

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.—
De Fox.

PROTECTION TO PAPER.

Here we are again on the old familiar road to ruin which we have so often comfortably and safely travelled, finding ourselves all the better at the journey's end. Who has forgotten the time when the British Farmer's doom was pronounced? How convincingly it was demonstrated that he could not survive competition with the Foreigner. It was the height of injustice and cruelty to enter him for a race with all the world, over-weighted as he was. The land of England bore peculiar burdens, and if a corresponding amount of protection was not maintained the cultivators of the soil must be ruined. Then we had an awful picture of desolation. The plough was to be turned into the sexton's spade. Tillage was to cease, the land was to go out of cultivation, and to become a howling wilderness. The rural labourers were to fill the union workhouses, and misery and desolation reign in the once smiling, happy land. So it was to be, according to the prophets, but the word has happily not been fulfilled. The British Farmer has manfully stood his ground in the wide field of competition, and the only thing which he has done less since the repeal of the Corn Laws has been to grumble less. He has not lifted the voice of complaint as he was wont to do in all times and seasons, and even the last bad harvest, attended with an enormous importation of corn, has not extorted from him a groan. The steady profits of former years have enabled him manfully to meet a rainy day.

The shipping interest stood next for ruin. The arguments were parallel, the conclusion absolute and decisive. The British flag was to disappear from the seas. The foreigner, with lower wages and cheaper living, was to drive the British seaman out of employment, and run away with all the carrying. Yet our commercial navy has increased and is increasing in spite of the prophets. When Zadig did not lose his eye, as the doctors predicted he would do, they wrote books to prove it was not their judgment that was in fault, but the man's eye; and there are people as wise as those doctors, who will demonstrate that though the shipping interest has not been ruined by the repeal of the Navigation laws, it ought to be.

It is now the paper-makers' turn. They cannot compete with foreign manufacturers whose Governments favour them with an export duty on rags, or a prohibition. Here is the parallel to the peculiar burdens on land in the case of the British Landowner and Farmer. The foreign export duty is tantamount to an import duty, and how can the paper-maker pay it and compete in the market with the foreign manufacturer who works up the raw material free of any such charge? The how? is best answered by the fact that he has borne the competition successfully, and beaten his rivals in other foreign markets. And the case is argued throughout as if we were mainly if not wholly dependent on foreigners for a supply of rags, whereas the truth is that we have the largest supply of the raw material of paper of any nation in the world. So ample is it that it suffices for more than the home consumption of paper, but not for the whole foreign demand, to eke out which resort is had to foreign markets for rags subject to an export duty which we are enabled to bear by our mineral advantages and superior mechanical skill. But the import duty being now reduced, foreign paper is coming in and driving the British and Irish proportionately out of consumption, and when the excise is taken off and all duty is abolished, the foreigner will have possession of the whole trade. The British rag, now so rare and precious, is then to become a drug. So we are told by the prophets of all evil. But what then will be the happy lot of the foreign rag? Countries which now export rag have more of the material than is necessary for their consumption of paper, but when they extend their export to this country they must diminish their stock of rags, and proportionately raise the price of rags, and with it, of course, the price of the manufactured article. Thus there will be an equalization of prices, a fall here and corresponding rise abroad, like that which we have seen the effect of our free trade in corn, and this will take place long before the ruin of our paper-makers, and the closure of the mills. The probability is that the stock of rags in all Europe does not very considerably exceed the home wants of countries for the manufacture of paper, the consumption of which is proportionate to the civilization. Limited the supply of rags must be everywhere, and scantiest of course in poor countries.

Government is urged to use its influence to cause Foreign Powers to abolish their export duties on rags, or
[EVENING EDITION.]

even to adopt a system of retaliation to compel them to a more liberal and enlightened commercial policy. And let us suppose for a moment that the Conservatives were in office, and were to impose a customs' duty on paper equivalent to the foreign export duty on rags. Would the success of this step, if it caused the abolition of the foreign duty on the export of rags, satisfy and silence the cry for protection? No, it would only shift it from one quarter to another.

The British rag-merchants in the case imagined would clamour for protection, alleging the impossibility of competing with the rags of the Continent, where rags are in so much more general wear by reason of poverty, and in a better state of preparation for manufacture. They would show that a scarecrow in England is dressed in a Court suit compared with the cast-off clothes of a French or German beggar. And the ruin of the British rag interest would of course be predicted. The Black Doll would fall, to rise no more. The label, "best price for old rags," would disappear from the marine store-shops, and the British beggar would be undone by his foreign competitor, who would undersell him in his own market.

Let us take another instance. Suppose foreign countries were to lay an export duty on grain to favour the export of meal. Would that be a reason for imposing a duty on the import of flour? Should we be prepared to sacrifice the interests of millions of consumers to the interests of the millers? Should we be fools enough to deny ourselves the bread we want in order to retaliate on the foreigner for insisting on sending us the manufactured article for the baker instead of the raw material? Should we last year have been wickered, or mad enough, to shut out the supply of food necessary to save twelve millions of people from famine? In commercial policy every act of retaliation amounts to expressing the resolution, "If you will be a fool I will be a match for you, and will show you that I can be as great a one. If you do a wrong thing with your exports I will do the same with my imports. Two blacks make a white, a fault in one direction is mended by a fault in another. If you burn your end of the candle amiss I will be even with you by doing the same by my end. Faults are examples for imitation. We rectify errors by multiplication. The famous man of Thessaly, of wondrous wisdom, had a perception of this great truth, who, having scratched out both his eyes by jumping into one quickset hedge, scratched them in again by jumping into another. We shall divide the part of this sage of Thessaly, and if you chose to hurt yourself by one step we will remedy the matter by hurting ourselves by another. Be sure of this, that whatever monopoly you may make for yourself, the monopoly of folly you shall not enjoy, for we shall take care to be partners in every impolitic absurdity."

ASPECT OF AMERICAN AFFAIRS.

The struggle has at length fairly begun; and while we now talk of it in England, it is not improbable that the first sanguinary encounter may have taken place. The position of the capital has naturally been the first object of solicitude on both sides. Surrounded by the States of the Confederacy, the little territory of Washington has for weeks lain defenceless against surprise, yet no attempt whatever has been made; and the last advices state that the road from Annapolis, by which reinforcements from the north could most easily arrive, had not been stopped as there was reason to apprehend it would have been. The respite thus afforded has been used by General Scott to throw up outworks on several points in the vicinity of the city, and to organise every available species of defence in the suburbs. Several regiments have already made their way from Pennsylvania, New York, Delaware, and Massachusetts; and every day the route remains open, the number of the garrison is certain to be further increased. There is said to be no lack of warlike stores at Washington, and great confidence is felt in the judgment and decision of the veteran in command of the place. Why it has not been attacked during the period that it lay defenceless nobody seems exactly to understand. It is perhaps to be accounted for by the supposition generally credited in New England, that notwithstanding all their menace and bluster, the Confederates shrink from hazarding a decisive move before they are better prepared to meet the consequences of a reverse. The morrow of their first signal defeat will be for them one of unspeakable peril, not by reason of its strategic results, which may be immaterial or may be retrieved, but because the tidings of the overthrow of the Planter Army, spreading as they are sure to do like wildfire from one end of the Confederate States to the other, will whisper in the ear of many a bondsman in the tempting words of the old Jacobite song—

"Now, or never!
Now, and for ever."

Few who know the instinctive and traditional spirit of

those who have deliberately planned and executed the movement for secession, can doubt the earnestness or gallantry with which they will meet the onslaught of the men of the North. For years, almost for generations, they have been taught and they have been accustomed to consider themselves as an ascendant class, not only as regards their coloured dependants, but as regards their more industrious and money-loving fellow citizens of New England. In Congress and in the general administration they have managed to possess themselves of a predominant power, resembling in many essential features that which has been so long enjoyed by the owners of real property amongst ourselves. New England presidents have been nearly as rare as plebeian Premiers with us; and though the rigorous distribution of seats both in the Senate and in the House of Representatives according to territorial delimitation and electoral numbers, has rendered any preponderance of votes like that to which we are compelled to submit, impossible in America, the Planter interest has long succeeded in exercising an overbearing influence both in the Legislature and the Executive Government. It would be strange if habits of irresponsible authority over their social inferiors, and of commanding superiority over their political equals, did not generate among the Planters fixed belief in their own superior fitness and capacity to bear rule. We know how intense is a similar persuasion among our own nobility and gentry, though refinement of manners interdicts the unnecessary assertion of the claim in openly offensive phrase. The representative men of our great cities and manufacturing districts are indeed more effectually excluded from all participation in the profits and honour of power than the men of New England and of the Western States have ever been.

But there are many points of analogy between the relative positions of the men of industry and the men of leisure on the opposite sides of the Atlantic: and if we would estimate correctly the temper of haughty defiance with which the battalions of the South will be led into the field, we must bear in mind the elements that constitute their military morale. Amongst these ought not to be forgotten a greater familiarity with the discipline and habits of the camp. The Americans of our day have had indeed but little opportunity of acquiring a knowledge of the profession of arms, as that calling is understood in Europe; but of such opportunities as they have had, a far greater number of the young men of Virginia and Carolina have availed themselves, than of Massachusetts or Michigan: and upon the whole we may safely assume, that hand to hand, and man for man, the troops of the Confederacy would be more than a match for those of the Union. President Davis and his military advisers well know, however, that it is not upon these terms they will have to meet the fearful issue they have raised. The resources of the North in men and materiel are vastly greater than any at their disposal; and hence, no doubt, arose the impression that instead of giving time for levies, drill, equipment, and concentration, the Confederate chiefs would try to strike the first important blow by the capture of Washington. That they have not done so augurs better for their prudence and their foresight, than for the actual strength of their position. Masters of the capital, they might indeed have had the satisfaction of inditing instructions to their representatives at foreign Courts from the official chambers occupied formerly by Jefferson and Monroe. But once there, it would have been difficult for them to have abandoned the metropolis, and perilous to have undertaken its defence when besieged, as besieged it would surely be. In point of fact the soldiers of the North could desire nothing better than that the seat and centre of war should be fixed beyond the limits of the residuary States, and that all the suffering and loss which the presence of war entails should be confined to one devoted region specially claimed by their antagonists as their own.

With the command of the sea, and industrial occupations uninterrupted within their borders, the still-United States need best calculate how long they would continue the contest, and how many men and dollars per month they would invest in ultimate victory as a grand speculation. The saucy secessionists, indeed, have not scrupled to avow their belief that the "money-worshippers of the North" would sooner tire of civil war than "the sons of Southern chivalry." But there is something more than merely growing tired to be considered in the matter. Beleaguered in Washington and blockaded at Charleston and New Orleans, it is difficult to imagine a case more desperate than that of the Confederates must speedily become. The retention of the capital, no matter by what deeds of heroism and self-devotion, would do nothing to overawe mutiny and revolt among the negroes; and we shrewdly suspect that after a short time nothing will suffice to repress movements of that description but the presence everywhere of disciplined masses under military command. Whenever these are drawn away from any important district by the necessities of the campaign in the Border States, the danger of servile insurrection will be imminent.

This, then, we take to be the reading of the circumstance shown by President Davis and his Ministers, as far as events are yet known to us. Meanwhile agents of both sides are known to be in this country engaged in the purchase of vessels capable of being fitted out as ships of war. Pending the decision of the British and French Governments with respect to the threatened resort to the practice of privateering, it is useless to enter into any discussion on the subject. But if ever there was an occasion there is one now on which it is justifiable for the rest of Christendom to take a peremptory tone in the interests of humanity, and to bring its whole concentrated pressure to bear upon combatants who threaten to resume semi-barbarous methods of warfare which the rest of the civilised world have agreed to repudiate.

THE BUSINESS OF A NIGHT.

Tuesday presented a curious specimen of the business of the House. It commenced with Financial procedure; Beligere Rights at Sea followed; then the eternal case of Baron de Bode; next Mr Gladstone's Mission to the Ionian Isles; after that treat, Jersey Justice; Irish Tramways; and lastly, the Report on Ways and Means. For this night's work half would certainly have been more than the whole.

To begin with the subject of Mr Maguire's speech. Who is not sick of the Ionian Islands, and to what purpose are old grievances ripped up? There has been misrule and mismanagement sometimes in the direction of impolitic indulgence, sometimes of capricious fits of severity, but it is not of this that the people complain, nor would any improvement of government at our hands satisfy them, for the one thing needful in their view is to get rid of the Protectorate of this country, and to place themselves under the gentle, just, and honest sway of King Otho. The case is like that in the Irish ballad of the "young man of Ballinacrahy, who wanted a wife to make him unaisy." We heartily wish the union could be effected, and that this country could be relieved of its troublesome, expensive, and most ungrateful charge.

It cannot be denied that Mr Maguire made some shrewd hits of the *tu quoque* kind in his speech. He observed upon the ridicule that attaches in Protestant England to the fulminations of the Vatican, but nevertheless Sir H. Ward had resort to the spiritual thunders of the Greek Church in aid of fire and sword, halter, and cat-o-nine-tails, in Cephalonia. The Protestant Lord High Commissioner deigned to ask the Archbishop to help him with an ex-communication, and the Prelate accordingly, in a letter truly pastoral, invoked the vengeance of Heaven upon the leaders of the revolt and all connected with them in these benignant terms:

"May the earth open and swallow them, as it did Corah, Dathan and Abiram; may they inherit the leprosy of Gehazi and the gallows of Judas.

Certainly our sway, whatever may have been its temper, has not improved this people, perhaps because men improved against their will are as untoward and intractable as those convinced against their will. Byron pronounced them from sire to son incorrigible rogues, and his opinion is entitled to some weight, as it was formed upon acquaintance against his prepossessions. Mr Gladstone, however, takes an opposite view. He says—

They are an amiable and a good people, singularly refined and courteous, not difficult to govern, anything but estranged in feeling from the English throne and nation, but, on the contrary, entertaining a warm respect, regard, and even gratitude towards them.

They have an odd way of evincing their gratitude, so that we are apt to mistake it for quite an opposite sentiment, but perhaps this is owing to their inveterate habit of untruth, which Mr Gladstone confesses to be their failing. He charitably clothes it with the general term "moral cowardice," the antipathy of Achilles to the man capable of saying one thing while he thinks another not having descended to the Greeks of modern times. In this respect, however, it is to be borne in mind that they have the vice of every long oppressed people. The original sin is not theirs, but nevertheless we must look at them as they are, with characteristics stamped upon them which it will take much time to efface, and a government as unlike as possible to the one they covet.

Mr Gladstone is very angry at the derision of their yearnings for nationality. He says that the sentiment which is the very sign of national, political, and moral life amongst them, the memory of their glorious origin, is set up as a butt for wanton, cruel, and dastardly ridicule. National pride, like family pride, may be very honourable, or made consummately ridiculous. An Irish gentleman boasting of his lineage and kin, said, "Such 'as you see me, not one of my relations will condescend to notice me"! We strongly suspect that the Ionians are in the same predicament with this boaster, who measured the greatness of his house by its superiority to his own littleness. Modern Greece is the Miss Lucretia McTab of the European family, and the "dastardly ridicule" will fasten on the meanness of her ways compared with the loftiness of her pretensions.

And after all, is the pride of the Greek islanders a real pride in their origin, or do they not rather take the benefit of the homage we pay to ancient Greece? How many Greeks can show cause for their pride in their origin? How many know anything of Homer beyond the name? How many know anything of the literature, arts, and history of ancient Greece? The pride is second-hand. The Greek is proud of his race not because he knows anything about it, but because he sees that the learned world honours the stock from which he has degenerated.

But to return to our muttoms, the diverse subjects of Tuesday's debate. After the Greeks came Justice in Jersey, and then a Bill amending an Irish Tramways Act, the mover of which, Mr Butt, cut short its progress by a motion to report progress for the most Irish reason conceivable. He explained that he moved that the Chairman should report progress not because progress had been made nor because of any understanding with the Government to make way for its business, but because he had lost his temper, upon which he thought it time to report progress.

Lord R. Cecil might presently afterwards have moved to report progress in the direction of the same loss, for he made a most angry onslaught on the Chancellor of the Exchequer for proceeding with the Report of the Committee of Ways and Means, charging him with the devices of a petty attorney.

His lordship was "absolutely aghast at the audacity of Mr Gladstone. What the Government was proposing was to subdue the House of Lords. Mr Gladstone was using a lever to overthrow the Constitution. Measures of finance hitherto have been divided into separate Bills, but to avenge a special political defeat, to gratify a special pique, it is proposed to depart from this course." So said Lord R. Cecil in his great ire. Mr Gladstone, according to his Lordship, is a Guy Vaux, and he (Lord R. Cecil) is the detective, King James. But to what does all this big sound and fury come substantially? Simply to this, Mr Gladstone is charged with lumping his measures for the Lords so as to leave them no choice but to take all, or reject all. And very wisely and constitutionally Mr Gladstone has acted in so doing, for if the Lords meddle at all with the financial arrangements of the Commons it is best that it should be not piecemeal but in block, and that they should take not a part but the whole Budget into their hands for rejection. The country will then know what to think of the change of usage, taking the powers of imposing and remitting taxes out of the hands of its representatives. This will at least be a frank proceeding, about the character and effect of which there can be no mistake, and but one constitutional judgment.

We should like to know the feelings with which Lord Derby regards the conduct of his party on Tuesday night. Were they of pride and admiration? Is this a specimen of the disinterested, patriotic care of the public interests, and of the absence of any selfish or factious ends? The whole proceeding was a device to *hustle* the Government business, the Report on Ways and Means. The affair was like the sham fights get up in the streets that robbery may be committed in the confusion. A mighty interest was pretended in the Irish Tramways Bill to stop the way of the Budget, and great was the wrath at the failure of this expedient for delay. As we have shown, Lord R. Cecil became downright abusive. Now this nobleman is one of the best of the party, the admiration and pride of Lord Derby. He has good talents and speaks well to his point, and on Monday he made a clever, amusing speech on hopeful Free-trade calculations of advantage from the removal of fiscal impediments to manufactures—Sir Robert Peel's vision of watch-springs of glass, and Mr Gladstone's promise of pipes of paper, and all sorts of other unimagined uses. Here, then, is a follower of mark, both as regards abilities and station, whom Lord Derby may fairly prize; but we see him, instead of rising superior to party purposes, stooping to them in a paltry endeavour to obstruct the public business, and resenting the defeat of the attempt in language bordering at least on the ungentlemanly. Such is the corrupting effect of party spirit on the side of the House to which Lord Derby assigns all the public virtues.

On Thursday the Report which was the lever to overthrow the Constitution and prostrate the Lords, was unopposed, Lord R. Cecil who on the Tuesday went out of the House like a lion having on Thursday come into it like a lamb.

THE FATE OF CAPTAIN BRABAZON.

We have most heartily recognized the value of Lord Elgin's services in China, rating them—to speak in extremes—as highly as his Lordship himself dees. We did not conceal our appreciation of the frankness of his speech to his neighbours at Kincardine, and we would, if we could, admire also his speech at the Mansion-house on Wednesday. But we are not able to do that. The self-glorification might have passed for the mere openness of after-dinner eloquence, if his Lordship had not, in the hours of fasting, and of vanity aforethought, put into his pocket, for the purpose of impressing it on the company, an old letter in which Sir Henry Ward told him that by denying himself the aid of troops in China, and suspending his negotiations during the crisis of the Indian mutiny, he had "set a bright example at a moment of darkness and calamity. And if India can be saved it is to you that we shall owe its redemption." Lord Elgin also told the Lord Mayor how, when he went to hear Mr Spurgeon before going out to China, the stranger who had given him a seat said to him as they came away from sermon, "I hope, my lord, you will excuse me for what I am going to mention, but I was not able to take my eyes off you during the whole service, so engrossed was I with the thought of the enormous responsibilities that are about to devolve on you." All that said the stranger, and his lordship vouches for his having said it. When next Lord Elgin talks about himself we hope it will be in the House of Lords, and not in self-praise, but in self-justification.

Time and reflection have established in the public mind a belief that the death of our countryman, Captain Braba-

zon, was assumed by Lord Elgin honestly, but too hastily, and that his lordship left China without having compared evidences, as he should have done, or employed any of those means of sifting the truth of a Chinese report which lay open to any man of shrewd wit and sound judgment. Our troops came home assuming that all had been done that was to be done, and persuaded that their chief had evidence of Captain Brabazon's death. But neither in published documents nor in Lord Elgin's speeches does this evidence appear; and when some evenings ago General Peel put questions on the subject to the Government, Lord Palmerston answered, indeed, with right feeling, and expressed generally the belief we all entertain, that no search will discover Captain Brabazon to be alive; but he did not meet with direct answer the two questions put to him—What evidence does Lord Elgin possess of Captain Brabazon's death? and what steps did he take to test its value? Lord Elgin may, if he will, in his next speech give the clear answer to those questions which they have not yet received. The evidence, so far as it is possessed by the public, is by no means satisfactory, and there is no record of any strict inquiry into it. The responsibility of the grave error that appears to have been committed rests entirely with Lord Elgin. That the evidence with which he was satisfied is insufficient, is implied in the fact that the Russian Government, after reading our Blue-book of Correspondence respecting Affairs in China, has a sanguine (doubtless over-sanguine) hope that its agents will succeed even yet in finding Captain Brabazon alive. Its new Minister to Peking, as Lord Palmerston said, "has been instructed that the first duty he had to perform was to use every means in his own power, and to co-operate with Mr Bruce in clearing up the fate of this gallant officer." On the part of England, Lord John Russell, when Major Brabazon was on the point of setting out himself in search of his son, undertook to use every means in his power for getting at an exact knowledge of the truth, and did in fact nearly three months ago send out stringent instructions to Mr Bruce upon the subject. Did, then, Lord Elgin,—not purposely, but through a weak acceptance of imperfect evidence,—quit China, leaving that doubt as to the fate of an English citizen unsolved behind him? That question, and that only; not the question whether Captain Brabazon be now alive or dead, or any calculation of mere probabilities; the public would have Lord Elgin speak to when he is next disposed to talk about himself.

Lord Elgin's report on the subject, dated the 26th of October, two days subsequent to the convention of Peking, after reciting the delivery alive or dead of other British subjects seized by the Chinese, went no farther than this:

Of the British subjects captured, therefore, Captain Brabazon, of the Royal Artillery, is alone unaccounted for. The silence of the Chinese authorities, who always plead ignorance of his fate when questioned on the subject, and rumours which reach us from various quarters, lead us to fear that he must have met a violent death. It is reported that, together with a French gentleman (a priest acting as interpreter to General de Montauban), he was beheaded after the action of the 21st ultimo, by direction of a Chinese General who was wounded on that occasion, and who in his exasperation is said to have ordered that these two prisoners, who chanced to be in his power, should be executed. I am inclined to credit this report, although I have no positive evidence of its accuracy.

Certainly it was not very credible that, as the report went, Captain Brabazon and the Abbé de Luc were executed and thrown into the canal of Pa-li-chiau on the very morning of the day in which that town was entered by our troops, who afterwards remained there for ten days, holding open market and in constant communication with the Chinese, without hearing anything about it. And when, a month afterwards, Lord Elgin credited the report, why did he not give it at least a chance of corroboration by causing the canal to be dragged? But more than that, Lord Elgin had in his hands when he wrote that letter, two documents of which he had overlooked the value, showing that Captain Brabazon and the Abbé de Luc were alive on the 3rd of October, twelve days after the reported execution. In one of these documents the Prince of Kung says that he has with him "the French officer, sur-named I, who also speaks Chinese," and nobody but the Abbé de Luc was in the hands of the Chinese who could in the remotest degree correspond to that description. On the same day we find from Mr Parkes's very interesting narrative that the conversation of Hangi turned upon other prisoners in the hands of the Chinese. "We often," says Mr Parkes, "tried to learn from Hangi and the other mandarins the fate of the other gentlemen and men from whom we were separated on the day of our seizure, but they always insisted that they knew nothing about any other prisoners, and had only accidentally heard three or four foreigners were detained in Sang-ko-lin-sin's camp." Who were these men if not Captain Brabazon and the Abbé? All the other prisoners are accounted for as then dead or in prison, while there is the evidence of Mahomed Khan to the separation of Captain Brabazon and a Frenchman from the other prisoners, with the more distinct evidence of the Duffadar Jewalla Sing that when the prisoners arrived at the joss-house between Tung-chow and Peking "Captain Brabazon and a Frenchman" did go back to the camp of San-ko-lin-sin. "Captain Brabazon and a Frenchman," we read in his evidence, "went back, and Lieutenant Anderson told us they were going to the Commander-in-Chief to give information and obtain our release." San-ko-lin-sin kept them in his camp, and was, on all the evidence, accountable for them, when Lord Elgin contented himself with a vague rumour, that in its origin had related only to "two Europeans," and did not arise until a month after the occurrence. But even that might have had some foundation of truth in the fate of an English and French

private soldier missing and probably murdered about the time; or perhaps in the murder of two men of the 31st Regiment at Hosiwo, close by; or in the decapitation at Hosiwo of a man of the Military Train on the 5th of October. As far as concerned Captain Brabazon and the Abbé de Luc, evidence seems to have been against the report at the very time when Lord Elgin satisfied himself with half acceptance of it, and, as we are left to suppose, made no farther inquiry.

THE OLD DIFFICULTY.

Since Catherine II and Frederick the Great were gathered to the tomb, Europe has passed through every vicissitude of war and peace, of political revolution and of social change. Commonwealths and Kingdoms, Confederations and Empires, have been called into being and have been swept away. Newly-invented principles of policy and happiness have been planted amidst choral songs and salvos of artillery, yet they have failed to grow; while old traditions and enchantments have been summoned back to life, and solemnly re-installed around the thrones of absolutism, only to moulder and crumble away. Fraternity and Equality have been adopted and abandoned, resuscitated and again laid aside by France; while the power of a Holy Alliance has been relied on, repudiated, reinvented, and once more renounced as past praying for by Austria. From Madrid to Moscow, every Cabinet is between two minds whether it must venture onward or may venture back; and if the secrets of diplomacy were laid open, it would be found that territorially there are as many anxieties as with regard to the balance of domestic interests. But throughout all the vicissitudes of European trouble, one source of perplexity has continually recurred,—what about Poland? Time, whose waves have obliterated so many other hopes and fears, seems to affect little those that go and come from Kosciusko's grave. Poland is still the source of humiliation to Russia, of perturbation to Germany, of uneasiness to France, of perplexity to Europe. Promises of concession never fulfilled, and dreams of administrative ascendancy in a Pan-Slavic empire, have alike been heard and unheeded by the undying faith of a noble people in their right to freedom and independence. The frowns of Nicholas and the blandishments of Alexander have proved equally unavailing. And the schemes of personal ambition sought to be substituted by men like Wielopolski for national demands and longings, are regarded with bitter scorn even by the Poles who in mind and fortune belong to the class out of which Imperial *protégés* might, if they would, be made. If the heart of alien rule be hardened notwithstanding all the plagues and warnings it has had, the heart of native constancy to freedom remains unshaken, undebauched. In 1831 the whole might of Russia strove in vain for months to frighten Poland into throwing down her arms, because there then appeared to be a reasonable prospect of their being used successfully; and they would have been so had Western Europe then acted but half as wisely and as well as it has acted since towards Italy. Fearful has been the penalty paid by France and England for the selfishness and shortsightedness of their policy at that time. And now Russia strives, with the same ill success, to tantalise and torture her great captive into taking up arms. Ever since the late massacre at Warsaw, the Imperial Government has been labouring diligently to prove that the populace provoked the troops to fire, and failing that, to find in *ex post facto* execrations and reproaches, proofs of national conspiracy. But for the present the Poles are resolved to endure to the end, rather than peril their eventual chance of being saved; and they understand clearly that abortive because premature revolt cannot be wise for them, as it is so obviously desired by their oppressors.

Meanwhile the Government of France looks with disquietude and chagrin on the condition of things at Warsaw. Absolute though he be in the direction of French armies and of French diplomacy, there are some things which Napoleon III well knows that he cannot venture to do, or even seem to do. France does not want him to go to war for Poland; and Poland does not want him to do so. But so long as the spectacle is presented to the mind of France of Polish suffering and slavery, an intimate alliance with Russia is not to be thought of; nor can even its possibility be spoken of seriously as a threat to coerce England or Germany into acquiescence in Bonapartist schemes elsewhere. The recent manifesto, for such we cannot help regarding it, in the *Moniteur*, of Napoleonic views regarding Poland fails to conceal the truth in this respect. We can readily imagine M. Kisseleff suggesting an admonition to the Poles from the French Government to rely exclusively on the magnanimity and mercy of the Czar, and to discard deceptive hopes of rescue from their present thralldom by foreign intervention.

The Court of St Petersburg willingly pardons the vague and valueless expressions of sympathy as it is called, in Polish sufferings, for sake of such a public disavowal of useful or intelligible friendship. Poland does not want or wish for that most unmeaning of all delusive demonstrations, verbal sympathy: and as for armed intervention the Poles know too well by sixty years' experience how little that is to be thought of. The veteran Prince Czartoryski, in his recent address to his countrymen from Paris, courageously exhorted them to rely wholly on themselves; and repelled with energy the insinuation that foreign influence or intrigue had had anything to do with the late events at Warsaw. The best service which France and England can render the down-stricken neighbour whom they have

so long suffered to lie bleeding without help on the way-side, is to lift up a clear and audible voice of denunciation of the breach of faith and violation of law of which Russia has been guilty. Although the Western Powers cannot be said to have guaranteed formally the provisions of the Treaty of Vienna, as parties to that Treaty they have an indisputable right, and it is their manifest duty as a matter of generosity and justice, to protest against its scandalous infraction. But interest dictates this course as well as sentiment. While Poland remains in its present volcanic state there can be no permanent safety or repose for Europe: and the Poles have at length discovered that the permanent attitude of discontent on their part is more formidable in the eyes of European statesmanship than the most sanguinary outbreak they could plan.

