

THE POLITICAL EXAMINER.

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

THE AMERICAN PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

It is impossible to conceive the chief of an executive in a more independent position, personally, than that which is in some respects assumed by the present President of the United States. Elevated to his high office most unexpectedly, Mr Fillmore is evidently unmoved by the ambition of Mr Tyler, who, similarly placed, sacrificed everything to projects and hopes for his re-election. The but too usual clap-trap of American presidents in assuming a high and spirited tone towards foreign powers is totally dispensed with in the present address. On the contrary, credit is taken for the fact that the exertions of the Government had put a stop to the efforts of the sympathisers who invaded Cuba. There was a passage in the speech of the French President that would inevitably have called forth a rejoinder from Polk or Jackson. It was that in which Louis Napoleon announced the reinforcement of the French fleet in the West Indies for the sake of preserving the independence of Cuba, whereupon Polk would infallibly have re-asserted his favorite maxim that no European power had a right to interfere in the affairs of the New World. But Mr Fillmore, in his pacific and avowed disregard for European movements and interests, is more dignified than his most fulminating predecessor.

It is gratifying to think that the ever troubled and still knotty question of the Nicaraguan passage across the isthmus should have fallen into the hands of a President thus fitted to unravel its intricacies and smooth its difficulties. The difficulties, however, seem now to proceed rather from the several contending republics of the isthmus, than from any rival pretensions of England and America. These latter present no formidable obstacle or cause for alarm.

Whilst the American President's language to foreign nations is marked by unusual amenity, his exposition of his own powers in regard to domestic policy is studiously humble. He disclaims all personal feeling, or even the right to entertain it, declaring the recorded will of Congress to be his law; and instead of entering, as several of his predecessors have done, into a struggle with opponents, he seeks to flatter and conciliate all. This is the defect of the message. It is a trimming one.

The New Englander speaks out when he defends the sacred principle of protection. This in truth Mr Fillmore does, not as he pretends, and as General Taylor avowed, under the necessary plea of raising a revenue, but as a theorist who believes in the abstract virtue of his doctrine. These protectionist theories, however, fortunately for the United States, go diametrically against the interests of the agricultural classes, who constitute, as Mr Fillmore tells us, three-fourths of the population. Consequently his *pronunciamento* in favour of protection is counterbalanced by proposals to do something for agriculturists. But this something is moonshine, and not at all likely to move the democratic majority of the Lower House from their manifest interest, which is to buy their commodities as cheap as the state of the revenue will allow, especially when purchasing from the country which is the chief market for their produce. Mr Fillmore's aphorism, identical with that of Mr Frederick Young, that it is the foreigner who pays the high duties raised in American ports, is not likely to gull the backwoodsman, who sees that the increased price of his coat and shirt and hatchet come clearly out of his own pocket, and no other.

What Mr Fillmore alleges as to the injustice of *ad valorem* duties, because they increase the inequalities of price, is not tenable, while the advantages put forward as attending specific or fixed duties are very doubtful. They encourage merchants, he says, to import the best, *i. e.* the dearest article, since it pays no more duty than the inferior one of the same kind. But what will the poor consumer say to such a doctrine, and from the chief of a republic? According to this, a fixed duty should always be levied on teas and wines, in order that the dearest may be introduced, and the poor either deprived of the luxury altogether, as with us in the case of wine, or made to pay four hundred per cent. upon it, as in the case of teas. The President's political economy is narrow and false.

But the purpose of Mr Fillmore was to give its especial sop to each mouth of the triple-headed Cerberus which guards the entrance to the hall of political honours in his country. The protection paragraph was to gratify the New Englanders; the peculiar affection announced for agriculture was destined for the valleys of the west; and at the south was levelled the declaration in favour of the Fugitive Slave Law, and the denunciation of those who oppose it; while not a word is said against the monstrous selfishness of men who would rather dissolve the Union than

surrender a title of their right to re-capture the wretched negro that may have escaped even twenty years ago.

It is painful to contemplate a man like Daniel Webster so disgracing himself in the defence of such a law as to place its obligations above the most sacred ones of religion and morality. It is more painful to know that Daniel Webster is only enabled to take this course by the support of a large body of influential Bostonians, who are to him as the very breath of life in his nostrils. The disgrace is therefore more than the caprice of a man. It is the perversion and the backsliding of a party.

The true excuse, however, of both Mr Webster and Mr Fillmore is, that they are not sincere, and that, in holding out at present for the maintenance of the claim which is in the bond, and which gives so many pounds of negro flesh to the planter, they maintain what they know to be impracticable, ephemeral, and idle, except so far as to validate for a time the claim of California to be admitted as a free-soil state, until California is able to maintain its own right in this respect, which already it is almost able to do.

THE GREAT 'ONLY' QUESTION.

At a meeting of the Peace Congress at Birmingham, Mr Bright was reported to have stated—

There was no superstition greater than the fear of a war with France,—a superstition which had been handed down to us from the French war. He recollected Sir Thomas Hastings, an Admiral of the British fleet, who was examined before a Committee of the House of Commons a short time ago, was haunted with this fear of France. During his examination he was pressed harder and harder as to the authority upon which he had grounded these apprehensions. At last it came out,—he stated that he had been informed by a priest,—no, not by a priest, but by the Bishop of Madagascar (loud laughter), that the intention of the French people was extremely hostile or warlike. (Cheers). Only imagine, the only authority upon which a British Admiral anticipated war was an idle story told by the Bishop of Madagascar.

Sir Thomas Hastings writes to Mr Bright, complaining of misrepresentation, and in proof of the untruth of much that he had stated, refers him to the report of his (Sir Thomas's) examination before the Committee of the House of Commons. Mr Bright denies that the quoted passage was a correct report of what he said, which was to the effect, that—

You gave as your authority for the opinion that the feeling among the French is hostile to this country, a gentleman, a Frenchman, I presume, who is, or was, Bishop of Madagascar. It was my wish to show the audience that evidence of this nature was much too indefinite to justify a military expenditure such as this country incurs.

And he gives up Mr Cobden as his authority for this statement.

Sir Thomas Hastings calls upon Mr Cobden to declare upon what grounds he had authorised such a statement. Mr Cobden replies, that he has a distinct recollection of having mentioned to Mr Bright and others the anecdote respecting the Bishop of Madagascar, and believes he was not incorrect in repeating it pretty much in the terms used by Mr Bright. Sir Thomas informs Mr Cobden that his ground of complaint is that Mr Bright, on his (Mr Cobden's) authority, suppressing all the more important part of his evidence, has endeavoured to throw undeserved ridicule on his statements, and he reminds Mr Cobden, present at his examination—

That the anecdote of the Bishop of Japan formed the smallest part of my proofs, and was evidently considered by the committee of so little importance as to have been expunged by them; and yet I am represented by you as having brought forward this fact as the sole proof of my assertions.

Mr Cobden, in reply, cannot see anything to correct in Mr Bright's statement, except that it was a Bishop of Japan, not of Madagascar, and he adds—

I must be allowed to differ from you when you infer that the committee expunged the passage in question from your evidence because it was considered of little importance. It was struck out, I believe, at the instance of some of the members, because it was regarded by them as calculated to throw ridicule upon the arguments by which our armaments are justified, and as likely to be used by the advocates of reduction in the sense in which Mr Bright has used it.

Sir Thomas, upon this, becomes angry, blusters, and writes of sending a friend. It is in this stage of the affair that Sir Thomas puts himself in the wrong. His case needed no appeal to the pistol, nothing but a reference to the evidence really given by him before the Committee, which shows that he was unfairly misrepresented; and bad as the threat of a challenge would have been in any other circumstances, it was supremely absurd, absolutely childish, addressed to the principal leader of a Peace association.

But admitting this fault, we do not hesitate to charge both Mr Bright and Mr Cobden, especially the latter, with disingenuous conduct towards Sir Thomas Hastings. It is not true that his argument for the defences rested solely on the ground of a something said by the Bishop of Japan. He cited various facts in support of his opinions, very insufficient reasons in our view, but that is immaterial to the present question, which is not whether Sir Thomas's notions were right or wrong, but whether he was nincompoop enough to rely solely upon the Bishop of Japan's representation of the feeling of the French nation.

But Mr Cobden takes Sir Thomas sharply to task for complaining of Mr Bright's allegation that the authority of the Bishop was the only proof brought forward by him of the warlike disposition of the French nation, and he tartly says, "Your grievance is then confined to one word, the word 'only.' And what of that? Are there not a thousand applications of the word 'only' that would strip a man of his good name? Are there not innumerable calumnies which may be conveyed under the word 'only'? What a handy instrument for injustice is that word 'only'! How the great services of Mr Cobden himself might have been cut down to nothing by the word 'only,' with the predicate of an untruth that he only did this or that, selecting the least that he did, or the only questionable things that he did. We all make our slips now and then, not excepting Mr Cobden; and would it be fair to cite the slips as our 'only' actions, and then to scoff at the grievance confined to the one word, the word 'only'?"

We have Peace Congresses, Temperance Societies; is there no room for a Truth and Candour Society?

A man gives reasons good, bad, and indifferent for an opinion; is it just and handsome to pick out the worst, and to run about, quoting a cock and a bull story as the whole pith of his evidence? And this, by his own showing, Mr Cobden did by Sir Thomas Hastings.

A word now upon the suppression of the anecdote of the Bishop of Japan in the minutes of evidence. Mr Cobden states his belief that it was struck out "as calculated to throw ridicule upon the arguments by which armaments are justified, and as likely to be used by the advocates of reduction."

And what right had the Committee to suppress it for such reasons, and how came Mr Cobden to consent to the suppression? The Select Committee on the estimates of the Forces was not appointed to support a foregone conclusion, to bolster up a case for the military and naval establishments on their present scale. It was not for it to consider what uses would be made of evidence, but to lay all representations *pro* and *con* impartially before the House, and through it before the public.

Mr Cobden impeaches the uprightness of the Committee in the motives he ascribes to it for the suppression of a part of Sir Thomas Hastings's evidence, and if he have ground for the imputation he is much to blame for not having denounced the partiality by which the Committee was actuated. Instead of going about full of the naval captain's cock and a bull story, he should have been occupied with the more important and pregnant fact that the Committee, of which he was a member, was conducting its inquiries, and garbling its evidence so as to avoid matter for conclusions adverse to the armaments. The Captain's suppressed anecdote was, at worst, a nonsense; but the motive which Mr Cobden assigns for the expunging of it was a dishonesty.

It is further to be remarked that the bad effect of suppressions is strikingly exemplified in this instance. If Sir Thomas Hastings's anecdote had not been expunged, but left to come before the public in the usual way, Mr Cobden would not have been moved to go about with the exclusive intelligence that a Navy Captain had said a silly thing; and what Sir Thomas Hastings did say would in due time have appeared, with its context of other reasons, so as to correct any misrepresentation. The result of attempting to suppress is always to mangle the truth.

Mr Cobden closes his correspondence with Sir Thomas Hastings with as much affront and offence as he can fling into it. He reminds him that he is a servant, a public servant, and liberally paid, and that he must submit to be found fault with, and admonishes him that if he cannot command his temper in such a case as the one in question, he had better retire from the public service to the privacy of domestic life. Now it certainly seems to us that this is rather hard treatment of a man who complains of an undeniable misrepresentation. What has his pay to do with the question, why is that to be flung in his teeth by one who has been liberally paid also, and who is not, as it seems, thereby bound to keep the peace he advocates—for of the spirit of peace we find not a trace in Mr Cobden's letter, and indeed the essential difference between him and the duellist seems to be in the choice of weapons, and their aim against what is more tender and sensitive than the flesh?

EVASIONS OF JUSTICE.

It is hardly possible to take up a report of proceedings in Criminal Courts without finding some example of the necessity for a public prosecutor. Here is the last instance at the Middlesex Sessions.—

Mr. Maude (the deputy clerk of the peace) said that there was a case in which the defendant was Adolphe de Werdinski, which as yet had not been taken before the grand jury. It appeared that the indictment had been drawn with only one count, charging the defendant with a common assault, and therefore he had sent the depositions to the clerk of the indictments, requesting that he would consider whether the case was not one in which the indictment should contain several counts. That indictment, however, was not ready to go before the grand jury, but it was in the course of preparation.

The learned Judge said he would not detain the grand jury. That body, it appeared, had disposed of all the cases which had been

brought under their notice, and therefore he should now discharge them.

The following is a specimen of another sort of miscarriage of justice, which would be prevented by better regulations for sureties :

11 Bow STREET.—Among the night charges on the police sheet appeared the name of James Thompson, for indecently exposing his person to several women in the Green Park, but when the case was called on the accused did not appear.

Inspector Beaconsan said, that shortly after the accused was brought to the station he sent for Mr Martin, Parliamentary agent, 10 Palace yard, Westminster, who entered into his recognizances in the sum of 10l., and the accused in a similar amount, for the latter to attend at this court and answer the charge against him. He was bailed in the name he gave, but it subsequently transpired that his name was Gordon.

Mr Hall immediately ordered a warrant to issue for the apprehension of Gordon, expressing his determination that such an offence should not be committed with impunity. The simple forfeiture of the recognizance, perhaps, to a person well able to pay, would not be a commensurate punishment.

But what a farce to accept of bail to the small amount of 10l. without knowledge of the prisoner's circumstances, to whom 10l. might be a trifle. And in whose discretion is it to accept or refuse bail, or to fix the amount? A system so lax seems specially devised to favour the evasion of justice. The Magistrate complains, but what control is there to prevent a repetition of the same error? The Magistrate issues a warrant for the recapture of the prisoner, the bird having flown after the police had duly put the grain of salt on his tail.

It may safely be asserted that the very worst machinery in existence is the machinery of justice, from its first to its last process. We see a bill stuck up all over the town, offering a reward for the recapture of a convict who broke out of a model prison. The model prison could not hold the model rogue. The fellow practically proved what the poet sung,—

Stone walls do not a prison make,
Nor iron bars a cage.

He broke through the prison as if it had been made of pie-crust, as perhaps it is, and went up and down walls as easy as stairs. To a man of any vigour and daring, possessed of any instrument of the force of a tooth-pick, it appears quite a matter of choice whether he will remain in gaol or not.

How much more secure is the keeping of prisoners at large?—Take Smith O'Brien for example, who, in consideration of his avowed resolution to escape, has been allowed an unusual degree of liberty. This gentleman walked uninterruptedly down to the sea-side to meet a boat to carry him off, but just as he was stepping into it a constable made his appearance with a carbine. In the boat were three men, making, with Mr Smith O'Brien, the odds of four against the single constable. Now we all know what a desperate man Mr Smith O'Brien is, how he insisted on his right to death for treason, and complained of the wrong which substituted transportation, and also what terrible menaces he has uttered to stick at nothing to effect his escape. We have him now on the sea-shore, up to his breast in water, and with his hand on the gunwale of the boat, manned with three desperadoes, which is to bear him to a clipper in the offing. There is no widow Cormack on the present scene to o'ererow his spirit with her shrill appeals; there are no cabbage plants to invite him to their shelter; there is the sea, the sea, the open sea, and three confederates on the one hand, a single constable with a carbine on the other. What follows? liberty or death, of course—No such thing: the constable knocks a hole in the boat with his carbine, telling the party of four to submit quietly, which they do with exemplary meekness; meanwhile the officer having the charge of the prisoner, who, as we see, goes about pretty much as he pleases, comes rushing down, better late than never, and the affair is finished. *Heu gloria, vincitur idem!*

Of how few Irish gentlemen can it be said as of Mr Smith O'Brien, that he has not outrun the constable. How many have now been his adventures, all with the same peaceable results, by flood, field, and cellar. How many mighty enterprises he would have achieved but for small preventions. The constable is always in his way. When he was snatching the crown of Ireland from the head of the Queen, Inspector Trant balked him of the prize, and he bowed his lofty treason beneath the cabbage leaves. When he was snatching his liberty from exile, and up to his armpits in water, with the boat at hand, another constable with the muzzle of his carbine turns aside his desperate resolution. The varied fortunes of his life make, indeed, a Constables' Miscellany. But for the constable, barring the constable, what things this aspiring man would have done. But for the constable he would have been king of Ireland, but for the constable he would have fled from transportation. In the cabbage garden, when snatching at a sceptre, he is foiled by the constable's staff; in the sea, when snatching at liberty, the constable mars the great design, and makes a haul of four unresisting prisoners. Who that has read the awful resolutions threatened by Mr Smith O'Brien, could have been prepared for these conclusions. But what fate was to the ancients, and the fortune of war to the gallant Major Sturgeon, Captain Patten, and their brother officers, all robbed and stripped by a footpad, fighting against the constable is to the heroic Mr Smith O'Brien.

The account from Sydney concludes with the statement—"It has not been thought necessary to impose any restraint on Mr Smith O'Brien greater than that to which he was previously subjected."

The authorities, doubtless, consider the cold bath a sufficient punishment for Mr O'Brien's attempt, or perhaps

their courage in controlling is on a par with their prisoner's daring in his endeavours to escape.

If we have model prisons through which convicts break as through cobwebs, it is, on the other hand, a compensation that we have such a model prisoner as Mr Smith O'Brien, who, favoured with every facility for escape, remains within the liberal bounds assigned him, by virtue of the vigilance of his ever active enemy, the constable, a touch of whose magic staff reduces to nothing, to meek submission, all his mighty ambition, and desperate designs.

THE LAW RELATING TO THE PAPAL INROAD.

At the Surrey meeting Sir E. Sugden entered into an exposition of the law relating to the introduction of Papal bulls into this country.

Cardinal Wiseman says, "After all, we have done nothing contrary to law." I am not at all satisfied on that head. (Applause.) The law on this point is certainly in a very anomalous state, and, I grieve to say, reflects no credit on the Legislature; but, nevertheless, I am of opinion that the law has been infringed by the Bishop of Rome and Cardinal Wiseman. (Cheers.) A legal argument would be quite misplaced here, but Englishmen ought to know what it is they are entitled to complain of. Queen Elizabeth found all the English sees filled with Roman Catholic bishops, and, being determined to give effect to the Reformation, her Parliament passed many acts for that purpose. Those acts were most grinding on the Roman Catholics, and, indeed, unendurable; and no man who comprehends the spirit of our constitution but must be delighted that they have been swept from the statute-book. The first Parliament of Elizabeth passed a law to declare that no foreign prince, person, prelate, State, or potentate, hath, or ought to have, any jurisdiction, power, superiority, pre-eminence, or authority, ecclesiastical or spiritual, within this realm. That was the law then, and that is the law now. But the other day, in the 9th and 10th of our present Queen—not following the example of the Relief Act—an act of Parliament was passed which repealed certain provisions of this statute. By one part of the act of Elizabeth it was provided that whoever affirmed or acted upon the notion that any foreign prince, prelate, or potentate had any power, ecclesiastical or spiritual, within the realm, was subject to the most heavy punishments. The third of these was actually high treason, with the penalty of death and the loss and forfeiture of lands and goods. Now, no man could wish that to remain; it was a punishment that no man would inflict at this time of day, and it was therefore repealed by the 9th and 10th of Victoria; but the act which repealed this declares that, though the penalties and punishments are repealed, it shall still not be lawful for any person to affirm or maintain that any foreign prince, prelate, or potentate hath, or ought to have, jurisdiction, spiritual or ecclesiastical, within the realm. Then, I assert here, and I am prepared to do so everywhere, that by the law as it stands, the Bishop of Rome and his Archbishops and Cardinals have no right to assert or maintain that they have any spiritual or ecclesiastical jurisdiction in this realm. (Cheers.) There was another act passed in the 13th year of Elizabeth to prevent bulls, letters, or instruments to be received from Rome for any cause whatever; no man was to put in use any bull, letters, or instrument from the Bishop of Rome in any case whatever (hear, hear), and if he did, not only he, but those who abetted him, were to be held guilty of high treason and suffer death. Now, everybody knows that such a punishment could not be inflicted in these days, and therefore the penalty was swept away, but the act that swept away the penalty declared that the repeal should not go beyond the penalties and punishments, and that it was still unlawful for any man in this land to put in use any bull, writing, or instrument of the Bishop of Rome. (Hear, hear.) I am aware a quibble might be raised on the construction of these acts, as to whether such persons could be punished or not; but I do not care much about that. The law is clear that no one is permitted to do such things. It is equally clear that, by the repeal of the act so far, it was intended to enable the Roman Catholic to put himself in communication, as he was already in communion, with the See of Rome, for it was said there was no use in granting to the Roman Catholics the free exercise of their religion if they could not communicate with the head of their church. Nothing could be more reasonable, and, therefore, nothing that was necessary to enable them to communicate with the head of their religion could be objected to; that being the object of the repeal. But that repeal does at the same time enact that nothing in the act shall authorize any one to introduce or publish any instrument from the Bishop of Rome. That, therefore, is the law now. (Cheers.) Now I say that law has been infringed; and though those pains and those punishments are no longer operative that were inflicted by the statutes of Elizabeth, yet there are punishments that the law will inflict on those who disregard the injunctions of the Legislature. (Cheers.)

Now it is most provoking that Sir E. Sugden stops here without specifying the punishments which the law can and will inflict. He tells us distinctly enough that the penalties for asserting a foreign spiritual authority have been repealed, leaving the assertion of such authority still unlawful; but he does not explain how the unlawful act, the penalties of which are abrogated, is to be visited with punishment. He affirms it to be punishable, but he does not state how, thus leaving the main point in complete obscurity. Nurses instruct their children that they cannot eat their cake and have their cake; but Sir E. Sugden teaches the opposite lesson, that the legislature which takes away the penalties for a specific offence nevertheless leaves penalties for the same.

"Nothing could be objected to," says Sir E. Sugden, "to enable the Roman Catholics to put themselves in communication with the head of their religion." But was it intended that Catholics should be free to communicate with the Pope, but not to receive the Pope's communications, his rescripts, in return? Would the prohibition of such communication consist with the toleration of the Roman Catholic religion? The spiritual authority of the Pope is the very breath of the Roman Catholic faith, and to interdict it, or the modes of making its mandates known, would be to interdict the first essential of the religion of a third of the population. The juster and more politic measure would be one keeping the Papal authority strictly within its spiritual bounds, cancelling his missives when they trench on the temporal province, and subjecting to pains and penalties any persons who endeavour to give effect to mandates so annulled by the authority of the Crown.

But there is another offence akin to the assertion of foreign spiritual supremacy which it is not less important to deal with, as it affects us nearer home; we need hardly add that we allude to the denial of the Queen's supremacy

in spiritual and ecclesiastical affairs. What is to be done with turbulent bishops who treat with scorn and disdain her Majesty's title of head of the church in respect of spiritualities, and who declare that it would be degradation to submit to this claim by law established? Is this one of those differences and Low Church? Is the High Church that o'erthrows the Crown to be endured? How can we wonder at the laxity of discipline in a church which presents such an example of insubordination, of insolent mutiny, in the persons of dignitaries whose appointed office is to maintain order and conformity? What can be said to be settled in a church in which it is open to a bishop to repudiate the sovereign head, and trample on the Crown's claims to spiritual supremacy? This is no Gorham controversy; it is a blow struck straight at the vitals of the Protestant establishment, and its impunity is of more peril to the church than an armada of Popish prelates.

TRACTARIANISM AT ETON.

The Windsor and Eton Express has the following statement in reference to the election of the Rev. Edward Coleridge to the Lower Mastership of Eton:

It has been usual, but not compulsory, to select the Lower Master from the Assistant-Masters, of whom there are something like twenty in the Upper and Lower Schools. The Rev. E. Coleridge was the senior master of the Upper School; but the reverend gentleman was not a King's-man, a qualification heretofore looked upon as essential in the appointment of Lower Master. The assistant-master next in rotation was the Rev. W. G. Cookesley, M.A., a gentleman in every way qualified, and whose appointment would have been hailed with delight by the elder branches of the collegers and oppidans. The Provost and Fellows met in secret conclave a month ago, and the result of their deliberations was understood to be a determination to elect some gentleman, otherwise qualified, who would reside within the walls of the College; and in order to secure such a successor to Dr Okes, the election was postponed for three weeks. In the interim, it was not a little remarkable that Mr Coleridge was never mentioned publicly as likely to be appointed—it was concluded that the fact of his never having obtained "King's"—as it was termed—was fatal. In the interim, also, we hear that the Rev. C. Luxmore, an assistant-master of twenty years' standing, offered himself as a candidate, and consented to comply with the conditions of the Provost and Fellows, by residing within the College. There was no doubt as to Mr Luxmore's qualifications—he was a King's-man and perfectly eligible. Such was the state of things when the Provost and Fellows proceeded to the election on Thursday week. They passed over the commanding claims of Mr Cookesley—they paid no attention to the fact that Mr Luxmore was ready to abide by their newly-promulgated conditions—and they elected Mr Coleridge, who does not promise to reside "within the walls," for no other reason, that we can discover, than that the reverend gentleman is known to be an ultra-Tractarian! These are the plain facts, and we may leave our readers to estimate the effect of such a proceeding, in the present excited state of public feeling, upon the interests of the College. The Lower Master of to-day, it should be borne in mind, is the Head Master of to-morrow; and if matters progress in the ratio of late years, Eton may become the nursery of Romanism in a Protestant land; for we are credibly informed that—to use the happy simile of Lord Ashley—the Tractarianism of Mr Coleridge is more like Popery in the flower than Popery in the bud. On looking over the list of Fellows, we do not feel surprised at the appointment of Mr Coleridge, but we cannot sufficiently express our disappointment—not to use a harsher word—at the conduct of the Provost. When the Fellows of Eton elected Dr Lonsdale as their Provost, the authority of the Crown was exercised by Lord Melbourne in favour of Mr Hodgson. In the appointment of masters, the Crown has no vote, but the Crown would naturally conclude that a Provost, so appointed, would never consent to the election of an ultra-Tractarian to the high and responsible post of Master of the Lower School.

Assuming the correctness of this statement in other respects, we have no reason to suspect it of unfairness to Mr Coleridge. The Tractarianism of Mr Coleridge has been open and avowed. He was one of the members of convocation who publicly voted at Oxford for the orthodoxy of Mr Ward, and who thanked the proctors for having illegally exercised their power to save him from condemnation. We do not know if he has more recently signed Archdeacon Manning's denial of the Queen's supremacy, but he has been lamentably inconsistent if he did not. It is but a very short time since the Romanizing tendency of his opinions led to a painful excitement at Eton in connection with the conversion to Romanism of one of his pupils.

Such an appointment, in the state of feeling which exists at present, is a scandal rather than a danger. The affront to public opinion is too open to pass with impunity, and there is a better way of dealing than by reasoning or remonstrance with the authorities who have sanctioned it. The only great public school now suspected of Tractarianism, Winchester, has sunk within a few years from a couple of hundred to some seventy or eighty boys. On the other hand, Rugby and Harrow, where masters are known to be Anti-Tractarian, were never so crowded or in such general esteem. We have mentioned the excitement caused at Eton two or three years ago by Mr Norton's conversion, and certain Puseyite observances in chapel; and we may add that the school was very sensibly damaged at that time. Is it conceivable that the present act of imprudence should pass without more serious consequences?

We do not blame Mr Coleridge. Thinking as he does, he is justified in obtaining for his opinions wider scope if he can. A paragraph appeared soon after his election, informing the public that it put only a trifle in his pocket: but is the power that invests him with a trifle? Is not the Lower Mastership confessedly a step to the Head Mastership? Is it not itself Head Mastership of the Lower School? Is not its influence more considerable, and precisely that which a Tractarian would seek, from the fact of its direct control over the Collegers, almost all of whom are destined for the Church? It is not to be imagined that the Fellows put such considerations apart when they proceeded to the election; or that they were not thoroughly known to Doctor Hodgson when his vote sanctioned and completed it.

