

THE LADY'S NEWSPAPER

and Pictorial Times

No. 626.]

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1858.

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LORD GRAHAM AT HEREFORD.

The election of a member of Parliament for the county of Hereford, in the room of Mr. Booker Blakemore, took place at the shire-hall on Saturday. The only candidate was Lord M. W. Graham, brother of Lady Emily Foley, the proprietress of the extensive Stoke Edith estates in that county. His lordship was, therefore, declared duly elected.

Lord William Graham, on rising, was greeted with loud applause. After paying his personal tribute to the good qualities of the late Mr. Blakemore, and making some local allusions, his lordship went on to say he was in favour of progress and improvement, and was willing to renovate, repair, and adapt to the requirements of the age, the existing institutions of the country, so long as we do not endanger

the foundations of that political fabric which has made this country the palladium of liberty. (Cheers.) He would not enter into any discussion about Liberal Conservatives, or Conservative-Liberals, or Whigs and Tories; party feelings and party politics were much softened down and subdued, and all classes seem now to have one object in view—the welfare of the country, and it was even allowed by many Radicals that good legislation might proceed from a Conservative Administration. He was of opinion that Conservative progress should be well considered and temperate. But at the same time progress there must be, and no political party could lay claim to consideration or power which is not prepared to inaugurate sound and comprehensive measures of well considered improvement. (Applause.) His lordship then proceeded to say that

the main cause of the downfall of Lord Palmerston's Cabinet was because he was not prepared by bringing forward measures of social and political reform. No doubt the last straw which broke the camel's back was the humiliating policy which he pursued towards France—a policy which raised an universal feeling of shame throughout the country; but if he had been prepared with measures of social and political improvement, he (Lord Graham) did not believe his defeat would have been so entire and so complete. Under these circumstances Lord Derby resumed office, and attempted to repair the errors of his predecessors. He released the English engineers from the dungeons of Naples, and maintained peace with France without submitting to any humiliating concessions. (Applause.) His foreign policy had been wise, and firm, and conciliatory, and he trusted his domestic

policy would always challenge the confidence of the country, and that he would bring forward measures which would win the approbation of that great mass of public opinion which is progressive without being revolutionary. (Cheers.) Among those measures we were led to believe some measure will be introduced with regard to Parliamentary Reform. (Hear, hear.) He (Lord Graham) was not going to sketch out any plan of his own. He would only venture to say that if some of the smaller boroughs were disfranchised, additional members ought to be given to some of the counties, as, otherwise, the agricultural class and the landed interest would be deprived of a fair and legitimate share in the representation of the country. (Applause.) He did not say they ought to be all given to the counties, but a fair proportion of them certainly



"HOLLY HO!"

ought to go to the counties. He had always thought that in the old Reform Bill it was a great fault that no provision was made whereby the honest and industrious working man could obtain a vote. (Loud cheers.) Under the old system there were various qualifications by which he could obtain a vote, but they were all swept away, and nothing was substituted in their stead. He saw no reason why an honest and industrious working man should not have a vote—(applause)—and he hoped that in whatever measure of Parliamentary Reform might be introduced some provision of that kind would be inserted. His lordship then went on to say that though he hoped it would be many years before we were engaged in another war, he was in favour of our army and navy being kept in an efficient state. He next referred to the rebellion in India, and expressed his hope that the country, under the Government of Her Majesty, would speedily become tranquil, and its prosperity greatly promoted. There was in that country a wide field opened for the diffusion and promotion of our common Christianity. Whatever course the Government might pursue—whether they might adopt some more decided policy on that point or not—the duty of the people of England was equally clear; that was to support by all means in their power the missionary efforts of those who were willing to undertake the work. The noble lord, in conclusion, declared himself in favour of religious equality.

NEWS OF THE COURT, &c.

HER MAJESTY'S dinner party on Saturday included their Royal Highnesses the Prince of Wales and Princess Alice, Col. the Hon. Robert Bruce Major Teesdale, and Admiral Sir Thomas and Lady Cochrane.

The QUEEN and Prince Consort, the Prince of Wales, Princess Alice, and Princess Helena, attended Divine service at Whippingham Church, on Sunday morning, where the Rev. G. Prothero officiated.

The QUEEN and Prince Consort, with the Prince of Wales, the Princess Alice, Prince Arthur, Prince Leopold, and the Princesses Helena, Louisa, and Beatrice, left Osborne on Monday afternoon, and arrived at Windsor five minutes before five o'clock. In attendance were the Duchess of Athole, the Hon. Flora Macdonald, Major-General the Hon. C. Grey, Col. the Hon. A. N. Hood, Capt. Du Plat, Col. the Hon. R. Bruce, and Major Lindsay. A guard of honour of the Grenadier Guards, with the band of the regiment, was at the Windsor Railway station. The Hon. Caroline Cavendish has arrived at the Castle as Maid of Honour in Waiting, and Lord Bateman and Major-General Berkeley Drummond have arrived as Lord and Groom in Waiting.