OVERCROWDED COTTAGES.

The evils, sanitary and moral, of overcrowding cottages are deplorable indeed, but we must not deceive ourselves about the difficulty of the remedy. The good feelings of proprietors are introducing some improvement, and where there are not the good feelings a better law of settlement might do much by removing a bad motive which now induces landlords whose estates are heavily charged with poor-rates to get rid of the poor and thrust them off upon over-peopled neighbouring districts. It is well to try all things to diminish a great evil, and by truly estimating the difficulty of a complete cure we shall not be the less disposed to adopt such palliatives as may be available.

Crowding must always be an incident of poverty, but it need not be carried to the horrible extent reducing human beings to the habits of animals. From the palace down to the cabin the gradations of wealth, competency, poverty, and indigence are marked by the large house-room which the inmates can enjoy, or the small one to which they are compelled to submit. With the middle classes crowding begins, and to an extent unsalutary in its effects, but short of immoral. A growing family has to adapt itself to the dimensions of the house the limited means may allow of, and too many breathe the same air of a small chamber often badly ventilated. The evil becomes greater and greater as it descends till it reaches the abomination of abominations in styes of incest and rape, such as were described in the debate on Sir L. Palk's motion for the improvement of the dwellings of the poor. Sir L. Palk mentioned two horrible instances, one of a father, three daughters, and a son, who all slept in the same bed. One of the girls of only eleven years of age was criminally assaulted by the father, whose poverty had compelled the habits of indecency ending in a crime revolting to nature. The other was of a girl of fourteen, well educated and conducted, who, having slept in the same bed with a brother a year older, became pregnant. These are shocking examples, and though they show the extremity of the immorality consequent on overcrowding, they do not convey an adequate idea of the prevalence of a minor degree of sexual profligacy. What is too generally going on in the closely packed dwellings of the poor is a rehearsal of vice from a tender age. They are prone to imitate what they have too soon become acquainted and familiar with. The overcrowding carried to the extent of such results may and must certainly be remedied, but crowding there will always be in the abodes of poverty. In a family of man and wife and six children, between the ages of infancy and puberty, even a four-roomed cottage will not allow of the distribution of space that is desirable for health and decorum. And so much have the poor from long habit become reconciled to crowding, that it is to be apprehended they would appropriate any extension of room to the little profit of lodging-letting. Sir L. Palk, who is the mover of the measure for charging estates for the improvement of cottages, mentioned the case, upon his own property, of a woman aged seventy-seven, whose only room was a cell 15 feet 9 inches by 9 feet 9 inches, next to a piggery, and with an open sewer in front of it, the filth from which ran at the door. Sir L. Palk proposed to remove the poor old creature from this wretched unwholesome place, but she refused, saying she had lived in it all her life, brought up twelve children in it, and would rather pay an advance upon her rent of 10s. a year, than quit her dear old home. And certainly some defence of her preference against all sanitary doctrines was her age of nearly fourscore, notwithstanding piggery, sewer, and filth. But no matter what the dispositions may be, the lot of poverty must, in the case of a large family, which is generally that of the labouring poor, be that of too many inmates for a small abode, and Jack Cade's proposal to make the three-hooped pot hold ten hoops is not more impracticable than to make the small dwelling equal to the wants of a large family of the poor. Nevertheless existing excesses tending to the worst immorality may be corrected and kept within bounds.

TWO GUNS.

If there be no more reason for the reprimand of an able and active seaman than is to be found in any report that has reached England of the proceedings of the first Court-Martial held under last year's Naval Discipline Act, and if that first specimen of the new Every Three Ships their own Court-Martial system is a sample of what we are hereafter to expect, reprimands may become so cheap and plentiful that nobody will be considered an experienced officer until he has received his share of them.

Commander Montagu O'Reilly, an officer long and favourably known in the service, has been in constant employment for a quarter of a century. He was at the capture of Amoy twenty years ago, he has served on the West Coast of Africa, at the Cape during the Kaffir war, was wounded in the bombardment of Odessa, was with the fleet during the capture of Sebastopol, and was indeed gazetted Commander five years ago "in consideration of special and individual services performed during the late war with Russia."

As Commander of the screw steam-sloop the *Lapwing*, a badly-built dispatch-vessel, carrying two broadside and two heavy pivot-guns, he had been to the West Indies, and afterwards to the Mediterranean. In the Mediterranean, on its way back from the Greek islands to Malta, the *Lapwing*, when flying light (as it is a question whether she ought to have been), was caught on her broadside by a heavy gale in the Doro passage. The screw was overpowered, and the vessel could not be brought head to wind. She lay on the water nearly on her beam ends, with green seas washing over, near the same spot where the *Algerine* was wrecked not many years ago. After a sharp struggle she was righted, with the loss only of a quarter-boat, by the throwing overboard of her two pivot-guns. The sloop and the hundred lives in her were saved, at the price of the two guns, by an expert sailor who was not then for the first time in the face of danger. Commander O'Reilly had been wrecked in the *Pelorus* on the coast of Australia at the outset of his career, and as Lieutenant in the *Retribution* when the Duke of Cambridge was on board of her during the great storm in Balaklava harbour, he had seen that ship rescued from imminent peril by the throwing overboard of guns and shot.

The *Lapwing* having arrived safely at Malta, Commander Montagu O'Reilly was tried on the 23rd of last month, on board the *Hibernia*, by a Court-Martial formed according to the provision of the Naval Discipline Act, under presidency of Captain Hornby of the *Neptune*. He was tried "for neglect of duty in not preparing his ship for, and making her otherwise all snug, the better to weather the coming gale, in which she made a jettison of her guns, and for having, through want of proper precautions, caused to be expended two pivot-guns (68-pounders) and 280 shot unnecessarily cast overboard during the gale encountered in the Doro passage."

The result was that the charges were declared to be "partly proven," which phrase, whatever it may mean at a Court-Martial, means in an English law court incompletely proved,—and the sentence against the Court (for the terms of it make the sentence one that presses even more hardly against the Court itself than against the prisoner) was that the Commander of the rescued vessel was sentenced "in consequence of the great zeal and ability evinced on the trying occasion, and being all day and night upon deck, to be only reprimanded."

What can be said of such a sentence? Long tried and proved ability in the profession, quick wit, zeal and knowledge exercised in the act of saving a ship's crew from wreck, may not avail to protect any naval officer from the discredit of a cheap and handy reprimand, if the metal of which good sailors are made is thus to be found lighter than gun-metal, when one is weighed against the other.

In this instance some little want of foresight may have been "partly proved." But the truth is that, as under the old system no Court-Martial would have been held, so under the new system no Court-Martial ought to have been held, to the apparent discredit of a valuable officer, in such a case as this. The Naval Discipline Act has its good uses and intentions. But it will become only a nuisance to the service if too little common sense and too much of the spirit of the martinet are thus to be applied to its interpretation.

PILOTAGE.

A short time ago we noticed the stranding of one of the Queen's ships on a shoal in Plymouth Sound, where every inch of the navigation should be well known, and upon that occasion we adverted to the frequent disasters of the same kind between Plymouth and Portsmouth, and asked whether it would be too much to require of officers in charge of her Majesty's ships some little acquaintance with the coast to enable them to detect the extraordinary errors of which masters, or careless pilots, appear to be capable. A fresh instance has just occurred. The *Avon*, bound from Portsmouth to Devonport, struck hard and fast on the Shingles last Saturday night, immediately under the lights of Hurst Castle and the Needles. This is pretty much as if a man setting out to go over the way should knock his head against the wall at his own door. The passage by the Needles is so marked and lighted that it is inconceivable how any mistake can be made, especially in the direction of the Shingles, which is not to seaward. The fortunate circumstance of moderate weather and a northerly wind has saved the ship from destruction, but three steamers were employed in vain attempts to get her off from the high part of the shoal on which she ran her head. It became necessary to despatch a fourth tug to her assistance. Well, it may be said, after all there has not been much harm done. But people would not be a little surprised if they saw the bill for these little accidents, thought so insignificant if they end without the loss of life or the destruction of the vessel. Here were four steamers burning their fuel and employing their time in endeavours to undo the consequences of an egregious blunder! If we could but see the

amount of dockyard charges referable to accidents owing to ignorance or carelessness the most gross and culpable, loud and peremptory would be a cry for the reform of a system permitting of such costly and dangerous faults.

We had written thus far when we saw that by Wednesday night the *Avon* had not been got off, and that a fifth steamer had been sent to her assistance. There has thus been employed a little squadron for five days to get this vessel so unaccountably stranded afloat. If the passage of the *Needles* is too narrow for her Majesty's ships, would it not be well for the Admiralty to order them to take the course outside the Wight, where there is nothing for them to run their heads against?

SEPTINSULAR SECESSION.

(From a Correspondent.)

At the Congress of Vienna, Austria was requested by the other Powers to undertake the Protectorate of the Seven Ionian Islands, and refused. Russia was then applied to, and declined the honour. England, with some misgivings, but in the interest of European peace and security, then charged herself with a task held too onerous by Czar and Kaiser. She has fulfilled it, latterly at least, with a sincere desire to benefit the people committed to her care, and for thanks has received from their *soi-disant* representatives abuse and execration. "What can I do for you?" said the protecting Power. "Go away," replied the protected. "What liberties, what reforms will you have?" politely asked the Commissioner. "None from you," screamed back the senators. "I will go any length to satisfy you," said, in effect, the tyrannical barbarian. "Then go to—the crows," was all the answer, less classically expressed, of the modern Corycraens. "But is there no burden I can take off?" said England. "Take yourself off," growled Ionia. We have been more than once tempted to do as we were told, and Sir John Young, when Commissioner, formally advised that course. But, unfortunately, there are other obstacles besides the ruin which the Ionians would infallibly inflict upon themselves by rushing into communion with the factions of Continental Greece. It seems that at the Athenian anniversary fête of Greek freedom, the other day, our Consul complained of a transparency representing seven chained and melancholy damsels, but was assured that the seven Greek provinces still ruled by the despotic Turk were meant by the artist, not the seven isles protected by constitutional England. If they were, the modern Zeuxis would have been better employed in painting his seven young ladies, his *septem præstanti corpore nymphas*, engaged in the injudicious operation of amputating their seven Grecian noses for the sake of spiting their fine Ionian countenances, or, if Parrhasian art could condescend to such a subject, quarrelling with their bread and butter, or throwing their olives and currants into the sea. For Sappho's leap from their own Leucadian peak was not more desperate than would be the leap of Ionia into the arms of King Otho. Sappho preferred death to abandonment, Ionia would prefer taxation and anarchy to prosperity and free government. *Punch's* advice to those about to marry—*don't*—should be strongly impressed by her friends upon the rash enthusiast. But at the first outbreak of European war matters would be much worse, for there would be an immediate scramble for the key of the Adriatic. Indeed, could we decide upon relinquishing our not self-appointed duty, the best thing we could do would be to drop the key into the water, or in other words, to demolish the forts of Corfu and Cephalonia before departing. One other course might be open, possibly; to hand over the islands with the exception of the fortress of Corfu, and hold that as an Eastern Gibraltar. It is very certain that the quarter of a million of mongrel race inhabiting the seven islands could do nothing for themselves, but would be, as they have always been, if unprotected by a strong Power, the prey of the strongest. Since the Romans took them from Illyrian rovers, two thousand years ago, the islands have never stood alone. When the Eastern Empire became a shadow, Robert Guiscard and his Normans easily despoiled it of the outlying dependencies, which fell with equal ease to Venice when she lorded it over the Adriatic. She was strong enough to protect them from the Turks, and hold them till seized by Napoleon. Then a Russian and Turkish fleet, in abnormal combination, made them for the first time a republic, under the protection of Russia and the Porte. Next, the Peace of Tilsit gave them back to France. Then England took all in succession except Corfu; and, finally, the present Protectorate was established by European consent in 1814. With all the faults of our Government, which in the beginning were many, and have been the cause of the present fictitious excitement, through a miserable system of fictitious representation,—have the people ever been better off, enjoyed more prosperity and security, or made more progress? Certainly not under the Venetian *Proveditori*, when murder was epidemic in the seven isles. Sweep away the present wretched sham Parliament, reform a bad law of real property, and the only further improvement greatly needed will be in temper.

There is no reasoning with a nationality. But the islanders are by no means nationally identical with the continental Greeks. Nor are they all, or nearly all, co-religionists with them. Nor till the present mania was got up by the corrupt and salaried few who misrepresent the people, has there ever been very much mutual sympathy since the days when Corycraens were so much loved by Cretans, for instance, that in Crete a stray Corycraean was killed like a wolf as a matter of course. Mr Maguire's "fair and candid" parallel is an Irish one at right angles. The case of the Romans who wish to be Italians, and to escape from the intolerable government of his friends, the Pope and Cardinals, is as like that of the Ionians who are told to fling up their caps for King Otho, as Mr Maguire is like Euclid. Still, if the Ionians were unanimous in their desire for self-immolation, and if European interests permitted, we should say, let them go. As it is, there can be no doubt Lord Palmerston is right in holding the thing an impossibility. Corycra began the Peloponnesian war; Corfu might well begin a war in Europe. Necessity is the first law, and Mr Gladstone, whose sympathy for the Ionian people is undoubted, has come to the same conclusion.

RIFLE PRACTICE.

I.

When the Rifle movement commenced in this country, I was one of those who strongly urged the adoption of breech-loading weapons. The superior advantages of the breech-loader over the muzzle-loader appeared to me evident, provided you could procure a weapon of either sort to shoot equally well,—that is, with equal trajectory power and with equal precision. I believe that the equality of the two weapons in this respect is now admitted.

It seems to me that the best muzzle-loading rifle for all sorts of infantry is the long Enfield, and if Government is right in arming them with muzzle-loaders, according to my humble judgment, they have selected the most serviceable weapon. It may be said that the precision of the Enfield is not equal to that of the Whitworth. Granted, but the Whitworth will find nine riflemen out of ten who are unable to use it with success. The recoil is tremendous, and the effect produced on the nerves by the certainty that the instant the trigger is pulled the shoulder will be beaten black and blue, and perhaps the cheek puffed up or laid open, is anything but conducive to that quiet of the nerves and steadiness of hand by which alone the bullet can be sent straight to the object aimed at. I almost feel reluctant to recall the attention of your readers to the manifold superiority of the breech-loader over that of the muzzle-loader. Suffice it to say that any weapon which can be fired thrice while an opposing weapon is fired once, that a weapon which may be laid in a pond of water and then taken up, and the wet charge replaced by a dry one in a couple of minutes, must have a vast superiority over a weapon which, when once clogged with wet, must be relieved of its charge by the Armourer of the Corps, if he be at hand, and if his appliances be with him—an operation involving, under the best of circumstances, a good ten minutes, but under ordinary circumstances impossible. Make the comparison as you will, allowing both weapons, the breech-loader and muzzle-loader, to be equal as executant pieces, no doubt can be entertained that one regiment armed with breech-loaders is more than a match for two regiments armed with muzzle-loaders. As for cavalry attempting to charge a square armed with breech-loaders, it would indeed be a "charge des fous."

Of the breech-loading rifles offered for selection to the War Office, two stand prominently forward—the rifle of Mr Westley Richards and that of Calisher and Terry, both firms of Birmingham. Mr Westley Richards is a wealthy and fashionable manufacturer of fowling-pieces and rifles, well known to sportsmen, and consequently popular. Calisher and Terry are not so well known in the same quarters, but they are known as excellent workmen; and the Terrys, father and son, as good rifle shots. At once, with a personal preference for neither, I selected Terry's breech-loader, as the most simple, the cheapest, strongest, and safest, and consequently the best calculated for the cavalry and for sea-service, where loading without a ramrod is almost a *sine quâ non*. The War Office have ordered and paid for 1,000 of Terry's breech-loading rifled carbines for the cavalry, but what has become of them, unless they are gone to keep guard over Lord Panmure's celebrated American cannon, which cost 10,000*l.*, and now adorns an old shed at Woolwich, I am unable to inform your readers.

This, however, I can say, that I have taken some pains to inform myself of the success of Terry's rifle, whether as purchased for private use or for the use of rifle corps, and I have received reliable intelligence which proves beyond a doubt that my confidence in the value of the weapon is not misplaced. Two rifle corps in Australia, in the vicinity of Adelaide, ordered, the one twenty, the other fifty of Terry's rifles, and their trial was so satisfactory that both corps gave a fresh order for breech-loaders for their full complement of men. One of these corps, known as the Free Corps, numbered 300 men. The Volunteers of our Southern Colonies, however, are generally armed with the muzzle-loading Enfield, and the Milang Corps, which was so armed, challenged the Free Corps to a public trial of their respective weapons. Intense interest prevailed, and the event came off with a gala. A good deal of betting took place, and the trial of muzzle-loader against breech-loader, Enfield against Birmingham, was honoured by the attendance of many ladies. The match was shot at the Strathalbyn rifle butts, and telegrams of the shooting were despatched to Adelaide constantly through the day. Five men from each Corps were selected, and the range was from 150 yards up to 900 yards, but the match ended by consent at the 800 yards range, dusk having come on. The Terry breech-loaders were declared the winners by thirty-four points. At a banquet afterwards, Captain Rankin, a first-rate shot, and the challenger on the part of the Enfields, in proposing the toast of the winners of the day, stated that not the slightest doubt could exist of the superiority of the Terry breech-loader over the Enfield.

I have one more instance to offer in favour of breech-loading rifles. A naval officer having lately returned from the coast of Africa, took with him on going out a Terry and one of Pritchett's artillery carbines from the Government factory at Enfield. Both weapons proved excellent in field sports, but the Terry had proved superior to any other rifle he had met with. There was one rifle with a greater range by Whitworth, which he found at the Cape, but for precision up to 600 yards nothing so good as Terry, and at 300 yards no water-boks or blesboks were safe from him. This gentleman states that on one occasion he lent his Terry to a friend who was not up to the business of sights and judging distances, and the following incident occurred. He met with a flock of goats in a sort of ravine, a little plain between two rocky precipitous hills, and with the rifle sighted to 300 yards from the summit of one of the rocks he fired upon the flock in the plain, which in reality were within easy point blank range. Of course he missed. The goats then proceeded to ascend the opposite rock, accessible only to goats, which, however, was so steep that they could go but slowly, and the sportsman, from the facility afforded of quickly re-charging, by loading at the breech, unnumbered by a ramrod, fired upon the flock six times, all in vain; the seventh would appear to have been a charmed bullet, for it dropped a goat just as the flock were passing over the brow of the opposite rock, and to the utter amazement of the young sportsman, who began to think of the agency of Zamiel. However, the cause of his success was clear enough,—the animals had just got

within the range of the rifle, sighted for 300 yards, as they arrived at the top and were disappearing on the other side of the rock. An experienced sightsman would have made a very pretty bag of these goats with a breech-loader, but where with a Terry seven shots were fired not more than two or three at the utmost could have been delivered from an Enfield. CAVETO.

THE LITERARY EXAMINER.

The Life of Richard Porson, M.A., Professor of Greek in the University of Cambridge from 1792 to 1808. By the Rev. John Selby Watson, M.A., M.R.S.L. Longman and Co.

This is a weak book on a strong man. Mr Watson's opening "Remarks on Biography" discourage the reader at the outset, and are found in the end to have supplied only too true a measure of his literary skill and taste. He must be, we think, an extraordinarily wakeful man who does not go to sleep in the course of reading Mr Watson's first three pages and a half, if he should incautiously attempt to read them without an interval of rest. They contain in a highly concentrated form the soporific principle diffused through sermons of weak preachers. Thus he begins:

The charms of fiction are much less forcible than those of truth. Histories of imaginary personages, however strikingly represented, are much less interesting than those of eminent characters that really existed. The man who read Robinson Crusoe as a true tale found much fewer attractions in it when he was told that it was an invention.

The desire to know how our fellow-creatures, especially the most distinguished of them, have lived, is the cause that biography gains so much attention. Whoever relates the life, or any considerable portion of the life, of any remarkable person, has the satisfaction of expecting that his narrative, unless given in an absolutely repulsive style, will attract some share of regard.

So he goes on. Presently, after pointing out that no human character is perfect, and that the biographer must be sincere, he makes a quotation upon which the profound comment, if made from the pulpit, might be warranted to soothe into instant sleep the best half of a congregation.

"Nature, apparently," said Styan Thirlby, as we are told by Mr Nichols, in his 'Literary Anecdotes,' "intended a kind of parity among her sons; but sometimes she deviates a little from her general purpose, and sends into the world a man of powers superior to the rest, of quicker intuition and wider comprehension; this man has all other men for his enemies, and would not be suffered to live his natural time, but that his excellencies are balanced by his failings. He that by intellectual exaltation thus towers above his contemporaries, is drunken, or lazy, or capricious; or, by some defect or other, is hindered from exerting his sovereignty of mind; he is thus kept upon the level, and thus preserved from the destruction which would be the natural consequence of universal hatred."

Whether the mass of mankind would ever rise to destroy a fellow-creature possessed of unrivalled intellectual powers, may be doubted; for it might be expected that such a being would act so as to secure the approbation and esteem of at least a majority of those around him; but it is certain that men distinguished by eminent mental abilities are often drawn down, whether by the influence of others, or by their own imprudence and misconduct, to a condition far below that of many others who are too much their inferiors in mind to be able even to estimate their merits. It is not necessary to recur to the lives of Edmund Smith, or Samuel Boyse, or Edgar Poe, for examples of such degradation; for almost every man, whether high or low, whether of little education or of much, has seen something of the kind among his own connexions or acquaintance. Those who contemplate the lives and fortunes of mankind, too often, as they increase their knowledge, increase their sorrow. If they discover great merits in eminent characters, they find them, perhaps, the more they search, obscured by such defects as they could at one time have scarcely imagined. They find gold, but gold mingled with clay.

We dare not try the effect of continuing this extract through the entire page that follows, written in the same lethargy of amazing dulness, and ending with the novel comparison of the course of life to a river. The preamble closes with this summary of Porson's character:

The man whose life we propose to relate was eminently distinguished for tenacity of memory, quickness of perspicacity, and accuracy of judgment; and we shall see how much these qualities appear to have contributed to his comfort.

A few new letters of little interest; copious extracts from Porson's writing, good, but for want of shrewdness in selection, not so suggestive as they ought to be; a pleasant gathering of familiar stories about Porson from Beloe's Sexagenarian, Barker's Literary Anecdotes, and the Porsoniana in Rogers's Table Talk; a great deal of not so much masterly as schoolmasterly discussion over Greek, and weak digression—now into a long history of Ireland's Shakespeare forgeries, that starts only from the fact of Porson's having refused to certify their genuineness, as he was "slow to subscribe to articles of faith;" now into a long history of the argument in the Church on 1 John v. 7,—these are the points representing the chief merits and faults of Mr Watson's "Life of Porson." Nearly all the advantages of an admirable subject for a book that might be at once learned and popular have been missed by the biographer. There is no better presentment of the character of Porson than the current anecdotes afford, no sounding the depths of his strange nature.

But even when badly told there must be much to interest us in the life of a man born about a hundred years ago, whose father was a poor Norfolk weaver and clerk in a village church, and whose mother had before marriage been a maid-servant, yet of whom it is to be shown how the wonderful powers for which he was conspicuous, even in boyhood, by their own force and in spite of a rugged character, raised him to an acknowledged rank as the first Greek scholar in Europe. With poor village teaching and the help of his father's taste for arithmetic, young Porson entered heartily into mathematical studies, and at ten years old "was greatly

"attracted by logarithms." The parish clerk's wonderful son interested the parish clergyman, an excellent man, who educated five sons for the University (in which the four who survived all obtained fellowships), and got the value of a fortune from his scanty income of two hundred a year. He was a man to be found roasting a turnip for his supper, rocking a cradle and reading a book, all at one time. To this excellent clergyman's house the parish clerk's remarkable son trudged every Monday morning with a week's provision on his arm, to be gratuitously taught by him together with his sons. But the other boys could not keep pace with Porson, who had been gifted from birth with a supernatural grasp of memory that would hold anything and everything, and keep its hold for any length of time. The kind-hearted clergyman, Mr Hewitt, represented the boy's powers to a wealthy and benevolent neighbour, Mr Norris, founder of the Norrisian professorship of Divinity at Cambridge. Mr Norris having sent him to Cambridge that his powers might be tested by examination, undertook to help him forward in his studies, and contributed largely to a fund—of which Sir George Baker, then President of the College of Physicians, became treasurer—for the education of the marvellous weaver's son at a first-rate school and at the University. He went to Eton, knowing by heart the Latin books he was required to study there, was put through the common routine, and clearly enough despised it. Once when he was to construe Horace in class he had not his book, and took an Ovid which another boy thrust into his hand, from which he appeared to read while he went accurately through all the business of the lesson. As Eton is now open to public question, let us cite Porson's opinion of the worth of the teaching he got there:

According to the "Short Account of Porson," he himself used to say that he added little to his acquirements at Eton except facility in Latin versification, as he had read with Mr Hewitt, before he went thither, almost all that was required from him in the school, and had learned many portions of Horace, Virgil, Homer, Cicero, and Livy by heart. He was unwilling to own that he was, on the whole, greatly indebted to Eton, but he must, as the writer remarks, have been "much obliged to the collision of a public school for the rapidity with which he increased his knowledge, and the correction of himself by the mistakes of others. *Magnos enim viros non schola, sed contubernium facit.*"

Mr Kidd says that Porson, when he entered Eton, was "wholly ignorant of quantity;" and that "after he had toiled up the arduous path to literary eminence, he was often twitted by his quondam schoolfellows with those violations of quantity which are common in first attempts at Latin verse." "Our Greek Professor," he adds, "always felt sore upon this point. One of his best friends and greatest admirers has preserved a copy of verses, which indeed evince the rapid progress of his mind, but would not do honour to his memory."

That he could repeat by heart almost all the books read at Eton, before he became an Etonian, he himself told Mr Maltby, and said that almost the only thing he recollected with pleasure during his Eton course was the rat-hunting with which the boys amused themselves in the Long Hall.

There was no adaptation of the teaching to the powers of the boy, who simply despised the work set before him. He had a healthy contempt for the vanity of modern classical versification, and when the *Musæ Etonenses* afterwards appeared, his opinion was that such exercises were fit only to be thrown behind the fire. Porson at Eton, as everywhere else, was a satirist, with a rough sharp wit that generally came victorious out of encounters. A disputant with him in his later life wound up an argument by saying to Porson, "My opinion of you is most contemptible, sir." "I never knew an opinion of yours that was 'not contemptible,'" Porson replied. Of a boy at school with an ungainly figure who was one of his butts, he said that Murphitt never need be conquered by a cork; he had but to swallow a tenpenny nail and let it work down through the twist of his body to come out a corkscrew at the other end. Which is, in the Watsonian style: "The 'sinuosities of his frame as it passed through would twist 'it into an excellent shape for a cork extractor.'" Mr Watson gives extracts from Porson's Eton play, "Out of the Frying Pan into the Fire," which is in the library of Trinity College, Cambridge, but as he has evidently no very good perception of what is worth quoting and what is not, his account loses some of the interest it might have had.

Although Eton did not take to itself the honour of sending Porson to Cambridge, he was maintained there by the friends who had established among themselves the fund for his education, got his Trinity fellowship, and after a course of theological study, having, as he said, "found that I 'should require about fifty years' reading to make myself 'thoroughly acquainted with divinity,—to satisfy my mind 'on all points,—I gave it up.'" Dr Postlethwaite, master of Trinity, desiring to put a nephew of his own into the lay fellowship that Porson applied for, the scholar, already famous, found himself, as he has said, a gentleman in London, with sixpence in his pocket, upon which Mr Watson sagely remarks: "This after a while must have 'become literally true, for he lived, he said, at this period 'of his life for six weeks on a guinea, which at sixpence 'a day would leave him with sixpence only on the last 'day.'"

He still visited Cambridge, walking the whole distance from London in a day, and while he vigorously met the pressure of his poverty, friends and scholars who thought him ill-used, admired his learning and honoured his sturdiness of character, were secretly conspiring to raise money that enabled them to present him with an annuity of one hundred a year. The names of the subscribers were withheld from him, and he took the annuity only on condition that the capital should be returned to its donors at his death. Dr Postlethwaite also, eager to make amends for his bit of nepotism, was prompt and cordial in pressing upon

Porson the Greek Professorship when it soon afterwards became vacant. It might then be held by a layman, but was worth in money only forty pounds a year. A canonry is now connected with it to endow it and secure a churchman in the chair. There were no lectures to yield fees, though Porson talked of lecturing; but it was fit that the first among Greek scholars should bear style in his own country and before foreigners as Mr Professor Porson.