These are the parties amenable to censure; or rather, let us say, the censure should rest chiefly with Doctor Hodgson. It was open to him, by his veto, to have rendered the choice of Mr Coleridge of no account; and if such an interference could ever be held necessary or justifiable, it might surely have been looked for from a provost of Whig opinions, supposed to be liberal in his views of Church government, and who owed his own election ten years ago to the application of precisely such a check to the rampant bigotry of the Fellows.

But the danger is not more plain than the remedy. If the heads of the leading English families do not desire to see such a school as Eton become a nursery for Romanism, or for the growth of an English Church system even more intolerable and false, the remedy is in their own hands, and they will not fail to apply it. A Papistical postman was the object of a memorial from Rugby the other day, the memorialists apprehending danger "from the proselytizing powers of the carrier delivering letters and tracts at the school." We wait to see the memorial which shall express to her Majesty the danger incurred by her ancient and loyal foundation at Eton "from the proselytizing powers of the Lower Master teaching letters and tracts at the school."

GERMAN DOINGS.

The quarrel of the great states of Germany is descending to a squabble with the little states. We have steadily held to the opinion that, during all the events of the last two years, each of the princes, great or small, was seeking only his own profit and increase of power, and that not a single one of them cared a straw for Germany or the German people, except in so far as he could get something by feigning to advocate that cause. Every new incident of the dispute proves that we were right.

Austria and Prussia, having put themselves to an enormous expense, became convinced at the last moment that they should gain little by going to war, and very prudently determined to settle their affairs peaceably if they could. Each made considerable sacrifices of overweening pretensions. At Olmütz, Prussia said not a word of the union, which she had so often declared she would never give up; and Austria forgot the Diet of Frankfurt as completely, as though all her arguments in favour of its existence had never been blazoned to the world. They have both, however, given proof of an earnest desire for peace, and of the establishment of a good understanding, by staying all further preparations for war, and disarming a portion of the forces collected. We rejoice at the prospect of peace, but we must doubt if it offers any improved basis for the freedom of Germany, and it has certainly failed to conciliate the second-rate German powers.

The very circumstance of Austria and Prussia having come to an understanding without consulting them has put all these lesser stars into a sad quandary. Bavaria appeals to the treaty of Bregentz, and declares she will never submit to the superiority of Prussia. Wirtemberg remembers her old treachery, and talks of calling in France. Hanover collects his northern neighbours round him, and seems determined to make a good stand for independence. Poor Saxony, who lies just between the two new friends, finds it best to lie still, lest one or the other should swallow her up, by way of keeping her quiet. All of them had hopes that Prussia would have been humbled, and some of her supporters stripped, by which their own consequence would have been augmented, and perchance their territories increased. They are naturally very angry that the treachery of Austria should have disappointed such brilliant hopes, and placed them in greater danger than before.

The results of the conference of Olmütz, as given to the world, are the complete sacrifice of the Hessians, with such reserves as to save the appearance of a retreat on the part of Prussia; and the engagement to advise, and if necessary enforce, a reduction of the Holstein army, preparatory to a final settlement of that question.

But it is generally believed, and we doubt not correctly, that these have not been the only subjects of conversation between the Prime Ministers of Austria and Prussia and the Ambassador of Russia. It is probable that the bases of a general settlement of the German question were laid down at Olmütz, and there is reason to fear that these are anything but favourable to constitutional liberty in Germany. Our readers are aware how carefully Prussia abstained from ever recognising the principle of the Hessian resistance, and how Manteuffel rejected the idea of going to war for such a cause; and if they carefully read the third article of the Olmütz treaty they will perceive that both Austria and Prussia clearly express their intention of restoring matters to a "state in which the fulfilment of Confederative duties shall be possible." Now one of the Confederative duties is the payment of the Confederative quota; and it was on the pretence that the resistance of the Hessians to the payment of taxes rendered the Elector unable to fulfil his engagements to the Confederation, that the interference of the Diet of Frankfurt was demanded.

Nor are other signs wanting to indicate the fate in reserve for German constitutionalism. Every man in Hesse who has been known as a friend to the Constitution is marked out for oppression. Magistrates who refuse to sign legal warrants for taxes are made answerable in their own property. Civil and military officers are dismissed. Where the Austrian and Bavarian troops have entered, they are quartered in great numbers on the friends of liberty, who are thus exposed to the insults of a brutal soldiery, and forced to supply them with food and lodging without remuneration. This mode of exposing a family who may be suspected of

liberalism to every brutality, and at last to ruin, is an old invention of the Austrian, and was often turned to good account in Hungary.

Prussia has shown her respect for constitutional forms and contempt for constitutional spirit, by proroguing the Chambers to avoid a vote of censure on the policy and minister of the King. It is said that she is now about to contract a loan on the Royal security alone. Government has denied it, and we therefore suspect it must be true.

In Austria matters are progressing still more rapidly. An order has been issued interdicting the use of the oath "to observe and defend the Constitution" by the army. This clause was introduced into the oath of fidelity and allegiance by an express article of the Constitution of March 1849. Another fact is equally significant. Major Baraczky, the author of the pamphlet in which the Emperor was openly invited to break his constitutional promises, and for writing which the author was dismissed, has been again reinstated in the bureau of the Emperor.

Matters, indeed, have gone so far, that "our own correspondent" begins to write letters more befitting the *Examiner* than the columns in which they appear. At last this impartial gentleman seems to have found out what we have asserted for these many months past, that Austria never intended to keep her promises concerning the Constitution of March. He is not perhaps yet aware that it would be impossible for her to do so, did she even wish it; but we have hopes of his coming to our opinion in that matter also before many more weeks are over. We quote the following from the *Times* of last Monday.

The principal aim of the Austrian Government seems to be to realize those parts of the Constitution which are viewed with the greatest suspicion by the people, and to postpone *sine die* the introduction of those measures which would be most popular. The total want of prescience, which is a striking feature in the Austrian character, is no less observable in the rulers than in the people. If the inevitable consequences of some of the recent measures are pointed out, the reply is, "Have we not a splendid and faithful army to rely on, and have we not won the country people by abolishing the feudal abuses?" The fact that a great part of the army must soon be disbanded, and that the political opinions of at least one-half of the individuals of which it is composed are hostile to Government, is completely lost sight of. The high discipline which is kept up makes the army trustworthy for the time being; but when its component parts, ceasing to be machines, become thinking beings, things will assume a very different appearance. Where Government will look for support in case of need it is impossible to say. The people here are generally disgusted with the unsatisfactory way in which things are going on; the south Slavonic races and the Magyars will without doubt form a coalition, which will prove most dangerous to the Empire if the Provincial Diets be not speedily convoked, and the so-called Hereditary Provinces will assuredly make common cause with their disappointed brethren. Even the Common Council of this city, which is composed of most conservative elements, begins to give proofs that it is not inclined to permit any undue interference on the part of Government, and to show that it is determined to maintain its privileges. Instead of noting these signs of the times and profiting by them, the host of placemen attempt to stem the tide, thereby increasing instead of diminishing the evil. I much fear that the measures of Government will become even more decidedly retrograde if the German question be settled to its satisfaction, and that things will be nearly as bad as they were under the old system. That Moderate party which by its passive resistance frustrated all the attempts of the Ultras has nearly disappeared. Disappointed hopes, the prolonged state of siege, and the continually recurring proofs that Government is gradually annihilating the spirit of the Constitution, have tended to make those who were formerly the most sanguine, discontented and moody.

Three days later the same authority tells us:

Perhaps I may be mistaken, but recent occurrences and unguarded language induce me to believe that Austria will attempt to take advantage of her temporary ascendancy to drive a new rivet into the hated chains which led to the occurrences of 1848. Should Prussia resist this, she will secure not only the sympathy of the whole of Germany but of all the nations of the earth excepting Russia, and Austria will again appear in the unenviable character of the champion of the stultifying system, which has rendered her name so unpopular for the last thirty years. As to her internal policy she is fast returning to the ancient system, and whatever the Ministerial organs may assert to the contrary, the country is governed as absolutely as it was previously to the revolution.

Reading such incubations as these, one cannot help wondering if it ever occurs to their author that, had he taken the trouble to investigate more closely the policy of Prince Schwartzberg before he wrote so much in favour of it twelve months ago, he would hardly have heaped so much abuse on the heads of the poor Magyars, or laboured so hard to render them and their cause hateful in the eyes of the free and constitutional people of England.

THE UNIVERSITY COMMISSION.—The delegates of the University Press at Oxford have responded to the inquiries of the University Commissioners by a transfer of sixty thousand pounds! to the University chest. It is also said that the Society of All Souls College, at the strong recommendation of the Archbishop of Canterbury, has taken the lead in offering to give the fullest information to her Majesty's Commissioners on the subject of its statutes, revenues, &c. A new law statute will be brought forward early in the ensuing term; but it is said that its provisions are such as are not likely to satisfy the desire of reform which exists among the more intelligent resident members of Convocation.

CIVIL PROMOTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS.—The following promotions are about to take place in the Customs in the outports: Mr R. Welch, controller at Stockton, to be collector at Lynn, Norfolk; Mr W. Redpath, controller at Lynn, to be controller at Stockton; Mr D. Williams, collector at Carnarvon, to be controller at Lynn; Mr R. Norman, controller at Dumfries, to be collector at Carnarvon; Mr J. Mackenzie, collector at Peterhead, to be controller at Dumfries; Mr P. Hayton, controller at Montrose, to be collector at Peterhead; Mr H. Pattison, controller at Deal, to be controller at Montrose; Mr L. Evans, clerk at Cardiff, to be controller at Deal. Mr E. B. Powell, chief clerk to the controller of Legacy Duties at Somerset house, and formerly attached to the Stamp Department in Ireland, has been appointed controller and accountant-general of Stamp Duties in Dublin, in the room of Mr S. Cooper, deceased. Mr W. G. Lettsom, now paid attached to the mission at Washington, has been appointed in the same capacity to the mission at Madrid. It is reported that Sir James Emerson Tennent, late Colonial Secretary at Ceylon, has received an offer of the governorship of St Helena, and that Mr Wodehouse has also received the offer of an appointment, but not in Ceylon.

THE LITERARY EXAMINER.

CHRISTMAS PUBLICATIONS.

The Moorland Cottage. By the Author of 'Mary Barton. With Illustrations by Birkett Foster. Chapman and Hall.

The Kickleburys on the Rhine. By Mr M. A. Titmarsh. Smith, Elder, and Co.

The Story of Jack and the Giants. Illustrated with Thirty fine Drawings by Richard Doyle. *The Peacock at Home.* By Mrs Dorset (sister of the late Mrs C. Smith). Illustrated and illuminated. *A Treasury of Pleasure Books for Young and Old.* With Thirty-six Illustrations by Edward Wehnert and Harrison Weir. *Animals from the Sketch-Book of Harrison Weir.* *Home Pictures.* By Hablot K. Browne. Cundall and Addey.

Punch's Almanack for 1851.

The Christmas Number of Household Words.

The author of *Mary Barton* may well put in a claim to obtain audience at Christmas. Her clients have been the oppressed and poor, and her most persuasive advocacy the uncompromising truth. The beauty of her writing is its straightforward sincerity. Language flows from her without effort, manifestly without pretence or affectation. She is a perfect mistress of those niceties of expression which reflect feeling as delicate and sensitive, and show the clearest appreciation of what is right and true. She has a subtle capacity for easily detecting and quietly expressing the minutest shades of character. She has a rare sobriety of judgment in estimating social relations. And she brings subjects of the narrowest range within much higher and larger scope, by employing in connection with them a most vivid apprehension of the beauties of form, colour, and sound, and a sense of the influences and loveliness of nature, in which Wordsworth might have been proud to recognise some of the noblest teaching of his muse.

The Moorland Cottage is a little chronicle of the fortunes of the widow of a country curate, and her orphan son and daughter. We are introduced to them when the boy and girl are mere children, and made to keep them company till the brother perishes at sea and the sister is married. The characters and incidents are simple and ordinary, yet wonderfully interesting, from the mere plain and charming truthfulness with which they are presented. Here are their home and themselves as they first appear in the story. Brief as it is, the description in some sort illustrates what we have said of the writer; and what one is made to see of the positive growth of a habit of insincerity in the widow at the close of the extract, is a happy touch of nature and truth.

If you take the turn to the left, after you pass the lyke-gate at Combehurst Church, you will come to the wooden bridge over the brook; keep along the field-path which mounts higher and higher, and, in half a mile or so, you will be in a breezy upland field, almost large enough to be called a down, where sheep pasture on the short, fine, elastic turf. You look down on Combehurst and its beautiful church-spire. After the field is crossed, you come to a common, richly coloured with the golden gorse and the purple heather, which in summer-time send out their warm scents into the quiet air. The swelling waves of the upland make a near horizon against the sky; the line is only broken in one place by a small grove of Scotch firs, which always look black and shadowed even at mid-day, when all the rest of the landscape seems bathed in sunlight. The lark quivers and sings high up in the air; too high—in too dazzling a region, for you to see her. Look! she drops into sight;—but, as if loth to leave the heavenly radiance, she balances herself and floats in the ether. Now she falls suddenly right into her nest, hidden among the ling, unseen except by the eyes of Heaven, and the small bright insects that run hither and thither on the elastic flower-stalks. With something like the sudden drop of the lark, the path goes down a green abrupt descent; and in a basin, surrounded by the grassy hills, there stands a dwelling, which is neither cottage nor house, but something between the two in size. Nor yet is it a farm, though surrounded by living things. It is, or rather it was, at the time of which I speak, the dwelling of Mrs Browne, the widow of the late curate of Combehurst. There she lived with her faithful old servant and her only children, a boy and girl. They were as secluded in their green hollow as the households in the German forest-tales. Once a week they emerged and crossed the common, catching on its summit the first sounds of the sweet-toned bells, calling them to church. Mrs Browne walked first, holding Edward's hand. Old Nanny followed with Maggie; but they were all one party, and all talked together in a subdued and quiet tone, as becometh the day. They had not much to say, their lives were too unbroken; for, excepting on Sundays, the widow and her children never went to Combehurst. Most people would have thought the little town a quiet, dreamy place; but to those two children it seemed the world; and after they had crossed the bridge, they each clasped more tightly the hands which they held, and looked shyly up from beneath their drooped eyelids when spoken to by any of their mother's friends. Mrs Browne was regularly asked by some one to stay to dinner after morning church, and as regularly declined, rather to the timid children's relief; although in the weekdays they sometimes spoke together in a low voice of the pleasure it would be to them if mama would go and dine at Mr Buxton's, where the little girl in white and that great tall boy lived. Instead of staying there, or anywhere else, on Sundays, Mrs Browne thought it her duty to go and cry over her husband's grave. The custom had arisen out of true sorrow for his loss, for a kinder husband, and more worthy man, had never lived; but the simplicity of her sorrow had been destroyed by the observation of others on the mode of its manifestation. They made way for her to cross the grass towards his grave; and she, fancying that it was expected of her, fell into the habit I have mentioned. Her children, holding each a hand, felt awed and uncomfortable, and were sensitively conscious how often they were pointed out, as a mourning group, to observation.

The character of the widow is here fully expressed, "in little." The further progress of the tale lets us no further into her secrets, though she is always acting in thorough consistency with herself. She is shallow and superficial, not unkind or positively unfeeling, but easily led, and fond of display. The boy resembles her, and her indulgence of him is his ruin. We have a most vivid little picture—from the first dialogue of the children at their father's grave, to

the final catastrophe—of the clever, vulgar selfishness of the boy, side by side with the loving, truthful, courageous character of the girl. These traits are delicately indicated in a succession of unexaggerated incidents, and the progress of this mental formation and reaction of character under the influence of friends and associates becomes a genuine piece of homely truth.

The wealthy town-neighbour, Mr Buxton, who sends the boy to school, and is father of the future lover and husband of the girl, plays an important part in the story. The house and family of Mr Buxton, as first seen by the children, is a pleasing sketch.

At last they reached Mr Buxton's house. It was in the main street, and the front door opened upon it by a flight of steps. Wide on each side extended the stone-coped windows. It was in reality a mansion, and needed not the neighbouring contrast of the cottages on either side to make it look imposing. When they went in, they entered a large hall, cool even on that burning July day, with a black and white flag floor, and old settees round the walls, and great jars of curious china, which were filled with pot-pourrie. The dusky gloom was pleasant, after the glare of the street outside; and the requisite light and cheerfulness were given by the peep into the garden, framed, as it were, by the large doorway that opened into it. There were roses, and sweet-peas, and poppies,—a rich mass of colour, which looked well, set in the somewhat sombre coolness of the hall. All the house told of wealth—wealth which had accumulated for generations, and which was shown in a sort of comfortable, grand, unostentatious way. Mr Buxton's ancestors had been yeomen; but, two or three generations back, they might, if ambitious, have taken their place as county gentry, so much had the value of their property increased, and so great had been the amount of their savings. They, however, continued to live in the old farm till Mr Buxton's grandfather built the house in Combehurst of which I am speaking, and then he felt rather ashamed of what he had done; it seemed like stepping out of his position. He and his wife always sat in the best kitchen; and it was only after his son's marriage that the entertaining rooms were furnished. Even then they were kept with closed shutters and bagged-up furniture during the lifetime of the old couple, who, nevertheless, took a pride in adding to the rich-fashioned ornaments and grand old china of the apartments. But they died, and were gathered to their fathers, and young Mr and Mrs Buxton (aged respectively fifty-one and forty-five) reigned in their stead. They had the good taste to make no sudden change; but gradually the rooms assumed an inhabited appearance, and their son and daughter grew up in the enjoyment of great wealth, and no small degree of refinement. But as yet they held back modestly from putting themselves in any way on a level with the county people. Lawrence Buxton was sent to the same school as his father had been before him; and the notion of his going to college to complete his education was, after some deliberation, negatived. In process of time he succeeded his father, and married a sweet gentle lady, of a decayed and very poor county family, by whom he had one boy before she fell into delicate health. His sister had married a man whose character was worse than his fortune, and had been left a widow. Everybody thought her husband's death a blessing; but she loved him, in spite of negligence and many grosser faults; and so, not many years after, she died, leaving her little daughter to her brother's care, and many a broken-voiced entreaty that he would never speak a word against the dead father of her child. So the little Erminia was taken home by her self-reproaching uncle, who felt now how hardly he had acted towards his sister in breaking off all communication with her on her ill-starred marriage.

Mr Buxton himself deserves to be more fully known, but we can only borrow one or two brief traits of him:

Mrs Browne was in full tide of pride and happiness down stairs. Mr Buxton had a number of jokes; which would have become dull from repetition (for he worked a merry idea threadbare before he would let it go), had it not been for his jovial blandness and good-nature. He liked to make people happy, and, as far as bodily wants went, he had a quick perception of what was required. He sat like a king (for, excepting the rector, there was not another gentleman of his standing at Combehurst), among six or seven ladies, who laughed merrily at all his sayings, and evidently thought Mrs Browne had been highly honoured in having been asked to dinner as well as to tea. In the evening the carriage was ordered to take her as far as a carriage could go; and there was a little mysterious hand-shaking between her host and herself on taking leave, which made her very curious for the lights of home by which to examine a bit of rustling paper that had been put in her hand with some stammered-out words about Edward.

Mr Buxton would be incomplete without his wife:

Erminia and Maggie went, with their arms round each other's necks, to Mrs Buxton's dressing-room. The misfortune had made their friends. Mrs Buxton lay on the sofa; so fair and white and colourless, in her muslin dressing-gown, that when Maggie first saw the lady lying with her eyes shut, her heart gave a start, for she thought she was dead. But she opened her large languid eyes, and called them to her, and listened to their story with interest.

"Dawson is at tea. Look, Minnie, in my work-box; there is some silk there. Take off your frock, my dear, and bring it here, and let me see how it can be mended."

"Aunt Buxton," whispered Erminia, "do let me give her one of my frocks. This is such an old thing."

"No, love. I'll tell you why afterwards," answered Mrs Buxton.

She looked at the rent, and arranged it nicely for the little girls to mend. Erminia helped Maggie with right good will. As they sat on the floor, Mrs Buxton thought what a pretty contrast they made; Erminia, dazlingly fair, with her golden ringlets, and her pale-blue frock; Maggie's little round white shoulders peeping out of her petticoat; her brown hair as glossy and smooth as the nuts that it resembled in colour; her long black eye-lashes drooping over her clear smooth cheek, which would have given the idea of delicacy, but for the coral lips that spoke of perfect health; and when she glanced up, she showed long, liquid, dark-grey eyes. The deep red of the curtain behind threw out these two little figures well.

Dawson came up. She was a grave elderly person, of whom Erminia was far more afraid than she was of her aunt; but at Mrs Buxton's desire she finished mending the frock for Maggie.

"Mr Buxton has asked some of your mama's old friends to tea, as I am not able to go down. But I think, Dawson, I must have these two little girls to tea with me. Can you be very quiet, my dears; or shall you think it dull?"

They gladly accepted the invitation; and Erminia promised all sorts of fanciful promises as to quietness; and went about on her tiptoes in such a laboured manner, that Mrs Buxton begged her at last not to try and be quiet, as she made much less noise when she did not. It was the happiest part of the day to Maggie. Something in herself was so much in harmony with Mrs Buxton's sweet resigned gentleness, that it answered like an echo, and the two understood each other strangely well. They seemed like old friends. Maggie, who was reserved at home because no one cared to hear what she had to say, opened out, and told Erminia and Mrs Buxton all about her way of spending her day, and described her home.

"How odd!" said Erminia. "I have ridden that way on Abdel-Kair, and never seen your house."

"It is like the place the Sleeping Beauty lived in; people sometimes seem to go round it and round it, and never find it. But unless you follow a little sheep-track, which seems to end at a grey piece of rock, you may come within a stone's throw of the chimneys and never see them. I think you would think it so pretty. Do you ever come that way, ma'am?"

"No, love," answered Mrs Buxton.

"But will you some time?"

"I am afraid I shall never be able to go out again," said Mrs Buxton, in a voice which, though low, was very cheerful. Maggie thought how sad a lot was here before her; and by-and-by she took a little stool, and sat by Mrs Buxton's sofa, and stole her hand into hers.

And now let us see how husband and wife get on together:

When Mrs Browne heard where Maggie had drunk tea, she was offended. She had only sat with Mrs Buxton for an hour before dinner. If Mrs Buxton could bear the noise of children, she could not think why she shut herself up in that room, and gave herself such airs. She supposed it was because she was the grand-daughter of Sir Henry Biddulph that she took upon herself to have such whims, and not sit at the head of her table, or make tea for her company in a civil decent way. Poor Mr Buxton! What a sad life for a merry light-hearted man to have such a wife! It was a good thing for him to have agreeable society sometimes. She looked a deal better for seeing his friends. He must be sadly moped with that sickly wife.

(If she had been clairvoyante at that moment, she might have seen Mr Buxton tenderly chafing his wife's hands, and feeling in his innermost soul a wonder how one so saint-like could ever have learnt to love such a boor as he was; it was the wonderful mysterious blessing of his life. So little do we know of the inner truths of the households, where we come and go like intimate guests!)

To the little book itself we must refer the reader for the chequered course of the loves of Frank Buxton and Maggie; for the pretty little easy sketch of the character of Erminia; for the progress of Edward from heedless and selfish tyranny over his sister, to sharp practice in the character of attorney, commission of forgery, and a compulsory departure to America. In tracing these events by his comfortable Christmas fire, the reader will learn to commiserate and be tolerant of the influences which change Mr Buxton (through pride in his son and anxiety to raise him in the world), and to rejoice in and be grateful for the happier influences by which he is brought back to his own kind and genial disposition. The self-sacrifices of Maggie are the more touching that they are never made to violate probability or natural feeling. She accompanies her brother in his flight; the ship in which they sail takes fire at sea; he perishes, but she is saved by Frank Buxton, whose father consents to their union. The closing picture of the widow more sorrowing for her son than grateful to her daughter, is uncompromisingly true to her own nature, yet told in a nice spirit of tolerance. The impression finally left is that of hopeful encouragement for all kindly feeling and unselfish exertion. Wherefore, we repeat, for its exquisite sense of external nature, for its quiet unaffected sentiment, and for its beautiful rectitude of moral judgment, this little volume should be a welcome Christmas visitor.

Mr Titmarsh is a Christmas visitor of another kind, who ensures always his own welcome, though we are not quite so satisfied that the character of the party he brings with him this year will justify its extension to these particular friends. He met the Kickleburys in an Antwerp steamer, on their way to Rouge-et-noir-burg on the Rhine, himself and his tall friend Mr Serjeant Lankin being bound for the same destination. Miss Fanny Kicklebury seems to have previously touched his heart at one of those eternal parties in Pocklington square, but his hopes of cultivating this little affair on his way Rhineward are dashed by the discovery of Capt. Hicks in another corner of the steamer. The fun of the book turns upon the broad and whimsical rencontres incident to such a journey, and upon the tuft-hunting vulgarity of old Lady Kicklebury, which is well hit off, and has a capital contrast in the more honest absurdities of her scapegrace son. Her final discomfiture is admirably managed. She falls a victim to the temptations of Rouge-et-noir-burg, and becomes a helpless social sinner at the mercy of the children she has tyrannized over. The scene of her surrender and fall is most happily done.

The newspaper room at Noirbourg is next to the roulette room, into which the doors are always open; and Lady K. would come with newspaper in hand, into this play-room, sometimes, and look on at the gamblers. I have mentioned a little Russian boy, a little imp, with the most mischievous intelligence and good humour in his face, who was suffered by his parents to play as good as he chose; and who pulled bonbons out of one pocket and Napoleons out of the other, and seemed to have quite a diabolical luck at the table.

Lady Kicklebury's terror and interest, at seeing this boy, were extreme. She watched him and watched him, and he seemed always to win; and at last her ladyship put down just a florin—only just one florin—on one of the numbers at roulette, which the little Russian imp was backing. Number twenty-seven came up, and the croupiers flung over three gold pieces and five florins to Lady Kicklebury, which she raked up with a trembling hand.

She did not play any more that night, but sate in the play-room pretending to read the 'Times' newspaper; but you could see her eye peering over the sheet, and always fixed on the little imp of a Russian. He had very good luck that night, and his winning made her very savage. As he retired rolling his gold pieces into his pocket, and sucking his barley-sugar, she glared after him with angry eyes; and went home, and scolded everybody, and had no sleep. I could hear her scolding. Our apartments in the Tissich house overlooked Lady Kicklebury's suite of rooms; the great windows were open in the autumn. Yes; I could hear her scolding, and see some other people sitting whispering in the embrasure, or looking out on the harvest moon.

The next evening Lady Kicklebury shirked away from the concert; and I saw her in the play-room again, going round and round the table; and lying in ambush behind the 'Journal des Debats,' I marked how, after looking stealthily round, my lady whipped a piece of money under the croupier's elbow, and (there having been no coin there previously) I saw a florin on the Z-ro.

She lost that, and walked away. Then she came back and put down two florins on a number, and lost again, and became very red and angry; then she retreated, and came back a third time, and a seat being vacated by a player, Lady Kicklebury sat down at the verdant board. Ah me! She had a pretty good evening, and carried

off a little money again that night. The next day was Sunday: she gave two florins at the collection at church, to Fanny's surprise at ladyship wrote letters, and read a sermon.

But the next night she was back at the table, and won very plentifully, until the little Russian sprite made his appearance, when it seemed that her luck changed. She began to bet upon him, and the young Calmuck lost too. Her ladyship's temper went along with her money: first she backed the Calmuck, and then she played against him. When she played against him, his luck turned, and he began straightway to win. She put on more and more money as she lost: her winnings went: gold came out of secret pockets. She had but a florin left at last, and tried it on a number, and failed. She got up to go away. I watched her, and I watched Mr Justice Eachus too, who put down a Napoleon when he thought nobody was looking.

The next day my Lady Kicklebury walked over to the money-changers, where she changed a couple of circular notes. She was at the table that night again: and the next night, and the next night, and the next.