The QUEEN walked in the Home Park on Tuesday morning. The Prince of Wales rode out on horseback, attended by Major Lindsay. His Royal Highness the Prince Consort and his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales left Windsor at twenty minutes past six o'clock in the afternoon, for London, and honoured with their company the play performed at the Westminster School. In attendance were Colonel the Hon. R. Bruce, Captain Du Plat, Major Lindsay, and the Rev. C. F. Tarver. Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent visited Her Majesty at the Castle.

The QUEEN and Prince Consort walked in the Home-park on Wednesday morning. The Prince of Wales rode out on horseback, attended by Col. the Hon. R. Bruce and Major Lindsay. Prince Arthur and Princess Louisa took a carriage drive.

FASHIONABLE GOSSIP.

Lord Panmure is suffering from a severe attack of gout.

Sir Alan Macnab, Bart., has arrived in town from Canada.

Lady Forester has gone to Grantham for the hunting season.

The Right Hon. J. W. Henley returned to London on Tuesday, from Brighton.

Lord and Lady Elcho returned to town on Wednesday, from a tour on the Continent.

The Marquis d'Almasy and Baron Meyer have left the Brunswick Hotel, for the Continent.

The Earl and Countess of Cawdor are entertaining a select circle at their seat in Wales.

Mr. and Mrs. Bertie Percy have left Guy's Cliff on a visit to the Earl of Beverley at Torquay.

The Earl and Countess of Norbury have arrived at Claridge's Hotel from Valence, near Edenbridge, Kent.

The Earl and Countess Spencer are still on the Continent, and are not expected to return to town until early in March.

Lord and Lady Aveland have been entertaining a numerous circle of friends at Normanton Park during the past month.

Major-General Buckley, M.P., has left his house in South Audley-street for the Earl of Radnor's seat in Berkshire.

Mr. and Lady Elizabeth Russell have left Tunbridge Wells for Buckhurst Park, on a visit to the Earl and Countess Delawarr.

The little Prince Imperial is forthwith to be initiated into the mysteries of A B C by the Fræbel

method, so largely adopted in Germany, and just admitted into the national system by the Minister of Public Instruction in Belgium. The Baroness de Marenholtz, the great foundress of the system, is in Paris, and occupied in the formation of a course of progressive study for the infant Prince.

Vicomte and Vicomtesse de Berg have left the Brunswick Hotel for Paris. Baron Strömer has arrived at the same establishment from Berlin.

The King of Naples has been losing his police on some carpenters, who are suspected of making cases for conveying "Colletta's History of Naples" into the interior of the country.

The Earl and Countess of Lichfield are at present on a visit to the Marquis and Marchioness of Abercorn at Baron's Court, County Tyrone.

Sir William Somerville is staying on a visit to the Earl and Countess Fortescue, at Castle-hill, Devon. Sir William will shortly leave for Ireland.

The Countess Dowager Spencer arrived in town a few days since from Worthing. Her ladyship has taken a house in Eaton-place for a term of years.

The Duke of Rutland is nearly recovered from the effects of his recent accident in the hunting field, but unable to receive company for the present.

The Duke and Duchess of Manchester left town on Tuesday, for Calais, en route to Hanover. The noble duke and duchess intend to return about the middle of next month.

The Earl and Countess of Craven have returned to Ashdown Park, from a tour of visits. The noble Earl and Countess are entertaining a select circle of friends.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer and Mrs. Disraeli have returned to town from a visit to the Earl and Countess of Derby, at Knowsley Hall, and on Tuesday left Grosvenor-gate for Torquay.

The Emperor and Empress of the French have presented to the lady patronesses of the Infant School of St. Sever, at Rouen, a double-barrelled gun and several silver ornaments for the table, in order to constitute prizes in a lottery about to be drawn in a few days, for the benefit of that institution.

The Highland dress for the Imperial Prince, and that for Prince Arthur, are now all but complete, and ready for transmission to their Highnesses. We believe those dresses are tastefully, elegantly, and expensively got up. There are thirty-two buttons on the jacket of the Imperial Prince, each of which cost 18s.

On Saturday morning last, the marriage of Miss Fanny Martin, daughter of Sir Samuel Martin, Knt., and one of the Barons of Her Majesty's Court of Exchequer, and grand-daughter of the Chief Baron, with Edward M'Naughton, son of Sir E. M'Naughton, was solemnised in the presence of a distinguished circle, at St. Peter's Church, Eaton-square, Piccadilly.

We are happy to state that Lord Shaftesbury has received a letter from his son, the Hon. Evelyn Ashley, dated Fort Garry, Oct. 28. The whole party were safe and in good health, but the letters had to be despatched by an Indian who had to travel 400 miles over the snow, and it was not supposed that they could reach home before the month of February next.—*Record*.