Mr Professor meantime living in London, still gave occasional evidence of his great learning; while at the Cider Cellars he was honoured as "Dick," who could drink all night and every night. He was fast friends with Perry, writing political squibs, with and without Greek, in the *Morning Chronicle*, and he proposed marriage to Perry's sister and housekeeper, Mrs Lunan, the good-tempered widow of a Scotch bookbinder, who had two or three children of her own. But he proposed marriage on condition that her brother was not to be told. One night when smoking his pipe with George Gordon at the Cider Cellars, he said to him, "Friend George, do you not think the widow Lunan an 'agreeable sort of person as times go?' George did think so. "In that case," said Porson, "you must meet me to-morrow morning at St Martin's in the Fields at eight 'o'clock." That was the whole announcement to his groomsmen of his private marriage. After the event he was urged to make it known at "the Court of Lancaster," as he called Perry's office in Lancaster court, Strand, but he went off to spend the evening with a learned friend to whom he did not tell a word of his marriage, and with whom he sat as long as he could, before he adjourned as usual to the Cider Cellars until eight o'clock next morning. Maltby had met him in Covent Garden on the wedding morning, and observed his pea-green coat. "He was 'carrying a copy of *Le Moyen de Parvenir*, which he had 'just purchased off a stall, and holding it up, he called out 'jokingly, 'These are the sort of books to buy.'" In spite of the odd way of wedding, Porson was as good a husband as he could contrive to make himself, and learnt something of times and seasons during the year and a half that his wife, who was consumptive, lived. He himself had been troubled from youth with asthma.

Porson's personal appearance, at the time of his marriage, was, when he was well dressed, very commanding. "His very look," says Mr John Symmons, "impressed me with the idea of his being an extraordinary man; what is called, I believe, by artists, in the *Hercules*, 'the repose of strength,' appeared in his whole figure and face." "His head," says Fryse Gordon, "was remarkably fine; an expansive forehead, over which was smoothly combed (when in dress) his shining brown hair. His nose was Roman, with a keen and penetrating eye, shaded with long lashes. His mouth was full of expression; and altogether his countenance indicated deep thought. His stature was nearly six feet." Mr Maltby, who became acquainted with him when he was under thirty, spoke of him as having been then a handsome man. His ordinary dress, especially when alone, and engaged in study, was careless and slovenly, but on important occasions, when he put on his blue coat, white waistcoat, black satin breeches, silk stockings, and ruffled shirt, "he looked," says Mr Gordon, "quite the gentleman."

Porson, like Dr Johnson, was wakeful and averse from bed. He drank only in company, and as a hundred stories affirm, would drink anything; ink rather than nothing. His social humour made him dead to the fact that his friends of a night had beds to go to. Some of them kept him to strict rule, but if he accepted the rule that he was to go away at twelve, he would not stir until the clock struck. When his father was ill and he went down to him in Norfolk, living at his sister's house, he abstained considerably from all his rough ways, drank only two glasses of wine a day, went to church with his sister, and even stayed to the sacrament. But in town he followed his own habits. The booksellers offered him 3,000*l.* for an edition of Aristophanes that his knowledge would have enabled him to complete in a few months. But he was not to be tempted. Yet he laid money by, small as his income was, and when he died left, to the surprise of everybody, eight or nine hundred pounds in the funds. Probably in his own quiet uncommunicative way he had been attempting to make some provision for his latter years.

Porson's nose was vexed by his love of brandy and port. But at breakfast he chose to drink porter.

One Sunday morning, when he was at Eton, he met Dr Goodall, the provost, going to church, and asked him where Mrs Goodall was: "At breakfast," replied the Doctor. "Very well, then," rejoined Porson, "I'll go and breakfast with her." He accordingly presented himself at Mrs Goodall's table, and being asked what he chose to take, answered "Porter." Porter was in consequence sent for, pot after pot, and the sixth pot was just being carried into the house, when Dr Goodall returned from church.

Mr Upcott used to say that he was often to be seen at breakfast with a pot of porter and bread and cheese; and, in the latter part of his life, in the dirtiest attire, and with black patches on his nose.

Of the Professor's memory

"Nothing," says the writer of the 'Scraps from Porson's Rich Feast,' "came amiss to his memory; he would set a child right in his twopenny fable-book, repeat the whole of the moral tale of the Dean of Badajos, or a page of Athenæus on cups, or Eustathius on Homer."

Dr Dauney of Aberdeen told Mr Maltby that, "during a visit to London, he heard Porson declare, that he could repeat Smollett's 'Roderick Random' from beginning to end;" and Mr Richard Heber assured Maltby that "soon after the appearance of the 'Essay on Irish Bulls,' Porson used, when somewhat tipsy, to recite whole pages of it verbatim with great delight." He said that he would undertake to learn by heart a copy of the 'Morning Chronicle' in a week.

One day Porson called on a friend who happened to be reading Thucydides, and who asked leave to consult him on the meaning of a word. Porson, on hearing the word, did not look at the book, but at once repeated the passage. His friend asked how he knew that it was that passage. "Because," replied Porson, "the word occurs only twice in Thucydides, once on the right-hand page, in the edition which you are using, and once on the left. I observed on which side you looked, and accordingly knew to which passage you referred."

But after all, he said, "his memory was a source of

"misery to him, as he could never forget anything, even 'what he wished not to remember.'"

Of Porson's pleasant vein of wit records abound. When Gilbert Wakefield's Diatribe on Porson's Hecuba was about to be published, Porson was at a Club where the President proposed that each member should toast a friend and illustrate the toast by quoting Shakespeare. Porson's toast was "Gilbert Wakefield—What's Hecuba to him or he to 'Hecuba?'"

The extravagant phrases in which Hayley and Miss Seward complimented each other, frequently called forth satirical remarks from Porson. One day he wrote for them the following dialogue:

MISS SEWARD *loquitur.*

Tuneful poet, Britain's glory,
Mr Hayley, that is you.

HAYLEY *respondet.*

Ma'am you carry all before you,
Trust me, Lichfield Swan, you do.

MISS SEWARD.

Ode, didactic, epic, sonnet,
Mr Hayley, you're divine.

HAYLEY.

Ma'am, I'll take my oath upon it,
You yourself are all the Nine.

Everybody knows his saying of Bishop Pearson "that he 'would have been a first-rate critic in Greek if he had not 'muddled his head with divinity.'"

In 1806 the London Institution was established in the Old Jewry, with Professor Porson as its principal librarian, negligent enough to be told by the committee within a couple of years that he was grudging his salary of two hundred a year. In September, 1808, Porson, seized with apoplexy in the Strand, was carried as a stranger to the workhouse, and found there by Mr Savage, the under-librarian, who had recognised him in the workhouse advertisement for the friends of "a tall man, apparently about 'forty-five years of age, dressed in a blue coat and black 'breeches, and having in his pocket a gold watch, a trifling 'quantity of silver, and a memorandum-book, the leaves 'of which were filled chiefly with Greek lines written in 'pencil, and partly effaced; two or three lines of Latin, 'and an algebraical calculation; the Greek extracts being 'principally from ancient medical works."

This attack was the precursor of his death, which happened on the 25th of the same month, when he was forty-nine years old. He lies buried in the chapel of Trinity College at the foot of the statue of Newton, with RICHARD PORSON written on a plain slab for his only epitaph. The fund that had been raised for his annuity, and which the contributors refused to take back, was spent in establishing the Porson scholarship, and the prize that, for 1861, has this week been divided between two gentlemen of St John's, for their translation of a passage in the second part of Shakespeare's *Henry IV* (act ii, sc. 3) into Greek verse.

Letters and Papers illustrative of the Wars of the English in France, during the Reign of Henry the Sixth, King of England. Edited by the Rev. Joseph Stevenson, M.A. Published by the Authority of the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, under the Direction of the Master of the Rolls. Vol. I. Longmans.

To Lord Brougham's account of the English wars in France under the fifth and sixth Henries, of which we were speaking a fortnight ago, a great part of Mr Stevenson's collection of original documents might have been fairly issued as an appendix. In support of his lordship's judgment concerning the motives which led to the English aggression, and the method in which it was conducted, there is here abundant evidence. From the corners of French libraries, quite inaccessible to the generality of students, as well as from various English sources, Mr Stevenson has transcribed and edited a very valuable set of papers bearing upon this portion of English history.

The first document, a commission issued in 1423 to the Count of Foix to receive the oath of fealty from the people of Languedoc, at once takes us to the heart of the subject. King Henry the Sixth was a little more than one year old, and he acted—so this and other charters ran—by the "advice and deliberation" of his "very dear and most 'beloved uncle," the Duke of Bedford, Regent of France. Bedford was great as a soldier, but greater as a statesman. In his brother's lifetime he had shown himself worthy to receive the vice-regal power now conferred upon him during the infancy of the new King. He set his whole heart upon extending the English power in France. Almost his first act was his marrying the sister of the Duke of Burgundy, so as to strengthen his authority in one district. His next was the bribing of the Count of Foix to subdue the people of Languedoc, and protect the line of the Pyrenees from foreign invasion. But the count was no better than many other Frenchmen in that day of many degradations. He pocketed about seven thousand English nobles, and then went over to the other side. On that side there were a few men disposed to be patriotic, but of what avail were their efforts under such a king as Charles?

The state of France was very desperate. The people had right to complain of the harm done to them by the English troops, but they received worse usage at the hands of their own countrymen. There were hosts of soldiers who, unable to get their pay, deserted from the army and took to the easier life of freebooters. One document published by Mr Stevenson tells how, in consequence of the oppressions everywhere exercised, "many good and 'honest men,' not knowing what to do, or for whom to labour so as to earn a livelihood, and having no better

places of retreat than woods, and rocks, and caverns, were driven to save themselves and their families from starvation by making war upon their neighbours. Men of the lower orders, finding no other masters, hired themselves to noblemen, often to ecclesiastics, and went about the country to rob in open daylight. Children, we are told, were carried off from their parents, and, if not quickly bought back at a heavy price, either were drowned or had their throats cut. Out of such doings arose a horrible taste for bloodshed. "The entire population," says one old writer, "seemed frenzied. Treading under foot the fear of God and man, they swept over the land with the fury of a tempest. Their only thought was of plunder, fire, and bloodshed." Multitudes of the people who did not perish by the sword fell victims to famine and pestilence. They lay down in the streets and there died, their bodies being left to rot unburied.

All this wretchedness sprang mainly from the English invasions: but Bedford and his associates were heartily grieved at it, and filled with an honest wish to find some means of palliation. They adopted strenuous measures, at once bold and politic. The worst offenders they hunted down and put to death. They pardoned readily the better sort on condition of their return to honest work as subjects of the King of England. Bedford acted with a wisdom in advance of his day. He encouraged free trade, and where there were openings, planted little colonies of refugees from other parts. He instituted sanitary regulations, and he organized a good police. In this way he gained popularity, and temporary aid was given to the cause he had at heart.

But, of necessity, it was a losing cause. "No talents, however great," writes Mr Stevenson in his able Preface, "no integrity, however pure, could reasonably expect to accomplish such a mighty wrong as that to which Bedford had pledged himself." One by one, his strongholds gave way. The native nobles who had submitted to him became jealous, and sought opportunities of fresh resistance. The people, under improved government, had time to think of themselves as subjects of a foreigner, and nourish patriotic thoughts. More than all, at this time Joan of Arc appeared. Bedford's fierce persecution of her was both his cruellest and his most foolish act. The English soldiers coming from the place of her execution, said to one another, "We are all lost men, for a saint has perished."

Even the people of England were changing their minds respecting French affairs. In 1433, Bedford, irritated at the popular discontent, came to Westminster to defend himself. He proposed in Parliament to vindicate his conduct. The Speaker answered that there was no charge brought against him, that all knew with what jeopardy to himself and how nobly he had served the King—but would he henceforth reside in England? The Duke saw the meaning of the request. He felt that to comply would be to give up the whole cause, so he decided to go back to France; but it was with the knowledge that he must henceforth expect no real help from England. Two years later he died, broken-hearted, as it seems, at the issue of the Council of Arras. At that council the sturdy dignity with which the French ambassadors claimed the liberty of their country is very noteworthy. It betokens the return of a national vigour which no foreign power might withstand. From this time there could be no doubt as to the issue of the strife.

As the story, here told in contemporary words, proceeds, we pass from painful descriptions of horrors to amusing matter. In July, 1445, an embassy came to England to treat with Henry respecting peace with France. The ambassadors were asked to wait at Rochester until the King's pleasure was known; but it appears they could not stay in that town because the water was so brackish as to be unfit for either man or beast. They therefore lodged in a village hard by, before being summoned to London. In due time they were met by the Duke of "Bouquingham" (the French way of spelling Buckingham) and other noblemen, who conducted them by water to Westminster. There they found the King seated on a high stool, without any cushion to it, and clothed in a robe of cloth of gold reaching to the ground. Their friendly message was very gladly received by Henry, who thrice raised his hat from his head, and saying over and over again, "Saint Jehan, grant merci," shook each ambassador by the hand. He begged them all to feel at home, and do in his house just as they did in their master's, coming and going whenever they liked. They reported themselves much pleased with their reception, and with the splendid dresses of the Londoners. Moreover they wondered much at a London crowd of the fifteenth century. "Aloft on the two sides of the streets, as far as the lodgings of the said ambassadors, were the burgesses and merchants, by hundreds and by fifties, clothed in dresses exactly alike; and these people of rank might possibly amount to about one thousand individuals. And behind them, in one of the streets, and at the windows of the houses were many dames, damsels, burgesses, and others of the common people, men and women, who were reckoned at fifty thousand persons or more."

Of about the same date as this French report of London ways is a very singular Latin account of the expenses incurred on the part of Queen Margaret in travelling to England. We have an agreeable insight into the royal proceedings of four centuries ago, while reading how much money was expended upon the road in offerings and arms, what payments were made to the masters of the vessels and their crews, and to other attendants, and so on. One charge is for erasing the motto of Henry of Luxembourg

from some plate lately bought of him, and for engraving the royal arms instead. Another is for the keep of the Queen's lion, and for carrying it to the Tower of London. The warlike Margaret might be allowed a strong pet, seeing what a weak husband had fallen to her lot.

One bill is for sundry expenses incurred by Richard Baron and Simon Edward, ushers of Parliament. For providing four forms for the Parliament chamber in Westminster, they charge a shilling apiece; for rushes to be strewn in the said chamber six and eightpence; and "for boards and bars to make a chair of state for us at Winchester, and for mending of forms at Wolvesey, ten shillings and eightpence."

During the thirty-seven years more or less illustrated by the documents that Mr Stevenson here prints we see a complete change in the relation between England and France. At the beginning Charles the Seventh was laughed at as the little King of Bourges, because his power extended no further than the walls of that city, while Henry was acknowledged King as much in Paris as in London. French politics are half forgotten throughout the middle part of the reign, but they again become the great topic at its close. The subject will be more fully illustrated in Mr Stevenson's second volume, but even by help of the present one it may be better traced than was possible before. Under the year 1450 we find several letters from James the Second of Scotland telling his ally Charles how happy he is to hear of the successes against England, and promising him support in prosecuting the war. Henry meanwhile was writing plaintively to his English and Norman nobles, "praying and exhorting them as heartily and as tenderly as they can, and upon all the love and affection that they bear to him," to gather as great an army as possible for the defence of Normandy. Each year affairs grew more desperate. No English power could have withstood the bold action of united France; but the English people was not disposed to give much real aid in an expensive and useless strife. In a few years Charles was acknowledged King of Normandy as well as France; Henry had lost even his English crown, and was a beggar in attendance upon foreign courts, which he had lately scorned and insulted.

Of Mr Stevenson's editing of this volume it is enough to say, that like all his other work, it is well done. Following the judicious rule laid down by the Master of the Rolls, he has translated all his French documents and printed the Latin papers in good classical spelling. He has carefully given references to the French libraries from which most of his material has been transcribed. But why has he omitted to specify the English sources of the rest? This should be done, not so much as a voucher for the correctness of his work as for the assistance of students who may wish to make their own consultation of the originals. It is a slight defect which may easily be remedied in a note to the second volume.

The Recreations of a Country Parson. Second Series. Parker, Son, and Bourn.

This book contains a second collection of the essays which have appeared in *Fraser's Magazine*, under the signature of A.K.H.B. They are not so much remarkable for the display of a rare literary power, or for display of any sort, as for the refinement of a thoughtful and therefore cheerful gentleness with which the common truths of every-day life are presented in them. It is rest to the weary to take up a book like this, alive with quiet fellow feeling for the smaller as for the greater joys and troubles of humanity, flashing its playful satires that scorch nobody and appear only as breaks of light; and winning men to pleasant wholesome meditation by the charm of a manner that is to some of the good satire of the day as summer evening to the glare of summer noon, but to much more as quiet evening light to the mere whiz and flash and never ending bang of a display of fireworks. Although the Country Parson's Essays are well known, nobody will mind reading twice over anything that he has written. We will illustrate, therefore, his kindness with one of his pictures of a form of the life concerning which he is especially entitled to say what he thinks.

I think of the case of a clergyman who at his first start was rather fortunate: who gets a nice parish at six-and-twenty: I mean a parish which is a nice one for a man of six-and-twenty: and who never gets any other preferment, but in that parish grows old. Don't we all know how pretty and elegant everything was about him at first: how trim and weedless were his garden and shrubbery: how rosy his carpets, how airy his window-curtains, how neat though slight all his furniture: how graceful, merry, and nicely dressed the young girl who was his wife: how (besides hosts of parochial improvements) he devised numberless little changes about his dwelling: rustic bowers, moss-houses, green mounts, labyrinthine walks, fantastically-trimmed yews, root-bridges over the little stream? But as his family increased, his income stood still. It was hard enough work to make the ends meet even at first, though young hearts are hopeful: but with six or seven children, with boys who must be sent to college, with girls who must be educated as ladies, with the prices of all things ever increasing, with multiplying bills from the shoemaker, tailor, dressmaker; the poor pastor grows yearly poorer. The rosy face of the young wife has now deep lines of care: the weekly sermon is dull and spiritless: the parcel of books comes no more: the carpets grow threadbare but are not replaced: the furniture becomes creaky and rickety: the garden walks are weedy: the bark peels off the rustic verandah: the moss-house falls much over to one side: the friends far away, grow out of all acquaintance. The parson himself, once so precise in dress, is shabby and untidy now; his wife's neat figure is gone: the servants are of inferior class, coarse and insolent: perhaps the burden of hopeless debt presses always with its dull dead weight upon the poor clergyman's heart. There is little spring in him to push off the invasion of fatigue and infection, and he is much exposed to both; and should he be taken away, who shall care for the widow and the fatherless, losing at once their head, their home, their means of living? Even you, non-clerical reader, know precisely what I describe: hundreds have seen it: and such will agree with me when I say that there is no sadder

sight than that of a clergyman, with a wife and children, growing poor as he is growing old. Oh that I had the fortune of John Jacob Astor, that I might found, once for all, a fund that should raise for ever above penury and degradation the widows and the orphans of rectory, vicarage, parsonage, and manse!

A page or two afterwards we have in a note pleasant evidence of the way in which A.K.H.B. carried the hearts of his readers along with him. It is a note to this passage:

What a little end is sometimes the grand object of a human being's strivings through many weeks and months! I sat down the other day in a poor chamber, damp with much linen drying upon crossing lines. There dwells a solitary woman, an aged and infirm woman, who supports herself by washing. For months past her earnings have averaged three shillings a week. Out of that sum she must provide food and raiment; she must keep in her poor fire; and she must pay a rent of nearly three pounds a-year. 'It is hard work, sir,' she said: 'it costs me many a thought getting together the money to pay my rent.' And I could see well, that from the year's beginning to its end, the thing always uppermost in that poor old widow's waking thoughts was the raising of that great incubus of a sum of money. A small end, you would say, for the chief thoughts of an immortal being! Don't you feel, gay young reader, for that fellow-creature, to whom a week has been a success, if at its close she can put by a few halfpence towards meeting the term-day? Would you not like to enrich her, to give her a light heart by sending her a half-sovereign? If you would, you may send it to me.

This charming little charity sermon had, as the note shows, its reward in a collection, for, says the Country Parson,

I cannot deny myself the pleasure of recording that for many days after the above paragraph was published (in *Fraser's Magazine* for June, 1860), there arrived by each morning's post little sums sent by all kinds of people, in distant parts of Britain; which made the poor widow quite rich.

These "Recreations of a Country Parson" make a book that should be bought and added to home furniture rather than borrowed from a circulating library. It is full of the domestic spirit, of its ready sympathies and charities, its meditation and its quiet mirth.

An Account of the Manners and Customs of the Modern Egyptians, written in Egypt during the Years 1833, '34, and '35, partly from Notes made during a former Visit to that Country in the Years 1825, '26, '27, and '28. By Edward William Lane, Hon. M.R.S.L., &c., Translator of 'The Thousand and One Nights.' Fifth Edition, with numerous Additions and Improvements, from a Copy annotated by the Author. Edited by his Nephew, Edward Stanley Poole, M.R.A.S., &c. Murray.

A fifth edition of a book which has already taken place in the standard literature of the country hardly requires commendation. Yet there are some considerations suggested by this new issue of the *Modern Egyptians* for which we must find room. It is the most successful work of its kind of which we know, and it is noteworthy that its success arises altogether from legitimate causes. All its merits are real and solid, and it may serve as a model for its class, whether we regard its style or its matter.

The greatest merit of the book is its completeness. In evidence of this we may quote a playful remark made by Canon Stanley, a critic whose praise upon any subject connected with Eastern life must have great weight. "The *Modern Egyptians*," he says, "is the most provoking book I ever read; whenever I thought I had discovered 'in Cairo something which must surely have been omitted,' 'I invariably found my new facts already recorded.' Nothing seems to have escaped Mr Lane's observations, or to have been forgotten in his description. If he is speaking of the religious ablutions of the Moslems, he explains how they are performed in some mosques by help of a tank, in others with aid of a reservoir having spouts, and each article with its appurtenances is carefully sketched. He cannot praise the beautiful eye of the Egyptian lady without giving a complete account of the black pigment applied to the edge of the eyelids, telling of the various materials used for it, and of the several modes of preparing it. These are illustrations taken from pages opened at random. Almost every other page is as precise in its mention of the particular custom under description; and the whole presents a very living picture of Egyptian life, thoroughly amusing to the casual reader, and as complete as the most careful student can desire.

No one, however, can charge Mr Lane's volume with containing a wearisome rehearsal of dry facts. He has a happy art of teaching without seeming to be a teacher. Often his most important information is worked into an anecdote which thoroughly amuses us, and we hardly know, unless we stop to think of it, that we are being instructed as well as amused. Then again the anecdotes themselves are well chosen and well told, neither exaggerated nor diluted with waste words.

There is humour, too, in Mr Lane's writing. Carefully avoiding all the artificial ways by which it is often sought to make travellers' books amusing, he always writes with dignity; yet we can never forget that we are in company with a thoroughly genial man. All the strange parts of Eastern life are heartily appreciated, and the comic side of an incident or opinion is not lost sight of. But Mr Lane only laughs where he should. He laughs at the standard of propriety according to which it is more necessary for a lady to hide the back of her head than her face, and a greater offence to expose the face than almost any lower part of the person; but he never speaks harshly of real, even though they be mistaken, notions of duty. This is especially seen in the account of the Moslem theology and ritual. No one need be told of the errors of the former or of the follies of the latter, nor can any good result from throwing ridicule upon them. They claim respect be-

cause of the honesty with which they are held and observed by worshippers to whom they are sacred. For his kindly sympathy with all that is good and true in Egyptian thought and character, no less than for his quiet satire of all that lies fairly open to the satirist, we like Mr Lane's book.

The accidents of modern commerce join to make it still more valuable. During the twenty-five years or so which have elapsed since it was written a far greater change has passed over Egyptian manners than had occurred in many previous centuries. Before long, Europeans journeying by the overland route to India or China will have rubbed down some angles of the native character that now resist their influence. Mr Lane studied the country before change was at all marked, and thus his tale of the land of Egypt even now describes institutions old as Isaiah and Herodotus, that are now in their decay.

Many readers will remember the book as it first came out in the tiny paper-bound volumes through which the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge imparted sound information a quarter of a century ago. They will rightly value it as it now appears, newly and ably edited, a gem of good printing, and a descriptive work enriched with every illustration that could add distinctness to the text.

From Death to Life. Bible Records of Remarkable Conversions. By the Rev. Adolph Saphir, South Shields. Edinburgh: Strahan and Co. London: Hamilton, Adams, and Co.

This is a thoughtful religious book, pleasantly blending the two characters of story and sermon in a series of meditations on the narratives of the chief persons mentioned in Scripture as having passed by conversion out of darkness into light, from death to life. Naaman the Syrian, Saul, Nicodemus, the Thief on the Cross, are among the texts, and even parables are not excluded from the plan, the story of the Rich Young Man and of the Prodigal Son closing the volume, of which the literary character is not high, but the design is excellent, and the worth will be felt in many households.

FOREIGN BOOKS.

To the collections of popular tales of divers countries, which we have already named, we may add, though the date on its title-page is 1859, the 'Cuentos y Poesias populares' of Andalusia, collected by the lady who assumes the name of Fernan Caballero. The collection was suggested by Grimm's note upon the wealth of Spanish legend, that has not yet been brought to book. Of the popular poetry Trueba has given many a transcript; Don José Maria Goizueta has made a collection of the Traditions and Songs of the Basques, and here is a clever lady who retains the phrase and manner of the Andalusians—there is no vulgarity, in a mean sense, in any form of provincial Spanish—while she repeats all she has heard of Andalusian song or story. The tales are for the most part humorous, often dashed with Catholicism, and animated with a half malicious love of mischief. The family likeness of many of them to stories that are to be found in Grimm's collection and elsewhere is very distinct, but equally distinct are the turns of local character that fit them to the Spanish soil. There is a story, for example, in Grimm of "Three Spinners," answering to the Andalusian tale of the Souls,—which, as we here find it, curiously illustrates among other things the lowness of the morality sustained by superstition:

Once upon a time there was a poor old woman who had a good and very pious niece, blindly obedient to her, but shy and stupid. What, thought the poor woman, would happen to my niece if at my death she were unmarried? Now the aunt had a neighbour who took lodgers, and among her lodgers was a rich Indiano (that is the Spanish form of Nabob, enriched in the West instead of the East Indies, or in South America), and the rich Indiano, it was said, was well disposed to take to wife a well-bred, industrious, and active girl. The aunt, when she heard this, went directly to the cavalier and told him what a jewel of a niece she had, a girl active enough to catch a swallow flying. "Very well, I'll come and see her," said the Nabob. He did come, next morning, and the first thing he asked the girl was whether she could spin. "Spin indeed!" said the aunt for her, "she'll twist a thread as soon as you will drink a glass of water." "What have you done, Señora!" said the niece, when the rich cavalier was gone away, leaving her three bundles of flax to prove her skill upon. "What have you done, Señora! You know that I can't spin." "Let be," said the old woman. "We must always make ourselves out better than we are, and leave the rest to God. How else should we get on?" "It is a wicked business," the niece said, weeping. And she wept in her room at night, commending herself to the protection of the Blessed Souls, that she had in especial reverence.

While she prayed three Souls clothed in light and wonderful in beauty appeared to her and told her not to vex herself, for they would help her in return for all the good she had done them by her prayers. Each took a bundle of flax, and in a twinkling had it spun into a thread fine as a hair.

Next day, when the Nabob came, he was amazed at the girl's skill and industry. "Didn't I tell your noble worship so," bragged the old woman. The cavalier asked whether the girl could sew. "Sew indeed," the aunt answered for her. "A needle in the hand or a cherry in the mouth would be all one to her." The Nabob gave her linen to be made into three shirts, and as it was with the spinning so it was with the sewing. So it was also on the next following day and night with the embroidering of a fine waistcoat. Only that on the third night the Souls said to the girl: "Don't vex yourself. We will do the embroidering, but upon one condition,—that you ask us to your wedding." "What," cried the girl amazed, "and am I to be married too!" "Yes," said the Souls, "you are to be the wife of that rich Indiano." So it was. For when the cavalier saw that the waistcoat was embroidered so magnificently as almost to blind him with its

splendour, he said to the aunt that she must let him have her niece in marriage.

Aunt was delighted, but the girl said to her, "Oh, Señora, what will become of me when my husband finds out that I can do nothing?" "Pooh, nonsense," the aunt said, "Trust the Blessed Souls who have got you out of other hobbles to find you a way also out of that."

The wedding-day was fixed, and on the eve of it the bride went to an altar dedicated to the Blessed Souls, and asked them to her wedding. So at the wedding, when the festival was at its height, there came into the room three old women so exorcising in their ugliness that the bridegroom, struck with horror, opened his eyes wide and couldn't shut them. One had an arm too short and an arm too long that she dragged after her upon the ground; the second had a humped back and a crooked body. The third had eyes that started from her head, worse than a crab's, and were as red as two crab-apples. "Jesus Maria!" shrieked the bridegroom, "Who are these scarecrows?" "Friends of my father," the bride said, "whom I invited to the wedding."

The cavalier, being of good breeding, then offered them seats and entered into conversation with them. "Tell me, madam, I pray you," he said to the first, "why you have one arm so short and one so long?" "Dear son," said the old woman, "that comes of my having spun so much." Then uprose the Indiano, slipped to his wife's side, and said to her, "Go instantly and burn your distaff and spindle. Let me never see you spin."

Then he inquired of the second old woman why she was so hump-backed and crooked? "Dear son," she answered, "that comes of so much bending over the embroidery frame." The Nabob took three leaps to the side of his bride. "Upon the spot burn your embroidery frame, and let it never in your life again enter your head to embroider!"