Among Mr Titmarsh's illustrations, which are more felicitous than usual this year, there is an excellent view of this roulette room, with her ladyship eagerly assisting. The faces assembled, and the general aspect of the place, will go far to counteract the artist's written enthusiasm for its amiable and distinguished proprietor, M. Lenoir.

Of publishers who have catered for Christmas, Messrs Cundall and Addey appear to be the greatest benefactors of the season, and the most abundant contributors to its literary graces and enjoyments.

First they give us a new edition of the immortal story of *Jack and the Giants*, illustrated by that cunning explorer and discoverer in the lands of fairy and nursery lore, Mr Richard Doyle, whose designs deserve as long a life as little Jack himself. Mr Richard Doyle is probably the only man who ever saw, quite close, that astounding Welsh giant with two heads, and was able to look upon him with so little perturbation as to bring away this accurate likeness. The giant with the three heads he appears to have seen from a safer distance, but yet what a portrait is his also! Who can doubt, either, that Mr Doyle has been face to face with that solitary Polyphemus of a giant lying among the weeping trees by that gloomy river bank, with a touch of melancholy pity in his savage glare? And the captives, and the knights, and the men-at-arms, and the fairies, and the fiery griffins, what delicacy of touch and truth of feeling are perceptible in them all—and what a little world of reality they conjure up amid the older world of wonders and enchantment.

Next we have the *Peacock at Home*, a ballad descriptive of a *soirée* and supper given by the stately bird in question, incited thereto by the fame of the butterfly's ball and the grasshopper's feast. Every other page is prettily illuminated, and, what is more to the purpose, the verses are so pointed and clever as to deserve what is lovingly lavished upon them in beauty of ornament.

Well deserving hearty praise, too, both for the literature and the style of illustration, is the new series of six Christmas Stories selected by Mr Cundall, illustrated by Messrs Wehnert and Weir, and published as a new instalment to the *Treasury of Pleasure Books for Young and Old*. Three of the tales are from Grimm, one is from the ever-delightful Perrault, one from the not less charming and fanciful Andersen, and only one is of English growth. But all are delightful. The nursery is a great universalist—uniting and identifying, to a certain point of growth at least, the childish enjoyments of all varieties of nations.

The most important of Messrs Cundall's publications in a pictorial point of view, however, are those of Mr Harrison Weir and Mr Hablot Browne, which we have reserved for mention to the last. Mr Weir's *Sketch-Book* contains twenty-four representations of various animals, such as stags, cows, donkeys, pigs, rabbits, sheep, goats, bulls, horses, terriers, and others, drawn and engraved with extraordinary life and spirit. The reality of expression conveyed is sometimes quite wonderful. We feel that such absolute truth of representation is itself a kind of poetry, and turn over Mr Weir's pages as we might read one of the Latin *Georgics* or an English pastoral. Mr Hablot Browne's *Home Pictures* is a series of sixteen domestic scenes of childhood; the first six illustrating the seasons, and the two periods of morning and night, and the remaining ten devoted to the first games and lessons of the nursery, or to such familiar household themes as the morning bath, the evening prayer, or "good night." The idea of the book is a most genial and pleasant one, and few could have finished it with such grace and heartiness, both of feeling and character, as Mr Hablot Browne. His women and children are beautifully drawn, and all the minute details in each etching are full of purpose and meaning. Some of the compositions are also highly successful (the *Musician*, the *Pedestrian*, and the *Bath* may be particularly instanced) and the book altogether is an offering to the *Lares et Penates* of which those kindly deities have reason to be proud.

We cannot close this Christmas notice (unable at present to do justice to perhaps the most beautiful of all the publications of the year, Mr Alaric Watts's illustrated *Lyrics of the Heart*, which, with others, we therefore reserve) without a word of hearty congratulation to Mr Punch upon the comic wonders of his *Almanack*. In grace and fancy as well as the most extravagant mirth the veteran joker keeps his ground with gallant execution. Nor must we omit to say of the Christmas number of *Household Words*, that it contains writing the most exquisite, rich, and full-hearted, about Christmas and its memories, that we have ever read, or that any one will be able to read without revival and strengthening of the happiest and most hopeful thoughts associated with the sacred season.

Wuthering Heights and Agnes Grey. By Ellis and Acton Bell. A new Edition revised, with a Biographical Notice of the Authors, a Selection from their Literary Remains, and a Preface. By Currer Bell. Smith, Elder, and Co.

In a preface to this volume the author of *Jane Eyre* partially lifts the veil from a history and mystery of authorship which has occupied the Quindnuncs of literature for the last two years. The substance of what we are told we shall repeat as briefly as we may.

Currer, Ellis, and Acton Bell are three sisters, the proper Christian names of the two latter (the writer does not reveal her own, nor yet the common family name) being Emily and Anne, and the assumed ones having been dictated by a "sort of conscientious scruple" against taking names positively masculine, "while we did not like to declare ourselves women." The absolute retirement of a village parsonage, among the hills bordering Yorkshire and Lancashire, and amid scenery of which the only grandeur or romance is a stern and gloomy solitude, was the home in which they were reared and passed their youth. From this home the sisters appear to have been thrown separately into the world; and it was not till a reunion there five years ago, "after a somewhat prolonged period of separation," that they became conscious of a certain progress which they had meanwhile respectively made in attempts at literary composition—"the highest stimulus as well as the liveliest pleasure we had known from childhood upwards" having been derived from such attempts.

The result was the publication some four years ago (after many difficulties) of a small volume of poems by the three sisters, which fell dead from the press. The writer intimates that only in her own case and that of her sister Anne can she recognise this as a just verdict. She believes the poems of her sister Emily (Ellis Bell) to be "condensed and terse, vigorous and genuine"; as well as marked by a peculiar melancholy music, wild and elevating, which proclaims them "not common effusions, nor at all like the poetry women generally write."

The ill-success of this venture nevertheless "failed to crush" the sisters. The mere effort to succeed, the writer says (and the remark is well worth remembering), had given a wonderful zest to existence with all three; and each set to work on a prose tale. Ellis Bell produced *Wuthering Heights*, Acton Bell *Agnes Grey*, Currer Bell also wrote a narrative in one volume; and these manuscripts appear to have been perseveringly obtruded on publishers, who as ignominiously and abruptly dismissed them, for the space of a year and a half; till at length those of Ellis and Acton Bell were accepted on terms impoverishing to the two authors, and Currer Bell, after long waiting on what seemed a more forlorn hope, till "something like the chill of despair" indeed had fallen on her heart, received from Messrs Smith and Elder (esteeming it more highly than a "vulgarily-expressed acceptance") a discriminating refusal of her single-volume story, and an invitation to try a story in three volumes. *Jane Eyre* had already been in progress while its luckless precursor was plodding its weary round in London; and its author, thus encouraged, sent it off at the beginning of September, 1847, and saw it published at the close of October, while *Wuthering Heights* and *Agnes Grey* still lingered "under a different management" unpublished.

The reception of *Jane Eyre* is known to all. The other books also made appearance at last, but, according to Currer Bell, had a very different reception. "Critics," she says, "failed to do them justice. The immature but very real powers revealed in *Wuthering Heights* were scarcely recognised; its import and nature were misunderstood; the identity of its author was misrepresented; it was said that this was an earlier and ruder attempt of the same pen which produced *Jane Eyre*. Unjust and grievous error! We laughed at it at first, but I deeply lament it now. Hence, I fear, arose a prejudice against the book." This somewhat grave charge is advanced with but one exception to be shortly noticed; when we shall at the same time see what justice there is in the accusation.

The writer proceeds to describe the reception of Acton Bell's *Tenant of Wildfell Hall* as not more favourable, but more justly founded, than that of Ellis Bell's *Wuthering Heights*; but she adds that neither Ellis nor Acton suffered herself for one moment to sink under this want of encouragement. Energy nerved the one, endurance upheld the other, and both were prepared to try again; when there approached a more fell assailant than even unjust criticism. Both sisters were doomed to perish by rapid consumption. The illness of Emily is described in language steeped and interpenetrated with bleeding recollections. "Never in all her life had she lingered over any task that lay before her, and she did not linger now. She sank rapidly. She made haste to leave us. Yet, while physically she perished, mentally she grew stronger than we had yet known her." Day by day, when I saw with what a front she met suffering, I looked on her with an anguish of wonder and love. I have seen nothing like it; but, indeed, I have never seen her parallel in anything. Stronger than a man, simpler than a child, her nature stood alone. The awful point was, that while full of ruth for others, on herself she had no pity; the spirit was inexorable to the flesh; from the trembling hand, the unnerved limbs, the faded eyes, the same service was exacted as they had rendered in health. To stand by and witness this, and not dare to remonstrate, was a pain no words can render." She died in December 1848; but before she was buried

her younger sister had fallen ill, and Anne followed Emily to the grave in May 1849.

The character of Anne is strongly discriminated from that of Emily by the earnest survivor who loved both alike. What in the one was fortitude, in the other was patience; what in the one rested on her own inward sense of what was right, appears to have been upheld in the other by a faith as unwavering, though somewhat morbidly indulged, in the hopes and promises of religion. So sustained, Anne does not seem to have shrunk from the lowliest duties of self-denial laid upon her by her lot, or from practice of the most patient social virtues; while the virtues of Emily, though not less self-denying, appear rather to show themselves akin to those bleak solitudes of Yorkshire moors in whose liberty and independence she had nurtured her own. Their loving sister sums up what she says of both by the remark that for strangers they were nothing, and for superficial observers less than nothing; but for those who had known them all their lives in the intimacy of close relationship, they were genuinely good and truly great. "This notice," she adds, "has been written, because I felt it a sacred duty to wipe the dust off their gravestones, and leave their dear names free from soil."

So ends their brief, sad story. And if the sister who shared with them in these struggles and disappointments of genius, and excelled them in its instant manifestation and acceptance, may not thus lift their names to the level of her own success, she has at least fairly challenged for them dead, more honourable recognition than she believes to have fallen to them living. She has done her best to reverse what she holds to have been the unjust judgment of the critics who coldly disapproved or harshly misrepresented their productions. She has wiped off this dust, and freed them from this soil.

But let us not overstate Currer Bell's censure of the critical neglect by which her sisters suffered. She makes one exception.

It is my duty, as well as my pleasure, to acknowledge one exception to the general rule of criticism. One writer, endowed with the keen vision and fine sympathies of genius, has discerned the real nature of *Wuthering Heights*, and has, with equal accuracy, noted its beauties and touched on its faults. Too often do reviewers remind us of the mob of Astrologers, Chaldeans, and Soothsayers gathered before the "writing on the wall," and unable to read the characters or make known the interpretation. We have a right to rejoice when a true seer comes at last, some man in whom is an excellent spirit, to whom have been given light, wisdom, and understanding; who can accurately read the "Mene, Mene, Tekel, Upharsin" of an original mind (however unripe, however inefficiently cultured and partially expanded that mind may be); and who can say with confidence, "This is the interpretation thereof."

The "general rule of criticism" is a phrase somewhat startling in connection with the wondrous unanimity of critical judgments on *Jane Eyre*; and there is another passage in the preface, where Currer Bell speaks of the assumed names of herself and her sisters, in which a yet stronger feeling of the same sort perhaps unconsciously escapes. "We had a vague impression that authoresses are liable to be looked on with prejudice; we had noticed how critics sometimes use for their chastisement the weapon of personality, and for their reward, a flattery which is not true praise." Poor hapless critics! But nothing of this kind should surprise a writer who has had the most moderate experience of the thankless vocation. Whether it be censure contemptuously rejected as unworthy, or praise condescendingly received as not worthy enough, the reviewer's fate knows very little variation. Nor be it ours to say that he may not for the most part be worthy of it, and find himself justly in the position of the old lady in the fable whose ear was bitten off by her son at the gallows, for having refused to hear the truth of him, encouraged him in his extravagant courses, and (as Currer Bell expresses it) rewarded him with a flattery which was not true praise. But to the particular case recorded in this volume we have a word or two, on our own poor behalf, to plead in arrest of judgment.

The authors of *Wuthering Heights* and the *Tenant of Wildfell Hall* were not unjustly or contemptuously treated in the columns of the *Examiner*. We do not lay claim to the "keen vision and fine sympathies" singled out by Currer Bell as having alone done justice to her sister, and who appears to have done his somewhat tardy justice so recently as last September in a journal called the *Palladium*. We dare say, judging from the tone of the extracted criticism prefixed to the volume, that our style of handling these things would seldom come up to the mark of Currer Bell's rejoicing. But it is right to mention notwithstanding, that reviews of the works in question by no means depreciatory appeared in this journal almost instantly on the appearance of the tales respectively named, and that we did not wait till

"deaf the closed ear and mute the tuneful tongue,"

before we gave expression to the praise which both Ellis and Acton Bell seemed fairly to challenge at our hands. Lengthy reviews with very copious extracts were given of both, at the opening of 1848 and in the summer of the same year.

Wuthering Heights we characterized as a strange but powerful book, containing good "rough dashes at character," the impress of "real events," and "no commonplace or affectation." We said that it had forcibly reminded us of a book which we remembered thinking "better in its peculiar kind than anything that had been produced since the days of Fielding." And of its faults we spoke thus:

If this book be, as we apprehend it is, the first work of the author, we hope that he will produce a second, giving himself more time in its composition than in the present case, developing his incidents more

carefully, eschewing exaggeration and obscurity, and looking steadily at human life, under all its moods, for those pictures of the passions that he may desire to sketch for our public benefit. It may be well also to be sparing of certain oaths and phrases, which do not materially contribute to any character, and are by no means to be reckoned among the evidences of a writer's genius. We detest the affectation and effeminate frippery which is but too frequent in the modern novel, and willingly trust ourselves with an author who goes at once into the moors and desolate places, for his heroes; but we must at the same time stipulate with him that he shall not drag into light all that he discovers, of coarse and loathsome, in his wanderings, but simply so much good and ill as he may find necessary to elucidate his history—so much only as may be interwoven inextricably with the persons whom he professes to paint. It is the province of an artist to modify and in some cases refine what he beholds in the ordinary world. There never was a man whose daily life (that is to say, all his deeds and sayings, entire and without exception) constituted fit materials for a book of fiction.—*Examiner*, Jan. 8th, 1848.

We shall also perhaps be forgiven if we reproduce the remarks with which we opened our criticism of the *Tenant of Wildfell Hall*.

The authors of 'Jane Eyre,' 'Wuthering Heights,' 'Agnes Grey,' and 'The Tenant of Wildfell Hall,' are evidently children of the same family. They derive all their scenes from the same country; their associations are alike; their heroines are for the most part alike, three being thrown upon their own talents for self-support, and two of them being all-enduring governesses; and their heroes also resemble each other, in aspect and temper, almost in habits. . . . The writers are of the same stock, have undoubted marks of family resemblance, and are, in fact,

Matched in mouth like Bells,
Each under each.

The Bells are of a hardy race. They do not lounge in drawing-rooms or boudoirs. The air they breathe is not that of the hothouse, or of perfumed apartments; but it whistles through the rugged thorns that shoot out their prickly arms on barren moors, or it ruffles the moss on the mountain tops. Rough characters, untamed by contact with towns or cities; wilful men, with the true stamp of the passions upon them; plain vigorous Saxon words, not spoiled nor weakened by bad French or schoolboy Latin; rude habits; ancient residences—with Nature in her great loneliness all around; these, with the grey skies or sunset glories above, are the elements of their stories, compounded or reduced to shape, in different moods and with different success. From all this, it will be observed that Currer, Acton, and Ellis Bell, whatever may be their defects otherwise, are not common-place writers. Their characters are not faint or tawdry copies of other characters which have already wearied us, and which have oppressed the pages of novelists, month after month, for the last thirty years. They have bone and sinew about them; animal life peeps out in every form; and the phraseology, although sometimes tedious enough, is rarely conventional. On these accounts, we are disposed to give a full and overflowing measure of praise to writers, who in assuming to portray Nature have been wise and sincere enough to go back to their original; and we earnestly recommend them as examples to other labourers in the same path.—*Examiner*, July 29th, 1848.

Was this scant or grudging praise? Did it refuse to recognise the "immature but very real powers" of these young and struggling authors? Did it "misunderstand" or "misrepresent" them?

If so, Currer Bell must herself share the reproach, for the language in which she speaks of her sister Emily's early habits and associations, as explaining what was faulty as well as what was excellent in her writings, does not materially differ from this which has just been quoted. For ourselves we have nothing to add to it—neither praise to retract, nor censure to explain. We have only most unfeignedly to deplore the blight which fell prematurely on such rich intellectual promise, and to regret that natures so rare and noble should so early have passed away.

A BATCH OF NOVELS.

The Duchess; or Woman's Love and Woman's Hate. A Romance. Three vols. Bentley.

Love and Ambition. By the Author of 'Rockingham.' Three vols. Colburn.

Nathalie: a Tale. By Julia Kavanagh, Author of 'Woman in France,' 'Madeleine,' &c. Three vols. Colburn.

Pique. A Novel. Three vols. Smith, Elder, and Co.

The woman's love and woman's hate which fill the first of these three-volume tales, *The Duchess*, and suggest its second title, are those of Louise of Savoy, the Queen-Mother of France three hundred years ago, for the great, proud, rebellious subject of her son, the Constable Bourbon. The condition of French society in the youth of Francis the First is vividly painted in this romance. The rude but wayward passions of the people, the gorgeous brilliancy and mean profligacy of the Court, the cool villainy of the Doctors of the Sarbonne, the ignorance and superstition which characterised the most educated in that age, and the glow of still lingering chivalry which touched the most depraved, are expressed in a series of scenes excellently coloured with local truth and knowledge, and often vital with genuine passion. The defect of the book as a romance is that the separate scenes, meritorious as they are, are not sufficiently knitted and interwoven for the demands of a continuous interest. The rival powers of the Bourbon and his party, and of Louise and her Chancellor, are hardly kept up to the needful strain required for such daring antagonistic forces; and when the great points of the Constable's career occur, the romancer is fain to take refuge in a mere page of history. Thus the battle of Pavia is passed altogether, as well as the details of the extraordinary intrigue with the Emperor which threw Bourbon into open treason against his country. But this objection made, the details of the book are really full of interest. It is not simply that the costume of the period is well conveyed throughout, but that the characters are drawn with considerable knowledge, and the general style of remark (as where the respective influences of Francis and Leo are measured and estimated, to

take one of many similar passages) is felicitous and able. Among the characters are Francis the First and his fool Triboulet, the Queen-Mother (capitally well sketched in her blended voluptuousness and haughtiness), the Duchess of Alençon (afterwards Queen of Navarre), the astrologer Cornelius Agrippa and the poet Clement Marot, the Constable and his friend Bonnavet, the priest-confidant of the Chancellor and the Chancellor himself. Here is a little sketch of the latter, the famous Anthony Duprat; who claims to be more than usually notable at present, by the way, as the wily lawyer-priest who so successfully intrigued to obtain from the Pope the exclusive nomination of bishoprics for the King his master.

We must now transfer our readers to the city of Sens and the Palace of its Archbishop. In one of its rooms, on the evening of the day succeeding that whose incidents we have but now related, sat a man of about fifty years of age. He was apparently tall, and of a person somewhat inclining to corpulency. The face was one calculated rather to excite respect for its energy, than its moral qualities; and, like Oliver Cromwell's, the features were coarse and vulgar, if aught can be considered vulgar which conveys the idea of power. Under a heavy brow looked out two clear grey eyes, whose ordinary expression was of a cat-like character, but which, in moments of great excitement, from the sudden ferocity of their glance, might have been mistaken for those of a tiger. The chin closely shaven, after the fashion of the priesthood, showed the development of a powerful jaw, and a mouth which, though sharp and grasping in its outlines, not unfrequently exhibited the expression of coarse humour. A small skull-cap was on his head, and a long robe of a dark colour, buttoning down the front, marked his priestly vocation. It was nearly threadbare, and in more than one place had been carefully mended.

A similar inattention to the elegancies of life exhibited itself in the furniture of the apartment. The rich scrolls of the bay-window, the deeply-indented roof, the panelling on the walls, and the carving of the chair on which he sat, and which, made of oak, rose behind higher than his head and terminated in an archbishop's mitre; everything, in short, that belonged to the office and not the man, and passed from tenant to tenant, were of the handsomest; but there the magnificence ceased. The room contained none of those luxuries which the last forty years had introduced, and which were most especially affected by churchmen. There were no books, no illuminated manuscripts, no vases, no busts, no pictures on the walls, no draperies on the window. The floor was without a carpet, and the firewood in the chimney unlighted. All marked the character of the man. It was Anthony Duprat, Archbishop of Sens, and Chancellor of France.

His sister-in-law had sketched accurately enough his career. A successful lawyer; he had on the death of his wife, to alleviate his sorrow, taken refuge in religion, and become a churchman. He carried with him into his new profession the same restless spirit and unscrupulous will that characterised him in his old. Yet beyond the strong sound sense which formed the most marked feature of his character, there was little in his mental powers to excite respect. He was singularly illiterate, and partly from small acquaintance with the dead languages, and partly it might be from a tone of mind which disabled him from deriving pleasure from the ideal, he looked with a dislike approaching to disgust on the Greek and Roman authors, the study of whom was the mania of his time. To such an extent did he carry this, that to make to him a classical quotation was considered a sort of personal insult, and with a corresponding feeling, he carefully avoided introducing into his house those pieces of ornamental furniture which, modelled on the antique, were becoming fashionable.

Reality, in short, was at once his taste and his object, and reality in his mind was typified by wealth and power. For their attainment he was willing to make any sacrifice, and everything which ministered not to such an end, was in his eyes but an idle dream.

Love and Ambition consists of two stories, which are also laid in a foreign scene, and at a distant time. The fortunes of the hero of the principal story, not otherwise historical, become involved with those of that Antonio Perez who found a refuge at the Court of Elizabeth of England on his escape from the dungeons of the Spanish Inquisition. Now and then the scenes in this romance, and especially those which have relation to the Holy Office and its unholy deeds, are somewhat overdone in detail; but we find throughout the same easy and skilful hand, the same power of delineating character, the nice traits of descriptive talent, and the turn for pointed and keen remark, which distinguished the writer's first very clever novel of *Rockingham*. The opening scenes, in which the hero, in eager quest of public employment, is exhibited among ministers, under-secretaries, and their friends, are hit off in the happiest way, and show that the author has not had far to seek for the advantage of such experiences. Strict propriety might find something to object to in the attachment, non-criminal though it be, which, when at last he obtains a patron, springs up between him and his patron's wife; but the incidents consequent upon it are excellently wrought out, and it is impossible not to feel interested in their issue. The second and briefer story of the book has perhaps a happier moral though a less happy catastrophe, and it is pathetically and truly told. It is a tale of lovers' quarrels and misunderstandings, fraught with warning to all unwisely-loving victims of hasty humours and self-tormenting caprices—always a numerous audience for such a lesson.

We have more than once had occasion to speak highly of Miss Kavanagh's ability, and the story of *Nathalie* is a new and striking proof of it. The resemblance to *Jane Eyre* is undisguised, but there is no commonplace imitation in the book. It is full of true and delicate feeling, has all the charm of local accuracy in the French scene and French character depicted, and represents a struggle of perfectly natural emotions and regards, between a high-spirited impatient girl and a modestly suspicious and reserved gentleman of middle age, with great force and reality of impression. Even better than the main story, however, are some of the subsidiaries to it, and of these the character of the Canoness Radegonde is charmingly drawn. The entire household at Sainville indeed is a masterpiece of description; and in the sister of the heroine we have as pretty a piece of true painting, and interesting contrast, as we could wish for in real life or in a novel. Miss Kavanagh deserves to have it said in conclusion that besides constructing her story well she writes carefully, and in the most indifferent scenes shows her title to attention. But we see slips in the printing of her

book now and then. We are sure she never could have sanctioned such a misquotation as that which turns Wordsworth's quiet nun "breathless with adoration," into a nun of a very different sort

"breathless with admiration."

At the outset of the novel called *Pique* there is something which reminds us of the position of Miss Milner and her guardian in the *Simple Story*. Mildred Effingham has the same kind of impatience under her engagement with Lord Alresford, the uneasy resentment of his dignified reserve, the caprices of temper as well as the capabilities of true affection, which characterise Mrs Inchbald's delightful heroine. But the resemblance soon ends, and the charm is effectually broken by Lord Alresford himself. Among all the heroes of modern or ancient novels in any manner known to us, we remember no hero so exacting or disagreeable as this. Indeed what is meant for the most high-minded incident he contributes to the story—that of the separation *a thoro* between himself and his wife on their wedding day—we take leave to think not a little revolting. It is one of those huge pretences to delicacy which are of all conceivable things the most grossly indelicate. More or less the same kind of mistake pervades the book. There is another conspicuous personage in it, a young noble-born lady who perpetrates a secret marriage with a young man whose name she doesn't know, her subsequent distress chiefly turning on the agonising doubt of whether she may not thus have sullied the honour of her long-descended ancestors by indelicate alliance with a plebeian. One is quite relieved when the young man turns out to be a lord, and not a beef eater. As for the "pique" which gives the book its title, and by which we are to understand a perversity of humours in the principal ladies on the scene, by which they are kept through three extremely long-winded volumes at quite needless arm's-length from the gentlemen, we so far disagree with the author as to reckon it the greatest perversity committed when the reconciliations take place. For who can believe—when the Right Hon. the Earl of Alresford at length consents to admit the Right Hon. the Countess of that name to her marital privileges, on the express "condition," as his lordship most particularly mentions, "of your very sincere repentance for the past, and entire undivided love for the future"—who, we say, can possibly believe that his lordship and her ladyship will agree for a week on such terms. But we have stayed too long with *Pique*. It is written with a facility and confidence of manner that draws the reader on for some half volume or so—much to his confusion for the remaining two volumes and a half. It becomes oppressively tiresome. We doubt if any book ever published in three volumes contained so prodigious a quantity of talk to such an infinitesimally small purpose.

THE THEATRICAL EXAMINER.

THE WESTMINSTER PLAY.

After an interval of two years, St Peter's College of Westminster revived its annual play on Tuesday (the rehearsal having taken place on Saturday), selecting on the occasion the *Andria* of Terence. This comedy is probably the most familiar of the classical repertoire, and is recommended to the stage by the remarkable ease of its dialogue, the ingenuity and interest of its plot, and the variety and collision of its characters. It incontestably proves that effective "situations," skilful structure, and tact in working up striking points are not modern discoveries; and that a dramatist who flourished two thousand years ago understood quite as well as the most practised playwright of the present day the art of keeping the stage alive.

The comedy was sustained with unflagging interest throughout. Davus, the prototype of the innumerable Scapins of succeeding ages, had a most efficient representative in Mr H. Blagden, who displayed an intimacy with his author that made every particle of the subtle humour and dexterous chicanery of that consummate rogue tell upon the audience. The famous scene with Mysis, after she has laid down the child, was especially good; and the by-play on both sides would have done no discredit to more experienced actors. In the last scene also, where Davus comes out of prison, Mr Blagden evinced considerable comic powers. The passage in which he retorts upon Pamphilus,

*Pam. Nescis quid mihi obtigerit.
Dav. Certe: sed quid mihi obtigerit, acio—*

brought down roars of applause. Mr S. Andrews looked, dressed, and acted Mysis with a perfect appreciation of character; and the little part of Lesbia was carefully rendered by Mr C. P. Ingram. Mr W. H. Bennett and Mr H. Barnes were the Simo and Chremes, the old men of the comedy, and offered a strong contrast in gait and speech to the perplexed lovers of Mr W. G. Armitstead and Mr W. H. Horne. The pathetic reproaches which Simo casts upon his son were touchingly delivered by Mr Bennett, whose declamation is chaste and judicious. In short, the comedy was acted with spirit and correctness in all its parts.

