P. Bedford. And OUR GAL. Miss Julia Daly, Messrs Eburne, Ward, and Romer. Doors open at Half-past Six; to commence at Seven. Box-office open from Ten to Five. No charge for booking or fees to certain permitted. Acting Manager, Mr W. SMITH.

FRENCH PLAYS.—ST JAMES'S THEATRE.—Every Evening. The Last Week—MADIE FEX. M. TALEXY begs to announce his Benefit for WEDNESDAY NEXT, the 23rd instant. Orchestra Stalls, 7s. 6d.; Balcony Stalls, 5s., 4s., 3s., 2s.; Gallery, 1s. Private Boxes from nine till five. Admission 1s. 6d. each.

JERUSALEM.—TWO GRAND PICTURES by SALON, each 12 feet by 8 feet, containing more than 200 special points of interest. 1. Jerusalem in her Grandeur, A.D. 33, with Christ's triumphant entry into the Holy City, &c. Jerusalem in her Fall, as now viewed from the Mount of Olives. The above Pictures are now on view at Messrs Leggatt, Hayward, and Leggatt's, 79 Cornhill; open daily from Nine to Six o'clock. Free.

MR HOLMAN HUNT'S Picture of "THE FINDING OF THE SAVIOUR IN THE TEMPLE," commenced in July, 1854, is now on view at the German Gallery, 168 New Bond street, from nine till five. Admission 1s.

MADIE ROSA BONHEUR'S PICTURES OF SCENES IN GERMANLAND, SPAIN, and FRANCE, are now on view at the GERMAN GALLERY, 168 New Bond street. From Nine till Six. Admission 1s.

WILL CLOSE ON SATURDAY THE 28th INST. SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER-COLOURS.—THE FIFTY-SIXTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION at their Gallery, 5 Pall Mall East (close to the National Gallery). From Nine till Six. Admission 1s. Catalogue, 6d. JOSEPH J. JENKINS, Secretary.

FRENCH EXHIBITION, 120 Pall Mall.—The Seventh Annual Exhibition of Pictures, the contributions of Artists of the French and Flemish Schools, including HENRIETTA BROWN'S Great Picture of THE SISTERS OF MERCY, is now open. Admission 1s. Catalogue, 6d. Open from Nine till Six daily.

OVERLAND ROUTE.—Communication by Steam to India, Australia, &c. via Egypt.—THE PENINSULAR and ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY BOOK PASSENGERS and RECEIVE CARGO and PARCELS for GIBRALTAR, MALTA, EGYPT, ADEN, CEYLON, MADRAS, CALCUTTA, THE STRAITS, and CHINA by their Steamers leaving Southampton on the 4th and 20th of every month. For GIBRALTAR, MALTA, EGYPT, ADEN, and BOMBAY, by those of the 12th and 27th of each month. And for MAURITIUS, REUNION, KING GEORGE'S SOUND, MELBOURNE, and SYDNEY, by the Steamers leaving Southampton on the 20th of every month. For further particulars, apply at the Company's Offices, 122 Leadenhall street, E.C., London; or Oriental place, Southampton.

CROSSE and BLACKWELL, PURVEYORS in ORDINARY to HER MAJESTY. INVITE attention to their PICKLES, SAUCES, TART FRUITS, and other Table Delicacies, the whole of which are prepared with the most scrupulous attention to wholesomeness and purity. C. and B. have for many years enjoyed the high honour of supplying Her Majesty's Table with their Manufactures. A few of the articles most highly recommended are—Pickles and Tart Fruits of every description; Royal Table Sauce, Essence of Shrimps, Soho Sauce, Essence of Anchovies, Orange Marmalade, Anchovy and Biscuit Pastes, Strawberry, and other Potted Meats, Salt-foot Jellies of various kinds for table use, M. Soyer's Sauce, Béchamel, and Aromatic Mustard. Carstairs' Sir Robert Peel's Sauce, and Payne's Royal Oubard Sauce. To be obtained of all respectable Oilmen, Grocers, &c., and wholesale of Crosse and Blackwell, 21 Soho square, London.

REDUCTION OF THE WINE DUTIES. EUROPEAN and COLONIAL WINE COMPANY. No. 122 PALLMALL, LONDON. The promoters of the above Company beg to announce that they have reduced their Tariff of Prices, and now offer their SPARKLING FERVAZ CHAMPAGNE at 24s. per dozen. ROYAL VICTORIA SHERRY - 7s. per dozen. (The Standard of Excellence). SPLENDID OLD PORT, ten years in the wood 37s. per dozen. SPARKLING FERVAZ CHAMPAGNE - 24s. SPLENDID OLD PORT, pure and without admixture - 24s. FINEST COGNAC BRANDY (Pale or Brown) 44s. and 52s. SOUTH AFRICAN PORT, SHERRY, &c. - 20s. and 24s. The finest ever introduced into this country. Bottles and packages included, and six dozen cases free on any railway station in England or Wales. Price lists free on application. Terms cash. WILLIAM REID TIPPING, Manager.

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Table with columns: From King's-cross Station, Fares, To Edinburgh & Back, To Glasgow, To Strirling, To Dundee, To Perth.

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GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.—ANNUAL MEETING OF THE BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION at TORQUAY, August 1st, 2nd, and 3rd. Members of the Association and their friends presenting their cards at any station on the Great Western Railway at which through tickets are issued on Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday, the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd August, can obtain 1st and 2nd class RETURN TICKETS to Torquay, available for return on any day up to Monday, the 6th August, inclusive; with permission to break the journey at Exeter, either going or returning.

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The Manager—A. J. WHITE, Esq. The following Report was presented:—The Directors beg leave to submit to the Proprietors the annexed statements of liabilities and assets, and profit and loss accounts for the half-year ending the 30th of June last, from which it will be seen that, after paying the current expenses of the establishment, making provision for bad and doubtful debts, and allowing for rebate on bills discounted not yet due, there remains at disposal the sum of 21,537, 17s. 9d. which they have appropriated in the following manner, viz.:

Table showing Liabilities and Assets, 30th June, 1860. To capital paid up, viz. £50 per share on 6,000 shares, £300,000 0 0. To amount of reserved fund, £3,000 0 0.

By Exchequer Bills and East India Bonds, £227,715 15 4. By other securities, including bills discounted and loans, £2,310,253 9 9. By building, furniture, fixtures, £27,990 7 1.

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