After this he turned to the third old woman and asked why her eyes started out of her head and were so red? "Dear son," she replied, twisting her eyes round like a top as she spoke, "that comes of much sewing and bending over needle-work." The words were hardly out of her mouth before the Nabob was by his wife's side again, and said to her, "Take your needles and your threads and throw them down the well, and mind well that on the day I see you with a needle and thread in your hand, I divorce you. For the wise man takes warning by the hurt of others."

So the helpful Souls, for they were the old women, saved their worshipper from all her trouble.

The collection from which we tell this tale includes among many good stories a dramatic proverb expressing the popular Spanish notion of the worldly way out of perplexities, "Ver venir, dejarse ir, y tenerse allá"—Let come, let go, and withhold one's-self; which rule of "grey grammar" is the exact opposite to national sentiment in England. But the large dramatic element in Spanish folk lore the editor has found it necessary, as a whole, to exclude from her collection. There are anecdotes, jests, and a rhymed peasant's calendar. In verse also there are moral couplets, lullabies, love and war songs, songs of labour, rhymed jests, satires, and epigrams. With some of the lullabies and other songs the editor gives also the music that shows how they are sung by the Andalusians.

BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

ENGLISH LITERATURE.—Shakespeare. Edited by Mary Cowden Clarke. (New York: D. Appleton and Co. London: Trübner and Co.)

TRAVELS.—'Explorations and Adventures in Equatorial Africa.' By Paul B. Du Chaillu. With Maps and Illustrations. (Murray).—'Australian Sketches—The Gold Discovery, Bush Graves, &c.' By Thomas M'Combie, Esq. (Sampson Low, Son, and Co.)

HISTORY.—'History and Heroes of Medicine.' By J. Rutherford Russell, M.D. With Portraits. (Murray.)

BIOGRAPHY.—'The Life, Times, and Correspondence of the Right Rev. Dr Doyle, Bishop of Kildare and Leighlin.' By William John Fitzpatrick, J.P. Two vols. (Duffy, Dublin and London.)

PHILOSOPHY.—'Philosophy of the Science of Truth.' By James Haig, M.A., of Lincoln's inn. (Saunders, Otley, and Co.)

THEOLOGY.—'Physico-Prophetic Essays on the Locality of the Eternal Inheritance, its Nature and Character, the Resurrection Body, the Mutual Recognition of Glorified Saints.' By the Rev. W. Lister, F.G.S., Vicar of Bashbury and Rural Dean. (Longman and Co.)

FICTION.—'La Beata.' By T. Adolphus Trollope. Two vols. (Chapman and Hall.)

ESSAYS.—'The Science of Happiness developed in a Series of Essays on Self-Love.' By a Friend to Humanity. (Trübner and Co.)

VERSE.—'Teuton.' A Poem. By Christopher James Riethmüller. (Bell and Daldy.)

MONTHLY.—'Chambers's Journal.' Part 88. (W. and R. Chambers).—'Chambers's Household Edition of the Works of William Shakespeare.' Edited by Robert Carruthers and William Chambers. Illustrated by Keeley Halswelle. (W. and R. Chambers).—'Boy's Own Magazine.' (S. O. Beeton).—'The Englishwoman's Domestic Magazine.' Vol. III. No. 13. (S. O. Beeton.)

PAMPHLETS.—'Suggestions for the Exploration of Iceland.' An Address delivered to the Members of the Alpine Club on April 4, 1861. By William Longman, Vice-President. With a Map reduced from Olsen's large four-sheet Map. (Printed by the Alpine Club for its Members).—'Substance of a Speech delivered in the Lower House of Convocation, March 14, 1861, on introducing a Motion recommending certain Modifications of the Liturgy.' With a few Remarks in answer to Objections made on that occasion. By the Hon. George Pellew, D.D., Dean of Norwich. (Hatchard).—'The Medical Profession: its Aims and its Objects.' By a Surgeon. (Newby).—'A Letter from a Volunteer of 1806 to the Volunteers of 1860.' With Suggestions on the Defence of England, her Weakness, and her Strength. By A.W. Playfair, M.R.R., Lieut.-Colonel Commanding Lanark Rifles, Canada West. (Montreal and London: E. G. Allen, Tavistock row, Covent garden).—'The Reform Bill of 1862.' A Third Letter to Richard Freedom, Esq., on the Extension and Redistribution of the Elective Franchise. By Sir John E. Eardley-Wilmot, Bart., for Seven Years a Revising Barrister. (Kidway).—

'New Brunswick as a Home for Emigrants: with the best Means for promoting Immigration and developing the Resources of the Province.' First, Second, and Third Prize Essays by J. V. Ellis, James Edgar, and Hon. James Brown, Surveyor-General. (St John's, N.B., and London: Algar, Clement's lane).—'A Handbook to the Colony of Queensland, Australia.' By the Editor of the *Australian and New Zealand Gazette*. (Algar, Clement's lane).—'Record of the College of Christ Church in Brecon, with Notes and Correspondence thereon by Sir Benjamin Hall, Bart., and the Bishop of St David's.' By the Rev. Jermyn Pratt, M.A. (London: Simpkin, Marshall, and Co. Woodbridge: J. Loder).—'Rulers and Peoples; or Thoughts upon Government and Constitutional Freedom.' An Essay by Manuel Martinez de Morentin, Professor of the Spanish Language and Literature. (Trübner and Co.).—'Speeches delivered in the Italian Chamber of Deputies on the 18th, 19th, and 20th of April, 1861, on the Baron Ricasoli's Interpellation upon the subject of the Southern Army lately under the command of General Garibaldi.' (Printed by Whittingham and Wilkins.)

THE MUSICAL EXAMINER.

FESTIVAL PERFORMANCE OF THE CREATION AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

The transept of the Crystal Palace is by this time firmly established as a music hall. With all its faults, and it must be admitted that it is not the best place for hearing solo singers, it is recognised as the noblest hall for the production of the magnificent choruses of our great sacred composers on the colossal scale now favoured by the directors of our Harmonic Societies. Twenty years ago one thought that an orchestra comprising some 500 or 600 members was on a scale of gigantic magnitude. And yet now the public seems to think that to produce an effect in harmony with the grandeur of this class of compositions performers must unite by thousands. Haydn himself, if he could be invited to watch Mr Costa, might well doubt the possibility of keeping such a population of performers to the same strict discipline that he was able to enforce when he conducted his oratorio at its first performance by the Dilettanti Society of Vienna on the 19th March, 1799. At the first performance of the work in England at Covent Garden Theatre, on the 28th March, 1800, a band and chorus together comprising 120 persons were thought adequate. Yet there could be no doubting the grandeur of the execution by 3,000 performers of the glorious chorus, "The Heavens are telling." The waves of sound rolled through the vast space during the great crescendo which concludes that chorus until they rose almost into a storm; and wonderful was the perfection with which those apparently unwieldy masses of singers executed the fugue in the "Achieved is the glorious work."

The Festival performance of the *Creation* with which the Crystal Palace season of 1861 was opened on the first of this month was worthy of its predecessors. Nothing was left to be desired in the solo parts; the three angels being represented by Madlle Titiens, Mr Sims Reeves, and Herr Formes, while the music of Adam and Eve was allotted to Mr Santley and Madame Rudersdorff. Madlle Titiens, upon her first appearance in an English oratorio, surprised and delighted us with her rich full musical tones, her excellent enunciation of the words, and her faultless taste of execution. In her singing of "On mighty pens," and "With verdure clad," she almost attained to the perfection of Madame Clara Novello. The rich massive voice of Herr Formes was as effective as his declamation of the recitatives in the early part of the oratorio was noble, while it was verily marvellous to realise the fact that it was low D which he more than once gave out through the enormous space in which he sang. Of the other solo singers we have nothing to say but that their parts were executed correctly and artistically; and the choruses, too, were excellent, barring some slight unsteadiness in one or two of them. This arose probably from the fact that there had not been any really general rehearsal by the different portions of the chorus, as the London 1,600 had little or no opportunity of practising with their companions from the country. But when we take into account the colossal scale of the performance, and the immense difficulty which must attend the joint action of such an army, the precision was most extraordinary.

CONCERT OF THE PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.

The fourth concert of the Philharmonic Society took place on Monday in last week, when our notice of it was deferred by press of other matter. The programme was as follows:

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| PART I. | |
| Symphony in C minor, No. 1 | Mendelssohn. |
| Aria, "Un aura amorosa" (<i>Così fan tutte</i>), Sig. Gardoni | Mozart. |
| Solo, Contrabasso (Violin Solo, Op. 40), Mr Alexander Rowland | Mayseder. |
| Overture in C major | Beethoven. |
| PART II. | |
| Symphony in F, No. 8 | Beethoven. |
| Recit. { Yes, when all around, } (Jessonda), Miss | |
| Aria { Thus my cherished love, } | |
| Augusta Thomson | Spohr. |
| Concerto, Violin, in A minor, No. 5, Herr Ludwig Strauss | Molique. |
| Duet (<i>Il Conte Ory</i>), Miss Thomson and Sig. Gardoni | Rossini. |
| Overture, <i>Anacreon</i> | Cherubini. |

Of these, Beethoven's 8th Symphony and the lovely concert overture of the same composer were perhaps the gems of the evening; nothing could be more perfect than their execution by the orchestra under the excellent con-

duct of Dr Bennett. The same may be said of the performance of Mendelssohn's symphony—though perhaps enthusiastic admirers of the latter composer may hold that it was hardly fair to introduce into the same programme one of his earliest works, written when the composer was only fourteen years old, and a masterpiece of Beethoven, a symphony produced when his genius was at its very highest point. In both these symphonies we remarked the great perfection of the wind instruments, the effect of which in the beautiful legato andante movement of the opening symphony was wonderful.

The violin concerto of M. Molique was performed by Herr Strauss in a style worthy of him. Miss Thomson's voice was excellent, and she sang the duet with Signor Gardoni in a thoroughly artistic manner—better in fact than the great air from *Jessonda*, in which she showed considerable signs of nervousness. But there is one subject upon which we must venture to offer a suggestion to the managers of these concerts. Is it quite wise that the programmes of the Philharmonic Concerts, intended as these concerts are for the performance of the noblest classical music, and superintended by the Society which aspires to the first rank in London, should include such a piece as Mr Rowland's solo on the contrabasso? Wonderful as his execution was—excellent as the music he played—it was only an adaptation of a violin solo to an instrument remarkable more for its difficulty than its beauty. The same piece would have been performed far more effectively and far more pleasurably on the violin: and although solos of this nature were very appropriate to the concerts of the late M. Jullien, yet the object of the Philharmonic Society seems to us to be the cultivation of good music in its most perfect effects, not to show how uncouth instruments can be used to nearly as great advantage as the more delicate ones which are usually and properly employed for solo performances.

THE MUSICAL SOCIETY'S CONCERT.

The Musical Society of London has in its third concert (given at the St James's Hall on Wednesday evening last) fully sustained the reputation which it had acquired at previous performances. Nothing could exceed the precision with which the orchestra, under Mr Mellon's conduct, executed the delicious tenth symphony of Haydn, and Mendelssohn's beautiful overture known as that to a calm sea and prosperous voyage. The smoothness and silvery effect of the earlier part of the overture were particularly remarkable. Spohr's first concerto for the clarinet was accompanied by the orchestra in a manner worthy of its finished execution by Mr Lazarus. It would be difficult to imagine a more perfect performance than that of this gentleman. A more brilliant tone, more graceful rendering of a very florid work, and a more thorough appreciation of the beauty of the music, could hardly be expected of any instrumentalist.

The vocal part of the concert was sustained by Made-moiselle Parepa and Signor Belletti. The former sang Beethoven's beautiful scena, "Per pietà non dirmi addio," and the latter an air from Balfe's opera of Falstaff: while in the second part of the concert they joined in the charming duet from Figaro, "Esci omai garzon," which was rendered with most dramatic effect.

The concert was brought to a conclusion by Auber's overture, "Le lac des Fées."

FINE ARTS.

THE PICTURES OF THE YEAR.

(Fourth Notice.)

To-day we speak chiefly of landscapes, but before doing so a word may be said of the one study of the human figure in the exhibition of the OLD WATER COLOUR SOCIETY that has in it something more than skilful handiwork; we mean Mr F. W. Burton's, A. D. 1660, *The Old Ironside*. Even by the skill shown in its manipulation the well-studied figure of this grizzled veteran would be distinguished among the best, but Mr Burton's work is full also of thought and character. It is 1660, the year of the Restoration, and in garb of peace the old soldier of Cromwell, whose morion and sword we perceive hanging over the pillow of his inner chamber, reads with a careful frown in the well-worn Bible that he actively holds, and does not simply allow to lie beside him; he holds it, too, not so much in his hands as in his fists, for, without unnatural obtuseness of the thought, Bible and Fists are together. The book is open not in the part containing the New Testament, but evidently somewhere about the Lamentations of Jeremiah. There he may be reading how Zion bewails his pitiful estate. "How is the gold become dim! how is the most fine gold changed! The stones of the sanctuary are poured out in the top of every street. The precious sons of Zion, comparable to fine gold, how are they esteemed as earthen pitchers, the work of the hands of the potter!" The hour-glass on the shelf over the man's head, and all the lesser detail of the picture, aid its expression; and yet all is done by faithful unaffected painting, while the natural utterance of the thought that underlies the work is nowhere strained into conceit. We must reckon Mr Burton's Ironside with the best pictures of its class exhibited this year. Among the studies of single heads we can recall to mind no other that is in all respects its equal.

The freshest landscapes of the season, a few years ago, were to be found at the water colour galleries. Still we

may find there some of the truest of fresh studies, but in the reproduction of time-honoured effects the water colour painters now do not copy nature so well as the painters in oil. Mr A. P. Newton, for his part, at the Old Water Colour Gallery, studies various effects of earth and sea and sky with a determination to get new and perfect transcripts that sometimes leads to honourable failure, sometimes to complete success. Of his four studies from Menton, in the new territory bought for France of the Prince of Monaco, we prefer the little to the large pair. The effect of night *Arrival of the Diligence in Menton* is good. But in the little *Twilight View of the Town* itself, raising its dark mass, here and there dotted with the twinkle from a window, against the clear soft light in the evening sky, and the creeping of night shades over the shore in the foreground with its fishing-boat and sweep of netting, we have an exquisite truth, that is not attained in his large daylight *View of Menton*, set in the surrounding coast, a picture that is especially spoiled by a stretch of untransparent water. His other large picture of winter foliage in the *Gardens of the Prince of Monaco*, including some elaborately studied cedars, is very good indeed.

The dryness of the surface of the sea that we observe in Mr Newton's view of Menton, we observe in nearly all the water colour pictures of this year that have sea in them. There is too seldom a sense of motion in the waves, or freshness in the air, or any lustre at all on the surface of the water. It is the fatal fault of Mr A. P. Newton's study of mere cloud and sea entitled *Light*. The sea is without light and is not liquid. Even Mr S. P. Jackson is sometimes to be charged with this fault, as in his *Polpeer Cove—the Lizard*, and in his *Lizard Lights*; but his *St Ives Pier*—where he has certainly the help of wet sands, which are easily represented, to sustain the illusion—we get shingle, sand, and sea, old town, old pier, old lighthouse, and old fisherman, with a real sense of the wet waterside about them. Mr Edward Duncan's *Crab Catchers—Caswell Bay, South Coast of Wales*, is again free from blame in this respect. It is low water among the rocks, and the light upon the sea beyond shines as in nature. Mr Edward Duncan's other picture, *On the Thames near Shiplake*, where the cows enjoy the passing away in rainbows of a summer shower, is another work in the best vein of the water colour painters, who can be eminent for nothing if not for the fidelity with which they transcribe fleeting expressions on the face of nature.

England, with all her marked varieties of season, her clouds and mists, and infinite diversities of weather that produce endless diversity in the effects of light and colour above and around us, ought to be the paradise of landscape painters. The number is lessening of English landscape painters, who seek subjects under the sameness of an Italian climate, or care to leave their native fells and burns, moors, marshes, wooded glades, corn fields, and pasture lands. They may paint what they find when they go abroad for change and holiday, but they cannot do better than spend on English coast and English country side the main part of their work. Thus in the Academy Exhibition we find Mr F. R. Lee bringing home two fine studies from Gibraltar,—very bold and masterly is that of the *Signal Station*,—but he holds also by the English scenery he always has preferred in a calm bit of English rural scenery, *Where the Railway has not yet come*, and still more conspicuously in his *Breakwater, Plymouth*, where the Breakwater runs into the sea from the centre of the foreground, parting it into rough water and still. Here there is true sea represented, and that in two aspects under the same sky. But supreme as of old among sea painters is Mr Stanfield. His bit of wild sea and rocky coast, with the interest of human action that enlivens it, entitled, *Capture of smuggled goods on the old Antrim road, Ireland—dirty weather*, though not a large or ambitious work, is the most popular sea study of the year.

FOREIGN NEWS.

THE CIVIL WAR IN AMERICA.

THE ACCOUNTS BROUGHT BY THE PERSIA (of which we published a summary in our evening edition last week), reaching to the 24th ult. are, in detail, as follows:

THE NAVY YARD AT NORFOLK was burnt on the 21st by the Government forces stationed there, to prevent it falling into the hands of the Secessionists. All the most valuable property was destroyed, including the line-of-battle ship *Pennsylvania*, the screw frigate *Merrimac*, sloop of war *Germantown*, brigs *Plymouth* and *Dolphin*, frigates *Columbia*, *Potomac*, and *Delaware*, the line-of-battle ship *New York*, on the stocks, and other vessels of less value, together with the arms, munitions, and stores, shiphouses, and storehouses. On a pre-concerted signal being given the whole was set fire to simultaneously, and so rapid was the destruction that Commander Rogers of the Navy, and Captain Wright of the Engineers, were unable to reach the point of rendezvous for embarkation, and were necessarily left behind. The Union men of Norfolk, it is said, co-operated with the Government troops.

LARGE BODIES OF TROOPS were daily leaving New York for Philadelphia, en route for Washington. The war feeling in New York continued unabated. The rolls were rapidly filling up, and preparations were making by the various regiments for an early departure for the seat of war. Colonel Ellsworth's Fire Zouaves were to leave for Washington on the 27th ult., and three more regiments—the 79th, 56th, and 5th—would probably go on the same day. In the United States Circuit Court, on the 24th, Judge Betts delivered an important charge to the special grand jury empanelled to take cognizance of cases of treason and misprision of treason in New York. A gun

manufacturer in New York was arrested on the 24th on a charge of treason, and Dr Sabot was arrested for misprision of treason. They were committed for trial. There was no direct communication between New York and Washington and Baltimore. The communication was understood to be suspended by desire of the Government, in order to prevent its plans of war from falling into the hands of its opponents. A great mass meeting in support of the Government in the present crisis of the nation was held in New York on the 20th ult. Such a demonstration has never before been witnessed in the United States. A series of resolutions were proposed and unanimously adopted pledging the meeting to use every means to preserve the Union intact and inviolate, and agreeing to the appointment of a committee of twenty-five to represent the city in the collection of funds and the transaction of such other business in aid of the Government as the public interests may require.

The *New York Herald* of the 25th says:

We have important news from Washington. Our own gallant 7th Regiment and the Massachusetts 8th Regiment are at last safely arrived in the national capital. Despatches to that effect were received in the city last night. Government has sent special messengers on here, urging the forwarding of troops as fast as possible, and as many field pieces as can be sent. It will be necessary to have the national capital reinforced as rapidly as may be, it being believed that the secessionists have a strong force in the neighbourhood, and that they are preparing for an early attack. It is supposed that General Beauregard and President Davis are both in Virginia, ready to lead the assault. There is great scarcity of food in Washington.

THE STATE OF AFFAIRS IN BALTIMORE is likened to "a reign of terror." No steamers were allowed to leave the city, and railroad travel being cut off, passengers for the North could only proceed by private conveyance. All the railway bridges between Philadelphia and Baltimore had been burned down by the people of Maryland. Three men of the Federal troops who were in charge of Harper's Ferry, and who did not leave at the time of the evacuation of the arsenal, were taken prisoners by the Virginians. They, however, have made their escape to Harrisburg, in Pennsylvania, and reported that the destruction of buildings and arms was complete, that six or seven thousand Virginians were at Harper's Ferry, and that they design invading Maryland, and making Mason and Dixon's line the line of warfare. The chartered United States steamship *Star of the West* was boarded and captured without resistance off Indianola by the Galveston Volunteers, and has been taken to New Orleans, with a prize crew on board. She had 800 or 900 barrels of provisions on board. The Washington correspondent of the *New York Herald* writes that Maryland and Virginia have been committed to secession from the beginning, their apparent hesitation being only a mask to throw the North off their guard.

IMMENSE REJOICING took place at *Montgomery, Alabama*, on the news being received of the secession of Virginia. Great anxiety existed to hear from the North, the people being still unaware of the overwhelming and unanimous Union feeling which has rendered the North as one man since the attack of the Secessionists on Fort Sumpter. Business in Montgomery was almost entirely suspended. It was believed that President Davis had left for Richmond, Virginia; there, in concert with General Beauregard, to concentrate a strong force to attack Washington.

AT A LARGE PUBLIC MEETING, HELD AT LOUISVILLE, it was unanimously resolved that the State of Kentucky would remain neutral in the present crisis, neither aiding North or South, but would arm herself to resist any attack made upon her from either side.

BY THE *Fulton* we have received *New York papers* to April 27. They are filled with accounts of warlike movements in all directions but no collision had yet taken place between the opposing parties. The most important fact that we learn is that a sufficient body of troops had been poured into Washington to abate very much, if not altogether remove, the anxiety felt for the safety of that city.

The *New York Herald* of the 27th, after announcing the arrival of various regiments at Washington, gives the following summary of the state of affairs:

We learn, on the authority of Captain Sherman, of the Vermont Arsenal, who came from Washington in the Keystone State, that the Potomac was open, no obstructing batteries being planted on its shores by the secessionists, and the heights of Georgetown and Arlington being both held by the Government. As to the movements of the rebel troops, we have also some reliable information. One of our special correspondents at Pensacola, Florida, was compelled to leave there very hurriedly by the secessionists on the 21st inst. He reached Montgomery on the 26th, and with considerable difficulty got safely as far north as Cincinnati, from which point he telegraphed us yesterday. He reports the condition of things at Fort Pickens to be in *statu quo*. The rebels have given up the idea of attacking it for the present, until they get reinforcements and are supplied with columbiads, the small 42-pounders they have not being sufficient to do any damage to the fort. Six thousand rebel volunteers are said to be ready for service at Richmond, which number, it is calculated, will be increased to 25,000 at the close of the week. There seems to be very little doubt that both Mr Davis and Mr Stephens are there now. General Beauregard is in all probability still in Charleston. A State battery has been erected at Yorktown, and another at a point three miles above Richmond. At Harper's Ferry 4,000 men were stationed; but it is supposed that they are under orders to move at once to a location nearer the Federal capital. 2,500 secession troops are at Norfolk. Such are the movements up to the last accounts of troops of both hostile parties. Other events, however, appear to be transpiring in Maryland which bear somewhat on the course of events. It is reported from Harrisburg that a considerable flight of negroes into Pennsylvania is taking place, and that an attack has been made by a body of Marylanders on the village of Hanover, York county, Pennsylvania, in consequence. It is said that whole families are leaving Maryland and flying into the counties of Adams, York, and Franklin, Pennsylvania, and that the fear has become general in the border counties of Maryland that the departure of the whole slave population is imminent. Over 500 slaves have already run off. Rumours reach us from Baltimore that a remarkable change of sentiment in favour of the Union has taken place there, which is indicated in a measure by the tone of some portions of the press, and other circumstances; but the reports need confirmation. Our latest intelligence from that quarter represents that city as still under the control of the secessionist mob, though quiet. Washington may be considered safe for the present. It is stated that there is no want of provisions there, and that the Government has made ample arrangements for all necessary supplies.

THE GOVERNOR OF DELAWARE had issued a proclamation calling out troops to defend the Union. Fort Smith, in Arkansas, had been

taken by the State troops. A despatch from the fort on the 25th ult. contains particulars:

Fort Smith is in possession of the State troops. About twelve o'clock last night a volunteer force, under the command of Colonel Solon Borland, landed at the wharf from the steamboats *Tablequah* and *Frederic Notrobo*. The command numbered nearly 300 men. About an hour before their arrival Captain Sturgis left with his command, consisting of two cavalry companies. He took away the horses belonging to his command, and such supplies as he could transport. He is falling back on Fort Washia. The post was formally surrendered by Captain A. Montgomery to General E. Burgevin, Adjutant-General of the State, who placed Colonel Borland in charge. Captain Montgomery and Major Gatlin were taken prisoners, and afterwards released on parole. There were about 700 State troops here to-day. They were passed in review in the garrison parade-ground. The Confederate flag was raised on the fort at twelve o'clock, amid the firing of cannon and the cheers of the people. After the review three cheers were given for the Arkansas citizen soldiery, three cheers for Jeff. Davis, and three cheers for Governor H. M. Rector. The stock and property taken possession of is estimated to be of the value of 300,000 dollars.

THE LATEST MOVEMENTS AT THE SOUTH may be gathered from a New Orleans telegram:

NEW ORLEANS, April 25.—The steamship *Catawba* was seized this morning at one o'clock, by a number of citizens under Captain Shirens on their own responsibility; she was released afterwards by orders from Governor Moore, who has received instructions from the Confederate Government prohibiting and disapproving of any obstruction to commerce in Southern ports. The collector of New Orleans has been notified to the same effect. Governor Moore, in reply to a despatch relative to the seizure of boats and Southern property in the Ohio River, has been instructed by the Government at Montgomery to wait till the reports are confirmed, and then only to retaliate by seizing property belonging to citizens of Ohio. Two thousand Federal troops are reported at Cairo, with the intention of stopping all steamers bound South. If any attempt of the kind is made, Missouri, Kentucky, and Tennessee will immediately concentrate large forces at Cairo to drive back the Federal troops at all hazards. The navigation of the Ohio will be kept free at any cost. Louisiana parishes continue to pour in a large number of troops, destined for Pensacola; also, to make heavy appropriations for their support. Tensas parish has appropriated 16,000 dollars for the use of the State, pays twenty dollars a month to each soldier, besides supporting his family during his absence. East Feliciana had subscribed 50,000 dollars for the same purpose, and at an immense meeting passed a resolution that the planters in the parish of East Feliciana "stand pledged to tender to Louisiana and the Government of the Confederate States, should it be needed, the whole of the annual proceeds of our crops, deducting only what may be necessary for our current expenses, during the continuance of present hostilities." The military excitement continues at the highest pitch. The city is filled with soldiers. The sound of the drum and the tramp of armed men are heard through day and night. A large body of troops left to-day for Pensacola. No movement has as yet been made from the former status quo.

The latest intelligence is by the *North Briton*, which sailed from Portland on the 27th of April, and brings the following telegram:

NEW YORK, April 27.—The Federal Government is chartering all the available steamers for transports and gunboats. The steamer *Kedar* has been chartered. The union sentiment in Maryland is arousing. In some parts the people threaten to hang their representatives if they vote for secession. The Southern troops are reported to be marching on Washington in detachments. Planting is neglected in the South. The growing crops are in danger from want of cultivation. The Governor of Tennessee has informed President Lincoln that he would furnish no troops to the Federal government, but would rather furnish 50,000 men against the North. Senator Douglas had made a speech strongly in favour of the maintenance of the Union, and vindicating the conduct of General Scott, who, he said, would remain true to the Federal government. The Lincoln Administration is attacked by all the New York press for a want of activity and forethought in the measures taken by the government, and the absence of a vigorous policy, which will tend to complicate and prolong the present difficulties.

FRANCE.

THE TRIAL OF THE PUBLISHER AND PRINTER OF THE DUC D'AUMALE'S PAMPHLET took place on Saturday. The presiding judge was M. Massé, and the public prosecutor M. Ducreux. The publisher, M. Duminyeray, who was refused permission for a friend to accompany him, was defended by M. Dufaure, and the printer by M. Hebert. The *Procureur Impérial* was remarkable for the bitterness of his attack upon the Duc d'Aumale in particular, and on the Orleansist family in general. But he was even still more remarkable for his eulogies and ardent admiration of the reigning dynasty and all its members. M. Dufaure's defence of the publisher was admirable. M. Hebert, who defended the printer, M. Baux, was several times interrupted by the Court when he referred to the Prince de Condé and the Duc d'Enghien. The Court deliberated during about three-quarters of an hour, and condemned the publisher of the pamphlet, M. Duminyeray, to one year's imprisonment and 5,000 francs fine, and the printer, M. Baux, to six months' imprisonment and 5,000 francs fine. Both parties will appeal against the judgment.

THE CHARACTER OF THE NEW COMMERCIAL TREATY WITH FRANCE AND BELGIUM is thus described by the *Constitutionnel*:

These tariffs are marked on both sides by a very liberal spirit; on some manufactured articles they are lower than the English tariff, especially on certain cotton threads destined for the manufacture of tulle. But these advantages will naturally profit English productions, since, according to the treaty of the 30th of January, 1860, England is to enjoy the same treatment as the most favoured nation. The duties on paper are to be reduced from 150f. to 10f. the 100 kilogrammes. Belgium removes absolutely all duties on the export of her ores, which are so valuable to the metallurgic establishments of the north of France; while France, on her part, permits the export of rags for making paper on payment of 12f. the 100 kilogrammes, or 14f. 40c. with the double décime.