The prologue and epilogue exhibited the usual opposition of seriousness and fun; the former being chiefly an apostrophe to the virtues of the late Queen Dowager, and the latter a broad dramatic satire on the Peace Congress.

THE PRINCESS.

Mr Bartley reappeared at this theatre on Saturday last, after some years' absence from the stage, in the character of Falstaff in the *First Part of Henry IV*. He played it without any diminution of force that we could detect, and with the same clear and pleasant delivery, and sensible appreciation of his author's text, which we remember in former years. Mr Bartley is always careful and agreeable in his acting, often most hearty and enjoying; and in the present

condition of the stage he deserves thanks and welcome for returning to it.

The play was carefully produced, and the war-scenes were radiant with the panoply of arms and heralds, in very good and correct taste. We cannot say so much for the acting. Mr Belton is deplorably out of place in the Prince of Wales, and Mr Kean's Hotspur is not one of his most pleasing delineations. Some of the best declamation in the play would have been that of the actor who played Henry the Fourth, if his voice had as much ease in recovering from its profound bass notes as readiness in plunging into them. His feeling for the text was good, his bearing dignified, and his general attention to the scene excellent.

Where there is such manifest desire for careful arrangement it is a pity that the opportunity presented by the first scene in which Hotspur appears should have been lost. This scene is not a mere chamber attendance of lords in waiting on the king—his majesty seated, and the nobles ranged standing on either side, as represented on Saturday. It is Henry's board of council. The lords are seated with the king in state-deliberation, and Hotspur's sudden start from his seat with

"My liege, I did deny no prisoners," &c.,

thus only receives the full effect designed. Internal evidence of such intention may be discovered throughout the scene itself, but at the close of the play Hotspur gives specific warrant for it when he reproaches the king for having rated Worcester "from the council-board."

The clever and interesting little drama of *To Parents and Guardians* is well produced here, and imitatively acted. Mr and Mrs Keeley and Mr Wigan play their original parts.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

GERMANY.—The latest accounts from Berlin are to the 17th inst. General Thumen had been ordered to act as commissioner for Holstein. The reduction of the Landwehr of the first class has been decreed. Information has been received from the provinces of the successful dismissal of the Landwehr. In Krotoshin, in the Grand Duchy of Posen, alone, the publication of the Royal decree had led to riots. The Austrian and Bavarian troops in Hesse were preparing at the same date to enter Cassel, where the Austrian and Prussian Commissioners had arrived. General Von Groeben had returned to Paderborn, in Westphalia. From Vienna of the 14th inst. we learn that Marshal Radetzky was to leave the capital on the 16th inst.

UNITED STATES.—THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.—The arrival of the Niagara, which left New York on the 4th inst., puts us in possession of the President's Message, which was presented to Congress on the 3rd. It is a temperate document, and perspicuous both in conception and arrangement. The tone of the message with reference to the foreign relations of the United States is decidedly pacific. The President congratulates himself and the country that they are generally amicable, and intimates a desire to maintain this satisfactory state of affairs. With reference to the new territories, he urges a prompt adjudication on the Mexican land titles in California, and presses for the extension of the land laws to Utah and New Mexico. He recommends that the gold lands should be sold in small quantities, and that a branch mint should without loss of time be established in California. He also calls attention to the necessity that exists for organising one or more regiments of mounted men for the protection of the frontiers of New Mexico, and to help to repress the predatory Indians. This part of the message is eminently judicious and practical. Closely connected with these topics is what the President says on the heads of a Tehuantepec railway and Nicaraguan ocean canal. The accomplishment of both these objects has a vital interest for the Americans. It is through them that they are to look for maintaining a permanent connexion between the Atlantic and the Pacific states. The President intimates that Mexico is being importuned to grant a more unrestricted right of way for a railroad across the isthmus of Tehuantepec, and expresses a hope that he shall be able to come to a satisfactory arrangement with Great Britain respecting the ocean ship canal through Nicaragua. Two preliminaries, he states, have yet to be settled before the canal convention can be regarded as complete: the designation and establishment of a free port at each end of the canal, and the fixing of the limits within which belligerent operations shall not be carried on. The message contains important suggestions respecting the revision of the republic's naval code, rendered necessary by the recent abolition of flogging; the establishment of lighthouses and improvement of harbours; and the appointment of a tribunal to adjudicate all claims upon Government. Not less interesting is the President's recommendation that a uniform rate of postage, of three cents for prepaid letters and five cents for unpaid letters, should be adopted, whatever the distance that they are conveyed. The most unsatisfactory parts of the message are those which relate to customs duties and to the Fugitive Slave Bill. Respecting the former, Mr Fillmore's views are decidedly protectionist. He is of opinion that the federal revenue should be raised mainly by import duties; that these duties should be as far as possible specific, *ad valorem* rates when unavoidable being estimated on the home instead of the foreign valuation; and that those rates should be so levied as to benefit incidentally home industry by shielding it from destructive foreign competition. In the following paragraph we have the development of his protectionist policy:

"A duty laid upon an article which cannot be produced in this country—such as tea or coffee—adds to the cost of the article, and is chiefly or wholly paid by the consumer. But a duty laid upon an article which may be produced here stimulates the skill and industry of our own country to produce the same article, which is brought into the market in competition with the foreign article, and the importer is thus compelled to reduce his price to that at which the domestic article can be sold, thereby throwing a part of the duty upon the producer of the foreign article. The continuance of this process creates the skill, and invites the capital, which finally enables us to produce the article much cheaper than it could have been procured from abroad, thereby benefiting both the producer and consumer at home. The consequence of this is, that the artisan and the agriculturist are brought together, each affords a ready market for the produce of the other, the whole country becomes prosperous, and the ability to produce every necessary of life renders us independent in war as well as in peace."

On the subject of slavery, the President takes his stand upon the Fugitive Slave Act, the principle and policy of which he unreservedly defends. After vindicating the general policy of the slavery legislation of the preceding session, as "necessary to allay asperities and animosities that were rapidly alienating one section of the country from another," he proceeds as follows:

"The series of measures to which I have alluded are regarded by me as a settlement, in principle and substance—a final settlement—of these dangerous and exciting subjects which they embraced. Most of these subjects, indeed, are beyond your reach, as the legislation which disposed of them was, in its character, final and irrevocable. It may be presumed from the opposition which they all encountered that none of those measures was free from imperfections, but in their mutual dependence and connec-

tion they formed a system of compromise the most conciliatory, and best for the entire country, that could be obtained from conflicting sectional interests and opinions.

Since the receipt of the message accounts have been received from New York to the 6th inst. Both Houses of Congress had adjourned until the 8th.

"The President's message has had the most soothing effect upon Congress. His declaration, that he and his administration stand upon the Compromise Bills, and all the Compromise Bills, just as they are, take from the southern Disunionists all their influence for mischief, and upon the northern Disunionists and Nullifiers throws a dash of cold water, which is cooling them off.

With respect to the revenue and expenditure of the Union we learn that the receipts for the last year into the United States Treasury were 47,421,748 dols.—expenditure, 43,002,168 dols.; and that the public debt has been reduced 495,276 dols.

INDIA AND CHINA.—The overland mail from Bombay of Nov. 16th brings no political intelligence of interest. The greatest tranquillity prevails in India. The Governor-General was preparing to proceed to Lahore and the Peshawur frontier.

THE FRENCH REPUBLIC.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THE NEW ELECTORAL LAW.—On Monday, M. Jules de Lasteyrie read the report of the committee appointed to examine the proposition of M. Victor Lefranc for the revision of the new electoral law.

FOREIGN GLEANINGS.

The question of the dotation of the President of the French Republic occupies the attention of public men in Paris, at this moment. From certain symptoms of embarrassment in high quarters, and from the complaints on the part of the employés and tradesmen of the Elysée, it is evident that some measure on the subject is indispensable, and that it cannot be postponed for many weeks.

The Municipal Council of Paris has just examined the question as to whether the establishment of crèches in the department of the Seine ought to be considered an institution of public utility. They have decided against them.

The price of bread in Paris has not changed within the last fortnight, and remains fixed at 26c. per kilogramme for the first quality, and 18c. for the second quality.

The Danish Government has made a reduction of one-fourth on the duties on all wines imported into Denmark from France.

The 'Voix du Proscrit' publishes another manifesto from the political refugees in London. It is signed by MM. Ledru Rollin, Albert Darasz, Joseph Mazzini, and Arnold Ruge, and is addressed to the Italian, Polish, German, Austrian, and Dutch committees.

The 'Paris Moniteur' has published an official defence of the administration of the Forest of Fontainebleau, and denies that the splendid trees which have acquired historical fame have been cut down.

Cardinal Wiseman has received autograph letters of congratulation from the Emperor of Austria, the King of Bavaria, and the President of the French Republic.

It is in contemplation in the United States to follow the example of Great Britain, and hold another exhibition of the world's industry in New York. If carried out it will take place in 1852.

An experienced naval architect of New York is now constructing a yacht schooner, of about 150 tons, which will be present on the Thames during the Exhibition of next year.

Accounts from Mexico confirm the election of General Arista to the Presidency. A summary of the returns shows a large majority in his favour, he having the votes of 11 States, Senor Rosa 2, General Almonte 2, Senor Gomes Pedrera and Senor Mujica each 1 vote.

The 'Moniteur' announces that M. de Reboissière, formerly aide-de-camp and chamberlain of the Emperor Napoleon, has been appointed grand officer of the Legion of Honour; that M. Hippolyte de Barral, "first page of the Emperor," has been appointed commander; and that M. Octave de Barral, "page of the Emperor," and who signalized himself in 1815 by numerous acts of devotion and patriotism, has been appointed officer of the same order.

The exertions made in Amsterdam for the instruction of the Cape boers will not be fruitless. Five Dutch schoolmasters have already set out, and three more are named, and a free passage is to be given to them. They are to labour in the first instance among the boers within the English bounds. Favourable advices have been received from the Cape of the progress of the plan.

One night last week a serious accident happened to the mail train to Calais, on the Great French Northern Railway. A little beyond Pontoise the storm of wind and rain which raged drove the train off the line; and the train, when in that position, was run into by the train coming from the opposite direction. One carriage was completely crushed and destroyed, and several of the passengers were seriously hurt.

The board of directors of the French Northern Railway Company has decided on the postponement of executing the branch line to the Charleroy and Esquelines Railway.

A proposition has been presented to the French Legislative Assembly to have the price of meat fixed by the municipal authorities.

Jenny Lind made her debut in Baltimore on the 8th inst.

The sickness among the 59th Regiment stationed at Hong-Hong continues to abate, still the men generally are in a very debilitated state, and deaths occasionally occur. Since May to the present time 109 have died.

A fearful occurrence took place at Macao on the 29th Oct., when the Portuguese frigate the Donna Maria blew up, and officers and men, about 200 in number, perished, with the exception of one officer and fifteen men.

We learn from Toronto that an Order in Council has been passed for transferring the seat of Government to Quebec, the coming spring, as early as the Governor-General's quarters there can be got ready for his reception. On the 20th ult. the ceremony of laying the corner stone of a new cathedral, styled St James's, took place at Toronto, on the site where two similar edifices had perished by fire.

There has been for a short time a ministerial crisis in Madrid. Gen. Narvaez had actually given in his resignation, and absented himself from the council of ministers held on the 9th, but he was sent for by the Queen; and after an interview of some duration with her Majesty, at which it is to be supposed satisfactory explanations were given on both sides, he withdrew his resignation.

COURT AND CHURCH.

CONFIRMATION OF THE PRINCESS MARY OF CAMBRIDGE.—Her Royal Highness the Princess Mary was confirmed on Thursday in Kew Church. The ceremony was attended by the Queen and Prince Albert, who went for the purpose to Kew from Windsor Castle.

THEATRICALS AT WINDSOR CASTLE.—On the same evening the Queen gave the second of a series of dramatic representations in the Castle—the performance taking place in a temporary theatre erected in the Rabens' Room. The entertainments selected were Sheridan's play of 'The Critic,' and Mr Barnard's farce 'A Practical Man.'

THE PAPAL AGGRESSION.

THE BISHOP OF ST DAVID'S AND THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY.—The Bishop of St David's has published the following letter with the approbation of the Primate, who has also given his lordship permission to add, that his letter having only reached his grace after all the bishops, except the Bishop of Exeter, had given their assent to the address, he thought it too late to make so great an alteration as would have been necessary to meet the bishop's objection:

"My dear Lord Archbishop,—I am sure that you will do me the justice to believe that nothing short of a very deep conviction of a paramount obligation would induce me to take a step so repugnant to my feelings, especially at this juncture, as the withholding my signature from the address proposed by your grace. In its altered form it is certainly free from some of the objections which I urged against it before; but it seems to me to have become liable to others, perhaps still graver. The reference to the act of Elizabeth appears to me in every respect most unadvisable. My own opinion would have been that the provision cited from it has been virtually repealed by the Roman Catholic Relief Act. But at all events the quotation seems to me to prove, if anything, far too much. For the law of Elizabeth has not been violated for the first time by the recent bull. It was equally set at 'defiance' by the appointment of vicars-apostolic, who have so long exercised their functions without complaint or molestation; and it seems unreasonable to charge the Pope with 'defying' a law which has been so long permitted to sleep. But a still weightier objection in my mind is, that those who refer in such a manner to the statute of Elizabeth must be considered as expressing a wish to see it again put in force, which it seems to me would involve the repeal of the Relief Act. I cannot consent to make myself responsible for language which, directly or indirectly, indicates such an object; and I would respectfully entreat your grace to consider whether this part of the address does not admit, if not require, such a construction. There are some others with which, I must own, I am not satisfied. I think it is needlessly harsh, to say the least, to treat the Pope's 'anticipation' of our return to his communion, which he must consider as the greatest of all blessings to us, as 'an unwarrantable insult.' And I am still afraid that the concluding petition, for protection to the labours of the clergy, will be interpreted, not without an appearance of justice, as a wish to see the Roman Catholic proselytizers silenced by act of Parliament. These last objections, however, I might consent to waive in deference to your grace's judgment, and for the sake of unanimity. But that which relates to the act of Elizabeth appears to me to involve principles which I may not sacrifice to any other consideration.—I remain, my dear Lord Archbishop, yours very faithfully, C. ST DAVID'S.

THE BISHOP OF OXFORD ON PUSEYISM AND INFIDELITY.—In reply to an address from the members of the Windsor and Eton Church Union to the Bishop of Oxford, his lordship no longer ignores the existence of Puseyism, of which he speaks as follows:

"Our first duty, indeed, now is to resist this aggression of the Pope. But if we would be safe we must be on our guard against other dangers also. On the one hand, there is among some of us a leaning towards the church of Rome which is wholly alien from the tone and temper of our own church, and which step by step has led too many to join that corrupt communion. Upon this evil all eyes are now fixed, and I dare not undervalue its enormity or the insidious progress with which it saps the faith of those who yield ever so little to its first temptations. In truth the system of the Papacy is one cunningly contrived whole, and none therefore can be safe from falling at last openly away who admit its first entrance into their affections. Against this, therefore, we must guard, by cleaving closely—and with true thankfulness to God for them—to those great truths which were reasserted among us at the Reformation."

But the Bishop has not condemned his friends without a blow at those who revile "the Pope, the — (Puseyites), and the (Cardinal) Pretender." He says:

"But if one of our great dangers is from this side, another and a no less fearful peril is from the other. Stirred up by the Pope's indecent aggression, the stream of common opinion is now running with the violence of a flood against Rome. It is the nature of a flood to be muddy and turbulent, and to overwhelm all ordinary barriers with its violence; and so it is among us. Uncharitable thoughts, hard words, and unproved imputations abound. Those who fear the spiritual domination, and those who hate the spiritual corruptions of Rome, and those who hate all assertion of spiritual authority anywhere, and even those who hate all belief in spiritual realities, are for the time united together. Our very walls are inscribed with the same hand with the legends of 'No Popery,' 'No priestcraft,' 'No religion.' In such a time even good men become the subjects and the victims of fierce mutual suspicions, and the common enemy alone triumphs. Such a time must be full of danger to the calm and peaceable and loving temper which should possess our own souls, and to the maintenance of our common church against these evils, then, we must guard with as much vigilance as against external Popery."

Meetings condemnatory of the Papal intrusion have been held at the following places: Epsom, for the county of Surrey, where the principal speaker was Sir Edward Sugden, who showed with great clearness and full of argument the illegality of the Pope's proceedings; Worcester, for the county, attended by many of the nobility and the principal landholders, at which Sir E. Blount, a Roman Catholic baronet, declared that there was no aggression, and insulted the Duke of Norfolk and Lord Beaumont; Norwich, for Norfolk, where the Lord-Lieutenant, the Earl of Leicester, moved the first resolution in a very able and thoroughly Protestant speech; Nottingham, also for the county, where great censure was bestowed on the Puseyite practices; Croydon, where some singular Guy Faux demonstrations took place; Wincanton, a very large assemblage; Lewisham, very numerous attended; Cambridge; Bath; and Carlisle, for the county of Cumberland, at which latter, Mr H. Howard, of Greystoke, first cousin to the Duke of Norfolk, proposed that the High Sheriff

should sign the address on the part of the meeting, and take early measures to present it to the Queen. The Rev. Mr Brown, Roman Catholic priest, proposed, as an amendment, that the High Sheriff do no such thing, which caused great uproar, amidst which Mr Howard, of Corby, seconded the amendment, which was lost by a very large majority.

ROMAN CATHOLIC APPRECIATION OF CARDINAL WISEMAN.—A letter from "An English Catholic" was published in the 'Daily News' of Thursday, which places in a strong light the opinion entertained of Cardinal Wiseman and the Papal aggression, by the moderate members of the Roman Catholic persuasion in this country. The writer says:

"A large proportion of the Protestants of this country are under the mistaken impression, that the elevation of Dr Wiseman to the cardinalate and archbishopric of Westminster is a subject of congratulation to all the members of the Roman Catholic religion in England. But the fact is not so. To a numerous body of the laity, the return of that individual is a subject of the deepest regret, and I am much mistaken if by far the greater part of the Catholic clergy in the London district do not fully participate in this feeling; though, perhaps, they dare not show it openly." After speaking of the arbitrary manner in which Dr Wiseman carried out his episcopal authority while Vicar Apostolic in London, he continues: "It is not generally known that so strong was the feeling of the Catholic clergy of the London district on his appointment, even as pro-vicar being known in 1847, that a meeting of the members of that body was actually called, and a petition to Rome was drawn up, having for its object to obtain his removal. This petition was signed by some fifty of the elder clergy, and was about to be forwarded to its destination, when Dr Wiseman solemnly assured the subscribing parties that it was too late; that the hierarchy was actually re-established, and that whilst Dr Walsh had been appointed Archbishop of Westminster, he himself had already been named to the see of Birmingham. This assertion saved its purpose. The clergy, relying on the assurance, withdrew their petition and in a few weeks Dr Wiseman was permanently fixed in the London district. That the new cardinal is an object of dislike to a large number of the Catholic clergy of this district there cannot, I believe, be any doubt. He is a foreigner, both by birth and by habits, and has, therefore, no ideas in common with those English 'subjects' over whom he is placed in authority. We do not blame his Holiness in the unfortunate step which has been taken, and which has given such offence to our Protestant brethren, but we do blame those who, surrounding him, as they have done, have contrived to instil notions into his ear which have led to the recent Papal bull; the consequences of which at the present moment can be productive of real gratification to none but to Dr Wiseman himself, who has thus been raised to the highest rank in the Catholic church—with a degree of notoriety, however, which one would think must be even to him preeminently annoying."

STATISTICS OF THE (ROMAN) CATHOLIC CHURCH IN GREAT BRITAIN.

—The forthcoming 'Roman Catholic Directory' for 1851, contains a full tabular account of the Roman Catholic Church establishment in this country, of which we give the following summary: Total of churches and chapels in England and Wales, 597. Total of churches and chapels in Scotland, 97; besides 26 stations where divine service is performed. Grand total of Catholic churches and chapels in Great Britain, 694. In England there are 10 Catholic colleges; in Scotland 1 college. Religious houses of men, seventeen; convents, fifty-three. Priests in Great Britain (England and Wales), 826; Scotland, 118. Grand total of priests in Great Britain, including bishops, 972. Total increase of priests as compared with last year, forty-three.

THE ARMY.

ROYAL MILITARY ACADEMY.—A board of officers, consisting of Major-General Sir J. F. Burgoyne, K.C.B., R.E. (President); Major-General Sir H. D. Ross, K.C.B., R.A.; Major-general J. B. Parker, C.B. Lieut.-governor of the Royal Military Academy; Major-general R. Lacy, R.A., and Brigade-major Walpole, R.E., assembled at the Royal Arsenal, Woolwich, on the 18th instant, for the purpose of examining the Gentlemen Cadets of the practical class, to ascertain their fitness to be recommended to the Master-general of the Ordnance for commissions in the Royal Artillery and Royal Engineers; and the following having passed satisfactorily, have been recommended accordingly:—C. E. Harvey, R. W. Duff, G. Phillips, J. H. Brown, F. M. H. Prosser, W. A. Fox Strangways, T. A. J. Harrison, J. D. G. Higgon, G. S. Harward, J. M. C. Yibart, W. Booth, W. L. Yonge, E. J. Winn, C. B. Brackenbury, E. Markham, H. R. Porter, E. P. B. Turner, F. N. Cromartie, L. S. Joyce and R. Gore. The following Gentlemen Cadets of the theoretical class, having passed their examinations at the Academy on Woolwich common, will join the practical class at the Royal Arsenal on their return after the Christmas vacation:—A. G. Goodall, E. R. James, J. M. C. Drake, T. B. Strange, C. W. Townsend, R. C. Longley, F. Lyon, T. W. Blakiston, M. E. C. Stoeker, E. Keate, M. L. Taylor, J. J. Smith, A. L. Kaye, A. P. Joy, J. L. Clarke, A. T. G. Pearce, T. P. Carey, W. A. Burrows, H. Thornhill, E. Maitland, and W. F. Walker.

THE CARSHALTON SCHOOL.—Another correspondence has taken place on this painful subject, consisting of a petition to the Queen (signed by Mr Leveson Gower on the part of the parents and guardians of the boys expelled from Carshalton) and letters to and from Lord J. Russell, Sir G. Grey, and Mr Gower. The result is, that the Government have definitively refused to interfere, on the ground that the momentous question at issue rests wholly and exclusively with the Master-General of the Ordnance. The refusal is conveyed, both by the Prime Minister and the Home Secretary, in kind and sympathising language, but Lord John Russell declares himself "satisfied that the Master-General and the distinguished officers employed by him in the investigation are deserving of the confidence of the Government;" whilst Sir George Grey replies—"The school at Carshalton is subject to the exclusive authority of the Master-General of the Ordnance, and her Majesty's Government cannot doubt that his lordship, in the course he has adopted, was actuated by an imperative sense of duty, and by a regard to what he considered essential to the interests of the establishment, for the character of which he is responsible." Mr Gower has urged another very sad case arising out of the expulsion, for which we are unable to find room. From the tenor of that gentleman's correspondence it is evident that the subject will be brought before Parliament.

Obituary of Notable Persons.

GENERAL THE HON. SIR WILLIAM LUMLEY, G.O.B., died on the 15th inst., aged eighty-two years. He was son of the fourth Earl of Scarborough, and at the age of eighteen entered the cavalry service, in 1787, as a cornet in the 10th Dragoons. In 1798, having then attained the rank of a lieutenant-colonel, he commanded the 22nd Light Dragoons in the Irish rebellion. Lieutenant-colonel Lumley was severely wounded at Antrim, but, by his firmness and judgment, prevented that place from being destroyed by the rebels. He served in the Egyptian campaign of 1801, in command of the same regiment. Afterwards he was appointed to the staff at the Cape of Good Hope. He also served in South America, and became second in command of the expedition under Sir S. Auchmuty; commanded the advance force on the landing in the Rio de la Plata, and at the capture of Monte Video in February, 1807. Colonel Lumley also served in the subsequent disastrous operations at Buenos Ayres, in June, 1807, under Lieutenant-general Whitelock. In 1809 he commanded the advance force at the capture of the Island of Iscchia. The following year, having then attained the rank of a major-general, he joined the army in the Peninsula, and served both under Lord Hill and Lord Beresford. He commanded on the Christoval side at the first siege of Badajoz, in 1811; and, upon the raising of that siege, he commanded the whole of the allied cavalry at the battle of Albuhera, as

also at the cavalry action at Usarge. The Colonelcy of the 1st Dragoon Guards is vacant by his death.

ADMIRAL PAYNE, who was out hunting with Mr Farquharson's hounds, near Weymouth, on the 9th inst., fell from his horse just as the fox broke cover, in a fit of apoplexy, and died in a few minutes. He was between seventy and eighty years of age, and, on account of the tendency which he had exhibited to such attacks, had been warned by his medical attendants to avoid the excitement of the chase.

SANITARY INTELLIGENCE.

HEALTH OF LONDON DURING THE WEEK.—The mortality of London, which in the last week of November declined to 861 deaths, and in the subsequent week rose to 1,004, now exhibits a further increase of considerable amount. The deaths registered in the week ending last Saturday were 1,090, a number which is greater than that of any corresponding week in the ten years 1840-9, with four exceptions, namely, in 1844, when a week of unusually low temperature (the mean not exceeding 28 degrees) was fatal to 1,201 persons; in 1846, when the deaths were 1,163, that week being also marked by low temperature; in 1847, when the deaths rose to 2,416, at that time influenza being epidemic; and in 1848, when they were 1,130, fever then prevailing to some extent, and cholera having appeared. Last week has carried off an unusual number of aged persons (those of 60 years and upwards), and the increase over the previous return is principally caused by bronchitis and pneumonia, or inflammation of the lungs. In the last three weeks the increase of bronchitis appears from the numbers returned as follows: 64, 88, 114; that of pneumonia is shown by 67, 86, 113, whilst the mortality from phthisis in the same periods has been more uniform, namely, 96, 113, and 116 deaths. The greater activity of small-pox lately has been noticed; in the present return it numbers twenty-four fatal cases (nearly the same as in the preceding), of which four occurred to persons above 20 years of age. Lisson grove, in Marylebone, is still distinguished by its ravages; five additional cases (all except one being described as "variola, natural") were registered in the week. With reference to a case in St Clement Danes, the registrar remarks that "the father of the deceased objects to vaccination, but can offer no reason for his opinion;" and reports from other districts prove that the person here referred to is not singular in his prejudice. Other important epidemics are measles, which numbers twenty cases, scarlatina twenty-nine, hooping cough forty-two, croup twelve, and typhus thirty-seven. From diarrhoea there were only ten deaths; two, caused by cholera, are recorded thus:—In St Giles, at 13 Clark's buildings, on 6th December, the daughter of a costermonger, aged 3 years, died of "bilious cholera (twenty-four hours), convulsions (two hours)." In West London, at 16 Dean street, St Andrew's, on 9th December, the daughter of a lapidary, aged 16 years, died of "English cholera (fifty hours)." As described by the registrar, "the street is narrow, and not very clean." In connexion with various deaths from scarlatina and typhus, the registrars are careful to mention nuisances to which the sufferers have been exposed; in one instance, a large cesspool oozing through the floor, which the inmates of the house find it necessary to cover with sawdust; in another, "an open sewer behind the house;" in a third, "offensive effluvia from cesspools;" and in a fourth, a drain "offensive in the extreme," indeed so bad that the persons who live there cannot suffer the door to remain open, and frequently the head of the family is seized with vomiting before leaving for his work in the morning. The mean daily reading of the barometer at the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, was highest on Sunday, when it was 30.232 in.; it was also above 30 in. on the two following days; the mean of the week was 29.935 in. The temperature was lowest on Tuesday, when the daily mean was 32.8 deg., which is less by 6 deg. than the average of the same day in seven years. It rose on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, when the mean was about 46 deg., or 6 deg. above the average. The mean of the whole week was 40.1 deg. The wind was for the most part in the south-east on the first four days, and in the south-west for the rest of the week.

POLITICAL NEWS.

SIR THOMAS HASTINGS AND MR COBDEN.

A correspondence, including a provocation to fight a duel, has taken place between Sir T. Hastings, R.N. and Mr Cobden, arising out of the following circumstances. At the last Birmingham peace meeting Mr Bright was reported to have amused his hearers with a description of the trivialities on which our apprehensions of war were made to rest. As a specimen of them he related that Sir T. Hastings, in his evidence before the Estimates Committee, when hard pressed for the authority on which his suspicions of France had been conceived, at length quoted the opinion of the French Bishop of Madagascar to the required effect: on which Mr Bright observed, "Only imagine the only authority upon which a British Admiral anticipated war was an idle story told by the Bishop of Madagascar." Sir Thomas Hastings having read the report of the speech, immediately wrote to Mr Bright, apprising him that he had misrepresented facts, and referring him to the evidence in question for proof of his error. Mr Bright replied that he had received his information from Mr Cobden; so to Mr Cobden Sir Thomas then appealed. The hon. member for the West Riding acknowledged the authorship of the story, which he said he had "a distinct recollection of having mentioned to Mr Bright, as well as to others, on the very evening of the day on which it transpired in the committee." Mr Cobden added, "That part of your evidence was afterwards expunged; not, I believe, at your request, but at the instance of one of the members of the committee." Sir T. Hastings, in reply to Mr Cobden's letter, says:

"You, who were present at my examination, must know that the anecdote of the Bishop of Japan (not Madagascar) formed the smallest part of my proofs, and was evidently considered by the committee of so little importance as to have been expunged by them; and yet I am represented by you as having brought forward this fact as the sole proof of my assertions. I am not disposed to submit tamely to an insult of this description, and I have a right to expect that (on a re-perusal of the minutes of the evidence) you will state without hesitation or evasion, that Mr Bright's attack on my character (resting, as he states, on your authority) is not sustained by the facts of the case."

To this letter Mr Cobden returns for answer that he cannot see in what way he could alter the facts, as stated by Mr Bright, unless it were to substitute Japan for Madagascar, as the place to which the bishop belonged. He submits whether any good would be attained by such an explanation. The reply of Sir T. Hastings is now decidedly hostile;—he says:

"I once more call on you to state, directly and explicitly, whether, after re-perusing my evidence, you can with truth assert that my sole reason for believing that the hostile feeling of France to this country up to 1844 was founded on an idle story told of the Bishop of Japan, which Mr Bright declares expressly he asserted in public on your authority; and you, therefore, are responsible to me. And should you, in so clear and simple a case, refuse to give me a satisfactory explanation, I shall conclude that it was and is your intention to insult me, and I shall place our correspondence in the hands of a friend, who will wait on you on my behalf—or, should you prefer it, he will confer with some friend of yours."

Not receiving an answer so soon as he expected, Sir T. Hastings writes that he shall publish the correspondence, stating that Mr Cobden has not had sufficient truthfulness or manly candour to correct

his error, nor has he disclaimed the intention of, or apologised for, insulting him. Sir Thomas further observes, "that when a gentleman unintentionally misrepresents another, he atones for it by disavowing the intention when called on to do so, or by giving satisfaction to the aggrieved party." Sir Thomas signs this letter, "Yours, with supreme contempt." The correspondence on the part of Sir T. Hastings closes with an extract from the evidence which he gave before the committee, in which he shows that, when "pressed for his authority" he quoted the Prince de Joinville's pamphlet, the subsequent votes of the French Chamber, the augmentation of their steam marine, the report of Mr Grant to the British Admiralty after visiting the French harbours, and the observations of a certain officer in the French navy, all corroborative of the views he entertained of apprehended danger from France.

The above having been published in the 'Times' of Wednesday, a letter appeared in that journal on the following day accounting for the delay of which Sir T. Hastings complained, and enclosing the answer which he had simultaneously sent to that gentleman. In his explanatory letter, Mr Cobden says:

"I received his combustible missive on Sunday morning,—not exactly the day for answering an invitation to a duel. On Monday I was the whole day engaged in running from libraries to newspaper-offices, and thence to the houses of members of Parliament, inquiring for the blue-book containing the evidence in question. On Tuesday I procured a copy from my friend Mr Henry, and had prepared the enclosed letter of explanation, when Wednesday morning's post brings me another detonating epistle from Sir Lucius,—no, Sir Thomas Hastings, concluding,—'Yours, with supreme contempt,' informing me that he had anticipated me, by sending his letters for publication. The public has now an opportunity of forming an opinion of the cool judgment, the prudence, temper, and ability of a man who has been placed at the head of a commission for giving us an improved guarantee against a war with France, and upon whose recommendation, in a great degree, many millions of public money has been expended upon our national defences."

The letter replying to the last sent by Sir T. Hastings, begins as follows:

"Sir,—If in my earlier days my admiration for the genius of Sheridan had not tempted me to witness the mimic exploits of Sir Lucius O'Trigger, I might have been at a loss to comprehend the meaning of your letter. Aided, however, by my recollections of that model duellist, I understand you to propose that we should lay down our pens and have a personal interview, not to talk over the matter in dispute, not even to approach within speaking distance, but to take our stand at twelve paces apart, with pistols in hand, and endeavour to blow out each other's brains. Now, I am satisfied, without any such experiment upon my head, at least that half an ounce of lead propelled by less than a quarter of an ounce of powder is quite sufficient to shatter the human skull to atoms, and extinguish in a moment all powers of reason, all sense of justice, and every religious sentiment. But how such a process would satisfy me that I had acted unjustly towards you, or convince you of the contrary, is, I confess, quite beyond my comprehension. So soon as I had recovered from the fit of laughter into which I must confess your challenge threw me, and after I had mastered the temptation I felt to name for my second my much-esteemed friend, Mr Punch, I endeavoured to procure a copy of the report of the committee, which with considerable difficulty, and after the lapse of a couple of days, I succeeded in obtaining, and, having refreshed my memory by a perusal of your evidence, I will endeavour to state the facts of the case, as between you and myself, in such a way as shall admit of no further misapprehension."

Mr Cobden then states that after the evidence of Sir Thomas had been heard at considerable length, he (Mr Cobden) requested him to state upon what authority he assumed that the French nation were eager to go to war with this country. The story about the Bishop of Japan was then reluctantly told, and "the uplifted eyes and hands of more than one member of the committee led to the interposition of the chairman." The room being cleared, Mr Cobden was then appealed to by some of the members of the committee to allow this part of Sir Thomas's evidence to be expunged; and eventually Mr Cobden agreed to this, having in the meantime mentioned the incident to Mr Bright and several other members of the House. Mr Cobden then asks Sir Thomas what is his cause of complaint, all the preceding facts being admitted?

"Why, that Mr Bright alleged that the authority of the bishop was the only proof brought forward by you of the warlike disposition of the French nation. In the perturbed state of your feelings, you seem to be unable to perceive that this is a question to be decided by reference to your published evidence, which has been in the hands of every member for two years. I am not Mr Bright's authority for the contents of the blue books, I am responsible only for having communicated to him that part of your evidence which was suppressed, the truth of which you do not deny. Nor am I accountable for any criticisms or arguments he may deduce from it. Your grievance is then confined to one word, the word 'only.' Now, since the receipt of your last letter I have felt it my duty to see Mr Bright, who says that in reply to your second letter to him he has informed you that the report of his speech is not free from verbal inaccuracies. Why did you not send me a copy of that letter? It appears to me that the whole question at issue is involved in its contents; and had a further opportunity been afforded to Mr Bright, he might possibly have removed the whole ground of complaint."

Mr Cobden concludes as follows:—"If, unable to restrain the ebullitions of an irascible temper, you must needs challenge a member of the Legislature to mortal combat, merely because another member is reported to have made a mistake in a single word in a speech of an hour's length, or because a reporter's pen may have slipped at a critical moment, then you have mistaken your vocation, and you would be consulting your own reputation and the interest of the country by retiring from the public service, and seeking security for your susceptible nerves within the inviolable precincts of your own domestic circle."

EARL GREY'S CHARGES AGAINST DR LANG.—The following despatch from Earl Grey to Sir Charles Fitzroy is published in the New South Wales papers:—

"Downing street, Dec. 15, 1849.
"Sir,—In some of the London newspapers of the 17th and 19th of last month you will find that Dr Lang has printed a letter which he addressed to me, and in which, with a considerable amount of personal invective, he complains that he has been treated with discourtesy; that the emigration schemes propounded by him have been unjustly rejected; that undue assistance has been afforded to the clergy of the Church of England and of Rome, as compared with the clergy of Scotland, and that in the selection of emigrants for New South Wales an unfair preference has been shown to Irish orphans belonging to the Church of Rome. The charge of discourtesy, so far as it may relate to personal interviews, must rest on Dr Lang's own assertion, and can only be met by a direct counter-assertion. I do not remember, nor does he state, that I had any interview with him myself. But I am assured by the gentlemen of my department, who had occasion to see Dr Lang, that his statement on this point is entirely without foundation. In so far as the charge may refer to the style employed in written communications, you are in possession of all the principal letters which have been addressed to Dr Lang, and they may speak for themselves. But one remark which I must make upon this subject is, that in the course of nearly three years, during which Dr Lang informs me that he has been in England, he never once addressed a complaint to me, either as to the discourtesy which he alleges he met with, or on any other of the topics upon which he now animadverts. It was only when he had already embarked in the ship which was to convey him from this country, and it was no longer possible that he could be called upon to make good his statements, and after it had been discovered that his conduct in certain transactions might become the subject of a prosecution at law, that he addressed, not in reality to me, but to the public, which is unacquainted with the circumstances to which he adverts, a letter calculated to create an

entirely erroneous impression as to what had passed between himself and the departments of the Government with which he has been so long in communication. The papers enclosed in my recent despatch, No. 189, of the 30th of November, contain evidence of the following facts:—first, that the plans for the promotion of emigration which Dr Lang successively proposed to me differed so little from each other, and pointed out to those preceding it, or of the offers so repeatedly made to him to promote the objects he had in view, if he should assent to more reasonable terms, that it is difficult to suppose that he was acting in earnest, or wished to bring the matter to any practical conclusion. Secondly, that while he was thus keeping in ostensible communication with this office, he persuaded the public that he was carrying on negotiations with her Majesty's Government which were likely to lead to a favourable result, and that even important concessions had been made to his advantage. Thirdly, that by a discreditable, though transparent manoeuvre, he pretended to make a request to me before the departure of a certain vessel, but kept back the letter until it had sailed, and in the meanwhile sent out to you by that very ship a letter designed to make you believe that his request had been granted, and to lead you thereby into making certain payments of money and certain grants of land, which he knew he was not entitled to claim. Fourthly, that having been repeatedly warned that any immigrants sent out in the manner in which those despatched on that occasion were sent out would not be entitled to grants of land, he induced the impression that they were so entitled; so that those emigrants arrived under circumstances altogether different from those they expected, and some of them, it may be inferred from your report, in actual want of the means of subsistence. These are the charges, founded on the evidence of his own letters, under which Dr Lang now labours; and their gravity is such, that unless they can be refuted, it would seem almost unnecessary further to notice any of his allegations."

IRELAND.

COUNTY OF LIMERICK ELECTION.—This keenly-contested election was brought to a close on Saturday evening, by the return of Mr Wyndham Goold, who had a majority of forty over Captain Dickson, and of 111 over Mr Michael Ryan, the Tenant-league candidate. The gross poll stood thus:—Goold, 239; Dickson, 199; Ryan, 128. There was considerable excitement and some danger of personal violence from the mob to Counsellor Fitzgerald at the final declaration of the poll. Mr Goold, the successful candidate, who is described as a Whig, is brother-in-law to the Earl of Dunraven and to Mr Monsell, one of the present representatives for the county. On the two first days of the polling, there had been a neck-and-neck race between Captain Dickson and Mr Goold; but on Friday and Saturday the scale was turned entirely in favour of the latter by the tenantry of Lord Southwell, the largest electoral interest in the county, all of whom came in and voted for Mr Goold. This is one of the most remarkable features connected with the election. Lord Southwell is a Roman Catholic, and his tenantry are all Protestants. They are the descendants of German farmers, who settled more than a century ago upon the estate of an ancestor of the present Lord Southwell, who afforded them shelter and encouragement. They are still known in the country by the designation of "Palatine," and have been distinguished by their peaceable habits and persevering industry. Holding their farms at moderate rents, those thrifty people have been enabled to bear up against the famine which had produced such havoc amongst the tenantry on other estates, and so greatly reduced the general constituency. The total number of electors polled was 580—considerably more than any estimate of the actual constituency before the commencement of the election. This, in all probability, will be the last Irish election under the old system. The new Franchise Act, which comes into operation in March next, will vastly extend the constituency, and produce a very decided change in our representative system.

ALLEGED ATTEMPTED ESCAPE OF SMITH O'BRIEN FROM MARIA ISLAND.—By the accounts from Hobart Town it appears that an attempt has been made by Mr Smith O'Brien to escape to California. The following particulars of the event are taken from the Colonial journals:—The 'Colonial Times' says:—Ellis, of the Victoria, had accepted the government tender to convey a state prisoner, &c., to Port Arthur. That the Victoria was merely proceeding on her route to California, and, as previously arranged, had touched at Maria Island to convey Smith O'Brien to his destination. And that agreeable to such an arrangement, when the Victoria had landed her boat to take Smith O'Brien on board, he and all the crew were immediately seized by the constabulary. Such is the report, which, if true, would of course absolve all parties concerned from any criminal intention, but that the vessel and crew, as well as Smith O'Brien, have all been seized on that suspicion, is a fact of which there can no longer be a doubt, as we have it from the very best authority. The 'Advertiser's' version:—On Sunday and Monday the Victoria cutter, commanded by a man named Ellis, was observed hovering about the island, the wind being light until evening, when it fell calm. Shortly before sundown, Mr S. O'Brien, who, notwithstanding his avowed intention of escaping, should an opportunity offer, has considerable liberty allowed him, went down to a sandy cove, one of the few places where boats generally land, and just as he reached the shore a boat with three men put in, and he rushed up to his middle to meet it. A constable on duty, who was a witness of the act, covered him with his piece and called to him to forbear, seconding this by rushing at the boat and knocking a hole in her bottom with his carbine. He then pointed out to all four the folly of resistance, and required them to submit quietly, which they did. The officer in charge, meantime, having missed his prisoner, came rushing down the beach, and secured him while still in the water. He was then conducted to his house, and the three men confined for transmission to Hobart Town. A whale boat, with six hands, was sent on board the cutter, seized her, and brought her in. She, too, with the parties on board, will be sent up immediately. It has not been thought necessary to impose any restraint on Mr S. O'Brien greater than that to which he was previously subjected.

THE CASE OF GEILS v. GEILS.—A case remarkably illustrative of the superiority of the Scotch to the English law of marriage (Geils v. Geils) was adjudicated upon by the Court of Session of Scotland on the 14th inst. After a successful defence in the Arches Court of Canterbury, to a suit for restitution of conjugal rights, on the ground of her husband's infidelity, and obtaining all the relief that the consistorial courts of England have the power to grant, viz., a separation a mensa et thoro, Mrs Geils remained still subject to all the legal consequences and incidents of the matrimonial tie. Her husband continued to draw a sum of 1,200l. a year from the lady's estates in England under the marriage settlement, and, according to the law of this country, would be entitled to receive it until divorced by act of Parliament. Under these circumstances Mrs Geils, in May 1849, brought the present action of divorce against her husband in the Supreme Court of Scotland, of which country he is a native, and where the adulteries are alleged to have been committed; and after an elaborate discussion in the Court of Session, the Lords in the Inner House affirming Lord Wood's judgment, have decided in favour of the lady's suit. The effect of this decision will be the forfeiture of the 1,200l. per annum hitherto received by the husband. In addition to this relief the lady becomes entitled to a jointure of 400l. a year out of her husband's estate in Scotland.



Latest Intelligence.

SATURDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 21, 1850.

We have no later news from the continent this morning than that which was received yesterday evening. The dinner given by the President of the French Legislative Assembly to the President of the Republic on Wednesday was the principal topic of the Paris papers on Thursday, owing to the speech delivered by M. Dupin, who, it seems, neglected the usual ceremony of communicating to the President the speech which he meant to make in proposing his health, in consequence of which Louis Napoleon was ignorant of the precise words which he would use. He was therefore completely taken aback, when D. Dupin spoke of *l'Élu du Décembre 10, et les Élus du 13 Mai*, and placed the President and Assembly on a precise level as regards power and dignity. Both the President and his partisans express their indignation at this *gout-à-pens*, as they call it, and declare that it was peculiarly improper on an occasion when Louis Napoleon was the guest.

The 'Gazette' of last night contains the appointments of the following members of the Commission for inquiring into the process, practice, and pleading in the Court of Chancery:—Sir J. Romilly, Attorney-General; G. J. Turner, Esq., Q.C.; R. Bethell, Esq., Q.C.; J. Parker, Esq., Q.C.; W. P. Wood, Esq., Q.C.; C. Crompton, Esq.; and W. M. James, Esq.—Several members of the Executive Committee, with a portion of their staff, yesterday took possession of the new offices in the building in Hyde park. The Committee requests that all communications should in future be addressed to them at the Exhibition Building in Hyde park, instead of as formerly to No. 1 Old Palace yard.—It is rumoured in the legal circles that Baron Parke will be called to the House of Peers by the title of Baron Amphyll, of Amphyll park, in the county of Bedford.—The resignation of the Earl of Guildford of the rich living of St Mary, Southampton, has been accepted by the Bishop of Winchester, and the living has been given to Archdeacon Wigram, on an understanding that the parish shall be divided into independent districts.—Dr Vaughan, P.P. of Nenagh, was on Wednesday elected Roman Catholic Bishop of that district, in the room of the late Dr Kennedy.—A great county meeting was held at Exeter yesterday, to resist the Papal aggression, which was headed by the Earl Fortescue and Lord Lieutenant of Devon, and attended by upwards of 1,000 noblemen and gentlemen. The proceedings were unanimous.—At the York assizes, yesterday, Mr Justice Patteson sentenced two prisoners to death for a detestable crime; and John Robinson, convicted for the rape on Miss Newton, was then placed at the bar to receive sentence. He solemnly protested his innocence of the capital crime, declaring that he had been only guilty of an assault. Mr Justice Patteson said that he had himself come to the same conclusion, but censured the mode of defence which he had adopted, by stating that Miss Newton had given her consent. He also condemned the imputations cast upon Miss Newton as most improper, and declared his implicit belief in the purity of her character and person. His lordship then sentenced the prisoner to be imprisoned for two years.

MISCELLANEOUS.

REPEAL OF THE WINDOW TAX.—On Wednesday evening a meeting of deputations from various metropolitan parishes was held at the Court house, Marylebone, for the purpose of procuring the repeal of the window tax. Mr Nicholay presided, and opened the business on which they were met by showing the oppressive character of the tax and its unjust pressure on the middle classes, and the necessity of its repeal in a sanitary point of view. Had the metropolitan members done their duty last session of Parliament there would have been no necessity for the meeting that evening. He hoped they would all in their different localities tell those gentlemen that if they were not present on the ensuing occasion when the measure would be brought before Parliament, they might take their departure for good. He hoped the Chancellor of the Exchequer, having a large surplus, would give up the tax at once with a good grace, and not compel the people to make him do so. Mr Soden moved the first resolution, pledging the meeting to use every possible means to obtain the immediate repeal of the tax, which was carried unanimously. Mr Geesin moved the second resolution, to the effect that the deputations from each of the metropolitan parishes should wait on the Chancellor of the Exchequer as soon as possible after Christmas to urge the repeal, which was seconded by Mr Dyer, and carried unanimously. Dr Gavin, on the part of the Sanitary Association, addressed the meeting; and after a discussion, in which several speakers repudiated the attempt of the Association to palm itself upon the meeting as leaders in the cause of repeal, for which the parishes had strove for nearly twenty years, the proceedings were adjourned for a fortnight.

MINERAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE NATIONAL EXHIBITION.—Amongst the contributions which we see announced for the forthcoming exhibition, we perceive that South Australia is not omitted, the directors of the far famed Burra Burra mine have determined on sending specimens of ores. The collection was thrown open to the public prior to shipment for London. The most striking specimen is a block of blue carbonate, which has been named the punchbowl, having a diameter of 2 feet 6 inches by 1 foot 9 inches, and weighing between 2 cwt. and 3 cwt.; the natural hollow in the centre is studded with the most brilliant crystals of different shades, which have a very beautiful effect.—From the Hange Colliery, Tividale, near Tipton, an enormous block of coal, weighing about five tons, has been, with immense difficulty, got up the shaft to be forwarded to London. The size is six feet high and eighteen feet in circumference; it is the largest size that could possibly be produced, and probably the greatest weight ever attempted to be drawn out of a mine, and must have been attended with great risk to the machinery and ropes. It is a fine coal, remarkably bright and clear.

INDIAN PATRONAGE.—The chairman of the East India Company (Mr Shepherd) has given a cadetship to Mr Ward, the son of Mrs Ward, better known as Horatia Nelson. Mr Mills has bestowed one on a son of the late Rev. Mr Hollest; and Mr Shepherd has, in consideration of his sad bereavement of his parents and sisters by the wreck of the Orion, given an Addiscombe cadetship to Mr M'Neill, who, with his brother, now leaving Addiscombe, was wonderfully preserved from the fate of his parents and sisters. Mr Shepherd has also lately bestowed a cadetship on a son of Lieutenant-Colonel Havelock, deputy-adjutant-general of the Queen's troops at Bombay, who has served nearly twenty-seven years continuously, having been employed on the staff in the Burman, Afghan, Gwalior, and Sutlej campaigns, and assisted at the defence of Jellalabad. His elder brother fell in the action of Ramnugur, and a younger was severely wounded at Ferozeshur.

SMITHFIELD MARKET.—On Wednesday night a meeting of butchers and others connected with the trade of Smithfield market took place at Farringdon hall, Snow hill, at which Mr Blacket presided. The meeting had been convened to take into consideration the proposed toll which the corporation have intimated their intention to inflict upon cattle on their egress from the market of Smithfield when enlarged according to the corporate plan. After a few preliminary remarks from the Chairman, he introduced Mr C. Pearson, who said he felt the greatest interest in the proposed extension of the market by the corporation, who were desirous to do all they could to meet the wants and wishes of the public, and with respect to which he

felt that those who objected to the existing market had not fairly considered such propositions. As to the sanitary part of the question, he thought that would be improved in the proposed alterations. Better arrangements were proposed for the management of the market, for increased space, and getting rid of the alleged cruelties. In conclusion he expressed his opinion that nothing could be better than the proposed enlarged market for the sale of live and dead cattle.

PEEL MONUMENT IN LEEDS.—It has been determined to erect a bronze statue—eight feet six inches high, with a suitable pedestal of Aberdeen marble—of the late Sir R. Peel, near the Leeds Court house, as a testimonial of the subscribers' admiration of the deceased statesman. The statue is to be executed by Mr W. Behnes, sculptor in ordinary to the Queen. The price of the work has been fixed at 1,500 guineas. The subscriptions amount to rather more than 1,800l., and it is probable that the difference will be absorbed in alterations and expenses. It is intended that the statue shall be finished in fifteen or eighteen months from the present time.

THE INDIAN SEALS FOR THE QUEEN AND PRINCE ALBERT.—The Delhi seal cutters, who are masters of their art, have nearly completed the seals which are being cut for the Queen and Prince Albert, to be shown at the great exposition as specimens of the art at Delhi. Budroo-deen Ulee Khan, the well-known chief of seal-cutters at Delhi, has exhausted his skill in producing these *chefs d'œuvre*. The seal for her Majesty is a cornelian with the corners cut off, the size about one inch square; on it is cut an inscription in Hindostanee of which the following is a translation: "Victoria.—First Monarch of the world, as Solomon in magnificence, with a court like Saturn, Empress of the age. Sovereign of the Seas. The source of beneficence. By the grace of God, Queen of England and Ireland. Ruler of the Kingdoms of Hindostan. Defender of the faith of Christ, the great Queen Victoria." Prince Albert's seal is of the same size, but cut on a blood stone, and has the following: "The distinguished by the aid of God. The noblest of the family of Brunswick. The honoured companion of the great Queen. Prince, highest in rank, great in dignity, the chief in excellence of the English Court, Albert, &c." Besides these, Budroo-deen has prepared two beautiful emeralds for seal rings, to be presented by himself as specimens of his art. One for the Queen, three-eighths of an inch in length by two-eighths in breadth, on which the following lines are beautifully cut: "Sovereign of the sea and land. The just by the favour of God. Governor of the world (or the seven climates) Queen Victoria." The one for Prince Albert is of the same size, but has simply the Christian names before enumerated.

THE DEBTS OF LOUIS NAPOLEON.—It is said that the arrears due to the *employés* and tradesmen of the Elysée amount to upwards of 1,200,000fr., besides 700,000fr. borrowed from a great Paris banker, on bills payable within the first three months of 1851. In consequence of the financial embarrassments of the President, it is supposed that the Ministry will be forced to bring forward the question of the dotation in the course of the month of January, notwithstanding the formidable opposition threatened by the Legitimists and Republicans.

TOWN AND COUNTRY TALK.

Lord Willoughby d'Eresby has resigned the lord-licutenancy of the county of Carnarvon, in consequence of ill-health.

A brilliant meteor was seen from Waterloo bridge on Wednesday morning, about half-past one o'clock, passing in a north-easterly direction.

The Liverpool Sailors' Home was opened on Monday, for the transaction of the business hitherto conducted in temporary offices. Some time, however, will elapse before the building can be so far completed as to permit seamen to be boarded in it. It is intended shortly to hold a public meeting with a view of making the necessary preparations for holding a fancy bazaar in aid of the funds of this institution.

The Electric Telegraph Company are now extending the telegraph from Chester to Holyhead, and they purpose to make it available for the immediate transmission of shipping intelligence to Liverpool, by a combined working of the old system of semaphores and the electric apparatus.

Mr Macaulay having declined to give his casting vote on occasion of the equality of nations in the late election for the Rectorship of Glasgow University, Colonel Mure, the former rector, has resolved to vote for Mr Sheriff Alison, as Lord Rector of the University.

The Post-office regulations respecting the retention of letters in the post-office on Sunday, at the desire of those to whom they are addressed, came into operation on the 15th inst.

Lord Northland has finally decided upon retiring from Parliament at the commencement of the ensuing session. His relative (the Hon. S. Knox) is to be a candidate for the seat when it becomes vacant.

A meeting of millowners has been held in the Town Hall, Halifax, to consider what steps should be taken to ensure greater safety in the management of boilers. The meeting was composed of the leading millowners of the district, who unanimously adopted a memorial to Government, praying for the institution of a government inspection of boilers.

M. Sover has taken Gore House, formerly the residence of the late Lady Blessington, for the six months of the Great Exhibition, at a rent of 600l. for that time. It is to be fitted up as an hotel, and the beautiful grounds are to be laid out for entertainments in the style of those afforded to the public at Cremorne.

Dr Lushington, Mr Falconer, and Dr Twiss, of Doctors'-commons, are appointed arbitrators to determine the boundary between the provinces of Canada and Nova Scotia, which has for some time been in dispute.

The total number of petitions filed in the Encumbered Court, in Ireland, up to the 12th inst., amounts to 1,442.

It is rumoured that a final determination has been come to that the Marble arch shall be erected at Cumberland gate, Hyde park.

An association has, we understand, been recently formed at Bromyard, for the purpose of promoting the growth of flax in that district. Upwards of 100 of the agricultural members of the association have expressed their determination to prepare a portion of their land for flax for the next year.