A REPORT OF GREAT IMPORTANCE, says the *Indépendance Belge* of Thursday, was current yesterday in Paris. The government, it is said, with a view to develop the moral resources of France and to enlist auxiliaries against the clergy, intends to complete its decree of the 22nd of November, 1860, by a series of measures which will modify, in a liberal sense, the laws on the press. Another rumour states that a treaty offensive and defensive has been concluded between France and Italy, which will lead to the renewal of diplomatic relations between both countries. The discussion on the occupation of Syria is to come on on Monday next. Whatever be the result, it is doubtful whether it will have much influence on the resolutions of the government, which is bound by its engagements to England; and if the latter Power insists on their being fulfilled, France must either comply or assume the responsibility of whatever consequences may

arise. The proposal of a joint occupation by France, England, and Sardinia having been rejected in London, it is said that the French will not retire—that they will remain at Beyrout and in the Lebanon—that the English will occupy St. Jean d'Acre with 8,000 troops drawn from Malta, and that a communication to this effect was made yesterday by Lord Cowley to M. Thouvenel.

ITALY.

THE OFFICIAL TURIN GAZETTE of the 6th publishes a despatch dated Naples, May 4, announcing that the reactionary movement has been suppressed in all the provinces, and now only exists on the Roman frontier. The same despatch states that one of the reactionary bands, having withdrawn to Monticelli, committed several murders in that town, and was preparing to march against Fondi, when it was dispersed by a company of Grenadiers. One soldier was killed and one officer wounded. The Bourbon bands, commanded by Chiavone, have been completely beaten at the village of Lenola, near Fondi, by a battalion of the Italian army. The fugitives were pursued towards the Roman frontier. Some disturbances at Nola have been easily suppressed.

On the 7th about 200 Bourbon soldiers were defeated by the National Guard at a village near Capua. They are now surrounded at Caserta Vecchia and Marroni by the National Guard and a detachment of Bersaglieri. No popular rising has taken place at Messina, although one was expected. Great uneasiness, however, prevails there. The troops are encamped outside the town, for fear of being taken by surprise.

AT TURIN, THE CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES, in its sitting of the 6th, approved the Government Bill for raising 36,000 men in the Neapolitan provinces, to be furnished in two levies.

THE ADDRESS OF THE INHABITANTS OF ROME TO THE EMPEROR NAPOLEON, requesting him to withdraw the French garrison from Rome, already bears thousands of signatures. The sheets which have been signed lie at the French Embassy. On the 2nd inst. the Pope gave a grand dinner to the French and Pontifical Generals. By order of the Pope, the Catholic Club, which had been established by a society of Frenchmen, has been dissolved.

NEGOTIATIONS FOR A RENEWAL OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS between the Kingdom of Italy and France, are stated, in a private letter from Turin of the 3rd, to be the object of M. Vimercati's movements between Turin and Paris. The letter says:

You are, no doubt, aware that M. Vimercati, aide-de-camp to the King, is the unofficial representative of the Piedmontese Government to the Emperor of the French. M. Vimercati's movements have attracted the attention of the diplomatic body, and some go so far as to say that he was the bearer of propositions from the Emperor for a defensive and offensive alliance with a view to the future. Without denying or affirming the existence of such a project, I believe that the visit of M. Vimercati had reference to some plan for settling the Roman difficulty, which must soon be settled in some way, or Garibaldi's patience will be tired out. Garibaldi will let things go on for some time, but there is a point beyond which he will not remain as he is. Vimercati's mission had also something to do with the renewal of diplomatic relations between France and the kingdom of Italy. France cannot wish to be the last Power to recognize it, and she must feel the necessity of having a Minister in this country, when important events may happen any day.

PRUSSIA.

IN THE CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES, on Monday, M. von Vincke's question with reference to the outrage on Captain Macdonald was discussed. M. von Vincke expressed his regret at what he termed "the tirades" pronounced by Lord John Russell and Lord Palmerston. He spoke of the esteem in which Prussia had always held the English alliance, and recalled its historical traditions. He continued as follows: "The alliance with Prussia is likewise a necessity for England on account of the positions taken up by the other great Powers." Baron von Schleinitz, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, thanked M. von Vincke for having afforded him an opportunity of stating his own views upon the subject. Baron von Schleinitz said that the impression produced in Prussia by the words of Lord Palmerston with reference to this affair was most lamentable and painful. He continued as follows: "Lord Palmerston does not recognize in a neighbouring nation of equal rank with England the same noble and just conscientiousness with which he directs the destinies of a great nation. Without underrating the value of an understanding with England, I may say that Prussia, thank God, need not in any way sacrifice her independence for the friendship of any power." Baron Schleinitz then communicated to the Chamber a note which he had addressed to Count Bernstorff, the Prussian Ambassador at London, to be communicated to Lord J. Russell. In conclusion he expressed a hope that the good understanding which was necessary to all Europe would not be disturbed.

The following is the note referred to:

I have observed from the public journals, with as much surprise as deep regret, the manner in which Lord Palmerston replied to the questions addressed to him in the House of Commons on the 26th of last month on the subject of Captain Macdonald. We could not expect that he would take in this matter the same view as the Prussian Government, but we might have taken it for granted that the First Minister of England, fully cognizant of the circumstances stated by us, would abstain from heaping groundless reproaches (*Vorwürfe*) on the government and laws of Prussia. He himself could not do otherwise than acknowledge that the conduct of the Prussian officials had been in accordance with the Prussian laws. And, in truth, the Prussian Court placed upon the affair of Captain Macdonald the mildest interpretation allowed by law, and merely inflicted upon him a slight pecuniary fine. Those whose signatures were affixed to the offensive protest have been, it is true, condemned by the judge, but they have escaped punishment, because the Royal amnesty of the 12th of January of this year has affected them. Finally, the Prussian Government, which did everything in its power to shorten the time of Captain Macdonald's confinement, has expressed without reserve to the British Government its regret for the occurrence itself. How, in so clear a case, the Prussian Government can be reproached with having neglected to do what was incumbent on it as a great Power, and as a Government in friendly relations with England, even Lord Palmerston's speech has not succeeded in showing. When this distinguished statesman makes mention of me in terms for which I cannot but be personally grateful to him—when he makes appeal to my knowledge of the mode of thought and habits of the English people—I cannot before all things repress the observation that during the several years of residence in England which my official position afforded me, and nothing filled me with greater admiration than the sense of right and law which is everywhere firmly rooted in the English

people, and which is also manifested in respect for judicial sentences. I cannot suppose that the English people will deny this respect to the sentence of Prussian judges, in a case where, in the person of an Englishman, a violation of the laws of the country in which he has been residing had to be punished, and where the legal advisers of the English Crown themselves acknowledge that the proceedings have been in accordance with the laws of the land. In carrying out the laws of one country, the judicial condemnation of subjects of another appears to me not to be a circumstance which could disturb the mutual relation of two Governments, a close friendly union between which is in the interest of both. I cannot, however, conceal from myself that accusations of such a kind as those which Lord Palmerston, without ground or justification, has raised against the Government and the laws of Prussia are well calculated to excite in the Prussian people an ill-feeling against a Government the leader of which has no hesitation in designating the condition of Prussia as lamentable. If such an ill-feeling should result in an alienation of the Governments of Prussia and England—which I should deplore in the highest degree—the Prussian Government would at least bear no blame in the disturbance of the good understanding with England which it has always honestly laboured to foster and promote.

RUSSIAN POLAND.

THE REIGN OF TERROR inaugurated by the Russian Government at Warsaw by the terrible massacre of April 8 not only continues, but daily increases in severity, and the latest telegrams inform us that "increased precautionary measures of a military character have been taken at Warsaw; that cannon have been planted in front of the cathedral; and that arrests and judicial inquiries by the civil authorities continue to be made." A letter from Warsaw of the 3rd inst. contains the following:

The military régime, which was at first applied to the city of Warsaw alone, is now extended to the entire kingdom of Poland. Funeral services for the victims of the 8th of April have nevertheless been performed in every town, and the indignation of the people is increasing rather than diminishing. Distress is beginning to be severely felt in the towns as well as in the agricultural districts. The weather is cold, and there is a complete absence of vegetation. The price of provisions has nearly doubled; add to that the complete stagnation of all trade, and the perspective of many bankruptcies among our manufacturers, and you may form an idea of the state of this unfortunate country. Notwithstanding the assurance given by the *Official Gazette* that no conscription is to be levied this year, I assert the contrary, and I am confirmed in my assertion by the fact that the Government is making the necessary preparations, and that the commissioners for directing the recruiting service are appointed. I am convinced, on the other hand, that no conscription will be levied this year in the Russian empire, in consequence of the state of anarchy which exists and the complications which result from the question of the emancipation of the peasants. Under such circumstances a military conscription might prove to be the signal for a general insurrection and a real danger for the Government. Since the proclamation of the Imperial manifesto of emancipation the situation of the peasants has not changed. In the provinces of Polish origin annexed to the Russian empire, such as Volhynia, Podolia, and Lithuania, the landed proprietors have taken the matter into their own hands, and are using every effort to carry the Imperial manifesto into execution. The rural population are tranquil, but they have no confidence in anybody but their landlords, notwithstanding the efforts that have been made for some time by the Government to destroy that confidence. The efforts made to induce the peasants to become tenants of the land they now till have as yet been unavailing. The peasants persist in saying that they should not be asked to pay rent for the land they have hitherto tilled, but that they are willing to pay rent for the land in the possession of the landlords, if the latter will let it on lease. In several districts the peasants refuse to enter into any contracts, and in the meantime they refuse to work for their landlords. In the district of Skalmierz there are thirty villages of which the inhabitants refuse to work for their landlords. It is said that the Government will no longer consent to landed proprietors allocating their lands to the peasants, as the Agricultural Society wished to be done. The Gordian knot of this important reform is far from becoming loosened, and in the meantime our position is most dangerous. Since the dissolution of the Agricultural Society the landed proprietors have become dispersed, and, being reduced to their individual resources, are feeble and discouraged.

HUNGARY.

THE MURDER OF COUNT TELEKI was announced in the sitting of the Lower House at Pesth on Wednesday by M. Ghycozy, the President, confirming the mournful tidings which had circulated, that he had been found murdered in his residence. The house on this announcement raised a cry of despair, and several ladies in the galleries were carried away fainting. M. Deak, in a voice nearly stifled by emotion, proposed that the sittings of the house should be adjourned until Monday next.

GREAT AGITATION PREVAILS IN HUNGARY. The Comitatus have protested in a body against the coercive measures for collecting the taxes, and the state of affairs has assumed a very gloomy aspect. The speech from the throne, which excited so much enthusiasm in the German and Slavonian countries, and which was so well received by the Council of the Empire in the sense of unity and monarchy, has for that very reason produced an angry feeling in Hungary—a separatist country *par excellence*. Fears of a rupture are apparent in every line of the letters received from Pesth, and the fact cannot be concealed that the revolutionary party are again gaining ground.

SOUTH AMERICA.

THE FEARFUL EARTHQUAKE AT MENDOZA, which was briefly mentioned last week, was inferior in violence to none recorded in history. The private letters state that "the city of Mendoza is no more," and the number of persons who have perished there is variously computed at from 6,000 to 7,000. The loss of life was probably rendered the greater by the circumstance that the earthquake was preceded by a remarkable storm and by a hot rain, which drove the inhabitants into their dwellings for shelter. The governor escaped. Another disaster only inferior in importance has since been announced from another town, the greater part of San Juan having been destroyed, and 3,000 persons being reported to have been killed. San Juan is situated 120 leagues to the north of Mendoza, at the foot of the Andes. The shock was felt with such severity at Cordova, 150 leagues from Mendoza, that the church was thrown down. It was also felt on the same day (the 20th of March) and hour, but without any serious effects, at Buenos Ayres.

FOREIGN GLEANINGS.

Advices from Constantinople to the 1st inst. state that Omar Pasha would leave the following week for Bosnia, accompanied by a delegation composed of one attaché from each embassy of the Great Powers. A French steamer has proceeded to Beyrout to bring back the International Commission to Constantinople. The Madrid journals state that "the Spanish squadron has been

assembled at Algeiras, not to compel the execution of the treaty by the Moors, but merely to protect the African possessions of Spain.

The Russian journals, which receive early intelligence from China through Siberia, announce that the Mantchou army, in garrison at Peking, has revolted; the motive is said to be the delay on the part of the State in the payment of the troops.

A letter from Naples states that Francis II and his Queen had left Rome for Albano, where they intend to pass the summer.

After twelve years of exile, Johannes Ronge, the founder of the Neo-Catholic (anti-Papal) movement, has returned to Breslau, where thousands crowded together to listen to his sermons.

The infantry regiments which are to form the Camp of Chalons are arriving there at intervals of two days. The camp will be completely formed by the end of next week, and it is said that Marshal M'Mahon will take the command on the 20th of the month.

Snow fell on Sunday in various parts of France as well as in Paris. Accounts from St Etienne state that the hills in that neighbourhood are covered with a thick coat of snow. At Rouen snow fell continuously the same day from eleven in the morning to three in the afternoon. Snow also fell at Nice on Sunday, and the mountains in that neighbourhood are as white as during the winter.

Advices from Cognac relative to the brandy crop state that most serious mischief has been done to the vines by frost, and that it is now irreparable, as the season was very forward. Similar accounts respecting the vines have been received from Bordeaux.

Mr Faulkner, the American minister at Paris, and Mr Dallas, the American minister at London, will return to America towards the end of the present month.

"The difference which has arisen," says *Galignani*, "between the French protestants and M. Guizot, on account of his language in favour of the temporal power of the Pope, seems to be assuming a wider range. Now that the first general astonishment excited by M. Guizot's words has somewhat subsided, individual acts of displeasure begin to show themselves, which will probably end in forcing M. Guizot to resign the post he holds as president of the two great protestant bodies, the 'Société Biblique' and the 'Société pour l'Instruction Primaire Protestante.'"

Accounts have been received from the African coast to March 3rd. Dr Livingstone and Bishop Mackenzie had gone up the river Rovooma to endeavour to find a passage by that river into the interior, which would occupy about three months. The others forming the mission remain on the Island of Johanna. Her Majesty's ship *Wasp* has been wrecked near Tongo Bay.

A letter from Padua of April 27th says: "This morning the ex-Duke of Modena and the ex-Grand Duke of Tuscany arrived here; they reviewed all the troops at Padua, and announced to them, in a violent harangue, the passage of the Po on May 8th."

On the 2nd inst. the Florentine gentry met at their club and expelled therefrom the Marquis of Normandy, on the grounds that he had insulted King Victor Emmanuel, and the Italian Army, and had permitted himself to be the organ of the enemies of their country in the House of Lords.

The *Giornale di Verona* says: "On the 27th ult. Domenico Battola, seller of herbs at Valdobbiadene, was sentenced to be shot for attempting to procure desertions and foreign enlistments. The sentence was carried into execution on the same day."

To avoid the insolent brutality of Prussian officials and escape the extortion of Prussian hotel-keepers, English travellers proceeding to the centre or south of Germany, or to Switzerland, are counselled by a writer in the *Times* to proceed either by Paris and Metz, or by Paris and Strasburg,—a more expeditious as well as a far more agreeable route than the one hitherto taken by Aix-la-Chapelle.

COLONIAL NEWS.

INDIA.

THE FAMINE STILL PREVAILS AND EXTENDS. The distress has not yet come to the worst. The European resources have been nearly exhausted, while the wealthy natives, as a class, have as yet lamentably failed in their natural duty towards their famishing fellow-countrymen. There has been a pretty general fall of rain in the North-West. Everything is settled at Sikkim, and the troops were expected back by the end of March. One of the Mysore family of State pensioners, Prince Kootobudeen, was most barbarously murdered on the 31st of March, at his house in Garden Reach, Calcutta.

THE IONIAN ISLANDS.

UNDER THE HEAD OF ZANTE, April 24, the *Débats* publishes the following:

"On the evening of Sunday, the 21st of April, a conflict took place between the inhabitants of the town and the English garrison. The number of persons wounded on both sides is about twenty. About seven o'clock in the evening the soldiers excited quarrels in the market-place, forcibly entered the shops and struck the owners with their bayonets; they pursued them as far as the principal church, from which they were driven back. They returned with reinforcements. The inhabitants had by this time increased in number, and, more than 1,000 strong, advanced against the soldiers, upon whose heads stones and tiles were thrown from the windows. The people armed themselves with sticks, axes, and poles. The police, who endeavoured to protect the inhabitants, were ill-treated by the English; one of them was mortally wounded. Stronger detachments having arrived on the ground and crossed bayonets against the crowd, it momentarily dispersed, but returned in such numbers that the troops were compelled repeatedly to form square to prevent being overpowered. Finally, the market-place was occupied militarily, the communications between the different streets intercepted, and the Director of the Police succeeded in calming the masses, and induced them to disperse. The excitement continues since the events of that evening, and at night strong mixed patrols parade the streets."

Obituary.

THE HON. MRS JANE ANNESLEY died in Guernsey on the 25th ult., at the age of 102 years. Death was the result of accident, the venerable lady having fallen from her bed and dislocated her collar bone a few days previously. She was a daughter of Mr Digby, and married the Hon. and Very Rev. William Annesley, son of the first Baron Annesley, who died in 1817.

SIR GEORGE JACKSON, K.C.H., died at Boulogne-sur-Mer, on the 2nd inst., in his seventy-sixth year. He was the son of the Rev. Dr Jackson, canon residentiary of St Paul's; married, first, the eldest daughter of Mr C. Savile (the sister of Mr A. Savile, of Oatlands, M.P. for Oakhampton), she dying in 1853; and secondly, in 1856, at St Helena, the daughter of the late Mr T. Elliott, of Wakefield. In October, 1802, he was attached to the mission at Berlin, and was made secretary of legation there in September, 1806; in 1808, made secretary to the special mission to Spain; and in 1813, secretary of legation at Berlin. He was appointed commissioner at Washington in April, 1823, and in January, 1828, commissary judge at Sierra Leone; in the same capacity at Rio Janeiro, in 1832; and at Surinam in 1841; and at Londa in December, 1845.

THE RIGHT REV. DR M'GETTIGAN, said to have been the oldest Bishop in Europe, died at his residence at Rathmullone, in the county of

Donegal, on the 1st inst. He was consecrated so far back as September, 1820. Thus he served forty-one years in the Church as bishop, and during that period he was alike distinguished for his public and private virtues. Throughout the O'Connell agitation Dr M'Gettigan acted a conspicuous part, and was amongst the most revered friends of the Liberator. In the emancipation struggle he was the soul of the Catholic movement in the north, and received frequent votes of thanks for his eminent services from the Catholic Association.

MR C. W. GREENFELL, late M.P. for Windsor, died on Saturday at Taplow Court, near Maidenhead, after a short illness, in his 38th year. He was the eldest son and heir of Mr C. Pascoe Grenfell, who died in 1826, was educated at Harrow School and at Christ Church, Oxford, graduating B.A. in 1846 and M.A. in 1848. He was returned for the borough of Sandwith in 1847, and retained his seat till 1852, in which year he stood successfully for Windsor, and sat for the royal borough till the general election of 1859, when he was ousted by Mr G. W. Hope, a Conservative. He married in 1852 Georgiana, daughter of the Right Hon. W. S. Lascelles, M.P.

DR SETH THOMPSON died this week, in his 55th year. He was a physician long and honourably known in the course of a large practice at the West-end of London. Dr Thompson graduated M.D. at the University of Edinburgh in 1829, was censor at the College of Physicians 1833-35, and became a fellow in 1845. He was also a fellow of the Royal Medico-Chirurgical Society. The only public appointments he held were those of physician to the Middlesex Hospital, and physician to the Marylebone Dispensary, which he had resigned before his death.

DR JOHN GILLESPIE RICHARDSON, surgeon to the 3rd West India Regiment, died suddenly at Barbadoes, of disease of the heart, on the 6th ult., at the early age of 25 years.

HOME NEWS.

THE QUEEN AND COURT.

HER MAJESTY AND THE ROYAL FAMILY will remain at White Lodge, Richmond Park, for a fortnight; returning to Buckingham Palace about the 15th instant. The Queen is expected to stay in London two or three days, and then leave for Osborne. It is understood that the Prince of Wales will employ the midsummer vacation in the practical study of military duties and movements, and will for that purpose visit the Camp at the Curragh of Kildare. His Royal Highness will probably be attached to the 1st Brigade, and do duty with the 1st Battalion of Grenadier Guards, in which corps he will go through a course of military instruction.

THE QUEEN will hold a *Drawing Room* at St James's Palace on the following days, at two o'clock: Wednesday, the 19th of June next; Thursday, the 27th of June next. Her Majesty's birthday will be kept on Wednesday, the 10th of July next.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

Monday, May 6.—Lord CANNARVON, in moving for copies of correspondence between her Majesty's Government and the Consul-General of Egypt, and of any other communications that have passed between her Majesty's Government and the Governments of Turkey and France relative to the proposed construction of the Suez Canal, called the attention of the house to the danger which would arise if a foreign Government, acting through a foreign company, should become owners of property in the very heart of Egypt. He also asked under what sanction this work was being carried on. Lord WODEHOUSE trusted that the noble lord would not press for the papers, as their production would be injurious to the public service. The policy of her Majesty's Government in regard to the Suez Canal was unchanged; but, although they considered the scheme as impracticable, they continued to watch it with great care. He then briefly described the present condition of the works carried on by M. de Lesseps, and the little progress which had been made, owing to the nature of the soil. The question, however, was one for the consideration of the Porte, with whom her Majesty's Government were in communication on the subject. Lord ELLENBOROUGH said two things ought to be done by the Government, and at once, to guarantee our communications with India—first, to lay down telegraphic wires between India, Aden, and Perim; second, that a very numerous and able body of consular agents ought to be established in Egypt to supply the Government with the fullest information on all points. *The motion was then withdrawn.*

The Marriage Law Amendment Bill was recommitted. Tuesday, May 7.—On the motion for going into committee on the *Wills and Personality of British Subjects Abroad Bill*, a discussion, originated by Lord LYNCHBURGH, took place, in which the legal points were argued at length by the law lords, and the result was that the bill was referred to a select committee.

Friday, May 10.—The Earl of DERBY said he had given notice in writing to the noble earl opposite to ask a question relative to the war in America. He knew that the question of belligerent rights was now under the consideration of the law officers of the Crown, and therefore he should not touch upon that portion of the subject. It was ascertained that letters of marque or sanction for privateering had been issued by the Southern States. Now, this state of things would place the British traders in a very dangerous position by such a proceeding on the part of the Northern and Southern States. He understood that a proclamation was about to be issued on the part of the Government with respect to belligerent rights, and as he looked upon privateering as a sort of sea-poaching, he thought it was highly important that British seamen who might be attracted to join in such a perilous course should know the exact position in which they stood. It was right they should know in the most unmistakable manner on what footing they stood by proclamation of the Government. They should be informed that they would lose all their natural rights, and that their blood would be upon their own heads, as this country would not interfere in any way to save them. The question he wished to ask was, whether, in the proclamation that was about to be issued on the subject of belligerent rights, distinct instructions would be given of the loss British seamen would incur by going in any privateering ships, and that the Government could not in any way interfere for their protection. Earl GRANVILLE said, with regard to the question whether the Government intended to issue a proclamation warning her Majesty's subjects to preserve that neutrality which it was the desire of the country to maintain in respect of the struggle in America, it was the intention of the Government to issue such proclamation in accordance with precedents of former times. Lord BROUGHAM expressed his regret at the state of things that existed in America, and agreed in the necessity of issuing such a proclamation as that referred to. The Earl of HARDWICKE denied that privateering was to be regarded as piracy. If properly conducted it stood in a very different position. The matter then dropped.

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Monday, May 6.—The question whether the belligerent rights of the Southern Confederacy of America would be recognised by this country was raised by Mr GEORGE, who asked whether any attempt on the part of the Government of the United States to levy federal dues off foreign vessels outside the ports of the Southern Confederacy before such vessels broke bulk would not be an infringement of international law, and if the United States Government had been informed that no

blockade would be recognised unless effective. Lord J. RUSSELL said, as to the first question, he had consulted the Queen's Advocate, who had stated that no opinion could be given beforehand, as everything would depend on the peculiar circumstances of the case. He had not thought it necessary to give any instructions on the subject of the blockade, as it could not be acknowledged unless it was effective. As to the belligerent right of issuing letters of marque by a portion of a state in insurrection, there was a precedent when the British Government allowed the belligerent right of the provisional Government of Greece. Having consulted the law officers, it was considered that the Southern States must be considered as belligerents; but as to the exact rights which they would enjoy, that must be matter of consideration and consultation with other powers.

THE HOUSE having resolved itself into a committee on the Queen's message on the subject of a provision for the Princess Alice, Lord PALMERSTON said he did not propose that the same provision should be made for her Royal Highness as had been made for the Princess Royal—namely, a dower of 40,000*l.* and an annuity of 8,000*l.*; he thought a dower of 30,000*l.* and an annuity of 6,000*l.* would be an adequate provision for the dignity of the Princess, and not too large a demand upon the liberality of Parliament. He moved accordingly. A resolution granting an annuity of 6,000*l.* was agreed to, and in a committee of supply a further resolution, granting the sum of 30,000*l.*, was likewise agreed to, in both cases *nem. con.*

ON THE SUBJECT OF THE STADE DUES, Lord J. RUSSELL, replying to Messrs CRAWFORD and S. FITZGERALD, said that a sum had been proposed as a third of the sum which would be required by Hanover for the abolition of the Stade dues, as the share which would be paid by Great Britain; but in consequence of no agreement having been come to by the other states on the subject, it had been alleged by Hanover that the matter could not be said to be settled. A proposition made by Hanover to continue the tolls till October next had not been accepted, and the matter was still under negotiation.

IN A COMMITTEE OF WAYS AND MEANS the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER moved a resolution that, on and after the 1st of October, 1861, the duties of Excise now payable upon paper of any denomination, and button-board, mill-board, paste-board, and scale-board made in the United Kingdom, and also all allowances and drawbacks of or in respect of such duties, shall cease. Lord R. CECIL argued against the whole policy upon which the Budget was founded. Mr GOWER, confining himself to the resolution, stated his objection to the paper duty, which made it, in his opinion, not merely a bad tax, but an intolerable one. Mr BENTINCK said he had vainly endeavoured to discover a surplus in the details of the financial proposal of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and he appealed to Lord Palmerston to say whether, considering what had recently occurred in the United States, he was prepared to uphold that proposal. Lord C. HAMILTON, in replying to Mr Gower, insisted that the duty on fire insurance was considered more intolerable than that on paper. He complained that, in their financial measures, the Government had tried to evade responsibility. Mr BAINES defended the Budget, considering it wise and just, and showed that the paper duty pressed upon the working classes as well as upon the publishers of works. Sir L. PALK observed that, by a singular infelicity, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, though the house had been solemnly pledged to repeal other taxes, had selected the only tax, producing a large revenue, the remission of which would not be felt by the community, nor be appreciated by the working man. *The resolution was agreed to.*—The resolution increasing the Excise duty on chicory was also agreed to.—On the resolution amending and extending the Act of last Session which imposed an Excise duty upon licences to keep refreshment houses, Mr AYTON stated his objections to the principle of this tax, as virtually upon food, insisting upon its injustice and the system of espionage which it would introduce. The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER replied to the objections, explaining and defending the resolution, the intention of which was, he said, to give effect to the Act of last Session. Objections to the resolution were urged by Mr HENLEY, Lord FERMOY, Sir M. PETO, and other members, and the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER undertook to reconsider and endeavour to remodel it so as to obviate the objections. *This resolution was accordingly withdrawn.* The resolution charging a duty of 3*l.* 3*s.* upon an additional licence to be taken out by any licensed dealer in spirits, authorising him to sell by retail spirits in any quantity not less than a quart bottle, not to be consumed on the premises, was objected to by Lord FERMOY, and defended by the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER. *The resolution was agreed to, after much discussion, as well as that imposing stamp duties on leases or agreements for letting furnished houses for any term less than a year.*—The resolution charging a stamp duty of 2*l.* upon licences to be taken out by house agents, not being licensed auctioneers or appraisers, was opposed by Mr AYTON, but, with certain modifications suggested by the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, it was agreed to.—The resolution reducing the stamp duties upon licences to hawkers and pedlars trading in a certain manner was likewise agreed to, after discussion.—The resolution charging, in lieu of the ad valorem stamp duties upon foreign Bills of Exchange for the payment of a sum exceeding 500*l.*, a stamp duty of 1*s.* per cent., and the last resolution, charging a duty of 5*s.* upon licences to be taken out by persons selling table beer by retail at a price not exceeding 1*½d.* the quart, were agreed to. On the motion that the resolutions be reported, Mr BENTINCK reiterated a question he had addressed to Lord Palmerston in an early part of the debate in the committee,—namely, whether the recent news from America would not bear in an important manner upon our financial affairs. Lord PALMERSTON replied that, however they might regret it, all must have anticipated the result of the separation of the two sections of the United States, and the Government had not thought that the intelligence should make any difference in their arrangements. Mr DISRAELI reserved to himself the right to challenge the proceeding of the Government in repealing the duty on paper in a future stage, and he inquired what course they proposed to take to bring the subjects of the resolutions again before the house. The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER explained the mode of proceeding he intended to adopt. The explanation led to a discussion, but the motion for reporting the resolutions was at length agreed to. On the report of the Committee of Supply, Mr HENNESSY objected to the vote on account of 500,000*l.* for the Civil Service, and moved to defer its adoption for a fortnight. Lord PALMERSTON said the money was wanted for current expenses. The amendment was withdrawn and the report agreed to.