Three convicts under sentence for transportation for ten years each, named Bradwich, Thompson, and Webster, succeeded in making their escape from the convict establishment on Dartmoor on Wednesday week, and have not since been heard of.

The inquest on the bodies of the twelve persons killed by the boiler explosion at the mill of Messrs Firth, at Halifax, terminated on the 13th, after three days' inquiry. The jury returned a verdict of "Manslaughter against Mr Samuel Firth, one of the partners, and Joseph Halliwell, the engine-man." The evidence favoured the conclusion that the boiler was a defective one, and ought to have been discontinued from use.

The Slains Castle emigrant ship, which was sent out by the Family Colonization Loan Society, was spoken on the 3rd November, in lat. 8 N., and long. 23 W., by the David Malcolm, arrived off Plymouth. All the passengers were getting on very well.

The forces in Ireland consist at present of 9 regiments of cavalry, 24 of infantry, and 5 infantry depots, or 24,600 men.

A regimental order has recently been issued, commanding the drills of the Hon. Artillery Company, which have been so long suspended, to be resumed. The present court will assist, it is believed, in every way in advancing the military improvement of the corps.

The 'Stowmarket Record,' or 'Central Suffolk Gazette,' a monthly paper, of Protectionist principles, which has eked out an existence of five months, was on the 5th inst. declared defunct.

A man named William Lalor, residing near the Rock of Dunamace, died on Friday, at the advanced age of 106 years, having lived to see his great-grand-children married. His wife, who is over 100, accompanied the funeral, and is still in excellent health.

On Saturday morning a remarkable thunderstorm passed across the south-west of Ireland, beginning in Clare, and going off at Cork. In Clare, the second son of Mr Brown Burke, of Newgrove cottage, was killed by the electric fluid, and other persons were slightly injured.

The 'Galway Mercury' states that a deputation from America has arrived in London to support the claims of Galway as a transatlantic packet station.

The rent received on Monday at the Repeal Association in Dublin had again dwindled down to 8l. 16s. 2d.

There were proclaimed in the High Church at Glasgow, on Sunday week, no fewer than seventy-three couples—the largest number of persons who have passed through that ordeal on one day since the Reformation.

The first mails for the Cape of Good Hope, Sierra Leone, and Cape de Verd, were despatched from Plymouth on Monday, in the screw steam-ship Bosphorus. The occasion was marked by a grand demonstration; the mails being conveyed from the post-office in a carriage and four greys, followed by a procession, including three military bands, the mayors of Plymouth and Devonport, and the magistrates, the police, and a large number of persons interested in the property and trade of the town.

The Indefatigable, which arrived in Plymouth Sound on Saturday, has lost out of 500 men, by death, 36, and 80 have been left behind at Port Royal Hospital. The sickness, the yellow fever, has now entirely disappeared.

Parliament was further prorogued by Commission on Tuesday, to the 4th February, when both houses will meet for the despatch of business.

It is proposed that the Crystal Palace should be thrown open at a low charge to the public during the Christmas holidays.

A public meeting was to be held at Brighton on the 19th inst., with the view of discussing the project of a harbour at Brighton, on the recoil plan of Mr W. H. Smith.

It has been reported in clerical circles, that the Bishop of London had appointed his examining chaplain, the Rev. W. G. Humphry, to the important benefice vacant by Mr Bennett's resignation.

An incendiary fire was discovered on Tuesday evening in a large barn belonging to Mr Eustace, of the Grove, Ellesborough, Berks. It communicated with some ricks, and the whole of the farm buildings, together with fourteen ricks of hay and corn, were consumed. About thirty quarters of wheat were also destroyed. The loss is estimated at between 2,000l. and 3,000l. This is the fourth fire which has taken place at Ellesborough during the last two years, every one of which there can be no doubt was wilfully caused.

Five of the rioters at Birkenhead have been apprehended, and were examined at Chester on Thursday. It is expected that the investigation will last several days.

LAW COURTS.

ASSIZE INTELLIGENCE.

NORTHERN CIRCUIT—YORK, DEC. 17.

SINGULAR CASE OF RAPE ON A BRIDESMAID.—John Robinson was indicted for having, on the 30th of October last, at Foxhills, near Sheffield, effected a criminal assault on Eliza Newton, and committed a rape on her person. Mr Hall stated that the prisoner at the bar was charged with having effected a criminal assault on the prosecutrix, a young lady aged twenty-four years, the daughter of Elizabeth Newton, widow of Captain Newton, of Foxhills, near Sheffield. In consequence of the reduced circumstances of Mrs Newton two of her daughters keep a school for young ladies, at Sheffield. The prisoner is the station-master at the station of the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Railway, at Wadsley, and about eighteen months ago was introduced to Mrs Newton's family. In the course of the present year he made an offer of marriage to Miss Newton, the prosecutrix, but she declined it, on the ground that the prisoner's income was inadequate to support a wife. The prisoner, however, continued on friendly terms with the family, and occasionally visited Miss Newton. On the 30th of October, a young lady, living at a short distance from Foxhills, named Miss M'Givern, was married, and the prosecutrix acted as one of the bridesmaids on the occasion. The prisoner at the bar was also invited to the wedding, and at the request of the bride, the prosecutrix applied to him to procure some flowers, which he sent the day before the marriage to her, with a note, in which occurred the following passage:

"I hope soon to have the pleasure of offering you a bouquet under similar circumstances, for myself. With so many weddings about it is a wonder I keep my senses. I fear I shall be doing something desperate ere long."

On the evening of the 30th of October the father of Miss M'Givern gave a bridal party; the prosecutrix, her mother, and two sisters, and the prisoner, among others, were there. About ten o'clock Mrs Newton left, and she appears to have walked home. About half-past eleven o'clock a coach left Mr M'Givern's for Sheffield. The prosecutrix was inside with her sisters and another lady. The prisoner sat on the box with a Mr O'Flanagan. When the coach arrived near Mrs Newton's house, at Foxhills, it stopped. The prosecutrix got out, and the prisoner at the bar got down to hand her out. He seemed to delay, and one of the party called to him to get up on the coach, or he would be left behind. He replied that he intended to walk home, and bade them good night, whereupon the coach drove away. The night was tempestuous, and it had been raining in the course of the day. Mrs Newton's house is on the brow of a hill; it is one of four houses, and near it, on the opposite side of the road, is a large house. There is a small garden in front of the house, about seven yards long, and there are six steps from the road to the garden. When Miss Newton had got to the top step the prisoner put his arm round her, and began to kiss her vehemently. She endeavoured to push him off; but he placed his arm tightly round her neck, and took such liberties as to indicate his purpose. She screamed out and cried "Mother! mother!" but the wind, which was blowing violently, prevented her cries from being heard. The prosecutrix lost her consciousness for some time, but when she recovered she found the prisoner lifting her up. She then cried, "Mother!" and it appeared that Mrs Newton, who being an aged woman had laid herself down on the bed to wait her daughter's arrival, and had fallen asleep, was aroused by some noise, and came to the door. The prosecutrix then said, "Oh, mother! why did you not come sooner?" The prisoner roared out his hand to Mrs Newton, and saying, "Good night!" hurried away. Miss Newton, the moment the door was closed, communicated the whole of the circumstances to her mother, who fainted when she heard them. Miss Newton's bonnet was bruised, her lace mantle was torn, her silk gown was torn and her silk stockings were soiled. Three of her brooches were gone, two of which were trodden upon in the garden. Her elbows were scratched and bleeding; her shoulder was contused; her arms were marked with bruises, and there were the marks of violence upon her. Mrs Newton went next day to see the prisoner, and made an earnest appeal to him to make the only reparation he now could make by marriage, though Miss Newton had before rejected his offer on the ground of want of means. He refused, denied that he had committed a rape, and said he would call at the house, and endeavour to reconcile matters. He gave Mrs Newton a letter for her daughter, of which the following is a copy:

"My dear Miss Newton.—On examining my pocket this morning, I find the enclosed (cuffs), though how they got there (thanks to the brandy-and-water) I have not the slightest notion. I think they must be yours; if not, perhaps you can find an owner for them. I hope you are not the worse to-day, for my part I am very, very seedy. Did not get up till one p.m., and have no very distinct recollection of how I got home. My landlady told me this morning that I swore I would never go to another wedding, not even to my own. With kind, &c., to Mrs Webster, believe me, very truly yours, J. ROBINSON."

The learned counsel, after detailing the conversations that had taken place between the prisoner and the family of the prosecutrix, invited the best attention of the jury to all the circumstances of this extraordinary case. Miss Newton was then examined, and her evidence was a repetition of the above. Her cross-examination was intended to show that her conduct had manifested levity towards the prisoner, but beyond a slight familiarity nothing was proved. Mrs Newton, the mother of the young lady, confirmed that part of her daughter's evidence which related to the night of the 30th of October. The witness saw the prisoner a day or two afterwards. She said to him, "Oh, you villain, you have ravished my daughter, and you have made me the wretchedest of mothers." He said that he had not done so, and that her daughter would not accuse him of it. The prisoner gave the witness a letter for her daughter. On the same afternoon the prisoner came to her house, and in her presence asked her daughter whether she could say that he had ravished her? Her daughter answered, "You know you have robbed me of what was dearer to me than life." The prisoner said, "Pacify yourself, Miss Newton, it will not be so bad as you suppose," and addressing witness, he said, "But if she proves with child I will marry her." Witness said, "You must marry her now, or submit to the rigour of the law." He said that he could not marry her then, but that he would call next day and try and effect a reconciliation. Witness said he must never enter her house again.—Louisa Newton, sister of the prosecutrix, corroborated the statement of the prosecutrix as to the circumstances of returning from the bridal party on the night of October 30.—J. Shaw, surgeon, sworn: Examined Miss Newton. Found her elbows black and very much bruised. There was a large black mark on the back of the shoulder, and six or seven bruises on the arm. The other marks upon the prosecutrix were such as were consistent with her statements respecting the violence of the prisoner.—A woman who lived in an adjoining house was called, and said that it was very windy on the night in question, and that she had remarked that it was a rough night for a wedding party to come home. Mr Overend made a powerful address to the jury on behalf of the prisoner, denying that any rape had been committed, and that whatever familiarity had taken place was assented to by the prosecutrix: and he called witnesses who gave the prisoner an unexceptionable character.—The learned judge summed up the evidence carefully, and the jury retired, and after being absent for several hours, finally returned a verdict of *Guilty*, with a strong recommendation to mercy, on the grounds that he was not quite sober at the time, and excited by the peculiar circumstances in which he was placed.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS.—TUESDAY.

BREACH OF PROMISE OF MARRIAGE.—MR STRANGE v. MISS ANN POPE.—This was an action for breach of promise of marriage, brought by Mr F. Strange, against Mrs Lyde, formerly Miss Mary Ann Pope. The defendant pleaded that she did not promise; that the plaintiff was not ready and willing to marry; that a reasonable time had not elapsed before he brought the action; that the plaintiff had not requested her to marry him; that she had not refused to do so; and that the contract was broken off with the leave and licence of the plaintiff. Mr Knowles, in stating the case for the plaintiff, said his client was an ivory merchant, in Hatton garden, nearly thirty years of age, had been married about eight or nine years ago, and had now been a widower for more than six years. The defendant was the daughter of a tailor in the immediate vicinity of the plaintiff's residence, and the parties had been friends and neighbours for many years. Indeed, about the year 1846, an attachment had sprung up between the plaintiff and defendant, which it was thought better to break off before any serious engagement existed, on account of the lady's youth. A year ago, however, matters returned to the old footing, and as the defendant's father has a house at Chase green, Enfield, the plaintiff was invited there to spend the Christmas-day, when he remained during the following day, made an offer of his hand, and was duly accepted. On the New Year's day the plaintiff's brother, who is a surgeon, at Hatton garden, gave a party in return, and they all went to the play in the evening, and the fair lady was on that occasion entrusted to the plaintiff's care by her friends. On the Sunday evening after her return home, when there had apparently been some slight disagreement between them—such as often happens in the course of the history of love—the fair defendant wrote the following letter:

"Dear Sir,—From your manner I infer that I shall not see you again before I leave town; I should therefore feel particularly obliged if you will let me know what I am indebted to you for last Friday evening's entertainment, and I must say, although, perhaps, you will deem me bold, that I cannot understand you. You know I am one to say what I think, for which I hope you will pardon me. I return to my sister's evening, having left much against her wish. I know I am wrong in writing, but I felt I must do it, think what you might of me.—I am, yours truly, MARY ANN POPE."

"Sunday Evening.

She said she was going to her sister's that evening, and accordingly to her married sister's house at Bayswater she went, when another note, which he would read, was sent to the plaintiff:—

"Dear Sir,—In reply to yours just received, I write to say I shall be here this evening, and shall be happy to see you. What a strange animal a man is!—I am yours truly, in haste, MARY ANN POPE."

The jury would observe how she punned on the plaintiff's name. Some few days after a third letter was sent in the following terms:—

"My dear Sir,—As you expressed a wish to hear from me, I have much pleasure in informing you, if it will afford you any gratification to know, I reached here safely this afternoon, without encountering my dear papa, who had not made his appearance in Hatton garden when I left at twelve o'clock. When I arrived at the Shoreditch station I found I was just too late for the Enfield train, so, by way of making the hour pass as pleasantly as I could, I regaled myself with three-pennyworth of 'Punch,' with which I sat down by the fire and much enjoyed, thinking at the same time it was preferable to a scene in Hatton garden. I understand from mamma my absence was much lamented last night, and from the description of the party I do not think I have any cause to regret yielding to your persuasions. I hope you did not again measure your length in the road last night. It is quite unnecessary you should be roughed here, for it was a case of old Bailey to-day, not but what I am sure if I were in your situation I should be ten times more troublesome. I heard in the omnibus to-day the woman was acquitted who murdered her child, and that the Judge gave a beautiful address. Do you not wish you had been there? I shall tire you with my scribbles, so will conclude. Hoping that this will find you better than when I left you, and accept my kind regards, and believe me, yours affectionately, MARY ANN POPE."

They would now come to a letter of business:—

"My dear Sir,—I was much pleased at receiving yours this afternoon. It was what I hardly expected after the parting, but I do not know what possessed me; I felt cross, and I thought you noticed it. They upbraided me after you left for not seeing you safely off the premises, but I suppose it was my innate modesty that deterred me. I mentioned the all-important subject to papa on Sunday morning. He did not raise any objection, but I will tell you more about it when I see you. I like not saying too much in a letter in case of a breach of promise. Mamma thinks it will look rather particular absenting myself from church, for if I understand you rightly it is what you wish; as Mr and Mrs Edwards will be here, and unless you particularly wish me not, I should prefer going, as it does not appear to me like Sunday unless I am at church once in the day. I must hurry this, as it is nearly post time—seven o'clock p.m. Anticipating the pleasure of seeing you on Sunday, believe me to be yours in sincerity, MARY ANN POPE."

"Chase green, Jan. 17, 1850."

The sincerity of the letter was short-lived indeed, for they would see what a change took place in ten short days by the following epistle:—

"My dear Sir,—I hope you will not consider me very unkind at the sentence I am about to pass. Papa thinks as well as myself that under existing circumstances you had better not come on Sunday, but defer your visit until Tuesday afternoon next. Papa will be in town on that day, and should you feel disposed, we shall be able to accommodate you, and on Sunday Mr and Mrs Edwards and a friend will be here, and it will be out of our power so to do. I think this will please you, but it is papa's wish and mine for the present. Will you let me know

if you come on Tuesday? We have had a heavy fall of snow to-day, and should it thaw it will not be very inviting here on Sunday. The clock striking eleven reminds me it is time for me to be where my parents have been for some time since, upstairs, so will wish you good night, hoping this will find you in a very good humour.—Yours very sincerely, MARY ANN POPE."

"I don't think you will be much disappointed."

It was his painful duty to tell them what took place in the mean time. On the Monday a party was given at Enfield in celebration of the lady's sister's birthday, and a young Scotchman named Lyde was there, who has now the happiness to be the defendant's husband. A change took place in her affections that evening, and on the following day when the plaintiff was there she went down stairs to one of the servants just before Mr Strange was going home, and said "What to do she didn't know; she thought she was very wicked for keeping company with two sweethearts at the same time." She went to London, however, the next day, saw the plaintiff there, and on Thursday came the following letter:—

"Chase green, Jan. 26, 1850.

"My dear Sir,—You doubtless expected a reply to yours ere this, but since I saw you circumstances have transpired which have placed me in a most painful position towards you, and oblige me to terminate all further communications with you. I will be candid with you, and tell you the cause is the return of one whom I for ever had a sincere attachment to, and avowedly assert that no other inducement could ever have supplanted you in my affections. The event has caused me many, many hours of reproach and unhappiness, but with my present feelings I feel bound to relinquish you, and know I am acting rightly in coming to this determination, for I never could have been happy. Don't think harshly of me, for I feel my situation most acutely, and will give you a further explanation if you wish it, as nothing has been said between you and papa. I do hope it will not make any difference in our friendship. I hope you will not refuse accepting a purse I have made for you, as a small acknowledgment of the kindness I have received from you; and believe me to be still your friend, MARY ANN POPE."

She enclosed in the purse a 5*l.* note to pay for some little disbursements he had from time to time made on her account. He wrote in answer to this letter in which he dwelt very earnestly on the shock his feelings had received at being thus cast off without warning, and with no previous intimation of such a change on the lady's part. He urged her to re-consider her decision, and, concluding, he accepted her pretty purse, but had not expended for her nearly as much as she sent. "I have therefore a balance to strike with you, but feel in no disposition to be in a hurry about it, as I hope our future interviews will be long, intimate, and many." An immediate reply was sent by the defendant, in which she repeated her decision, and the plaintiff very soon after brought the present action.—The evidence of several witnesses went to prove the material parts of the case, and to show the intimacy between the lovers. That of Mrs Joyce, a cook who lived with Mr Pope at Enfield, in November and December last, but who appears to have been discharged afterwards, was adduced. The following are the principal points of her evidence, to which we add some introductory passages by the Court and counsel:—I remember a party at Enfield at Christmas. Plaintiff slept there all night, and remained all the next day. I saw Mr Strange and Miss Pope kiss each other several times during the day. They walked together alone on the lawn. I saw them kiss each other there.—The Lord Chief Justice: What, out of doors on a frosty day!—Mr Knowles: Your lordship knows that persons in their situation are kept warm by their feelings.—Witness: They were left alone in the evening after Mr and Mrs Pope were gone to bed. On cross-examination witness said: I went to Mr Pope's in November, and left in April. I did not receive, I gave, warning. Plaintiff asked me what I knew about this case about a week before the last sittings. I saw them kissing on the lawn several times.—The Lord Chief Justice: You should ask if there was any mistletoe on the lawn.—Witness: I also saw kissing in the drawing-room on Christmas-day, when tea was carried in. The mistletoe was carried round then. I was not kissed down stairs, though that was under the mistletoe.—The Lord Chief Justice: There was nobody there, perhaps?—Witness: The kissing on the lawn the next day was both before and after dinner. Miss Pope had on a white straw bonnet, and Mr Strange had a hat on. I can't say which began, nor who left off. I did not hear the smacks. I also saw it several times after dinner, backwards and forwards. (Great laughter.) I mentioned the kissing to the plaintiff's attorney. It was not on the kissing day she told me she was going to marry Mr Strange.—Mr Serjeant Byles addressed the jury for the defence. He was instructed utterly to deny what was said to have taken place on the lawn before the lady's father's house. He contended that the letters gave no evidence of a promise, but rather showed an intention of consulting her papa and abiding by his decision, and the fact of the plaintiff's letter having been written twelve days after he had received his dismissal, and the manner in which that letter was worded, fully proved in his mind that it had been the composition of several minds, of which one at least was that of a man well skilled in law.—The Lord Chief Justice in summing up said, the familiarities proved, which would perhaps shock persons moving in the position of the jury, would not be looked upon as improper in persons moving in a lower walk of life. It seemed very much as if the parties expected the legal sanction of some ceremony to make their conduct all right, and the father's behaviour in the evening appeared as if he must have known of their intimacy. If the jury considered the promise proved from the correspondence, backed as it was by the parole testimony, there would then arise the question of damages. They must be necessarily small, for if the plaintiff had married, and the defendant's father had been opposed to the match, the lady would have had no fortune at all, and therefore he suffered no loss in that respect. As to his feelings, he most likely loved the lady; but then again she loved another person; so that he did not lose much there. He might find there were many other ladies to whom he was accessible, and he had his choice, which a lady had not. There was no pecuniary loss, and the injury to his feelings must be estimated. A man might be better off with small damages than if he were married to one who loved him not.—The jury gave a verdict for the plaintiff—Damages, one farthing.—The Lord Chief Justice refused to certify to deprive the plaintiff of costs.

CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT.

THE PLATE ROBBERY IN THE STRAND.—On Friday, Charles Clinton, aged 17, Daniel John Show, aged 34, James Badoock, aged 19, John Gardener, aged 25, and George Buncher, were put upon trial, for burglariously breaking into, and stealing out of, the premises of Mr Thomas Clapham and another in the Strand, plate to the amount of 1,500*l.*, and Mary Ann Buncher, and Mary Ann Chevenau, were charged with harbouring the prisoners Buncher and Gardener, after they had committed the robbery. Clinton pleaded guilty. The same evidence was given as that adduced before the police magistrate.—The learned Judge in summing up referred to the evidence, and observed that although undoubtedly there was a good deal of suspicion in the matter, it appeared to him that the legal evidence was not sufficient to justify a conviction. If the jury entertained the same opinion, it would be unnecessary to proceed further with the matter.—The jury returned a verdict of "Not Guilty."—The prisoner Clinton, who had pleaded Guilty, was sentenced to be transported for twenty years.

POLICE.

THE CHARGE OF CRUELTY AGAINST MR SLOANE AND HIS WIFE.—Yesterday having been appointed by the magistrates at Guildhall for the further re-hearing of this case, the Court was most densely crowded. The accused were represented by Mr Phillips; Mr Huddleston and Mr Pontifex, ward-clerk of Farringdon Without, attended to prosecute on behalf of the guardians of the poor. Mr Sloane appeared; but Mrs Sloane was not present. Alderman Humphrey presided, when the case was called on.—Mr Roe, the officer, said he had had a warrant for Mrs Sloane, and went to her residence with it, but he searched the premises for her in vain.—Jane Wilred was then brought in, and placed in a chair by the side of the magistrate. She appeared considerably better than on the last occasion. The doctor also attended upon her. Her evidence was uttered in a sound not at all above a whisper, so that it was quite impossible to hear her words, but we believe that the following details are strictly accurate:—She said she knew what an oath was. Mrs Sloane beat me sometimes the first thing in the morning, and sometimes in the daytime. I was crying because my mistress beat me; when Mr Sloane called me to the side of my bed, and then he beat me, because my shift was kept on my neck; my mistress wanted me to take it off. My mistress also beat me with her shoe on my back. I only had my flannel petticoat on, tied round me to keep my shift on. I kept my shift sleeves on to keep my shoulders warm. I was beat by my mistress while my master was present, and also the young lady, Miss Duvaux. I have been there two years. I never went to any place of worship, either to church or chapel, but I never asked to go. I did not know there was any place to go to. Neither Mr Sloane nor my mistress went to any place of worship as far as I know. My mistress was never out on Sundays, nor the young lady, and my master

only once. Meat was cooked for Mr and Mrs Sloane on Sundays, but I never had any of it. Mr Sloane first beat me when I had been some months in his service. I was first told to work without my shift sleeves on in the winter time. Before then I had always worked with my shift sleeves on. In the morning, my mistress has said she could not wait until I had put on all my clothes. I do not know whether my master heard her say so. My mistress beat me at the first time with her shoe. Mr Sloane was not present when she first beat me, but was present on other occasions. Mr Sloane beat me two or three days after that, sometimes before and sometimes times at breakfast. I had not as much to eat as I wanted. I had meat sometimes three times a week. Mr Sloane has beat me upon many occasions.—(She here repeated the charge of filthy cruelty which she had before made, with additions too disagreeable to repeat.)—It only happened once. It was a fortnight before I left the place. My master beat me sometimes if I forgot to do anything, such as scouring the fender with ashes, or the footman. He always beat me with a shoe on my back, hands, and arms. Mrs Sloane was present when Mr Sloane beat me. Miss Duvaux, the young lady, was also present at the time when my dirt was forced into my mouth with the turnip and spoon. (A shudder of horror expression respecting the appearance of Miss Duvaux and Mrs Sloane, and each, and himself in 500*l.*, that he will attend here again on Friday next. The Alderman then announced that the Secretary of the Free Hospital had that morning received 10*l.* from Hastings on behalf of the poor girl; and he had also received about 10*l.* besides; so that altogether a subscription had been made for her of about 20*l.*, which would give her some good clothes (not before they were wanted), and place her in some situation where she might become a useful and respectable member of society.—Mr Sloane sat in a chair before the bar, and during the whole of the inquiry kept his eyes steadily fixed upon the ground. Upon his retirement he was assailed with loud hissing from the large number of persons present.

OCCURRENCES AND ACCIDENTS.

ACCIDENT AND LOSS OF LIFE IN THE GREAT WESTMINSTER SEWER.—On Monday morning an accident occurred near Hungerford market, attended with the loss of two lives. For some time a new sewer has been constructing, which opens in Middle Scotland yard, and extends some distance into the river near Northumberland wharf. At the usual hour the men went to their work, and continued until eleven o'clock, when suddenly the water from the river washed away the mainstay at the end of the sewer, and almost instantaneously the passage filled with water. One poor fellow was driven to the mouth of the shaft leading into the sewer, when he was taken out almost exhausted and conveyed to the hospital. Three or four other persons, on hearing the rush of water into the sewer, and who were standing near a ladder, succeeded in making a retreat just in time to avoid being drowned. The whole of the men were actively engaged during Monday in pumping the water out of the sewer, and between four and five o'clock they succeeded in clearing the passage of the principal portion of its contents, when they beheld the lifeless bodies of two poor fellows who had been engaged during the forenoon in forming the brickwork of the structure. Their names were Gorman and Elliott. The former was a bricklayer, who resided in Fox court, Gray's-inn lane, and the latter a labourer. One has left a widow and three children totally unprovided for; and the other a widow and four children equally penniless. The formation of this sewer has been for some weeks in operation, and was when the accident occurred nearly completed. Such was the violence and rapidity of the rush of water when the feeble barrier that opposed its advance was overthrown, that some of the men were swept off their feet as if by some supernatural agency, and tossed to the top of the passage, whilst a noise was heard like that which accompanies the bounding progress of an avalanche. When they succeeded in gaining a footing on the banks of the works, many of the poor fellows shook like aspen leaves with fear.—An inquest was held on Wednesday on the bodies of the two men who were killed on Monday, when some light was thrown upon the origin of the catastrophe. It appears that two new sewers are in process of formation under the surface of Great Scotland yard, both of them having one outlet into the river. The first is intended to convey the sewage from the vicinity of Trafalgar square, and the second runs from Whitehall place along Parliament street and Whitehall. In the formation of the former, it became necessary to cross an inlet called "Blind Dock," through which the sewage of Regent street and the surrounding districts descends. It is stated that the design furnished by the engineer to the commissioners proposed to cross this dock by an open cutting. The contractors, judging from the evidence adduced, attempted to obtain a communication between the works by means of a tunnel underneath the bed of the dock, and to this proceeding on their part—all knowledge of which is denied by the officers of the commission—the fatal occurrence seems to be fairly attributable. The statement of Mr Scott, the clerk of the works, has led to the above conclusion. He added the following evidence:—When a witness arrived at the works on Monday morning, he heard for the first time that the contractors' men had made a tunnel underneath the bed of the dock during Saturday night and Sunday. Feeling satisfied that such a work must be attended with great danger, he determined to go down and warn the men to desist. He was prevented doing so at the moment, and about five minutes before he was about to descend the accident occurred. The tunnel, or "heading," as it was technically called, had been carried twenty-five feet under the bed of the dock, and the workmen had nearly completed the communication between the two sewers when the water broke in from above, and inundated the whole works. Witness considered that to perform such a work when the dock was full of water was exceedingly dangerous. The tide on Monday morning was unusually high, and the pressure would be correspondingly greater. Witness had examined the works since the accident, and satisfied himself that it occurred in this way. Wheeler, the contractors' foreman, was satisfied the water came in by breaking through the bottom of the dock. The tunnel was finished all but five feet. It was six or seven feet from the bed of the river. The dock is never dry. He paid particular attention to the safety of the men. After some discussion, the Coroner adjourned the inquiry till Monday next.

FATAL OCCURRENCE ON THE GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY.—On Monday an accident of a fatal character took place at the terminus of the Great Northern Railway at King's cross. It appears that a large body of workmen have been for some time past engaged in excavating a tunnel, which is to pass from the eastern side of the Maiden-lane bridge, under the Regent's Canal, into the permanent station on the sites of the late London Fever and Small pox hospitals at King's cross. These men were at work in groups in various parts of the tunnel. One group of miners, headed by a man named Wynne, were at work in the tunnel about forty yards from its mouth, and were engaged in making ready for the "cill," a portion of timber used in supporting tunnels before the brickwork is introduced. He had just exclaimed, "Come, my men, we must pitch into this work and get the 'cill' in," and had made one or two strokes with his pick in conjunction with a man named Edwards, when a large amount of earth gave way and fell upon them and other workmen. An alarm was instantly raised, and after some delay the men were dug out, when it was found that Wynne had his head crushed in a frightful manner. He was conveyed to Randall's cottages, near Randall's tile kilns, in Maiden lane, but life was quite extinct. The other men were but slightly injured. No cause can be assigned for the falling of the earth in the tunnel, which is of a clayey character, and very dry.—An inquest was held on the body of Wynne on Wednesday, when the evidence given was confirmatory of the above statement, and a verdict was returned of Accidental Death.

THE SMITHFIELD NUISANCE.—On Monday night about five o'clock a bullock, which was about to be removed from Smithfield market, suddenly broke away and proceeded into West street at furious speed, and thence into Giffon hill. Here, at the corner of Church street, it broke some panes of glass in the shop window of a clothes salesman, and a short distance further on in the same street it smashed several panes of a public-house front. On its way up the hill the beast came in collision with a cab, and slightly injured the horse with its horns. After passing along several streets, the animal came in collision with a cab, the horse in which was knocked down. It then went up Bagnigg-wells road, into Lower Rosset street, round Wilmington square, down Yardley street, into Lower Rosset street, having in the course of its passage, upset several trucks. At the corner of Lower Rosoman street and Bowling-green lane a cabman whipped the beast across its back, upon which it dashed at a woman of the name of Hughes, one of the pew-openers of St Philip's church, Granville square, who was in an instant lifted into the air several feet, falling near the walls of the burial ground adjoining. The animal then endeavoured to toss her, but she was fortunately assisted by the barman of the John of Jerusalem public house at the corner, who tried to rescue her

The beast was about to gore him, but its attention was drawn to two stalls, which it cleared away, scattering the stores of each, consisting of shell-fish and fruit, in all directions. Having done this mischief, it pursued its course by the House of Detention to Clerkenwell green. From the green it returned into Lower Rosoman street, and got into the open space by the House of Detention, where there is no thoroughfare, and lay down in a corner, adjoining the yard of Mr Johnson, the builder. After being there a short time, evidently exhausted a man in the employment of Mr Johnson put a tub of water before the beast. While drinking it the man incautiously approached the animal, who instantly gored him in the abdomen. The poor fellow fell back and was conveyed in a cab to St Bartholomew's Hospital. The animal again started off in the midst of the crowd collected, many of whom were knocked down in trying to make their escape, and ran into Rosoman street, where it knocked down another woman, who was taken up much injured. It subsequently got into Upper street, Islington, where it took possession of the pavement, pursued by an immense crowd. When opposite the shop of Messrs Tolland and Co., dyers, it forced its head through a valuable square of plate glass, and broke the mahogany framework, to the terror of a young woman who was sitting at work, and who made a rapid exit from the shop. It was eventually lodged in the yard of Laycock's dairy, Liverpool road, where it was driven by policemen Foster and Collins. Mrs Hughes was taken to the John of Jerusalem, whence she was conveyed to her lodgings, where she was attended by a medical gentleman, who said that she had received serious internal injuries.—Fagan, who was so seriously injured as above stated, died in St Bartholomew's Hospital on Wednesday morning. Mrs Hughes still suffers internally from the serious injuries she has received. When she was conveyed home on Monday night, her medical attendant had not much hopes of her. She, however, rallied the following day. The bullock is now in the possession of the superintendent of the N division, at Islington; and should no one come for it, it will be sold, when the proceeds will be appropriated to reimburse those who have suffered by its violence.—An inquest was held on the body of Fagan on Thursday, but was adjourned till Monday to give time for the discovery of the owner of the ox.

SUICIDE OF MR GEORGE SPENCE, Q.C., OF THE CHANCERY BAR.—An inquest was held on Monday to inquire into the circumstances attending the death of Mr G. Spence, Q.C., which took place on Thursday week.—H. Payne said, he was a footman in the service of the deceased. Was roused about a quarter past two on the morning of the Tuesday previous by the lady's maid, who came to the door of his room, and said that something had happened to her master. Witness went directly to Mr Spence's bedroom, at the door of which he was met by Mrs Spence, who desired him to go immediately for medical assistance. Witness went for Dr Mackenzie and Mr Squibb, the family medical attendant. The deceased slept in a room by himself, Mrs Spence occupying an adjoining apartment. The last month the deceased slept worse and worse—was constantly low-spirited, and frequently said that he should never get over his complaint. Mr Spence was sixty-three years of age—Anne Lancaster, lady's maid, said: "On Tuesday morning, shortly after two o'clock, Mrs Spence came into witness's room, and told her that Mr Spence had destroyed himself. Witness went immediately to the deceased's room, and saw her master lying upon the bed, which was covered with blood. The deceased was lying on an incised character on both sides of the neck, on the thigh, and on both wrists. The chief hemorrhage was from the wounds in the neck. The deceased was rational and collected when witness saw him. He said he had been in a very desponding state previously, and had inflicted the wounds upon himself while in a fit of despondency. He added that it was useless to adopt any means to save him, as he felt his life could not be preserved. Witness did all that was necessary, and remained with the deceased until Mr Squibb arrived.—Mr Squibb said he saw the deceased between three and four on Tuesday morning. He was then in a state of extreme depression, arising from excessive hemorrhage. On seeing witness the deceased said, "You see what a dreadful thing I have done. I am pleased I have been punished in this world, and I hope I shall escape hereafter." The deceased never rallied, and died on Thursday from exhaustion and loss of blood. Witness saw the deceased on the Monday, and he then appeared more calm than usual. He had long been labouring under the delusion that he had a disease of the bladder. He had none whatever; he had no symptoms of such a disease. The deceased had told witness that his father had died of such a malady, and he believed such would be his own fate. This delusion had produced great despondency of mind, a feeling which he could not surmount.—The jury, without hesitation, returned a verdict to the following effect:—That the death of the deceased was caused by exhaustion, arising from loss of blood from wounds inflicted by himself, while in an unsound state of mind.—The deceased gentleman was very much respected at the bar and in his private circle. He has left one son and one daughter.

LOSS OF THE HELENA SLOMAN SCREW STEAMER.—This vessel was lost on her passage from Southampton to New York. She left Southampton on the 1st ult., with a valuable cargo and 180 souls on board. The passengers and crew were principally Germans. She was discovered by the American packet Devonshire, Captain Hovey, after having been beating about in great distress for eight days. In the attempt to rescue the persons on board the steamer, four of the crew of the Devonshire, and five of the passengers of the Helena Sloman, were lost. The names of the four of the crew of the Devonshire who were lost were as follows:—Mr Johnson, third mate of the Devonshire; John Hason, of Londonderry; George Riley, of Hull; and Daniel Macarthur, of Montreal, seamen. The names of the passengers of the Helena Sloman who were lost were—Mr Shelton, of Mecklenburg; Dr Lutz, of Heilbron; Augusta Rozenbuck, of Mecklenburg; John Popake, of Mecklenburg; and Henry Otterburg, of Hanover. The English passengers who joined the Helena Sloman at Southampton were—Mr Sladden and his wife, Mr John Young, Mr J. P. Geary, Mr Stehilen, and Mr Busher.

Prices of Stocks, Railway Shares, &c.

Table with columns for BRITISH and FOREIGN stocks, including Consols, Do. Account, 3 per Cent. Reduced, 3 1/2 New, Long Annuities, Bank Stock, India Stock, Exchequer Bills, and India Bonds. Includes sub-section 'THE FUNDS' with details on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday.

BANK OF ENGLAND. An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending on Saturday, the 14th day of December, 1850. Includes ISSUE DEPARTMENT and BANKING DEPARTMENT with financial figures.

RAILWAYS AND PUBLIC COMPANIES. From the list of Messrs Holderness, Fowler, and Holderness (late Wolfe, Brothers) Stock and Share Brokers, Change Alley, Cornhill. Table with columns for SHARES, RAILWAYS, PAID, and CLOSING PRICES.

FOREIGN. Table listing various foreign locations and their corresponding prices. Includes PUBLIC COMPANIES section below.

Trade and Commerce.

Smithfield Market, Monday.—The supply of fat cattle at Smithfield was very large; the number was first spoken of as upwards of 7,000 beasts and 34,000 sheep. The show of beasts was extremely fine, the quality being superior, generally without excessive fat; but there were many exceptions. With respect to sheep, the supply was large, but the show was not, taken as a whole, of any extraordinary merit. It is true there were some exceedingly fine animals; but the generally were only middling, and many of but 1 different quality. The general tone of trade during the morning was decidedly dull, and the best Scotch beasts did not make more than about 4s. per stone, being at the rate of 6d. per lb., and of course inferior beasts went below this rate. The supply of beasts being so large, far beyond the demand, a great many were turned out unsold at the close of the day.

Table with columns 'Prices per Stone' and 'At Market' for various commodities like Beef, Mutton, Veal, Pork, and Lam.

Friday.—The supply of meat at market to-day was small, compared with the usual quantity on a Friday, but for the time of year fully as large as was expected. The trade for both beef and veal was slow; the former at 4d. per stone below the rates of Monday, the latter at the quotations then current. For mutton there was a brisker demand, and Monday's prices were steadily maintained, particularly for the best sorts. Downs fetched 4s. 4d., Scotch beasts 3s. 8d., and best calves 3s. 8d. Pork sold steadily, without change in prices.

Corn Market.—CORN EXCHANGE, Monday.—The arrivals since this day week have been small except of French Flour. Wheat: English, of which the supply by land-carriage samples is liberal, must be written 1s. lower for all but those most out of condition, which were scarcely saleable; at 2s. reduction from Monday last. Foreign is not pressed, but buyers will not give within about 1s. of last quotations. Barley: The late advance in price has brought forward more liberal supplies of home growth, and grinding and distilling qualities are 6d. to 1s. lower, whilst the very finest parcels of Malting continue to bring about the same prices as this day week. Oats: All kinds sell readily at quite as much money, the supplies being still far below the consumption. Beans and Pease: The former article 6d. to 1s. lower, the latter without alteration. Flour: Dull sale for all kinds, especially for French.

Table with columns for WHEAT, BARLEY, OATS, and FLOUR, listing prices for English, Foreign, and other varieties.

IMPORTATIONS. Into London from Dec. 15 to Dec. 19, both inclusive. Table with columns for Wheat, Barley, Oats, Malt, and Flour.

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, December 17. Partnerships Dissolved.—R. K. Purkin and J. Hildyard, Scarborough, linen drapers—C. Reeves and E. M. Holmes, Bath, stationary—J. Taylor, J. Graves, and J. Taylor, Crompton, Lancashire, cotton spinners—so far as regards J. Taylor—G. Faulkner, J. Fallows, and T. Lynlin, Manchester, manufacturers—J. and W. Hook, Toxteth park, Liverpool, bricklayers—J. W. G. and H. Rougier, York, tortoiseshell comb manufacturers; so far as regards H. Rougier—R. Roberts, B. Fothergill, and R. G. Dobinson, Manchester, machine makers; so far as regards B. Fothergill—H. J. Edlin and H. Grillington, Liverpool, merchants—W. F. and J. Dann, London road, Southwark, butchers—S. and C. Crisp, Herbert street, Hackney road, whole-sale toy manufacturers—J. Dowson, W. and J. Earle, R. Jones, and T. Atherton, Northampton, timber merchants; so far as regards T. Atherton—C. C. Smith and R. Roberts, Mold, Flintshire, brewer—A. Acheson and P. Whitestone, Leadenhall street, City—J. Pascock and T. Whitehouse, Knowle, Staffordshire, coal masters.

War-office, DECEMBER 20.—2nd Regiment of Dragoon Guards; Ltout. C. E. Walker to be Capt. by purchase, vice Dalla, who retires; Cornet J. O'Hara to be Ltout. by purchase, vice Walker—13th Light Dragoons; Ltout. S. G. Jonyans to be Capt. by purchase, vice Hervey, who retires; Cornet P. S. Smith to be Ltout. by purchase, vice Jonyans—8th Regiment of Foot; Ltout. F. Walsh, from the 62nd Foot, to be Ltout. vice Rynd, who exchanges—31st Foot; Capt. S. A. F. Cary, from the 51st Foot, to be Capt. vice Bray, who exchanges—38th Foot; Ensign H. F. Vance to be Ltout. by purchase, vice Vance—7th Foot; Capt. J. Lloyd from the 1st West India Regiment, to be Capt. vice Simott, who exchanges—62nd Foot; Ltout. M.K. Rynd, from the 8th Foot, to be Ltout. vice Walsh, who exchanges—83rd Foot; Capt. E. W. Bray, from the 31st Foot, to be Capt. vice Cary, who exchanges—98th Foot; Ensign H. R. Twyford, from the 44th Foot, to be Ensign, vice Harris, whose appointment has been cancelled—1st West India Regiment; Capt. J. Simott from the 47th Foot, to be Capt. vice Lloyd, who exchanges.

Partnerships Dissolved.—J. Cref and T. Fuller, Royal Exchange buildings, City, mining share dealers—S. and J. Clough, Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancashire, tailors—J. B. Sharpley and T. Lawrence, Louth, Lincolnshire, coal merchants—W. O. Tucker and J. Steavenson, Sun chambers, Threadneedle street, attorneys-at-law—Elizabeth Drake and J. S. Fry, Chelmsford, Essex, confectioners—A. Moore and W. Short, North Wharf road, Paddington, marble cutters—T. and W. Wilson and R. C. Murray, Sheffield, Yorkshire, ironfounders; so far as regards T. Wilson—Emma and Meta Rowe, Waterloo street, Hove, keepers of a ladies' boarding school—E. B. Webb and C. L. Hensman, Castle Lecky, near Newtown Limavady, Ireland, engineers—E. Sulth and J. Whitaker, Birmingham, linen drapers—F. Tinker and J. Shaw, Hyde, Cheshire, surgeons—T. and J. Hugh, Newlay, Leeds, dyers—G. Phibbs, W. Osborn, and T. Bessley, Critchfield friars, City, wine merchants—J. Hammond, G. Haron, T. Cotton, and G. Hawthorne, Hollinwood, Manchester, coal proprietors; so far as regards G. Hawthorne—G. Bewley and J. Dalton, Kingston-upon-Hull, stock brokers—J. Bradbury, R. Anderson, and T. Bettony, Longton, Staffordshire, manufacturers of china; so far as regards J. Bradbury—W. and E. Warneford, York, linen drapers—J. Harper, J. Moore, J. Carter, and E. Morgan, Whitecroft, Gloucestershire, coal proprietors; so far as regards J. Carter and E. Morgan—J. Dewhurst and S. Newman, Bull Head court, Newgate street, booksellers—D. Norton, C. L. Hogcart, and J. Oakley, Old Broad street, City, land valuers; so far as regards J. Oakley—J. Platt and J. Clayton, Stockport, Cheshire, stone masons—J. A. J., W. B., S. H., and A. C. Waterloo, London wall, City, law stationers; so far as regards J. Waterloo—C. W. and A. T. Squary, attorneys-at-law.

Bankruptcy Annulled.—W. Mayer, Bateman's row, Shoreditch, timber merchant. Bankrupts.—J. Volter, Landport, Southampton, builder. [McLew, Chancery lane, City.—S. Jeff yes, Eltham, Kent, millster. [Hillerys, Fenchurch street, City.—T. Evans, Foul Dilton, Cambridgeshire, innkeeper. [Trinder and Eyre, John street, Bedford row.—J. M. Constable, Norwich, draper. [Jones, 53, lane, Bucklersbury.—S. Willett, son, Chichester, Gloucestershire, plumber. [Packwood, Cheltenham.—J. Lansbury, Neath, Glamorganshire, grocer. [British and Sons, Bristol.—W. Laycock, Liverpool, iron merchant. [Dodge, Liverpool.—C. Robinson, Liverpool, salt-maker. [Holden, Liverpool.—S. F. Martyn, Bishop Auckland, Durham, draper. [Cooper, Sunderland.

Dividends.—January 10, C. O'Neil, Golden square, picture dealer—January 15, J. Thompson, Piccadilly, linen draper—January 15, J. Johnson, jun., Uxbridge, common carrier—January 14, J. H. Arthur, Galleck hill, City, wholesale stationer—January 11th, B. Angla, Moorfields, City, licensed victualler—January 11, A. Pains and G. F. Davies, High street, Southwark, woollendrapers—January 11, W. Pyman, Saint Oystin, Essex, corn merchant—January 11, A. Cranston, Wimborne Minster, Dorsetshire, cabinet maker—January 11, E. Hyron, John street, Tottenham-court road, piano-forte manufacturer—January 11, R. Barker and H. Davey, Bicester, Oxfordshire, drapers—January 11, J. S. Hodge and J. Culpin, New Oxford street, tailors—January 13, H. G. Ward, Brownlow street, Drury lane, coach currier—January 13, J. G. Beach, Beresford street, Woolwich, licensed victualler—January 13, F. Bennett, Clapham rise, Surrey, soda water manufacturer—January 13, J. Leigh, Liverpool, merchant—January 13, T. W. Dornford, Suffolk lane, Cannon street, City, wine merchant—January 11, J. N. Reynolds, Upper street, Islington, grocer—January 14, J. Williams, Newport, Monmouthshire, auctioneer—January 14, J. Bird, Cwmavon, Glamorganshire, grocer—January 13, Mary Bakewell, Manchester, size manufacturer—January 21, W. and S. Shaw, Salford, Yorkshire, timber merchants—January 14, J. G. G. and R. Williams, Chester, engravers—January 15, R. Loosemore, Tiverton, Devonshire, scrivener—January 15, J. Page, Plymouth, Devonshire, butcher—January 23, S. Farnall, East Loock, Cornwall, grocer.

Certificates to be granted, unless cause be shown to the contrary on the day of meeting.—January 14, S. Lock, Stoke D'Abernon, Surrey, auctioneer—January 21, T. Wesley, Newport Pagnel, Buckinghamshire, hotel keeper—January 21, R. Turner, Worthing, Sussex, draper—January 13, C. Jones, Llanfyllia, Montgomeryshire, grocer—January 15, J. Taylor, Itchold, Lancashire, cotton spinner—January 18, C. Pearson, Sheffield, Yorkshire, licensed victualler—January 14, T. Edwards, Birmingham, iron tounder—January 21, J. Livesey and J. Pimm, New London, Nottinghamshire, lace-makers—January 21, H. Ward, Houlbeach, Lincolnshire, draper.

Scotch Sequestrations.—J. Weir, Cumnock, ironmonger—D. Russell, Glasgow, printer—Harthill and Salmon, Glasgow, printers—J. Rougier, Greenock, cabinet maker.

Births.—At Florence, on the 8th inst., Mrs Baring, of a son.—On the 15th inst., at Moulton Paddocks, Suffolk, the lady of Sir Robert Pigot, Bart., M.P., of a son.—On the 17th inst., at 26 Lower Brook street, Lady Wolstonehouse, of a daughter.—On the 17th inst., in Grosvenor square, the Lady Mary Farquhar, of a daughter.—On the 13th inst., at Burlington house, Mrs William G. Cavendish, of a son.—On the 17th inst., at Chesterfield house, the Marchioness of Abercorn, of a daughter.

Marriages.—On the 12th inst., at Edinborough, the Hon. C. A. Murray, Consul-General for Egypt, second son of the late George Earl of Dunmore, and nephew of the Duke of Hamilton, to Elizabeth, only daughter of the late J. Wadsworth, Esq., of Genesee, New York.—On the 17th inst., C. M. McGrigor, Esq., eldest son of Sir James McGrigor, Bart., K.C.B., Director-General of the Army Medical Department, to Elizabeth Anne, youngest daughter of Colonel Sir Robert Nicolson, K.B.—On the 17th inst., at Morval, Cornwall, Sir John Duckworth, Bart., to Mary Isabella, youngest daughter of the late J. Buller, of Morval, Esq.

Deaths.—On the 12th inst., at Fortsen, Elizabeth, relict of the late Rev. J. Griffin, in the 80th year of her age.—On the 13th inst., at Maida hill, A. Davis Esq., aged 84.—On the 16th inst., at Old Aberdeen, aged 90, Lieut.-Colonel Arthur Forbes.—On the 1st inst., at Rome, Mr J. Ritchie, sculptor.—On the 16th inst., at Barrow-on-Trent, the Right Hon. the Lady Scarsdale, relict of the late Lord Scarsdale, of Redstone, Derbyshire, in the 84th year of her age.—On the 15th inst., at New Cross, Hatching, Surrey, Mr J. Sios, in the 88th year of his age.—On the 16th inst., at 9 Lingham place, Mrs Spencer Stanhope, aged 87.—On the 6th inst., at East Rudham, the Rev. T. Bland, aged 89, more than forty-five years vicar of East and West Rudham with Tostrees, Norfolk.—On the 12th inst., at Impsburgh, Trol, in the 28th year of her age, Georgina Montgomery, Baroness de Roder.—On the 7th inst., at Cannes, Colonel B. Sandwith, C.B., of the Bombay Light Cavalry, aged 60.—On the 6th inst., at Monk's Kirby, W. Wicksteed, Mrs Farrel, aged 80.—On the 12th inst., at C-mden New Town, R. Calvert, M.D., Deputy Inspector of Mill Air Hospitals, aged 68.—On the 13th inst., at Tuil, near Taunton, in her 89th year, Phillis, widow of the late Captain Schach, of the Royal Artillery.—On the 12th inst., in Upper Montague street, Montague square, Elizabeth Haggitt, aged 81.—On the 15th inst., in the 87th year of his age, Mr Charles Koworth, of Red yard, Temple bar, printer.

THEATRE ROYAL DRURY LANE.
 Lessee and Manager, Mr James Anderson. The public is respectfully informed that the National Theatre will open for Dramatic Performances on Thursday, December 26th, 1850, with Shakespeare's play of the "WINTER'S TALE," after which a new Original Comic Pantomime, entitled **HALEQUIN HUMPTY DUMPTY**, or **Big Belly Ben** and the first Lord Mayor of London.—The Box-Office is open from 11 till 4.

THEATRE ROYAL, HAYMARKET.
 Sole Lessee and Director, Mr Benjamin Webster.
 Great Attraction for the Holidays.
ON Monday (last night before the holidays).
HENRY THE FOURTH. King Henry, Mr Macready. With **A RADICAL CURE.** Principal characters by Mr Buckstone and Mrs Fitzwilliam. And **THE GREEN-EYED MONSTER.**

Tuesday and Wednesday being Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, the theatre will be closed.
 Thursday (Boxing-night), **EVERY ONE HAS HIS FAULT.** After which will be produced, a new Grand Burlesque, called **THE SECOND CALENDAR**; or, the Queen of Beauty who fought with the Geni.
 Friday and Saturday, a Comedy. A Grand Burlesque. And other Entertainments.

THEATRE ROYAL, ADELPHI.
 Under the direction of Madame Celeste.

ON Monday, December 23rd, the popular new Drama, **JESSIE GRAY.** Principal characters by Messrs Paul Bedford, O. Smith, Hughes, Boyce, C. J. Smith, Honey; Madame Celeste, Miss Kathleen Fitzwilliam, and Mrs Laws. And **JACK IN THE GREEN.**

On Thursday (Boxing-night), **JESSIE GRAY.** After which **LA FARANTULA**; or, the Spider King. With **THE SCHOOL FOR TIGERS.**

COLOSSEUM.—NEW PANORAMA.
 This Establishment has been entirely redecored with additional splendour, and will re-open on Thursday, Dec. 26th, with a New Grand "Tempera" Panorama of **THE LAKE OF THUN**, and Swiss Scenery; painted by Messrs Danson and Son. Open from 10 till 12 till Five, and from Seven till Half-past Ten. Music from Two till Five, and during the Evening.—Admission, 2s; children and schools, half-price.

CYCLORAMA, Albany street. Admission, 1s.—A Grand Moving Panorama of LISBON and the EARTHQUAKE in 1755 is exhibited daily at Two, Half-past Three, Half-past Seven, and Nine, illustrated by appropriate Music on the new grand Apollonion.—Children and schools, half-price.

CHRISTMAS HOLYDAYS.
ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.

LECTURE by Bachhoffner on **VOLTAIC ELECTRICITY**, in which will be exhibited **ALLMAN'S PATENT ELECTRIC LIGHT**, on Tuesday and Thursday Evenings, at Nine.—LECTURE by J. H. Pepper, Esq. on **FIRE AND ITS ANTAGONISTS**, illustrated with brilliant Experiments.—NEW LECTURE by Mr George Barker, entitled an **ENGLISH CHRISTMAS**, illustrated by appropriate Ballads, composed expressly by him, and written by a Lady of Distinction, every Evening (except Saturday) at Eight o'clock.—MODEL of **WESTON'S PATENT NOVA-MOTIVE RAILWAY** at work daily.—EXHIBITION of the **OXY-HYDROGEN MICROSCOPE**.—ENTIRELY NEW SERIES of **DISSOLVING VIEWS**, illustrating some of the **ROYAL RESIDENCES OF EUROPE**.—**DIVER AND DIVING BELL**, &c. &c.—Admission, 1s; Schools, Half-price.—Open daily, from Eleven till Five o'clock, and every Evening (EXCEPT SATURDAY) from Seven till Half-past Ten.

DINNEFORD'S PURE FLUID
MAGNESIA an excellent remedy for Acidities, Heartburn, Headache, Sea-sickness, Gout, and Indigestion; as a mild aperient it is admirably adapted for Females and Children.—Dinneford and Co., Dispensing Chemists, 172 New Bond street. (General Agents for the Improved Horse Hair Gloves and Belts.)

DENT'S IMPROVED WATCHES
 and **CLOCKS**.—E. J. DENT, Watch and Clock Maker by distinct appointment to the Queen, H.R.H. Prince Albert, and H.M. the Emperor of Russia, most respectfully solicits from the public an inspection of his extensive Stock of **WATCHES and CLOCKS**, embracing all the latest modern Improvements, at the most economical charges. Ladies' gold watches, with gold dials, jewelled in four holes, 8 guineas. Gentlemen's, with enamelled dials, 10 guineas. Youth's silver watches, 4 guineas. Warranted substantial and accurate going lever watches, jewelled in four holes, 6 guineas.—E. J. DENT, 82 Strand; 33 Cockspur street; and 34 Royal Exchange (Clock Tower Area).

STEAM COMMUNICATION WITH THE BRAZILS AND RIVER PLATE.