On the order for the second reading of the *Copyright (Works of Art) Bill*, Mr WALTER objected that the bill, the professed object of which was to protect artists against pirates, went much further, and entitled an artist to retain the copyright of a picture against the purchaser, who would be deprived of the power of having his picture copied. Other objections were raised by Mr CONINGHAM, Lord FERMOY, and Mr LAYARD. The ATTORNEY-GENERAL, in reply to Mr Walter's objection, observed that a purchaser could buy a picture with or without the copyright; in the former case he would become the absolute owner, paying an adequate price; in the latter case he would still have the enjoyment of the picture and the right of sale. To the other objections he gave detailed answers. *The bill was read a second time.*

Tuesday, May 7.—Before proceeding with the business of the day various questions were answered by Ministerial members. Sir C. WOOD said that the Government of India had agreed on and prepared a general order for the amalgamation of the Indian army. Mr T. G. BARING said that it was intended to proceed with the forts in the roadstead of Spithead. Sir C. WOOD said that there was no intention to stop the railway works in India. Lord PALMERSTON said that he had received communication indirectly from the Haytian Government of the protest against the occupation of the Dominican portion of the island of St Domingo, but Government had come to no decision on the

subject; indeed, the occupation could hardly be said to have taken place. Mr HORSFALL, in compliance with a suggestion from Mr Walpole, supported by Lord Palmerston, postponed a motion relating to the question of belligerent rights at sea, which stood for discussion.

MR GLADSTONE'S MISSION TO THE IONIAN ISLANDS led to a long discussion. Mr MAGUIRE moved an address for copy of papers and correspondence relative to his mission as Lord High Commissioner Extraordinary, in November, 1858; and, in continuation, from the arrival of Sir H. Storks in Corfu, in February, 1859, to the latest period, including those in relation to the prorogation of the Legislative Assembly by Sir H. Storks, in March, 1861. In laying a foundation for his motion he described the character of the Ionian people, their strong features of identity with the people of Continental Greece, and the intense sentiment of nationality, amounting to a passion, which had taken possession of the Ionian mind. He then adverted to the circumstances which had subjected the islands to the authority of Great Britain; to the government of Sir H. Ward, which he taxed with severity; to the recommendation of Sir J. Young, that the islands should be abandoned; and to the special mission of Mr Gladstone, who was sent to inquire and report upon the state of affairs in the islands. He (Mr Maguire) wished to know the manner in which Mr Gladstone had prosecuted his inquiry, its result, and what were the recommendations contained in his report. He read extracts of papers to show the fervent desire of the Ionians for union with free Greece, and contended that the doctrine recognised by Lord J. Russell in the case of Italy, that the people were alone to decide who should rule over them, was equally applicable to the Ionian Islands. The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said Mr Maguire was under some misapprehension as to the intention of the Government, which, though it could not lay before the house papers of a confidential nature, did not desire to withhold information, but was ready to give the substance of the other documents. After explaining his motives in undertaking the mission to the Ionian Islands, and contrasting the new ardour manifested by Mr Maguire in defence of nationality with the spirit in which he discussed Italian affairs, he stated his conclusions as to the influence which the sentiment of nationality exerted upon different classes of the Ionians—the masses, whose character was amiable; the demagogues and corrupt portion of the people, who traded upon the sentiment; and the clergy. With reference to the doctrine adopted by the Government in Italian affairs, he admitted that we must be prepared to apply that doctrine to our own case; but the principle, he observed, must be varied in its application by considerations of prudence and policy as regarded European interests. Our protectorate of the Ionian Islands was connected with views, not of interest on our part, but of duty, and with obligations which England had contracted towards Europe as guardian of the general peace. Supposing that the people of the Seven Islands desired to be united to free Greece, there was no evidence that free Greece wished for the union, and his opinion was that it was far better for Greece to look after her own concerns. He described the government of the Ionian Islands, remarking that free government as we understood the term did not exist; and it contained, with democratical elements, fundamental vices, though the policy pursued by England towards the people had been a generous policy. Free institutions had been offered them, which had been refused, and the faults of the government were not attributable to England. Messrs Layard, Whiteside, M. Milnes, Monsell, and C. Fortescue having expressed their opinions, Mr MAGUIRE, in a reply, accepted the offer of the Government. Lord PALMERSTON agreed with preceding speakers that this discussion must do good in the Ionian Islands, and convince them that, on the part of the Government, the Parliament, and the people of this country, there was no feeling but an earnest desire to contribute to their happiness and prosperity. The motion was then withdrawn.

Mr Serjeant PIGOTT moved for leave to bring in a bill to amend the constitution, practice, and procedure of the Court of the island of Jersey. After some discussion, leave was given. Mr ALCOCK made a motion on the subject of turnpike-tolls which was negatived. The house went into committee upon the Tramways (Ireland) Act Amendment Bill, when extraneous topics, including the new orders for the conduct of public business, mingled in the discussion of the clauses, which was brought to a close by a motion, carried upon a division, that the Chairman report progress. The report on the Queen's Message (Princess Alice) was brought up and agreed to.

THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF WAYS AND MEANS ON THE BUDGET RESOLUTIONS being brought up, Mr R. LONG moved the adjournment of the house, it being then nearly half-past 12 o'clock. A warm discussion followed on the proceeding of the Government in relation to the resolutions, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER insisting that they had not departed from the usual course, and Lord R. OUBLI contending that it was unprecedented. Upon a division, the motion for adjournment was negatived by 160 to 98. The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER then proposed to defer the consideration of the report till Thursday. Mr DISRAELI complained that the proceeding of the Government had abridged the opportunities of the house for the discussion of an important resolution. The debate was accordingly adjourned.

Wednesday, May 8th.—THE CONDITION OF LABOURERS' COTTAGES was brought forward by Sir L. PALK, who in moving that the *Labourers' Cottages Bill* be read a second time, detailed cases of the grossest immorality resulting from overcrowded cottages, which, in his opinion, imperatively called for some legislative check. The object of the bill was to enable the owners of estates to raise money for the improvement of the cottages of labourers by a first charge upon the land. He admitted that there were difficulties to be encountered in dealing with the subject, and that some of the details were open to objections, which, however, might be obviated in the committee. Sir G. LEWIS observed that the house must approve the policy and principle of the bill, so far as regarded the improvement of labourers' cottages; but he thought Sir L. Palk had somewhat exaggerated the bad condition of these dwellings, and that there had been of late years a combined effort on the part of solvent landed proprietors to improve them. The bill, in its machinery, proposed to give the chairman of Quarter Sessions power to make a charging order; but this was the first instance in which the chairman was clothed with independent functions. Upon the whole, though he should vote for the second reading, he had great doubts whether the bill would not require fundamental alterations. Sir L. PALK, through Mr S. ESTCOURT, proposed to meet one objection by substituting the Enclosure Commissioners for the chairman of Quarter Sessions. The bill was then read a second time.

THE SECOND READING of the Cruelty to Animals Prevention Bill was moved by Lord RAYNHAM, who urged the necessity of further legislation upon this subject, arising, he said, from the inefficiency of the existing law, which was inoperative through the absence of provisions which the bill supplied. Sir G. LEWIS said cruelty to animals belonged, it appeared to him, to a class of subjects the law concerning which, if unsatisfactory, should, generally speaking, be amended at the instance of the Government. He was not aware of any representation that the act of 1849 was insufficient, and he did not think that increasing the severity of the penalties would render the law more effectual. Lord Raynham, in his opinion, had failed to show that the present law was ineffectual for its purpose. The bill was ultimately withdrawn.

Mr MACKINNON, in moving the second reading of the *Masters and Operatives Bill*, which proposed councils of conciliation, said its principle had been recognised by both houses of parliament, and, with regard to the details, he thought they ought to be referred to a select committee. The SOLICITOR-GENERAL said no one could dispute the justice and expediency of terminating disputes between masters and their men by arbitration; his objection to the scheme which Mr

Mackinnon had elaborated was, that the existing law of 1824 provided for so deciding these disputes, and the bill did not enlarge the area of controversy. No complaint was made of the working of that law, and he recommended the house to pause before it enacted a new scheme, cumbersome and inconvenient, the effect of which would be to create perplexity and confusion. Mr KINNAIRD supported the bill, which, he observed, was permissive only. Sir J. SHELLEY concurred with the Solicitor-General, and thought it better, in so difficult a question, to let matters rest as they were till the Government took it up. Mr W. E. FORSTER opposed the bill, which, he thought, would rather tend to cause disputes and to prevent arbitration. Sir J. PAXTON observed that the existing law was to a great extent inoperative, and that the bill would be of very great use. Sir G. LEWIS said the power given by the existing law was co-extensive with that conferred by the bill, and, where there was a concurrence of jurisdiction, there would be confusion. He objected to the mode in which it was proposed that the councils of conciliation should be constituted and elected. He thought that a false step in such a case as this would be dangerous, and moved to defer the second reading for six months. Mr GOWER, Mr CROSSLEY, and Mr MELLOR spoke in opposition to the bill, after which the debate was adjourned.

Thursday, May 9.—ON THE SUBJECT OF PRIVATEERING, Sir G. LEWIS stated that it was the intention of the Government to issue a proclamation, cautioning her Majesty's subjects not to interfere in the hostilities between the Northern and Southern States of America, and that the views of the Government regarding the general principle of our law applicable to the subject would be stated therein.

ON THE ORDER FOR RESUMING THE ADJOURNED DEBATE on receiving the report of the resolutions of the budget, Mr BENTINCK renewed a question he had formerly put to the Government, namely, whether the state of things in America, looking to the latest intelligence just received, had not caused some modification of opinion with regard to the demands on the finances of the country with reference to the necessity of increased armaments. It appeared that the cotton crop was in danger from want of cultivation, and this country must look forward to the consequences of a short supply of cotton from America. Mr CRAWFORD said that the intelligence just received was only three days later than that by the previous accounts. Could any alteration in the state of the cotton cultivation have occurred in that time? He believed the telegram in question was only intended to influence the cotton market. Mr DISRAELI said that if a proper occasion for discussion were given hereafter, he would not oppose the reception of the report of the resolutions. The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said it was important to expedite the passing of the resolutions; and the bill founded on them would be taken on Monday. Lord PALMERSTON said that the Government were not of opinion that anything now passing in America would cause any increase in our naval or military forces, nor that these events would have any effect on the customs or excise duties, so as to derange the financial arrangements for the year. THE RESOLUTIONS WERE THEN AGREED TO, and it was ordered that a bill or bills should be brought in.

ON THE ORDER FOR GOING INTO COMMITTEE OF WAYS AND MEANS, Sir S. NORTHCOTE, with reference to a statement of the Chancellor of the Exchequer that the paper trade was not in a thriving state, entered into a variety of calculations upon the subject, and asked for explanations, and why the increase of the amount of the duty had not kept pace with the increase of the manufacture. Lord H. LENNOX inquired the state of the negotiations between France and Belgium on the subject of the exportation of rags. The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, remarking that Sir S. Northcote had not employed the best mode of obtaining the information he sought, by omitting to give such a notice as would enable him to understand his statement, explained the causes of the apparent anomalies in the paper trade, observing that paper was a commodity which was largely an accessory to other trades. In reply to Lord H. Lennox, premising that he was not able to give a clear explanation of the present state of the negotiations between France and Belgium, he gave his understanding of the arrangement on the subject of the export of rags. Mr MAGUIRE asked whether the Chancellor of the Exchequer would consent to the appointment of a select committee to inquire into the operation and effect of the system of export duties on foreign rags upon the paper trade of the United Kingdom. After a few explanatory remarks by Mr M. GIBSON, the house went into Committee of Ways and Means.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER moved a resolution that the duties of Customs chargeable on the articles undermentioned, imported into Great Britain and Ireland, shall cease on and after the 1st of October, 1861—viz., paper, as denominated in the tariff; mill-board, pasteboard, books, as denominated in the tariff, prints and drawings, as denominated in the tariff. In reply to Mr Maguire, he said the Government were willing to consent to the appointment of a committee, but not to suspend the operation of the resolution until the committee had reported. Mr MAGUIRE urged the delay of the resolution till Parliament had information that would enable the Government to negotiate with France for what was a mere act of justice, but absolutely necessary for the salvation of the trade, which, though entitled to fair play, would, by a tax on the raw material, be left to compete upon unequal terms with the foreigner. He moved that the chairman report progress. After a debate in which the proposal for previous inquiry was supported by several members, and opposed, in an animated speech, by the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, who argued that the object of the proposal was to compare our commercial legislation with that of other countries, and to regulate our legislation by theirs, thereby to reverse the principles upon which we had acted for the last twenty years,—the committee divided, when the motion to report progress was negatived by 100 to 54. The resolution was then agreed to.

The house then went into a Committee of Supply upon the Army Estimates, the discussion of which occupied most of the remainder of the evening.

Friday, May 10.—Mr EWART inquired if any terms had been entered into with the *Rajah of Sikkim* to afford increased facilities of trade from India to Tibet? Mr VANSITTART took that opportunity of asking the right hon. gentleman whether he intended to introduce his bill on India before Whitsuntide? Sir C. WOOD said with respect to the first question, that he had received no official information on the subject, but a communication had been forwarded to the Government, from which it appeared that arrangements had been effected to open the commerce from Bengal to Tibet. As regarded the second question, he hoped to have been able to have brought in the India bill before the holidays, but in consequence of the length of the discussions on the budget it was impossible to do so.

Mr FREELAND asked the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether the ratification of a commercial treaty between England and Turkey had been exchanged, and, if so, when a copy of the treaty would be laid upon the table of the house; and whether any correspondence had taken place between the Governments of England and France relating to the conclusion of a similar commercial treaty between France and Turkey; and, if so, whether there would be any objection to lay copies of that correspondence and of the correspondence between the English and Turkish Governments on the subject of either treaty, on the table of the house? Lord J. RUSSELL said that the treaty between this country and Turkey had not been completed, and when it was, the correspondence relating to the subject would be laid on the table of the house. He replied to the first part of the second question in the negative.

In reply to Mr S. BEAUMONT, Lord C. PAGET said that Mr Gill had submitted his patent for the improvement of ships of war to the Admiralty, who, having examined it, considered that it was not practically applicable to ships of war. Mr Gill afterwards addressed him, and at his request he gave him an interview, but having heard his

explanations and considered his patent he did not think it would be of any use to her Majesty's navy. The Board of Admiralty did not intend to test Mr Gill's plan for accelerating or diminishing the speed of vessels.

Sir J. FERGUSSON asked the Under Secretary of State for War when it was intended that the portion of *Edinburgh Castle* which was pulled down with a view to improvements should be rebuilt? Mr BARING said that the plans for the rebuilding of that edifice had not yet been decided on, and he could furnish the hon. baronet with no information on the subject at present.

Admiral DUNDAS inquired of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, in the absence of the First Lord of the Treasury, if it was arranged when the House should adjourn for the *Whitsuntide holidays*? The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said that he was not in a position to answer that question.

Mr PEACOCKE drew the attention of the House to the affairs of Italy, and moved for any despatches on this subject which had been received from our ambassador at Vienna. He made some general observations condemnatory of the position which Austria maintained in occupying the Quadrilateral, and said he was actuated by no hostile spirit towards that Empire, and did not condemn the foreign policy of the Government. Mr ST AUBYN advocated the union of Venetia to the Italian kingdom as desirable for the interests both of Italian unity and Austria. Mr B. COCHRANE condemned the foreign policy of the Government in reference to the affairs of Italy. Lord J. RUSSELL said he did not think it desirable to lay the despatches alluded to before the House, for there was nothing that justified their production. With respect to what had been said relative to Austria, he reminded hon. members that the matter must rest entirely with the Emperor of Austria. That Sovereign had imitated the institutions of this country and given his people a free constitution, and he had further conceded to his subjects full religious freedom. (Hear, hear.) As regarded the general constitution granted by the Emperor of Austria, it was founded on the principle of representation that prevailed in the United States. As to the circumstances that would arise in reference to this movement in Austria, it would be impossible to foresee them. Having adverted to the political position of Hungary, he said with regard to Venetia, that he was inclined to agree in what the hon. member who brought the subject forward had asserted. Since the extinction of the Republic of Venetia, the people of that State were not favourably affected towards Austria, and all attempts of the latter to conciliate them had entirely failed. Venetia could not form any portion of the strength of Austria, and as long as she remained in her present position, the peace of Italy and Germany would be endangered. He concluded by expressing a hope that nothing would arise to impair the strength or dismember the territory of their ancient ally, Austria. (Hear.) The motion was withdrawn.

Sir J. FERGUSSON drew attention to the affairs of Syria, and to certain papers presented on the subject.

POLITICAL TALK.

CABINET COUNCILS were held on Monday, Tuesday, and yesterday at the official residence of Lord Palmerston, Downing street.

A GRAND BANQUET was GIVEN TO LORD ELGIN at the Mansion House on Wednesday. In the speech which his lordship made acknowledging the toast of his health, he thus explained the advantages which this country is likely to derive from the new privileges and rights obtained under the last treaty with China:

That question opens up a wide field for speculation. If we can succeed in establishing friendly relations not only with the Government but with the people of China—if we can persuade them to adopt some of our tastes and habits, and though they are very averse to change they are not like other Oriental nations, cut off from all communication with us by the inveterate prejudices of caste—if we can succeed in those objects, it is impossible to put a limit to the amount of trade which is likely to grow up between two nations so industrious and commercial. But there is one particular advantage which is likely to arise from having an ambassador of the Queen at Peking, and it is remarkably illustrated by what has lately occurred at Japan. A serious crime was perpetrated in that country. An European—not a British subject—was murdered under circumstances which showed culpable indifference on the part of the Japanese Government. What followed? Our minister, acting with excellent judgment, retired a short distance from the capital. He did not threaten war, but he threatened what we all understand in Europe by the cessation of diplomatic relations. If our former experience in China is any guide to us, we may conclude with absolute certainty, that if such a threat were made to a subordinate Chinese functionary it would be of no effect whatever. That subordinate would report to his superiors that he had kicked the barbarians out, and would claim all manner of honours and rewards for his services. But Mr Aloock was resident in the capital of Japan, and in relation to the Superior Government, and, seeing their danger, the Government took alarm at his menace, and in a few days they talked of his departure as one of the greatest calamities which could possibly befall Jeddo. They implored our minister to go back again, and offered him any guarantee for the future which he chose to demand. I am quite aware of the wide difference between Japan and China, and that the advisers of the Emperor of China are not such intelligent people as those of the Emperor of Japan; but I feel confident that the threat of suspension of diplomatic relations will now have the same effect at Peking in the prevention of war and the preservation of peace as it has recently had at Jeddo. At the same time I must say that the misconduct of our own countrymen in China is perhaps one of the greatest difficulties with which a British representative there has to deal. We send out honourable merchants, devoted missionaries, who scatter benefits in every part of the country they visit, and elevate the standard of civilisation; but unfortunately there slip out from among us dishonest traders—ruffians who disgrace our name and set the feelings of the people against us. Public opinion in this country can do much to encourage the one class of persons and to discourage the other, and I trust that the efforts of this great city will be directed to that end. When addressing the merchants at Shanghai I told them it was my intention to obtain a treaty at Peking, but that, when force and diplomacy had effected in China all that they could legitimately effect, the work which we had to do in that country would be only at its commencement. That statement I repeat now. General Grant has returned his sword to his scabbard, and the diplomatist has, so far as treaty-making is concerned, placed his pen on the shelf; but the work of combination, of bringing China, with its extensive territory, its fertile soil, and its industrious population, into the community of nations, and making it a fellow-labourer with ourselves in diffusing over the world happiness and well-being—that is a work which has still to be accomplished. No persons are more entitled or fit to take part in that work than the merchants of this great city, and from the bottom of my heart I pray that their efforts may be attended with success.

THE ELECTION FOR THE MONTGOMERYSHIRE BOROUGH took place on Saturday, when Capt. Johnson, the Conservative candidate, was returned without opposition, the Hon. Capt. Tracy having withdrawn.

AN ANTI-BUDGET PETITION has been presented from Linnithgow, which we reprint verbatim:

"The petition of the inhabitants of the royal burgh of Linnithgow, in public assembled, John Dawson, Esq., provost, chairman, humbly sheweth, that it appears her Majesty's Government intend to repeal, or abolish, in toto, by the month of October, the duties or revenue arising from paper, thereby causing a loss to the revenue of 1,300,000L, or thereby. That it is the opinion of this meeting expressed, that it is impolitic to do so under the present financial state of the country, without serious consideration; and that this meeting are of opinion, and therefore would recommend, that a partial reduction of the duties on tea and sugar, as a much greater boon to all classes, and attended with less sacrifice to the revenue. May it therefore please your honours to take

this our humble petition into consideration.—J. DAWSON, provost, chairman of the meeting.

The bold and unconventional character of their spelling promises the most rapid advance of these royal burghers, when their progress is no longer weighted with the taxes on knowledge.

RESPECTING THE LATE CENSUS, so far as its results have been ascertained, it appears that the population has been drawn away from the purely agricultural districts of the country, partly by emigration, and partly by the prospect of better earnings in manufacturing towns, which railways have enabled them to reach. This movement, of course, has rendered manufacturing towns more populous.

THE RETURNS for many considerable provincial towns are now made up, and will be perused with interest. Taking no account of places with less than 10,000 inhabitants, the following list will show at a glance some of the most important results:

| 1861. | 1851. | 1861. | 1851. |
|-----------------------------------|---------|-------|---------|
| Ipswich | 37,717 | — | 32,697 |
| Lincoln | 20,995 | — | 17,532 |
| Brighton | 77,828 | — | 65,568 |
| Scarborough | 18,350 | — | 12,844 |
| Hull | 105,000 | — | 82,502 |
| Preston | 82,888 | — | 69,360 |
| Lancaster | 14,480 | — | 14,562 |
| Swansea | 30,316 | — | 21,586 |
| York | 40,151 | — | 36,902 |
| Newcastle-under-Lyme | 12,636 | — | 10,669 |
| Cambridge | 26,251 | — | 27,702 |
| Stafford | 15,061 | — | 13,092 |
| Rotherham | 12,094 | — | 6,816 |
| Middlesborough | 18,373 | — | 7,893 |
| Bury St Edmund's | 13,316 | — | 13,902 |
| King's Lynn | 16,510 | — | 20,314 |
| Stockport | 54,907 | — | 53,855 |
| Stratford | 19,004 | — | 10,576 |
| Peterborough | 11,728 | — | 8,673 |
| Northampton | 32,801 | — | 26,657 |
| Leeds | 207,134 | — | 172,258 |
| Bradford | 106,203 | — | 103,786 |
| Boston | 17,916 | — | 17,426 |
| Louth | 10,554 | — | 10,553 |
| Tynemouth | 32,321 | — | 29,336 |
| Barnsley | 17,885 | — | 14,916 |
| Doncaster | 16,404 | — | 12,052 |
| Stockton | 16,459 | — | 11,837 |
| Sheffield | 184,779 | — | 135,310 |
| Batley | 14,364 | — | 7,070 |
| Wakefield | 17,601 | — | 16,901 |
| Hullifax | 37,009 | — | 34,579 |
| Colchester | 23,730 | — | 19,443 |
| Hulme | 68,209 | — | 53,482 |
| Chorlton-upon-Medlock | 44,850 | — | 35,588 |
| Great Yarmouth | 36,088 | — | 30,879 |
| Birmingham | 295,943 | — | 232,841 |
| Rochester | 16,996 | — | 16,411 |
| Chatham | 39,162 | — | 31,416 |
| Bridgewater | 11,928 | — | 10,883 |
| Frome | 11,150 | — | 11,850 |
| Bath | 52,509 | — | 54,248 |
| Cardiff | 31,235 | — | 18,351 |
| Newport (Monmouthshire) | 24,164 | — | 19,892 |
| Newcastle | 109,000 | — | 89,158 |

In the case of the towns marked with an asterisk the returns are not quite completed. Every day affords fresh proofs of the increased devotion of the population to manufacturing pursuits.

CHURCHES AND SCHOOLS.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the British and Foreign School Society was held on Monday. The report of the committee said that in the several departments of the society's operations the indications of progress are encouraging. At the Christmas examination for Queen's Scholarships, 183 candidates presented themselves, nearly all of whom had been pupil teachers in British schools. The number of young persons of both sexes who have passed through the classes of the Training Department during the past year is 255; the number at present resident and under training is 149.

THE SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING of the friends and supporters of the Ragged School Union was held on Monday at Exeter Hall, Lord Shaftesbury in the chair, who in addressing the meeting said:

They had that evening to meet a bill of indictment preferred against them by the Royal Commissioners appointed to inquire into the state of popular education throughout England and Wales. Those gentlemen had thought proper to say that the ragged school system was no benefit to the country, but rather the reverse; and that but for the ragged schools all the destitute children would have gone into the higher schools. They had made statements in support of their theory, which might be put down either to ignorance or malignity, and he knew well to which of the two it was to be attributed. After denying the allegations of the commissioners *seriatim*, he concluded his speech amid great cheering. Mr W. Locke read the report, from which it appeared that the number of school buildings was last year 170, and was now 176. The number of Sunday schools was 207, and the number of scholars in them 25,200. The number of day schools was 151; and of scholars 17,230. The number of evening schools was 215, with 9,840 scholars attending them. These numbers all showed an increase on those of last year. Upwards of 1,800 scholars had been placed in situations during the year. The number attending the mothers' meetings was 2,060. There were 84 penny banks and 68 clothing clubs in connexion with the society. The number of shoeblacks in the various metropolitan brigades was 331, and their earnings during the year amounted to 4,647. There are 16 Refuges for the Homeless and Destitute, with 700 inmates in connexion with the union. The finance statement showed, on the whole, somewhat less received and somewhat more expended than in the former year.

TOWARDS THE RESTORATION OF CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL upwards of 27,000*l.* has been subscribed. It is estimated that 50,000*l.* will be required to complete the works.

ARMY AND NAVY.

THE GENERAL COMMANDING-IN-CHIEF has consented, at the request of the Secretary of State for War, to hold a review on Wimbledon Common during the month of July of such metropolitan Volunteer Corps as may wish to be present. The ordinary arrangements will be observed with regard to applications from corps desirous of attending on the occasion; but we believe that sanction will not be given for the attendance of any corps which is not previously reported to be sufficiently advanced in battalion drill to take part in the review.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH.

AN INCREASE IN THE MORTALITY OF LONDON is shown by the Registrar-General's return for last week, the number of deaths registered being more than have been shown in any previous return since the first week of March. They rose to 1,261, which is 41 above the average. The births in the week exceeded the deaths in the same period by 747.

The increase in the mortality is due chiefly to whooping-cough, which carried off 124 children, two-thirds of whom had not completed their second year. Thirteen also died from croup. In April whooping-cough was fatal on an average in 84 cases weekly. It was most fatal last week in the districts on the south side of the river, in which 47 out of the 124 deaths occurred. 8 deaths from smallpox were returned, and 30 from measles, 25 from scarlatina, and 8 from diphtheria. There were 166 from phthisis, the corrected average of corresponding weeks being 166; and 124 from bronchitis, the average being 107. The deaths of 2 centenarians were registered; a woman died on the 27th ult. at Windmill-hill, Hampstead, at the age of 100 years; and the widow of a labourer, on the 29th, at 3 Fort street, Old Artillery ground, at the age of 102 years. The age of the latter seems to be well ascertained, and her daughter is now living at the age of 81 years. Last week the births of 951 boys and 1,067 girls, in all 2,008 children, were registered in London.

THE QUANTITY OF DISEASED MEAT seized at Newgate and Leadhall markets last week amounted to 2,762*lbs.*

THE FOLLOWING HAS BEEN THE RANGE OF THE THERMOMETER OUT OF DOORS, IN LONDON, DURING THE WEEK.—Monday, May 6th, 47°; Tuesday, 7th, 46°; Wednesday, 8th, 42°; Thursday, 9th, 44°; Friday, 10th, 48°.

THE LAW COURTS.