ROYAL MAIL STEAM-PACKET COMPANY.—On the 9th JANUARY, 1851, the **TEVIOT**, Captain REVETT, and thenceforward, on the 9th of each month, one of this Company's Steamers, will leave Southampton, with Mails, Passengers, &c. for Madeira, Tenerife, St Vincent (Cape de Verdes), Pernambuco, Bahia, and Rio de Janeiro, and from thence, by Branch Steamer, to Monte Video and Buenos Ayres, returning by the same route to Southampton.

Particulars as to rates of fares, freights, &c. may be had on application at the Company's Offices in London, or at Southampton, where parcels, packages, and publications will be received for the above mentioned.

Goods taken on moderate freight outward to Bahia, Rio de Janeiro, Monte Video, and Buenos Ayres; and homeward from the same places, as well as from Pernambuco, St Vincent (Cape de Verdes), Tenerife, and Madeira.

Passengers are recommended to make early application for securing proper Berths.

E. CHAPPELL, Secretary, 55 Moorgate street, London.

TO HEADS OF FAMILIES, SCHOOLS,

&c.—The **GUTTA PERCHA COMPANY** have the pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of the following Letter, relating to **GUTTA PERCHA SOLES**, from Lieut. Rouse, R.N., Superintendent of the Greenwich Hospital Schools.—
 "My dear Sir,—I have for the last three years worn Gutta Percha Soles, and find from the comfort experienced in the wear generally, particularly in regard to dry feet, and also in durability and consequent economy, I was induced to recommend the Commissioners of Greenwich Hospital to sanction its use in this establishment instead of leather soles. It has now been six months in general use here, so that I can, from experience in the wear and tear of shoes for eight hundred boys, able to speak with confidence as to its utility, which in my belief is very great; and I am looking forward to its being the means, during the next winter, of preventing chilblains, from which we have greatly suffered. I have much pleasure in giving this testimony, and you have my permission to make it as public as you please, in the belief that it cannot but be doing good."
 "Your obedient servant," JOHN WOOD ROUSE.
 "To S. Statham, Esq."
THE GUTTA PERCHA COMPANY, PATENTEES,
 18 Wharf road, City Road, London.

GEO. OSBORNE'S rich-flavoured PEAT-SMOKED BREAKFAST BACON, 6d. per lb. by the half-side.

This GENUINE and truly DELICIOUS ARTICLE has now stood the test of the FACULTY and EPICURES of the present day, who have pronounced it to be, from my own peculiar method of curing, unequalled in FLAVOUR, QUALITY, and PURITY. I have, therefore, much pleasure in again introducing it to the notice of my kind patrons and the public generally, feeling assured that to those who have not hitherto availed themselves of purchasing, it needs only one trial to merit their constant support and patronage. I also beg to solicit an inspection of my large and SUPERIOR STOCK of PROVISIONS, comprising

FINE RIPE STILTON, from 7d. to 1s. per lb.
Good FAMILY CHERISH, from 5d. to 6d. per lb.
My CELEBRATED SUGAR and SNOW-CURED SPANISH HAMS, 7d. per lb.
NEW STRASBURGH and WESTPHALIA ditto, at 7d. per lb.
VALPARAISO or SOUTH AMERICAN HAMS, at 5d. per lb.
NEW MILK KEEPING BUTTER for WINTER use, at 9d. and 10d. per lb. by the half tab; other provisions equally moderate, and of the choicest description.
LARGE CONSUMERS will effect a saving of at least 10 or 15 per cent. by purchasing at this ESTABLISHMENT.
 All Goods carefully packed and delivered at the respective RAILWAY TERMINI, as well as within five miles of London, free of expense to the purchaser.

GEO. OSBORNE, CHEESE and BACON FACTOR,
CSB'ERNE HOUSE, 30 LUDGATE HILL, near St Paul's Church.

STEAM to INDIA and CHINA, via EGYPT.—Regular Monthly Mail (steam conveyance) for PASSENGERS and LIGHT GOODS to CEYLON, MADRAS, CALCUTTA, PENANG, SINGAPORE, and HONG-KONG.

The Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company book Passengers and receive Goods and Parcels for the above Ports by their Steamers, starting from Southampton on the 20th of every month, and from Suez on or about the 10th of the month.

BOMBAY.—Passengers for Bombay can proceed by this Company's Steamers of the 29th of the month to Malta, thence to Alexandria by her Majesty's Steamers, and from Suez by the Hon. East India Company's Steamers.

MEDITERRANEAN.—Malta, on the 29th and 29th of every month; Constantinople, on the 29th of the month; and Alexandria, on the 20th of the month.

SPAIN and PORTUGAL.—Vigo, Oporto, Lisbon, Cadiz, and Gibraltar, on the 7th, 17th, and 27th of the month.

For plans of the vessels, rates of passage money, and to secure passages and ship cargo, apply at the Company's offices, 123 Leadenhall street, London, and Oriental place, Southampton.

CARRIAGE FREE to ANY RAILWAY TOWN in ENGLAND.

PURE PALE BRANDY, Vintage 1840, in one-dozen cases, at 63s. per dozen case.

SCOTCH MALT WHISKY, at 45s. per dozen case, cases, bottles, and carriage included; and upon the receipt of a remittance, any quantity will be forwarded.

Connoisseurs in the above SPIRITS, and those particularly who require pure brandy for medicinal purposes, are respectfully invited to make a trial of these articles. They are not christened with a y of the nun-rou names by which they are daily advertised, but the quality will be found superior to those usually offered.

HENEKEY, BARKER, and Co. GRAY'S INN WINE ESTABLISHMENT, 23 HIGH HOLBORN.

Note.—From 40 to 50 PIPES and BUTTS of PORT and SHERRY always on show, with a stock of 10,000 dozens of Bottled Wine, amongst which will be found Port of the Vintages 1820, 1834, 1840, up to the present date.

HENEKEY, BARKER, and Co.

CARPETS.—BRIGHT and Co.'s PATENT POWER-LOOM BRUSSELS CARPETS.

These goods are strongly recommended to the trade and the public on the following grounds. They are woven by steam power, and are therefore more firmly made than can be the case with handwoven goods. They have the same good quality of worsted throughout, whereas, in the common Brussels, the dark colours are generally made of an inferior worsted. They are printed by a patent process, and by patent machinery, and the colours are more durable, and will stand more severe tests than those of any other description of Carpet. The patent printing admits of an almost unlimited variety of shades or colours: the patterns are therefore more elaborate, as there is greater scope for design. They can be offered at a price about 20 per cent. below that of goods of equal quality made in the ordinary mode. In quality, in pattern, in variety of colours, and in price the PATENT POWER-LOOM BRUSSELS CARPETS offer great advantages to the public.—Wholesale, 20 Skinner street, Snow Hill, London; 22 New Broad street, Manchester.

PATENT POWER-LOOM BRUSSELS CARPETS.

THESE CARPETS, MANUFACTURED BY BRIGHT and Co., have now stood the test of time and wear; and in EXCELLENCE of MANUFACTURE, in VARIETY of PATTERN, and in BRILLIANCY and DURABILITY of COLOURS, they fully warrant all that has been said in their favour.

Notwithstanding this, parties interested in preventing the introduction of any new fabric are, as usual, unscrupulous enough to detract from the merits of inventions which offer solid advantages to the public.

BRIGHT and Co.'s PATENT POWER-LOOM BRUSSELS CARPETS can be offered 20 PER CENT. lower than any other goods of equal quality; and we can assure the public that we have laid down upwards of TWENTY THOUSAND yards of them without a single complaint.

LUCK, KENT, and CUMMING, CARPET MANUFACTURERS, 4 REGENT STREET, Opposite HOWELL and JAMES'.

A GOOD SUBSTITUTE for SILVER

has long been sought after, and numerous have been the attempts to produce a perfect metal that will retain its colour when in use. How fruitless the attempts have been the public know too well, from the fact that all their purchases have, after a few days' wear, exhibited a colour little better than brass. The very severe tests that have been applied to our metal (which in all cases it has withstood) at once place it pre-eminent above all others, and from its silver-like appearance, its intrinsic and valuable properties, give us confidence in asserting that it is, and must remain, the only Pure and Perfect Substitute for Silver.

Fiddle pattern.	Stroncrest pattern.	Threal King's pattern.
Table spoons and forks, per dozen	12s. and 15s.	12s. 28s. 30s.
Dessert spoons	10s. and 13s.	16s. 21s. 25s.
Tea spoons	5s. and 6s.	8s. 11s. 11s.

Cruet frames, with rich Cut Glasses, from 22s. Table Candlesticks, 12s. per pair.

Tea sets, and every article for the Table, at proportionate prices.

R. and J. S. beg to caution the public against several spurious imitations of their articles, which are daily offered to the public as Albata British Plate. The genuine are to be had only at their Establishment, 336 Strand, opposite Somerset House, where no inferior goods are kept.

Richard and John Slack, opposite Somerset House. Their Illustrated Catalogue may be had gratis, or sent to any part post free. Established 1818.

INVESTMENT combined with FAMILY PROVISION.—At present, when difficulty is felt by private individuals in obtaining a safe investment which shall yield an adequate rate of interest, the Directors of the **SCOTTISH PROVIDENT INSTITUTION** invite attention to the advantages character (viewed as an investment) of **LIFE ASSURANCE** by way of single payment. The following is an illustration:—

For a sum of 500l., paid by a person of 35, a policy of 1,277l. may be obtained, payable to his family or executors at his death, however soon that may happen, with—In this Society—additional from the profits on the very favourable principle of its constitution. So long as he lives he has nearly as much command of the money paid as if he had deposited it in a bank. He can either surrender his policy, or he can at any time borrow, on the security of the policy alone, without any expense, and at a moderate rate of interest, a sum at first nearly equal to his payment, and increasing with the value of the policy. After twenty years, for example, he could so borrow about 700l., continuing, he it observed, to rank in the division of profits according to the full amount of the policy.

At age 40, a policy for 1,000l., sharing of course in the profits, may be thus secured for a payment of 428l. 7s. 6d. Assurance of from 50l. to 5,000l. may be effected according to this system.

Tables of single payments at each age, and every information, will be forwarded free, on application at the Head Office in Edinburgh; or at the Office in London, 12 Moorgate street.

SPECIAL NOTICE TO INTENDING ASSURERS.—Intending life assurers are respectfully invited to compare the principles, rates, and whole provisions of the Scottish Provident Institution with those of any existing company.

In this Society the whole profits are divisible among the policy holders, who are at the same time exempt from personal liability. It claims superiority, however, over other mutual offices in the following particulars:—
 1. Premiums at early and middle ages about a fourth lower.
 2. A more accurate adjustment of the rates of premium to the several ages.
 3. A principle in the division of the surplus more safe, equitable and favourable to good lives.
 4. Exemption from entry money.
 All policies indisputable unless obtained by fraud.
 Forms of proposal, prospectus containing full tables, copies of the Twelfth Annual Report, and every information, will be forwarded (gratis) on application at the London office, 12 Moorgate street. **GEORGE GRANT, Resident Secretary.**

WINDOW BLINDS.—TYLOR and PACE, Window Blind Manufacturers, 313 Oxford street, adjoining Hanover square, and 3 Queen street, Chelsea, London, submit the following prices of window blinds, which they can recommend as being made in the best manner.—Venetian blinds, best per square foot, 8d.; best Holland blinds, on rollers, 6d.; best ditto on spring rollers, 8d.; gauze-wire blinds in mahogany frames, 1s. 10d.; perforated zinc blinds in ditto, 1s. 8d.; outside blinds of striped cloth, in cases, 1s. 9d.; transparent blinds, in great variety. Tylor and Pace are also Patentees of the Registered Iron Cot, and Manufacturers of all kinds of iron and brass bedsteads.—Illustrated catalogues and price lists of blinds, or bedsteads forwarded on application, post free.

Just published, gratis,
THE INTRODUCTORY LECTURE

on the **HYGIENIC or MORISIAN SYSTEM of MEDICINE**, delivered in various parts of London during the months of October and November, 1850. By **SAMUEL NICKSON, Esq.** May be had gratis at the British College of Health, New road, London, or by post on forwarding two penny postage stamps.

E. LAZENBY and SON, having numerous complaints from families who are impressed upon by spurious imitations of their **HARRY FOX'S FISH SAUCE**, request Purchasers to observe "WILLIAM LAZENBY" on the back, in addition to the front label used so many years, and signed "ELIZABETH LAZENBY."

E. LAZENBY and SON'S ESSENCE of ANCHOVIES continues to be prepared with that peculiar care which has rendered it so justly admired as **Salmou, Turbot, Cod, Soles, Eels, &c.** and is manufactured only at their old established Fish Sauce Warehouse, 4 Edward street, Portman square, London.

"NORTON'S"
CAMOMILE PILLS are confidently

recommended as a simple but certain remedy to all who suffer from Indigestion, Sick Head-ache, Bilious and Liver Complaints, Heartburn and Acidity of the Stomach, Depressed Spirits, Disturbed Sleep, Violent Palpitations, Spasms, General Debility, Costiveness, &c. They act as a powerful tonic and gentle aperient; are mild in their operation, safe under any circumstances, and thousands of persons can now bear testimony to the benefits to be derived from their use. Sold in bottles at 1s. 1d., 2s. 9d., and 11s. each, in every town in the Kingdom.

CAUTION.

Be sure to ask for "NORTON'S PILLS," and do not be persuaded to purchase an imitation.

COMPLETE PROTECTION against

FOG, COLD, and NIGHT AIR for both sexes, the Healthy and the Invalid (adjusted in a moment exactly where required, superseding the cumbersome neck wrapper, and elegantly adapted for Ladies, is afforded by **COOK and WILLIAMS'S Respiratory Organ and Chest Protectors**, made in Cashmere, velvets, silks, &c. Wholesale of the Patentees, 10 Princes street, Hanover square; retail of Butler and Harding, Chemists, corner of St Paul's Church-yard; Bridge and Co. Chemists, and Sarsaparilla Depot, 270 Regent street; and of the principal Chemists, Hosiery, Milliners, &c., in the United Kingdom.

"As a Respirator, cheap, elegant, and effective."—Lancet.

A NEW MEDICINE.

FRANKS'S SPECIFIC CAPSULE.—A form of Medicine at once safe, sure, speedy, and pleasant to those who object to fluid medicines, and suited to the convenience of persons travelling, visiting, or engaged in business; especially applicable to urethral and vaginal morbid secretions, &c. commonly called discharges. Prepared only by **GEORGE FRANKS, Surgeon**, at his **LABORATORY, BLACKFRIARS ROAD**; where they may be had, and of all Medicine Vendors, in boxes at 2s. 9d. and 4s. 6d. each; or sent free by post, at 3s. and 5s. each. Of whom also may be had, in bottles at 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d., and 11s. each.

FRANKS'S SPECIFIC SOLUTION of COPAIBA.

THE TEETH.—A very curious

invention connected with Dental Surgery has been introduced by Mr **HOWARD**, of 17 George street, Hanover square; it is the introduction of an entirely new description of **ARTIFICIAL TEETH**, fixed without springs, wires, or ligatures. They so perfectly resemble natural teeth, as not to be distinguished from the originals by the closest observer. They will never change colour or decay, and will be found very superior to any teeth ever before used. This method does not require the extraction of roots, or any painful operation, and will support and preserve the teeth that are loose, and is guaranteed to restore articulation and mastication. The invention deserves the notice of the scientific, and is of importance to many persons, and those who are interested in it cannot do better than avail themselves of Mr Howard's skill as a Dentist.

DE LA MOTTE'S SASSAFRAS CHOCOLATE.

DR DE LA MOTTE'S nutritive, health-restoring, AROMATIC CHOCOLATE, prepared from the nuts of the Sassafras tree. This Chocolate contains the peculiar virtues of the Sassafras root, which has been long held in great estimation for its purifying and alterative properties. The aromatic quality (which is very grateful to the stomach) most invalids require for breakfast and evening repast to promote digestion, and to a deficiency of this property in the customary breakfast and supper may in a great measure be attributed the frequency of cases of indigestion generally termed bilious. It has been found highly beneficial in correcting the state of the digestive organs, &c. from whence arise many diseases, such as eruptions of the skin, gout, rheumatism, and scrofula. In cases of debility of the stomach and a sluggish state of the liver and intestines, occasioning flatulence, costiveness, &c. and in spasmodic asthma, it is much recommended.

Sold in pound packets, price 1s. by the Patentee, 12 Southampton street, Strand, London; also by Chemists and others throughout the United Kingdom.

The New Edition of "Everybody's Book," containing a full Report of the late important Trial, may be had gratis, on application, or by letter, post-free.

THE POETICAL PRODIGY.

Kirkc White, the well-known poet, we are told, indulged in rhyme, when only twelve years old; Others, 'tis said, have written at eleven; But I can name a poet only seven, Who, of his own accord, thus young began, Like Dr Watts, that great, though little, man. The circumstance which lit the muse's fire And led the youth so soon to touch the lyre, And that which formed the subject of his posies, Was having had a Christmas Suit from MOSES. The verses to his parents' we addressed, And thus the youth his sentiments expressed:—

I thank you, my dear parents, for
 The suit which you've presented;
 Your money has been well laid out,
 And I am well contented.
 I've often long'd for MOSES' suits,
 While I have stood to see 'em
 And now when I've heard and read
 The praise bestow'd upon 'em.
 Their dress deserves a higher strain
 Than what your son composes—
 Which, nevertheless, may serve to show
 How much he values MOSES.

Notice.—The Fur and Shawl Departments are now replete with every novelty of the season.

Observe.—Any Articles purchased, either ready-made or made to measure, if not approved of, will be exchanged, or the money returned.

Caution.—E. Moses and Son regret having to guard the public against imposition, but having heard that the unscrupulous falsehood of being connected with them, or it is the same concern, has been resorted to in many instances and for obvious reasons, they beg to state that they have no connection with any other house, in or out of London, except their own Establishments as follows:—

London City Establishment, 154, 155, 156, & 157, Minorities; 83, 84, 85, & 86, Aldgate, opposite the Church; all communicating.
 London West End Branch, 1, 2, and 3, Hart street; all communicating.
 Bradford, Yorkshire, Branch, 19 Bridge street.
 Sheffield Branch, 36 Fargate.
 Tailors, Clothiers, Hatters, Hosiery, Furrier, Boot and Shoemakers, and General Outfitters, for Ladies and Gentlemen.
 The Establishments are closed from sunset Friday till sunset Saturday, when business is resumed till Twelve o'clock.

NEW SHOW ROOMS for BEDSTEADS.

HEAL and Son have erected some extensive Warehouses for the purpose of keeping every description of Bedstead, in Iron, Steel, Brass, or for servants' use, to the handsomely ornamented tubular pattern; and in wooden Bedsteads of every shape and extensive to allow them to fit up a variety, both in Polished Birch and Mahogany, of Four-post, Canopy, and French, and also of Bedstead that is made. They have also a general assortment of Stock complete for the furnishing of Bedsteads as well as Bedding. Without attempting to compete with the prices at which Bedding is sold, and which is fit for no useful purpose, their new Stock will be found to be priced on the same principle by which their Bedding Trade has, during the last few years, been so successfully extended, and the goods, whether expensive character, are of well-seasoned materials, sound workmanship, and warranted.

Heal and Son's List of Bedding, containing full particulars of Weights, Sizes, and Prices of every description of Bedding, sent free by post, on application at their Factory, 159 (opposite the Chapel), Tottenham Court road, London.

METCALFE and CO.'S NEW PATTERN

TOOTH-BRUSH and SMYRNA SPONGES.—The Tooth-Brush has the important advantage of searching thoroughly into the divisions of the teeth, and cleaning them in the most effectual and extraordinary manner, and is famous for not coming loose. Is an Improved Clothes Brush that saves a third part of the usual time, and is incapable of injuring in any way the delicate skin of the face. It is famous for its bleached Russia Bristle, which do not soften like common hair. Veil Brushes, which act in the most surprising and powerful manner. The genuine Smyrna Sponge, with its valuable properties of absorption, vitality, and durability, by means of direct impregnation, dispensing with all intermediate parties' profits and destructive bleaching, and securing the luxury of a genuine Smyrna Sponge. Only at Messrs. Bingley, and Co.'s 130a Oxford street (one door from Holles street).

CAUTION.—Beware of the words, "Metcalfe's" as adopted by some houses.

Metcalfe's Alkaline Tooth Powder, 2s. per box.

DO YOU WANT LUXURIANT HAIR,

WHISKERS, &c. ?—CRINIENE has been pronounced by thousands to be the only preparation that can be relied upon for the restoration of the hair in baldness from any cause, preventing the hair falling out, strengthening weak hair, and checking greyness, and for the production of whiskers, mustachios, eyebrows, &c. in three or four weeks, with certainty. It is elegantly scented, and sufficient for three months' use; will be sent post free on receipt of twenty-four postage stamps. MISS DEAN, 48 Liverpool street, King's cross, London. Testimonial: Dr Thompson says, "It is a beautiful preparation, and the only one I can recommend." One trial is earnestly solicited to prove its value over all other preparations.

SELF KNOWLEDGE! CHARACTER

by **GRAPHOLOGY.**—The secret art of discovering the character of persons from the writing is successfully practised by Miss DEAN. Her startling discoveries are both full and detailed, filling the four pages of a sheet of paper, the style of description different from anything yet attempted. Test this by sending a specimen of the writing of yourself or friend, stating sex and age, to Miss DEAN, 48 Liverpool street, Argyle square, London (enclosing fifteen postage stamps), and you will receive in a few days a novel description of the tastes, talents, virtues, failings, &c. of the writer. Mesmeric consultations daily from Ten till Twelve.

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.—At this

festive period of the year, when friends and lovers assemble at the social board, or join in the mazes of the dance, a more than usual anxiety is created for Personal Attraction, and the following unrivalled discoveries for the Toilet are called into increased requisition, namely—**ROWLANDS' MACASSAR OIL**, for creating and sustaining a luxuriant head of hair, **ROWLANDS' KALYDOR**, for rendering the skin, soft, fair, and blooming, and **ROWLANDS' ODOINTO**, or Pearl Dentifrice, for imparting a pearl-like whiteness to the Teeth. The Patronage of Royalty throughout Europe, and the high appreciation by Rank and Fashion, with the well-known infallible efficacy of these articles, give them a celebrity unparalleled, and render them a peculiarly Elegant and Seasonable present. Beware of Spurious Imitations. The only Genuine of each bears the name of "ROWLANDS" preceding that of the Article on the Wrapper or Label, with their Signature at the foot, in Red Ink, thus—A. Rowland and Sons. Sold by them at 23 Hatton Garden, London, and by respectable Chemists and Perfumers.

THE TEETH and BREATH.

A GOOD SET of TEETH EVER insures favourable impressions, while their preservation is of the utmost importance to every individual, both as regards the general health, by the proper mastication of food, and the consequent possession of pure and sweet breath. Among the various preparations offered for the purpose, **ROWLANDS' ODOINTO**, or Pearl Dentifrice, stands unrivalled in its capability of embellishing, purifying, and preserving the teeth to the latest period of life.

It will be found to eradicate all tartar and concretions, impart a pearl-like whiteness to the enamelled surfaces, remove spots of incipient decay, render the gums firm and red, and thus fix the teeth firm in their sockets; and from its aromatic influence impart sweetness and purity to the breath. Price 2s. 9d. per box. Beware of spurious imitations. The genuine article has the words "A. Rowland and Sons, 20 Hatton Garden," engraved on the Government stamp affixed on each.—Sold by them, and by chemists and Perfumers.

NIGHT LIGHTS.—CAUTION.

PATENT ALBERT NIGHT LIGHTS

(Patented 30th January, 1844.)

CHILD'S NIGHT LIGHTS

(Registered 20th September, 1843.)

Are sold by all Grocers and Wax Chandlers throughout the Country, at 6d. per box.

The sale of the above, amounting at the present time to many tons weekly, shows that they meet with the approbation of the public; any description of them is therefore unnecessary. The object of this advertisement is, to request purchasers to examine the name on the boxes, so as to insure their getting what they intend.

Night lights are liable not to last the time that they profess (frequently going out an hour or two after lighting), to be affected by the temperature of the room they are burnt in, to be injured by keeping any length of time, and to have an unpleasant smell.

The manufacturers consider that, by use of materials secured to them by several patents, and by long experience in

ILLUSTRATED WORKS, Appropriate for Literary Presents.

I. SHAKSPERE'S WORKS: Kenny Meadows's Illustrated Edition. Memoir and Essay by BARRY CORNWALL. Nearly 1,000 Engravings on Wood, and 36 Etchings on Steel, and Portrait, engraved by Holl. 3 vols. super-royal 8vo, cloth, 3l. 3s.; and morocco, 4l. 14s. 6d.

II. WORDSWORTH'S GREECE: Pictorial, Descriptive, and Historical. With 350 Engravings on Wood, and 28 on Steel, illustrative of the Scenery, Architecture, Costume, and Geography of that Country. Royal 8vo, cloth, 21s.; and morocco, 1l. 15s.

III. MILNER'S GALLERY OF NATURE. A Pictorial and Descriptive Tour through Creation, illustrative of the Wonders of Astronomy, Physical Geography and Geology. With 17 Engravings on Steel, and many hundred Vignettes and Diagrams. Royal 8vo, cloth, 18s.; and morocco, 31s. 6d.

IV. CUVIER'S ANIMAL KINGDOM. A new Edition. With Additions by Dr CARPENTER and Mr WESTWOOD. Illustrated by very numerous Engravings on Wood and 34 on Steel, by Landseer and others. Royal 8vo, cloth, 21s.; with coloured Plates, 31s. 6d.

V. The MAGAZINE of BOTANY, HORTICULTURE, FLORICULTURE, and NATURAL SCIENCE. Conducted by T. MOORE, F.R.S. and W. P. ATYEN, C.M.H.S.; Botany, A. HENFREY, Esq. F.L.S. &c. &c. The Literary Department contributed by the best Practical Gardeners in the Country. Illustrated with highly-finished Plates and Woodcuts. Imperial 8vo, cloth, 18s.; and half-morocco, 21s.

VI. LORD BYRON'S TALES and POEMS; with 46 Vignette Illustrations, after Designs by H. Warren, engraved by Edward Finden. Royal 8vo, cloth, gilt, 12s.; and morocco elegant, 21s.

VII. BON GAULTIER'S BOOK OF BALLADS. Numerous Illustrations by Doyle and Crowquill. Second Edition. With several new Ballads and additional Illustrations. Imperial 16mo, cloth, gilt, 7s. 6d.

VIII. CONFESSION OF CON GREGAN, the IRISH GIL BLAS. Illustrated by Phiz on Wood and Steel. 2 vols. crown 8vo, 15s. cloth.

"T he manner of the writer happily corresponds with his matter. An easier flow of narration, without obtrusive familiarity, or a yet more offensive untidiness, does not occur to us than we find in 'Con Gregan.'"—Athenaeum.

IX. BECHSTEIN'S CHAMBER BIRDS; their Natural History and Management. Numerous Woodcuts of Birds, Cages, &c. Post 8vo, cloth, gilt, 5s.

X. CLARK'S DRAWING and PAINTING in WATER COLOURS; containing Examples of Drawing in Landscape, Flower-painting, Miniature, and Historical Painting. Small 4to, cloth, gilt, 8s. 6d.

XI. WALKER'S MANLY EXERCISES. Instructions in Riding, Hunting, Shooting, Vaulting, Swimming, Rowing, Sailing, and Driving. Edited and enlarged by CHAVERN. With numerous Illustrations. Post 8vo, cloth, gilt, 6s. 6d.

XII. FLOWERS and their POETRY. By J. STEVENSON BUSHNAN, M.D. With Contributions by DELTA, of 'Blackwood's Magazine.' Beautifully printed in small 4to, with illuminated border and other illustrations. Price 5s. in elegant cloth binding.

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