THE LAWSUITS RELATIVE TO THE GUARDIANSHIP OF THE MARQUIS OF BUTE have now reached the House of Lords. The suits are entitled, Major-General Stuart v. Lady E. Moore, and Lieut.-Col. F. Stuart v. the Marquis of Bute. There are three appeals—two from the Court of Session in Scotland, and one from the Court of Chancery of England. The question involved is as to the guardianship of the Marquis of Bute, a minor. The marquis is the son of the late marquis by his second wife, and was born in the island of Bute, in 1847. His father died in 1848. His will was in the English

form, and was proved as an English will. As it did not contain any provision for the guardianship of the infant marquis, on whom the honours of the family descended, a petition was presented to the Court of Chancery, and his mother, the marchioness, was appointed his guardian. In 1848 Lord J. Stuart, one of the executors of the will, obtained in Scotland letters of tutory dative to the said infant, but he never interfered with the person of the marquis. The marchioness died in 1859, and by her will requested that the Court of Chancery would appoint Major-General Stuart, the appellant, Sir F. H. Gilbert, Bart., and Lady E. Moore, near relatives, guardians to her son. Sir F. H. Gilbert residing out of the kingdom, General Stuart and Lady E. Moore were appointed guardians in February, 1860. The marquis resided with the latter at Mountstuart House, in Scotland, for some little time; but arrangements having been made that he should reside with General Stuart at his house in Hampshire, he was brought to London in March, 1860, with that view, but after some correspondence Lady E. Moore, on April 16, 1860, left London, taking the marquis with her, and proceeded to Edinburgh. On April 20 a scheme was settled by the Vice-Chancellor for the education, maintenance, and residence of the marquis, to which Lady E. Moore consented, by which he was to reside with General Stuart until August, 1860, when he was to be sent to a private and afterwards to a public school, and necessary and proper establishments were to be kept up for him at Cardiff Castle and Mountstuart House. It appeared that the property to which the marquis was entitled consisted of estates in Wales, Bedfordshire, Herts, Northumberland, and Durham, the proceeds of which were 76,000*l.* a-year, and of estates in Scotland, which produced 17,000*l.* a-year, making together 93,000*l.* a-year. A sum of 7,000*l.* a-year was ordered to be set aside for his maintenance during his minority. General Stuart having in vain attempted to obtain the marquis from Lady E. Moore, orders were made by the Court of Chancery, ordering her to deliver him up, and discharging her from the guardianship. On the 13th of July, 1860, a petition was presented by General Stuart to the Court of Session, praying for an order on Lady E. Moore to deliver up the marquis. The appellant, Lieut.-Col. Stuart, who had succeeded his late father, Lord J. Stuart, as tutor dative in Scotland of the marquis, appeared to and supported the petition to the Court of Session. Some delay occurred in the proceedings, by which Lady E. Moore was left in custody of the marquis for four months; and arrangements having been made to transfer him to the care of the Earl of Galloway pending the decision of the Court of Session, her ladyship took the marquis to Glasgow, and otherwise tried to avoid this arrangement, to which, however, she at length assented, and she surrendered him on 25th November, 1860, to his tutor-at-law in Scotland, who committed him to the care of the Earl of Galloway. On the 7th February, 1861, the Court of Session made an interlocutor, by which it was declared that the Scotch guardian had the exclusive right of providing for the custody, residence, and education of the marquis, and prohibited his being removed on any ground or pretence whatever from the jurisdiction of that court. This brought the Court of Chancery and the Court of Session in direct conflict, and the matter to be decided was which jurisdiction should prevail. The present appeals were then brought.

COURT OF CHANCERY.—On Saturday Vice-Chancellor Stuart gave judgment in the case of the Emperor of Austria against Louis Kossuth, deciding that the injunction to restrain the defendants, Messrs Day, from printing the Kossuth notes be made perpetual. On the same day, an application was made to the Lord Chancellor to allow an appeal made from Vice-Chancellor Stuart's decree in his Lordship's paper for hearing at an early day. The Lord Chancellor said the question was one of such great importance that it would be advisable to have it heard before the full Court of Appeal. That could not be done before next term, and in the meantime he would communicate with the Lords Justices with a view to arranging a convenient day for the hearing of the appeal.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS.—THE SUBJECT OF THE ALLEGED MUTILATION OF STATE PAPERS was revived on Monday, in the case of *Turnbull v. Bird*, when Mr Pridcaux, for the plaintiff, moved for a rule to show cause why so much of Mr Justice Williams's order to plead as allowed the 4th, 6th, and 8th pleas to be pleaded should not be rescinded. The action was brought by Mr Turnbull, against the Secretary of the Protestant Alliance Association, for a libel contained in the report of the association of 1860, and by which pleas the defendant sought to justify as being true such portions of the libel as charged that, after the appointment of Mr Turnbull, Sir J. Romilly had to employ three persons to watch him; and also charged that the plaintiff being employed to collate State papers from the reign of Edward IV, to 1688, periods involving the 30 years' religious war, the Huguenots' war, and the period of the Jesuits, he being prejudiced, bigoted, and Jesuitical, would have the opportunity to mutilate, destroy, and throw into the fire such State papers as related to the proceedings of the Jesuits. The libel also charging that certain papers had been found to be missing. Mr Pridcaux read at length the portions of the libel to which the pleas pleaded a justification, and urged, as a ground, that the pleas ought not to be pleaded, that they did not affect the main portions of the action for libel, and if the plaintiff was called upon to traverse these pleas it would, without affecting the result of the action, involve the plaintiff in a most expensive, painful, and unnecessary inquiry. The Court granted a rule to show cause. On Wednesday the pleas complained of were withdrawn by the defendant's counsel.

A case of considerable importance to country bankers was decided in this Court on Monday. The arrangement known under the name of the country clearing was commenced in November, 1859, and has been generally adopted by the country bankers. On Friday the 10th of July, 1859, Mr Hare paid into the bank of Messrs Henty and Co., at Worthing, a check drawn on Messrs Whitfield and Co., at Lewes. This check was remitted in the usual manner to Messrs Lubbock and Co., and passed in course through the country clearing, reaching Lewes on the Monday, when it was returned unpaid. The question was whether Messrs Henty and Co. were justified in so treating the check, or whether they were not bound to have sent it direct to Messrs Whitfield and Co. by the post on Friday. The Court has now decided this point in favour of Messrs Henty, and thus, as it would seem, established the legality of the country clearing.

Mr Reade's action against Mr Conquest, to recover penalties for an infringement of the plaintiff's copyright in the drama of *Gold*, came on on Thursday. It was admitted that the piece had been performed eighty nights, and the Lord Chief Justice directed a verdict for the plaintiff for 160*l.*, subject to the opinion of the Court upon a special case.

CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT.—The trial of *Durden and Holcroft*, charged with robbing the Commercial Bank of London, has been postponed till next session. On Wednesday two post-office letter carriers named *Rantsch* and *Aldred*, who had pleaded "Guilty" to a charge of stealing post-office letters, were sentenced to be kept in penal servitude for six years.

ACCIDENTS AND OFFENCES.

A SINGULAR CONTRATEMPS arose out of a case which was heard on Friday, before the judge of the Salford county court. A "man" named Thomas Green was sentenced to twenty days' imprisonment for contempt of court. The officers of the prison were giving "Thomas" a bath as a means of punishment, and to their astonishment, they discovered that the prisoner was a woman. What is more curious, she has worked and passed as a man for many years; she also married as a man, and, as it is stated, has lived very happily with her "wife."

THE CONFLAGRATION AT AN OIL SPRING IN PENNSYLVANIA is reported by the *Buffalo Courier* in terms which lead us to hope that the results are exaggerated. The account is as follows:

During the drilling of an oil mill at Tidione, a sudden rush of oil, at the rate of seventy barrels an hour, took place, the stream ascending forty-one feet above the surface of the ground. Above this mass of oil the gas or benzine rose in a cloud for fifty or sixty feet. All the fires in the neighbourhood were immediately extinguished, excepting one 400 yards distant. The fire from this ignited the floating gas, and in a moment the whole air was in roaring flames. As soon as the gas took fire the head of the jet of oil was in a furious blaze, and falling like water from a fountain over a space 100 feet in diameter, each drop of oil came down a blazing globe of boiling oil. Instantly the ground was in a flame, constantly increased and augmented by the falling oil. At once a scene of indescribable horror took place. Scores were thrown flat, and for a distance of twenty feet, and numbers horribly burnt, rushing blazing from the hell of misfortune, shrieking and screaming in their anguish. Just within the circle of the flames could be seen four bodies boiling in the seething oil, and one man who had been digging at a ditch to convey away the oil to a lower part of the ground was killed as he dug, and could be seen, as he fell over the handle of the spade, roasting in the fierce element. Mr H. R. Rouse, a gentleman largely interested in wells in this locality, and whose income from them amounted to 1,000*l.* a-day, was standing near the pit, and was blown twenty feet by the explosion. He got up and ran about ten or fifteen feet further, and was dragged out by two men, and conveyed to a shanty some distance from the well. When he arrived not a vestige of clothing was left upon him but his stockings and boots. His hair was burnt off, as well as his finger nails, his ears, and his eye-lids, while the balls of the eyes were crusted up to nothingness. In this condition he lived nine hours. The heat of the fire was so intense that no one could approach within 150 feet without scorching their skin or garments. It was the most frightful, and yet the grandest pyrotechnical display ever vouchsafed to a human being. On Friday morning the oil was still rushing up, on fire, with the same regularity and speed, throwing, it was calculated, at least 100 barrels an hour, covering an immense space with flaming oil—a loss to the proprietors of the well of from 20,000*l.* to 25,000*l.* daily. No human power can extinguish the flames, and the oil must burn until the well is exhausted. No pen can describe its fierceness, no tongue can describe the magnitude of its horrors. The following wells, with machinery, were burned, with the accompanying estimated loss of oil: Wadsworth's well, 300 barrels daily; Dobb's well, 250 barrels daily; Van Andon's well, 100 barrels daily; T. Morian's well, 250 barrels daily; Hawley and Merrick's well, about 2,500 barrels daily.

A DORSETSHIRE COTTAGE appears to be worse than a common stable. Here is an example:

At the Dorset County Petty Sessions, held at Dorchester on April 20, Jesse Phillips, of Overmoigne, near Weymouth, was summoned by his employer, Mr T. Masters, for refusing to fulfil his agreement. It appeared that defendant had made a yearly agreement for 8*s.* a-week, potato ground, house and garden, and wheat at 5*s.* per bushel; but when he saw the house he refused to enter it, took away his goods, and had not been there since. Defendant said the cottage was not tenable; the water came up to the doors. His wife had only been confined a month. He was agreeable to go if he had a good cottage, but this was a disgrace to put a man into. Joseph Hall, a waggoner, said the front door was only three feet from the sea. He could not call it a cottage at all; it was merely a hole dug in the cliff; it had one room upstairs and one down, and it was not plastered. He was a farmer himself, and his cows had a better stall. He had seen the sea fly all over it. Plaintiff said the place, though not a very good cottage, was certainly tenable; it was stone built, thatched, and well plastered and whitewashed. Defendant said a gentleman farmer would not put his hackney horse in there. The case was adjourned till the bench should make further inquiries. At the petty sessions of May Mr Williams, the presiding magistrate, read a letter from a surveyor who had been appointed by the bench to examine the cottage, stating that he found the cottage in a dilapidated state, and scarcely tenable. The bench decided that the cottage was not fit for habitation, and held that the contract was void.

A MELANCHOLY DEATH occurred in a lecture-room at Bury St Edmund's last week:

A beautiful young girl of eighteen, named Hill, accompanied two other young ladies on Wednesday evening to the lecture hall of the Bury Athenaeum, where Mr Grossmith, of London, had been engaged to lecture on "Wit and Humour." Miss Hill was in unusually high spirits when she took her seat, but almost immediately afterwards she complained of a pain in her head, and apparently swooned. She was conducted to an ante-room, and restoratives were administered, but without effect, and she very shortly breathed her last. Meanwhile the audience in the large hall were shouting with laughter at the facetious observations of the lecturer, who was, of course, alike unconscious of the terrible tragedy being enacted in the adjoining room. At the inquest, Mr Kilner, surgeon, stated that death was caused by tetanus, such as might have resulted from strychnine; but there being no reason to suspect that the deceased had taken poison, a *post-mortem* examination was not ordered, and a verdict in accordance with the medical testimony was returned.

A MOST DETERMINED SUICIDE on Primrose hill occurred on Saturday morning.

A police-constable on duty heard the report of firearms, and went to the spot from whence it came, when he observed the body of a man stretched on the ground, which exhibited no signs of life. He sent for a surgeon, who discovered a wound under the man's right ear, and which had been inflicted with a pistol that was by his side. He pronounced life extinct. The body was conveyed to the workhouse. He appeared about thirty-five years of age, was well dressed, had gold studs in his shirt, a quantity of silver and coppers in his pocket, together with a paper on which was written the following, showing that he had premeditated the rash act: "Friend: You who shall find this body take it to the nearest public-house, and deliver the letters you find as addressed." On examining the letters, one was found addressed to the Rev. Mr Eyre, 9 Hill street, Berkeley square, a Roman Catholic priest, who on seeing the communication at once identified the handwriting as that of Mr Robert Goring, residing in Hamilton street, Camden town. The other letter, together with a bag and parcel subsequently found at his lodging, were addressed to George Goring, Esq., at Messrs Blythe and Co.'s, engineers, Fore street, Limehouse. The letter addressed to the Rev. Mr Eyre showed that the deceased was a convert to the Roman Catholic Church, and begged the rev. gentleman to accept a donation of 70*l.* in aid of a school for which he had lately preached. Money for the funeral of the deceased was also spoken of, with the request that he might be buried in Catholic ground, but if not, rather in unconsecrated than in Protestant ground. A disappointment in love is believed to have been the cause of the suicide.

THE THREE RUFFIANS, *Strugnell*, *Quilter*, and *Lincy*, charged with the robbery and murderous assault in Chapel street, Islington, were brought before the magistrate at Clerkenwell on Tuesday, and again remanded. A certificate from the surgeon was put in, certifying that poor Mary Ann Redkison was progressing very favourably, but that she would not be in a condition to attend the court for nearly a fortnight.

A SURGEON NAMED MARRETT DIED FROM DRUNKENNESS at Cosham, near Portsmouth, last week. The deceased had, it appeared from the evidence, of late been addicted to drinking, and he died on Wednesday night, scarcely recovering from a fit of insensibility arising from over drinking while attending a patient. The jury at the inquest came to the conclusion that the deceased died from congestion of the brain induced by taking a large quantity of alcohol, viz., a pint and a quarter of brandy.

A MOST EXTRAORDINARY ACCIDENT is described by the Mussoorie correspondent of the *Hurkaru*, writing under date of 18th ult., who says:

I have to chronicle a sad accident which occurred last Thursday night. A young gentleman, a great favourite with us all, of the name of Godfrey Thomas (son of Colonel Thomas, so well known for tea planting in the Dhoon), while riding down to Rajpore by the Mackinnon road, went over a frightful precipice 200 feet deep, in the dark. His horse was found absolutely dashed to pieces, and though much injured himself about the head and face, fortunately no bones were broken. I hear hopes are entertained of his recovery.

THE DISPUTED QUESTION relating to volunteers and tolls was settled at the Lambeth Police court on Tuesday, when Mr Taylor, the lessee of the Kennington gate and other tolls, and Captain Stephenson, of the 1st Surrey Volunteers, with Mr Stockbridge, his legal adviser, attended before Mr Elliott to hear that magistrate's final decision on the long-pending question of the liability of volunteers to pay tolls when going to or returning from duty. In June last a summons had been taken out against Mr Taylor for unlawfully demanding toll. The question was argued before the Court of Queen's Bench, and remitted to the magistrate for his decision. Mr Elliott said his decision was that the defendant (Mr Taylor) be fined 1s., return the 3d. charged, and also 2s., the expense of the summons. The result of this decision *freed volunteers on duty from payment of tolls.*

THE ILKESTON MURDERER, Smith, has been committed for trial. At the inquest Detective Davis produced the letter the murderer wrote on Wednesday last to his sweetheart at Belton, and also spoke to conversations that had taken place between him and the accused on his being conveyed to gaol.

A SUPPOSED MURDER has been discovered in Norfolk. Some sixteen years since a woman named Margerson disappeared from her residence at Great Ellingham, in a very inexplicable manner. Nothing could ever be ascertained with respect to her fate, which remained in impenetrable mystery till within the last few days, when some workmen who were engaged in throwing down a bank in the parish found a human skeleton. The skull was fractured, and it is now supposed that the woman was murdered and buried in the spot from which the remains have now been disinterred.

THE FOLLOWING STRANGE ANNOUNCEMENT appeared in the advertising columns of the *Times* of Thursday:

In an almost impenetrable ravine in the declivity of Mount Rheineck, which is situate immediately on the banks of the Rhine, between Broh and Niederbreisig (a district of the Tribunal of First Instance of Coblenz, Rhenish-Prussia), on the 22nd of last March, was found the body of some person, a female, from twenty to thirty years of age, or thereabouts, concealed in a recess, covered with large stones. The period of decease cannot be precisely determined. Death was caused by a ball shot from a gun, which traversed the breast and back. Description: height, five feet two or three inches; hair, fair; teeth, sound, small, and somewhat irregularly set in the lower jaw. Dress: 1. Chemise, cambric, three feet six inches long, the upper hem forming a running string, with two eyelet-holes, two fine and even cords passing through; in the centre of the round breast of the chemise, and below the eyelet-holes, the initials "A. H., 36," are embroidered in Gothic characters, in relief, half an inch long. 2. A nightgown of fine white dimity, collar turned down, two feet three inches, with white mother-of-pearl buttons; some remains of a fine material, with brown and white stripes (jaconet muslin); in the white stripe is a small winding white line, with red spots. In the vicinity of the body have been found the remnants of a petticoat, three feet two inches long; it is composed of fine white dimity, striped, the same material as the nightgown. On the upper edge, which is an inch and a half broad, with white riband strings, are embroidered in white letters, two and a half lines, in relief, and in large characters of the German printed alphabet, the initials, "M. R., 6." The bottom hem is finished with a cord in linen thread. The fine quality of the materials and the elegant make of all these articles indicate that the victim belonged to a rich class. In consequence of the state of putrefaction and external destruction it is impossible to notice other marks of recognition. I request of any person who can give information concerning this unknown individual, and the circumstances of her death, to be so good as to furnish me with the particulars, else to communicate them to the nearest magistrates. The articles of dress above mentioned, together with the lower jaw, are deposited for inspection at my office.—The Crown Prosecutor-General, DE RODENBERG.—Coblenz, April 25, 1861.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

Saturday Evening.

THE BANK OF FRANCE.

PARIS, Saturday, May 11.—The *Moniteur* of this morning publishes the usual monthly return of the Bank of France, which shows the following results as compared with the April account:

| INCREASE. | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| Cash in hand | 15,000,000f. |
| Bills discounted, not yet due ... | 44,400,000f. |
| Advances | 10,000,000f. |
| Bank notes | 14,600,000f. |
| Treasury bonds | 40,750,000f. |
| Accounts current | 1,750,000f. |

ITALY.

TURIN, May 10.—The *Opinione* of to-day contains an article explaining that the moral adhesion of France to the Kingdom of Italy is not sufficient. The article continues thus: "The time has arrived in which France should explicitly and officially recognise the new state of things. Such a course would deprive the enemies of the Kingdom of Italy of any pretext. The enemies of France would then no longer be able to say that her policy is equivocal."

ROME, May 7.—It is asserted that Monsignor Chigi is about to go to Paris as Papal Nuncio, and that his nomination has already been accepted by the French Government.

TURIN, Saturday, May 11.—The majority of the select committees in the Chamber of Deputies are favourable to the projected loan. Advices from Perugia state that a violent shock of earthquake was felt in that territory on Wednesday last. Several persons were killed.

AUSTRIA.

VIENNA, Friday.—Both Houses of the Council of the Empire, in their addresses to the Emperor, express a wish for the maintenance of the Constitution, and that Hungary may be induced to send representatives to the Reichsrath. They further hope that peace may be maintained, and declare themselves ready to make sacrifices if required. They conclude by expressing their wish for the maintenance of the indivisibility of the Empire.

The *Oesterreichische Zeitung* of to-day says: "All the gentlemen whose election in Venetia has been announced have declined to take their seats in the Council of the Empire, on the ground that they cannot consider that a few communes represent the will of the country. Even Count Aloise Moncenigo has withdrawn his consent to be nominated as a member of the Reichsrath."

POLAND.

THORN, May 10.—The sittings of the Council of the State, in reference to the projected elections to the Municipal Council of Warsaw, have commenced under the Presidency of Prince Gortschakoff, the Governor. MM. Lewinski, Toman, Potocki, Ostrowski, Rosen, and Kronenberg have been called upon as confidential persons to be present at the sittings of the Council.

SPAIN.

MADRID, May 9.—The *Correspondencia Autografa* of to-day says: "Spain has at present entered into no engagement in reference to the annexation of San Domingo. Slavery, however, is not to be introduced. The legislation will be the same as that now valid in the Antilles."

RUSSIA.

ST PETERSBURG, May 10.—An insurrection of a religious character has broken out in the Government of Kasan. Seventy peasants have been shot. General Bibikoff has been despatched to Kasan. Disturbances have also taken place in the Government of Pensa.

SWITZERLAND.

GLARUS, Saturday, May 11.—Since ten o'clock last night this town has been in flames. More than 150 houses have already been destroyed, including public buildings and even several fire engines.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—FRIDAY, May 10.

(Continued from page 298.)

Lord STRATFORD DE REDCLIFFE brought the subject of Syria before the house; and especially sought to elicit an opinion to the effect that it was desirable and consonant with the interests of Syria and the authority of the Porte that the occupation of the country should cease, as had been agreed, on the 6th of June next. He moved resolutions in accordance with his remarks, which took a very wide range over the affairs of Turkey. Lord WODEHOUSE, in reply, urged that it would be discourteous in the house to express any opinion which could imply a doubt of the fulfilment of his engagement by the Emperor of the French to withdraw his troops on the 6th of June, which there was no reason to doubt would be done. With regard to the general question of the condition of the Turkish Empire and Government, into which Lord Stratford had entered somewhat largely, he pointed out that all that could be done by the other powers of Europe was to tender such advice as they thought calculated to promote reform and amelioration in the affairs of that country. Beyond this, a commission had been recently sent out to inquire into the financial condition of the Ottoman Empire, which he trusted might lead to some satisfactory result. The Marquis of CLANRICARDE expressed his regret that the Government did not think proper that the house should put on record its opinion on this matter, as he thought they would be perfectly justified in doing, using the very guarded language employed by Lord Stratford in his resolutions. Earl GRANVILLE recommended the withdrawal of the resolutions; and after some further conversation, they were withdrawn.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—FRIDAY, May 10.

(Continued from page 299.)

He (Sir J. FERGUSSON) asked whether her Majesty's Government intended to urge the adoption of the plan of her Majesty's Commissioner for the Government of Syria upon the Sublime Porte, and moved for a copy of the final recommendations of the International Commission for the future Government of the Lebanon. He accompanied the motion by a copious exposition of the Syrian question, and of his view of the policy of France regarding Syria, which, he contended, had been most detrimental to the good government of the country; the object being, he said, to encourage it to lean upon France. He discussed various suggestions, including the plan of the International Commission, for the settlement of the affairs of the Lebanon, so as to reconcile the interests of Druses, Maronites, and Greeks, and indicated the course which he thought England ought to pursue. Lord J. RUSSELL stated the present position of affairs in Syria and the views of her Majesty's Government of the best solution of the difficult question as to the head of the Government of the Lebanon, respecting which differences of opinion had existed among the Commissioners, whose final report had been forwarded to Constantinople. He hoped, he said, that means might be found to improve the condition of the people of Lebanon. There was this difficulty, that the Russian Government considered itself bound to take under its special protection the subjects of Turkey belonging to the Greek Church, while the French Government patronised the Roman Catholic subjects. The object of her Majesty's Government was to secure good government to all without distinction. With regard to the evacuation of Syria by the French troops, he had, he said, every reason to rely upon the good faith of the Emperor of the French. It was not in his power to produce the papers moved for. Mr LAYARD urged that, if it was desired that Syria should be well governed, the responsibility should be left to the Porte, since, if any other plan were taken up, and it should fail, no one would be responsible. He denied that there was any systematic oppression of the Christians by the Turkish authorities. Mr MONSELL dissented from Mr Layard, whose position, he said, was inconsistent with the honour and good faith of this country. Lord DUFFERIN said that Maronites and Druses would live in perfect harmony if left alone. It was the Turks who were to be controlled, and the French troops should not be removed from Syria till some system of government had been introduced. Mr FREELAND believed that, whatever might have been the immediate cause of the unhappy events in Syria, the blame rested almost entirely on the Ottoman Government, which must be spoken to very plainly. The amendment was withdrawn.

The house then went into a committee of supply upon the army estimates, when certain votes were agreed to, after a long debate upon each. The Princess Alice's Annuity Bill was read a third time and passed. The report of the Committee of Ways and Means was brought up and agreed to, and likewise the report of the Committee of Supply. The Lords' amendments of the Post-office Savings-banks Bill were agreed to.

NOTICE.

The Morning Edition of the *EXAMINER*, formerly published on Saturday at three p.m., is now published at four a.m., in time for conveyance by the early trains and distribution with the London Morning papers.

An Evening Edition of the *EXAMINER*, containing the *News of the Day*, is published on Saturday, at four p.m., in time for distribution with the London Evening papers by the evening mails. This is in place of the late Edition formerly published for delivery in town on Sunday morning.

Prices of Stocks, Railway Shares, &c.

The Funds.

CONSOLS for money opened on Monday at 91, and closed yesterday at 91.

SATURDAY, ONE O'CLOCK.

| BRITISH. | PRICE. | FOREIGN. | PRICE. |
|----------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|
| Consols for Money | 91 1/4 — 91 1/2 | Brazil 4 1/2 per Cent. | 87 — 88 |
| Do. Account | 91 1/4 — 92 | Chili 6 per Cent. | 100 — 102 |
| 3 per Cent. Reduced | 89 1/2 — 89 3/4 | Ditto 3 per Cent. | 70 — 73 |
| New 3 per Cent. | 89 1/2 — 89 3/4 | Dutch 2 1/2 per Cent. | 64 — 65 |
| Bank Stock | 232 — 234 | Ditto 4 per Cent. | 98 1/2 — 100 |
| India Stock | 224 1/2 — 225 1/2 | French 3 per Cent. | 69 — 69 1/2 |
| Do. 5 per Cent. Loan | 101 1/2 — 101 1/4 | Mexican 3 per Cent. | 22 1/2 — 22 3/4 |
| Do. Bonds | 20 — 15 dis | Portuguese 4 per Cent. | 47 — 48 |
| Exchequer Bills | 10 — 5 dis | Peruvian 4 1/2 per Cent. | 94 — 95 |
| | | Russian 5 per Cent. | 102 — 103 |
| | | Ditto 4 1/2 per Cent. | 91 — 92 |
| | | Sardinian 5 per Cent. | 80 — 82 |
| | | Ditto 4 per Cent. | 59 1/2 — 60 1/2 |
| | | Spanish 3 per Cent. | 42 1/2 — 43 1/2 |
| | | Do. 3 per Cent. New Def. | 70 1/2 — 71 1/2 |
| | | Turkish 6 per Cent. | 54 — 56 |
| | | Ditto New Ditto | 54 — 56 |
| | | Ditto 4 per Cent. | 100 1/2 — 101 |

BANK OF ENGLAND.

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending on Wednesday, the 8th day of May, 1861.

| ISSUE DEPARTMENT. | | RESERVE DEPARTMENT. | |
|---|-------------|---|-------------|
| Notes issued | 26,490,700 | Government Debt | 11,015,100 |
| | | Other Securities | 3,489,900 |
| | | Gold Coin and Bullion | 11,302,248 |
| | | Silver Bullion | 713,452 |
| | £26,490,700 | | £26,490,700 |
| May 9, 1861. | | M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier. | |
| BANKING DEPARTMENT. | | | |
| Proprietors' Capital | 14,583,000 | Government Securities (including Dead Weight Annuity) | 10,272,938 |
| Reserve | 3,244,842 | Other Securities | 19,141,648 |
| Public Deposits (including Exchequer, Savings Banks, Commissioners of National Debt, and Dividend Accounts) | 6,083,595 | Notes | 6,316,015 |
| Other Deposits | 12,070,911 | Gold and Silver Coin | 857,919 |
| Seven Day and other Bills | 636,172 | | |
| | £36,588,520 | | £36,588,520 |
| May 9, 1861. | | M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier. | |

RAILWAYS AND PUBLIC COMPANIES.

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

| SHARES OF | RAILWAYS. | PAID. | CLOSING PRICES. |
|-----------|--------------------------------------|-------------|-------------------|
| £ | RAILWAYS. | £ | £ |
| Stock | Blackwall | 100 | 59 — 61 |
| Stock | Brighton | 100 | 119 — 120 |
| Stock | Bristol and Exeter | 100 | 93 — 100 |
| Stock | Caledonian | 100 | 93 1/2 — 96 1/2 |
| Stock | Chester and Holyhead | 100 | 48 1/2 — 51 1/2 |
| Stock | Eastern Counties | 100 | 48 1/2 — 49 1/2 |
| Stock | Edinburgh and Glasgow | 100 | 83 — 85 |
| Stock | Great Northern | 100 | 109 1/2 — 110 1/2 |
| Stock | Great Southern and Western (Ireland) | 100 | 104 — 106 |
| Stock | Great Western | 100 | 70 1/2 — 71 1/2 |
| Stock | Lancashire and Yorkshire | 100 | 109 — 109 1/2 |
| Stock | London and North Western | 100 | 93 1/2 — 93 1/2 |
| Stock | London and South Western | 100 | 94 1/2 — 95 1/2 |
| Stock | Midland | 100 | 120 1/2 — 121 1/2 |
| Stock | Norfolk | 100 | 52 — 54 |
| Stock | North Staffordshire | 17 1/2 — 10 | 15 1/2 — 13 1/2 |
| Stock | West Midland, Oxford | 100 | 47 — 48 |
| Stock | South Eastern | 100 | 80 — 80 1/2 |
| Stock | South Wales | 100 | 63 — 65 |
| Stock | North Eastern, Berwick | 100 | 101 1/2 — 102 1/2 |
| Stock | North Eastern, York | 100 | 89 1/2 — 90 1/2 |
| | FOREIGN RAILWAYS. | | |
| Stock | East Indian, guaranteed 5 per cent | 100 | 99 — 100 |
| Stock | Great Indian Peninsula | 100 | 96 — 97 |
| Stock | Madras, guaranteed 4 1/2 per cent. | 100 | 84 — 86 |
| Stock | Northern of France | All | 38 1/2 — 39 1/2 |
| Stock | Paris, Lyons & Mediterranean Fاصلو | All | 36 — 37 1/2 |
| Stock | Paris and Orleans | All | 53 — 55 |
| Stock | Southern of France | All | 32 — 33 |
| Stock | Western and North-Western of France | All | 20 — 21 |
| | LAND COMPANIES. | | |
| Stock | Australian Agricultural | 19 | 30 — 32 |
| Stock | Peel River | All | 50 — 52 |
| Stock | South Australian | All | 32 — 34 |
| Stock | Van Dieman's Land | 28 1/2 — 10 | 9 — 10 |
| Stock | British American | 40 | — — |
| Stock | Canada | 32 1/2 — 10 | 112 — 116 |
| Stock | New Brunswick and Nova Scotia | 80 | — — |
| | BANKS. | | |
| Stock | Australasia | All | 61 — 62 |
| Stock | London Chartered of Australia | All | — — |
| Stock | Oriental | All | 47 — 48 |
| Stock | Ottoman | All | — — |
| Stock | South Australia | All | 33 — 33 |
| Stock | Union of Australia | All | 38 — 39 |
| Stock | British North American | All | 51 1/2 — 52 1/2 |
| Stock | City | 80 | 72 — 74 |
| Stock | London and County | 30 | 35 — 36 |
| Stock | London Joint Stock | 10 | 31 — 32 |
| Stock | London and Westminster | 20 | 66 — 67 |
| Stock | Union of London | 12 | 25 — 26 |
| | MISCELLANEOUS. | | |
| Stock | Crystal Palace | 100 | 31 — 33 |
| Stock | General Steam | 14 | 26 — 27 |
| Stock | Peninsular and Oriental | All | 71 — 73 |
| Stock | Royal Mail | 60 | 47 — 49 1/2 |
| Stock | Grand Junction Water Works | 50 | 72 — 74 |
| Stock | West Middlesex Do. | 100 | 104 — 106 |
| Stock | East London Do. | 100 | 124 — 126 |
| Stock | East and West India Docks | 100 | 116 — 118 |
| Stock | London Do. | 100 | 49 1/2 — 49 1/2 |
| Stock | St Katherine's Do. | 100 | — — |
| Stock | Imperial Gas | All | 81 — 83 |
| Stock | Phoenix Do. | 82 | 70 — 72 |
| Stock | United General Do. | All | — — |
| Stock | Westminster Chartered Do. | All | 71 — 72 |
| | INSURANCES. | | |
| Stock | Alliance | 11 | 16 — 17 |
| Stock | Atlas | 5 1/2 — 15 | 13 — 14 |
| Stock | Eagle | 5 | 6 1/2 — 7 1/2 |
| Stock | Globe | All | 100 — 101 |
| Stock | Guardian | 45 | 51 — 52 |
| Stock | Imperial Fire | 50 | 354 — 357 |
| Stock | Ditto Life | 10 | 24 — 23 |
| Stock | Law Life | 10 | 79 — 81 |
| Stock | London Fire and Ship | 12 1/2 — 10 | 42 1/2 — 43 1/2 |
| Stock | Marine | 20 | 100 — 102 |
| Stock | Rock | 10 | 84 — 85 |

TRADE AND COMMERCE.

THE HEAVY PAYMENTS due on Thursday among the Greek firms did not pass off without the announcement of stoppages. Two respectable houses suspended—namely, Messrs Lascaridis and Co., and Messrs Theodore Ralli, Sons, and Co. The direct liabilities are not very heavy in either case, those of the former being under 50,000L, and of the latter under 70,000L, and the assets, it is said, may leave a good surplus if the securities in Turkey can be made available. The smallness of the debts in these cases is to be attributed to the manner in which the parties have struggled for some time to maintain themselves by an unhesitating realisation of their means; and it is said that in that respect the conduct of the entire body of Greek merchants has been most honourable and praiseworthy. The result is that the aggregate liabilities in London of all the firms whose position has been imperilled by the Marseilles failures and the sudden restrictions of the Bank of France do not at the present moment exceed 600,000L.

METROPOLITAN CATTLE MARKET, THURSDAY.—The supplies of most descriptions of meat were more liberal at this market to-day—especially of beef and mutton—than of late on a Thursday, and trade was generally better. Choice qualities of beef realized fully last Monday's currency, while inferior kinds fetched 2d. per stone more money.

| Prices per Stone. | At Market. |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Beef ... 4s 0d to 5s 0d | Beasts ... 890 |
| Mutton ... 4s 0d to 5s 2d | Sheep and Lambs ... 7,680 |
| Lamb ... 6s 8d to 7s 8d | Calves ... 272 |
| Veal ... 4s 8d to 5s 10d | Pigs ... 270 |
| Pork ... 4s 0d to 5s 0d | |

CORN MARKET, MONDAY.—The weather continues mostly fine and dry, but so cold for the season, as to keep all vegetation very backward, and we hear much complaint from the Continent of injury done to

Beans, Peas, and Rye, and these crops in this country are not well spoken of. Our Foreign supplies for the past week were again liberal of Wheat, but small of Barley, and moderate of Oats. Wheat: The show of English fresh up to this day's market was but small in quantity; nevertheless, the stands were cleared with difficulty, at barely last Monday's prices—For Foreign the demand was confined to retail purchases, at about the current rates of the past week, except for Russian, which was 1s. lower. Barley: There was scarcely any good Malting on sale, but for such full prices would have been obtained. Grinding and Distilling sorts were neglected and their values unaltered. Oats: Finest new and old made readily last Monday's rates, while out-of-conditioned new were rather cheaper. Flour: All kinds slow of sale and unaltered in value.

Table with 4 columns: Grain type (Wheat, Barley, Oats), Source (English, Foreign), and Price (Per qr., Per 4s, Per 5s).

FRIDAY.—The weather is as cold and gloomy as ever, and the young grain crops and grass are thereby kept very backward. Our Foreign arrivals are this week more moderate of Wheat, and light of Barley and Oats. On Wednesday the trade was rather firmer for some kinds of Grain, although the sales were not brisk. To-day, with a fair number of buyers at market, sales of Wheat were more free at fully last Monday's prices. Barley was slow, without variation in value. Oats of fine quality found ready takers at top prices, while secondary and low sorts were no better in price or demand. American Flour was 6d. to 1s. dearer, and Norfolks were held for rather more money. In cargoes off the coast sales were at higher rates than could have been made the last few days.

Table titled 'IMPORTATIONS Into London from 6th May, to the 9th May, 1861, both inclusive.' with columns for Grain type and Quantity.

HAY MARKET.—Per load of 36 trusses: Hay, £2 8s. to £5 6s. Clover £3 10s. to £6 0s. Straw, £1 15s. to £2 0s.

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, May 7.

BANKRUPTS.—W M Bruster, Swansea, letter press printer, [Vining, Moorgate street.—H Carter, Oxford, painter. [Stubbs, Moorgate street.—G Elliott, Farnham, blacksmith. [Spiller, South place, Finsbury.—J Pheby, Brudenell place, New North road, dealer in hams. [Boulton and Sons, Northampton square.—R Pratt, Great Yarmouth, bricklayer. [Storey, King's road, Bedford row.—C Bailey and H J Skinner, Colchester, manufacturing chymists. [Amory and Co, Throgmorton street.—G Todd, jun, Cheyne walk, Chelsea, builder. [Greville and Tucker, St Swithen's lane.—H Blake, Shide, near Newport, Isle of Wight, corn merchant. [Chidley, Old Jewry.—G Royce, Duddington, Northamptonshire, miller. [Wright and Bonner, London street, Fenchurch street.—W Asbury, Birmingham, engineer. [James and Knight, Birmingham.—M Morgan, Galligale, near Pontypridd, Glamorgan, shire, grocer. [Simons and Morris, Swansea.—J Hickson, Sheffield, builder. [Broadbent, Sheffield.—S Wood, Liverpool, broker. [Evans and Co, Liverpool.—C Armstrong, Salford, hotelkeeper. [Slater and Myers, Manchester.

Friday, May 10.

BANKRUPTCIES ANNULLED.—B W Harker, Pentonville road, Middlesex, linen-draper.—A C Lewis, Northumberland buildings, Bath, tailor and draper. BANKRUPTS.—L A Lewis, Fleet street, City, bookseller and book auctioneer. [Nicholson, Lime street, City.—J Pickering, Suffolk street, Mile end, and Mark lane, City, manufacturing chemist, dry salter. [Linklaters and Hackwood, Walbrook.—J Eaton, Attleborough, Norfolk, auctioneer and commission agent. [Treherne and White, Bargevay chambers.—T Colley, Princes street, Fenchurch street.—A Harris, Railway place, Shoreditch, tobacconist and cigar dealer. [Sorrell, Mark lane.—J Smith, P O'Neill, and H D Leaman, Russia row, Milk street, City, warehousemen and copartners. [Harrison and Lewis, Old Jewry.—J Miller, Chandos street, Covent garden, bookseller. [Nicholson, Lime street, City.—F Ruffie, Coleman street, City, bill discounter.

[Linklaters and Hackwood, Walbrook.—R Sharren, Richmond villas, Westbourne-grove north, Bayswater, builder. [Lawrance and Co, Old Jewry chambers.—S Harvey, Birmingham, gold and silver chain manufacturer. [Hodgson and Allen, Birmingham.—L Simon, Nottingham, manufacturer. [Solley, Nottingham.—W Dawson, Clumber street, Nottingham, innkeeper. [Covley and Everall, Nottingham.—G Elston, Crediton, Devonshire, shoe manufacturer. [Cleave and Sparkes, Crediton.—G Milne, Plymouth, draper. [Elworthy and Co, Plymouth.—D D Calvert, Holbeck, Leeds, scribbler. [Ferns and Rooke, Leeds.—J Martin, Dewsbury, Yorkshire, boot and shoe maker. [Walker, Dewsbury.—J Thompson, Wakefield, Yorkshire, yarn and worsted spinner. [Taylor, Wakefield.—R Forsham, Liverpool, machine manufacturer. [Evans and Co, Liverpool.—W Brew, Tarleton street, Liverpool, tailor. [Worship, North John street, Liverpool.—W Crabb and J C Crabb, Lee's Hall, Higher Mill, Oldham, Lancashire, cotton spinners and manufacturers. [Hedcliffe and Murray, Oldham.—L and M Cooke, Moorsley Banks, Durham, paper manufacturers. [Harle and Co, Southampton buildings, Chancery lane.—T Laurence and W Mortimore, St Mary Axe, City, leather and hide factors.

BIRTHS.—On the 30th ult, at Ingatstone, Mrs Tuck, of a son—On the 4th inst, at Dartford, Mrs Kitchen, of a daughter.—On the 8th inst, at 26 Harrington square, the wife of C Champ, Esq, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.—On the 30th ult, G Croxton, Esq, to Mary, daughter of the late W B May, Esq, of Hadlow Castle, Kent.—On the 1st inst, J Blow, Esq, to Johanna, daughter of A D Finke, Esq.—On the 4th inst, E Trimmer, Esq, to Sarah, daughter of the late W Keep, Esq.—On the 7th inst, Mr N Trubner, of Paternoster row, to Cornelia, only daughter of O Delepierre, Esq, Secretary of Legation to the King of the Belgians.—On the 7th inst, A Bathurst, Esq, to Rosetta, daughter of T Alexander, Esq.—On the 7th inst, J T D Llewellyn, Esq, to Caroline, daughter of the late Sir M H Beach, Bart.

DEATHS.—On the 21st ult, at Ryde, Mrs Wray, aged 81.—On the 30th ult, at Royston, aged 84, Mrs Nash.—On the 29th ult, at Kingsbridge, Mrs Lowe, aged 84.—On the 29th ult, at 18 Assembly row, aged 86, Mrs Dowers.—On the 30th ult, in Norfolk street, Strand, W J Pistor, Esq, aged 85.—On the 30th ult, at Bandon, in her 86th year, Mrs Matthews.—On the 2nd inst, at 19 Portland terrace, St John's wood, Mrs Scatcherd, aged 96.—On the 4th inst, at Uxbridge, Mrs Shackle, aged 81.—On the 6th inst, at No 24 Westbourne terrace, T Chapman, Esq, in his 82nd year.—On the 6th inst, at Clifton, T Cole, Esq, in his 92nd year.—On the 7th inst, at Highgate, W Wall, Esq, aged 81.

FRENCH CLOCKS, LAMPS, & BRONZES. BOHEMIAN GLASS—GAS PENDANTS—CHANDLERY—CANDELABRA—PARIAN FIGURES—VASES, &c.—Messrs MILLER and SONS, Lamp Manufacturers to Her Majesty and the Admiralty, beg to announce that the best and newest productions of Paris, Bohemia, London, Birmingham, and the Potteries, may be obtained at their new warehouse, No 179 Piccadilly, opposite Burlington House. * * * Genuine French Coiza Oil.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL ADELPHI. Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr B. Webster. Respearsance of Mr and Mrs Dion Boncaunt in the great sensational drama of the COLLEEN BAWN. The Adelphi CENSUS taken every evening. On Monday and during the week, A TURKISH BATH. Messrs J. L. Toole and P. Bedford. THE COLLEEN BAWN. Messrs Dion Boncaunt, D. Fisher, Billington, Stephenson; Mrs Dion Boncaunt, Miss Woolgar, Mrs Billington, and Mrs Chatterley. AND THE CENSUS. Messrs J. L. Toole, Eburne, Miss K. Kelly, and E. Thorne. Commences at Seven.

ROYAL ST JAMES'S THEATRE. Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr Alfred Wigan. Last six nights of the present season. On Monday and during the week, LAW FOR LADIES, Messrs Dewar, Belmore, and Miss K. Terry. The new comedy, A SCRAP OF PAPER, Mr Alfred Wigan, Dewar, Belmore, Miss Herbert, Miss Rainsforth, and Mrs A. Wigan. To conclude with the farcical extravaganza, THE PACHA OF PIMLICO. Mr C. Young, Belmore, and Miss Clara St Cassa. Tuesday, the benefit of Mr Kinloch, Acting Manager and Treasurer. Commence at half past Seven.

PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.—FIFTH CONCERT ON MONDAY EVENING NEXT, May 13, at 8 o'clock. Programme: Sinfonia in C, No. 1, Beethoven; Fantasia Appassionata, Violin, M. Vieuxtemps, Vieuxtemps; Overture, Freischutz, Weber; Sinfonia in G minor, Mozart; Concerto in D minor, pianoforte, Signor Macclaroni, Mendelssohn; Overture, L'Acade de la Vega, Onslow. Vocal performers, Madame Rieder and Signor Delle Sedie. Conductor, Professor STERDALE BENNETT. Tickets, 15s. each, to be had of Messrs Addison, Holler, and Lucas, 210 Regent street.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—The THIRD OPERA CONCERT will take place on Friday next, May 17th, when the following eminent Artists will appear: Madlle TITTIENS and Madame MIOLAN-CARVALHO, Herr FORMES, and Signor GIUGLIANI.—Admission tickets, 5s. each, if bought before the day; Stalls half-a-crown extra; may be had of the nasal agents, at the Crystal Palace, or at 2 Exeter hall. Admission by payment on the day of 7s. 6d. or by Season tickets.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—The GREAT FLOWER SHOW of the Season will take place next Saturday, 18th May. The already numerous entries give promise of this being an unusually excellent display.—Tickets if bought before the day 5s., by payment on the day 7s. 6d., or by Season tickets.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—FIVE SHILLING TICKETS for the GREAT FLOWER SHOW, at the nasal agents, at the Crystal Palace, or at 2 Exeter hall. They will be withdrawn from sale on Friday, 17th May, after which time the price of admission will be 7s. 6d., or by Season tickets.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—NEW SEASON TICKETS—TWO GUINEAS, admitting free on all occasions: ONE GUINEA, on payment of half-a-crown when the admission for the day is five shillings or more; HALF-A-GUINEA, children under 12.—At the nasal agents, at the Crystal Palace, or at 2 Exeter hall, where also the revised programme and calendar for May, June, and July may be had.

BLONDIN, of NIAGARA CELEBRITY, will arrive in England on the 22nd May, and make his first ascent at the Crystal Palace shortly after that date.

THE LAST SLEEP OF ARGYLE.—The LAST SCENE in the LIFE of MONTROSE. These chef d'oeuvre of E. M. Ward, Esq. R.A. are daily on view at the Gallery, 5 Waterloo place, Pall Mall, from 10 to 6. Admission 6d.

MR SIMS REEVES' BENEFIT at the MONDAY POPULAR CONCERTS, St James's Hall. The next Concert will take place on Monday evening, May 13th, for the benefit of Mr Sims Reeves. Pianoforte, Miss Arabella Goddard; Violin, Herr Strass. Vocalists, Mr Santley and Mr Sims Reeves. For full particulars, see programme. Sofa Stalls, 10s. 6d. and 5s.; Balcony, 3s.; Unreserved Seats, 1s. May be obtained at Chappell and Co's, 50 New Bond street; Cramer and Co's and Hammond's, Regent street; Keith, Prosser, and Co's, 48 Cheapside; and at the Hall.

CONSUMPTION and ASTHMA CURED.—Dr H. JAMES discovered, while in the East Indies, a certain cure for Consumption, Asthma, Bronchitis, Coughs, Colds, and General Debility. The remedy was discovered by him when his only child, a daughter, was given up to die. His child was cured, and is now alive and well. Desires to those who wish it, the recipe, containing full directions for making and successfully using this remedy, on receipt of their names, with stamped envelope for return postage. Address O. F. Brown, 14 Cecil street, Strand.

THE ROYAL HORTICULTURAL FETES at the NEW GARDEN, SOUTH KENSINGTON, W. THE GRAND FLOWER and FRUIT SHOW, on JUNE 5, Admission JUNE 6 10s. The GRAND ROSE SHOW, JULY 10 5s. The GRAND DAHLIA SHOW, SEPTEMBER 11 2s. 6d. The GRAND FRUIT and CHRYSANTHEMUM SHOW, NOVEMBER 6 2s. 6d. NOVEMBER 7 1s.

Fellows, Ivory Tickets, and persons registered under the Debutant Agreement, Free. Doors open each Day, at 1 o'clock. Tickets for the above will be ready for Sale on MONDAY, the 13th, but can only be had on Orders signed by a Fellow. All the Shows will be held under Roofed Buildings. After the opening, on June 5, Bands will play on Wednesdays and Saturdays, in June and July. As the Works in the Garden are still in progress, the Council have decided that the right of entry to these Promenades must, for the present Season, be limited to Fellows, who (except on Wednesday, July 10, a Fete Day), may personally introduce two Friends, the holders of Ivory Tickets, who may introduce two Friends, and to those persons whose names are registered under the Debutant Agreement; and on Saturdays, after 1 o'clock, by Tickets, price 2s. 6d. obtainable on the Order of a Fellow.

PURSUIT OF PLEASURE.—This Grand Picture, together with the "Blind Tryste" and "Hesperus," the productions of J. Kox, F.R.S.A., are now on view to the public at the German Gallery, 168 New Bond street, from 10 to 6.—Admission One Shilling.

HOLMAN HUNT'S GREAT PICTURE. The Exhibition of Holman Hunt's celebrated picture of the Finding of the Saviour in the Temple, begun in Jerusalem in 1854 and completed in 1860, is now open at the German Gallery, 168 New Bond street, from Twelve to Six. To which are added, for a few weeks, Views of Jerusalem, Nazareth, and other Water-colour Drawings, made by Mr Holman Hunt in the East.—Admission One Shilling.

SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS. THE FIFTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION IS NOW OPEN at their Gallery, 5 Pall Mall East (close to the National Gallery), from Nine till Dusk. Admission 1s. Catalogue 6d. JOSEPH J. JENKINS, Secretary.

HER MAJESTY'S PICTURES.—Messrs P. and D. COLNAGHI, SCOTT, and Co., and Messrs E. GAMBART and Co., beg to announce that the Portraits of HER MAJESTY the QUEEN and H.R.H. the PRINCE CONSORT, by F. Winterhalter: The Picture of the Marriage of the Princess Royal and Portrait of H.R.H. the Princess Beatrice, by John Phillip, R.A., are NOW on VIEW at the FRENCH GALLERY, 120 Pall Mall, from Ten till Six.—Admission, 1s.

MR FREDC. PENNA.—EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY.—SECOND WEEK. "THE HIGHWAYS and BYWAYS of SONG." Mr FREDC. PENNA begs to announce that he will give his New and Popular Entertainment, at the Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly, every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, at 8 o'clock. A Morning Performance every Saturday at 5. Piano-forte, Madame Penna. Stalls, 3s.; Area, 2s.; Gallery, 1s. Box Office open daily from 11 till 5.

MR CLAUDET'S CARTES DE VISITE. Mr CLAUDET, Photographer to the Queen, announces the publication of the photographs of the late Duchess of Kent. Although the imperfection of them is manifest, these counterfeits productions are capable of deceiving persons who do not examine attentively the photograph. To prevent this deception Mr Claudet begs leave to observe that all the Cartes de Visite which come from his establishment are stamped with his name on the back. 107 REGENT STREET, three doors from Vigo street, in the Quadrant.

BEIDENBACH'S PERFUMERY. CONCENTRATED ESSENCE, GENUINE WOOD VIOLET, price 2s. 6d. WOOD VIOLET SACHET, price 1s. 6d. WOOD VIOLET POMADE, price 2s. 6d. LITTLE SOAP for the HANDS, price 2s. 6d. COLD CREAM SOAP, 1s. Only maker, H. BEIDENBACH, Perfumer to the Queen, 157a New Bond street, London, W.

RIMMEL'S PATENT PERFUME VAPORIZER, an elegant, cheap, and portable apparatus, recommended by Dr LETHEBY and Dr HASSALL for diffusing the fragrance of flowers in apartments, ball-rooms, &c., and purifying the air in dwelling houses and sick rooms. Price from 6s. Sold by all perfumery dealers, and by the inventor and patentee, EUGENE RIMMEL, Perfumer, 98 Strand and 24 Cornhill, London; and 17 Boulevard des Halles, Paris.

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HENRY'S CALCINED MAGNESIA CONTINUOUS to be prepared, with the most scrupulous care and attention, by Messrs Tnos. and Wm. HENRY, Manufacturing Chemists, Manchester. It is sold in bottles, price 2s. 9d., or with glass stoppers at 4s. 6d., stamp included, with full directions for its use, by their various agents in the metropolis, and throughout the United Kingdom; but it cannot be genuine unless their names are engraved on the Government Stamp, which is fixed over the cork or stopper of each bottle. Sold in London, wholesale, by Messrs Barclay and Sons, Farringdon street; Sinton and Co., Bow Church yard; Newbery and Sons, E. Edwards, Thos. Butler, St Paul's Church yard; Savory and Co., New Bond street; Sanger, Oxford street; and of most of the vendors of the Magnesia may be had, authenticated by a similar stamp, HENRY'S AROMATIC SPIRIT of VINEGAR, the invention of Mr HENRY, and the only genuine preparation of that article.

FOR CHILDREN CUTTING THEIR TEETH. MRS JOHNSON'S AMERICAN SOOTHING SYRUP, which has been held in such high estimation for so many years, for relieving Children when suffering from painful Dentition, still continues to be prepared according to Mrs Johnson's Original Recipe, and with the same success, by BARCLAY and Sons, 95 Farringdon street, whose name and address are engraved on the stamp. Full directions are enclosed with each bottle. Price 2s. 9d.—Be sure to ask for MRS JOHNSON'S SOOTHING SYRUP.

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STRUVE'S SELTZER, Fachingen, Vichy, Marienbad and other MINERAL WATERS.—ROYAL GERMAN SPA, Brighton.—Under her Majesty's special patronage. The Bottled Waters are sold at the Pump Room Brighton, and by GEORGE WAUGH and Co., Pharmaceutical Chemists to the Queen, 177 Regent street, London, W., and by other respectable houses in London and the provincial towns, where a prospectus, with the highest medical testimonials, may be obtained, gratis. Caution.—Owing to the use of Struve's bottles by other parties, please to observe that Struve's name is on the label and red ink stamp affixed to every bottle of Struve's manufacture.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT and PILLS.—BE PREPARED.—In Great Britain one-third of all our deaths is caused by consumption. It usually makes its attack between the ages of sixteen and thirty, and is ushered in by debility, dry cough, and other unmistakable signs, which could be and should be immediately removed by rubbing this celebrated Ointment upon the back and chest. This friction must be brisk, and repeated regularly night and morning, and two of Holloway's purifying Pills should be taken at bedtime, as an alternative, to mitigate the cough and fever. The early employment of this treatment is of the most momentous importance, whether to prevent the fatal disease, or to direct it, when developed, to a safe and favourable issue.

BLAIR'S GOUT and RHEUMATIC PILLS. Price 1s. 1d. and 2s. 9d. per box. This preparation is one of the benefits which the science of modern chemistry has conferred upon mankind; for during the first twenty years of the present century to speak of a cure for the gout was considered a romance; but now the efficacy and safety of this medicine is so fully demonstrated, by unqualified testimonials from persons in every rank of life, that public opinion proclaims this as one of the most important discoveries of the present age. These Pills require no restraint of diet or confinement during their use, and are certain to prevent the disease attacking any vital part. Sold by all medicine vendors, and at 229 Strand, London.

ALDERMAN, of high Mathematical and Classical honours and of large experience in Tuition, wishes to read with a few pupils on the Continent for some weeks in July and August.

ALLOTMENT OF FREEHOLD BUILDING SITES.—The Conservators Land Society, 33 Norfolk Street, Strand, W.C. The Second Allotment for the present financial year is fixed for Thursday, the 16th of May, at the Offices, at noon precisely, on which occasion will be offered valuable Freehold Building Sites, on the following Estates:

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LIFE ASSURANCE.—Special Notice.—The next investigation into the profits of the Life Department of the SCOTTISH UNION INSURANCE COMPANY will be made as at 1st of August, 1861, and parties taking out policies before that date will participate in the division.

PROMOTER LIFE ASSURANCE OFFICE, LONDON. Established in 1826. This SOCIETY has REMOVED to its new Offices, 29 Fleet Street.

SUN LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY THREADNEEDLE STREET, LONDON. The Profits of this Society will be divided in future, QUINQUENNIALY; and Policies will participate at each division.

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LONDON ASSURANCE OFFICE, 7 Royal Exchange, London, May 8, 1861.—The Court of Directors of the London Assurance Corporation do hereby give notice, that a GENERAL COURT will be held at their Offices in the Royal Exchange, on Tuesday, the 21st day of May inst., from 1 till 2 o'clock in the afternoon, for the Election of a Director of the said Corporation in the room of the late William King, Esq., deceased.

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GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY.—WHITSUNTIDE HOLIDAYS.—DAY TICKETS will be available on all parts of the Railway from SATURDAY, 18th May, to SATURDAY, 25th May, both inclusive.

Fares for the Double Journey, 1st Class, Closed Car. Peterboro 14s. 0d... 7s. 0d. Stamford 16s. 0d... 8s. 0d.

Fares for the Double Journey, 1st Class, Closed Car. Wakefield 20s. 0d... 10s. 0d. Bradford 20s. 0d... 10s. 0d.

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CONTRACT FOR WORSTED SOCKS FOR THE ROYAL MARINES. Department of the Comptroller for Victualling and Transport Services. Somerset place, 6th May, 1861.

THE Commissioners for executing the Office of Lord High Admiral of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, do hereby give NOTICE, that on THURSDAY, the 23rd instant, at half-past One o'clock, they will be ready to treat with such persons as may be willing to CONTRACT for supplying and delivering into her Majesty's Victualling Stores at Deptford, all such quantities of Worsted Socks for the use of the Royal Marines as may be from time to time demanded under a contract for twelve months certain, and further until the expiration of three months' warning.

A pattern Sock may be seen at the Royal Marine Office, New Street, Spring Gardens, between the hours of eleven and two o'clock.

No Tender will be received unless made on the printed form provided for the purpose, and which may be obtained on application at the said office.

Particular attention is called to the recent modifications of the conditions of the contracts, which may be seen at the said office.

No Tender will be received after half-past one o'clock on the day of treaty; and it will not be required that the party tendering, or an agent on his behalf, should attend at the office on the day of contract, as the result of the offer received from each person will be communicated to him and his proposed annuities in writing.

Every Tender must be addressed to the Secretary of the Admiralty, and bear in the left-hand corner the words "Tender for Worsted Socks," and must also be delivered at Somerset place, and signed by two responsible persons, engaging to become bound with the person tendering, in the sum of 200l. for the due performance of the contract.

Parliamentary Papers.

Recently published— EDUCATION IN ENGLAND and WALES. Report of Commissioners of Inquiry into the state of Popular Education in England. 722pp. royal 8vo, price 4s.

Just published, in 8vo, price 10s. 6d. cloth, THE POPULAR EDUCATION OF FRANCE; with Notices of that of Holland and Switzerland.

On Friday next, the 17th inst. will be published, in 8vo, price 12s. cloth, THE ROLL OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF LONDON.

MR MERIVALE'S WORK ON COLONISATION. On Friday next, in 1 vol., 8vo, COLONISATION and COLONIES: Being a Series of Lectures delivered before the University of Oxford in 1839, 40, and 41.

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THE QUARTERLY REVIEW, No. CCXVIII. is published THIS DAY. CONTENTS: I. PEARLS AND MOCK PEARLS OF HISTORY. II. EUPHUISM.

NEW WORK BY DR DUNCANSON. Now ready, in post 8vo, price 7s. cloth, THE PROVIDENCE OF GOD MANIFESTED IN NATURAL LAW.

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