The Grand-Duke Constantine, who is now in Paris, while at Villafranca, was occupied in the organization of stores and provisions, and in superintending the designs made by the engineers of the marine, for the better protection of the harbour. The Grand-Duchess, who accompanied his Imperial Highness in his inspections, was said to be as active in the matter, and as interested in everything that related to its success, as himself. She rose with the dawn, and in thick boots and woollen dress, clambered over rock and precipice with her husband, in full enjoyment of health and spirits, and seemed as independent as any country lass of lower degree.

The birthday present of the Empress of the French to the Princess Royal was a splendid Sevres vase, painted by Madame Jacotet, which used formerly to occupy the middle of the gallery at the manufactory, between the two glass cases containing the gems of the establishment. The vase is of considerable height, standing on a pedestal of *pâte dure*; the ground is of a delicate rose pink, and the frames of the medallions gold arabesques of a white ground. Each compartment represents one hour of the summer day, and the paintings are most exquisite. The vase was filled with mould from the garden at St. Cloud, and cuttings from the rose-tree which still grows beneath the window of the chamber occupied by her Royal Highness during her residence at the palace, were planted all round.

The Earl of Cardigan, with his bride, arrived at Deane Park on the afternoon of the 15th inst., and were received by a large party of the tenantry on horseback. A handsome triumphal arch, decorated with flowers and evergreens, was erected at the entrance, and the children of the schools were drawn up on either side of the carriage drive, flanked by a numerous assemblage of villagers. The Stamford Foundry band, in their uniform, were stationed on the lawn, and played "See the Conquering Hero Comes." "His lordship appeared," says the *Stamford Mercury*, "to be taken a little by surprise, but was evidently gratified with his reception, and immediately alighted and paid his respects to his tenantry, for whom an excellent dinner had been provided at the steward's house. The bridal party were without company."

EXTRAORDINARY ADVENTURE.

A St. Petersburg letter contains the following:—The coast of the Crimea was lately the scene of a very singular adventure. On the 1st Nov. a small boat was driven ashore, about twenty miles from Ialta, on the property of a person named Revoluti. This boat contained four persons, two men and two women, who, when found, scarcely showed any signs of life. One of the females, according to the account she gave of herself when restored to animation, is the wife of an officer of artillery, in garrison at Anapa, on the western coast of the Caucasus. Having heard that the Grand Duke Michael was to pass at some distance from the town, she resolved to place herself in his way, in order to present a petition to him. For that purpose she embarked with a female servant on board a small sailing boat, having two men to manage it, in order to cross over to a spot where she could land and get near the Prince. Instead, however, of effecting the passage in a few hours, the boat was driven out to sea, and tossed about for six days and nights. The sufferings of the four persons from hunger, and from the fear of perishing in their small boat, may be imagined, but at length they were driven on shore on the coast of the Crimea, where they were hospitably received. When the wife of the officer had sufficiently recovered, the means of returning to Anapa were placed at her disposal, but hearing that the Grand Duke was to pass through Simpheropol, she proceeded thither, but was unfortunate enough to miss him by a few hours, and she was eventually compelled to return to Anapa, without accomplishing the object for which she had undergone such severe suffering.



TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A SISTER.—Disappointment ought to incite fresh energy and increased industry. We know that many young men feel most acutely their rejection, when undergoing their examination for membership of the different professions, but we would strongly advise that the subject should be viewed more calmly. Goldsmith endured the same mortification. His name is to be found in the books of the College of Surgeons, recording that the great moralist was not found qualified. This fact may be some little balm to a wounded mind.

A COUNTRY FRIEND.—The manner in which commercial men rush through the leading thoroughfares of the City has often been commented on. The French say that "Englishmen always walk straight before them, like mad dogs." In the City and the West End a very marked difference certainly exists in the manner of walking, but it must be remembered that in one case time is money, and often a lounging walk would lose its owner thousands.

DUALIS.—The rule is generally the reverse. In very hot countries it is found almost impossible to fatten any animal, while in very cold climates every living creature is fattened by nature, no doubt to enable them to endure, without injury, the severe cold.

AN OLD SUBSCRIBER.—There are many instances recorded of the power of sweet music. One of the kings of Spain, according to history, was restored from a state of extreme melancholy and perfect indifference to all around him to a healthy state of mind, solely by the influence of music. It might possibly prove advantageous.

HESTER.—It is the etiquette in China to use scarlet paper for all letters of ceremony. Much taste is displayed in the note paper now used for Christmas congratulations.

FRANKLIN.—Jeremy Taylor's views on this subject are so appropriate that they will have much more influence than anything we can say. "He only is fit to be my friend who can give me counsel or defend my cause, or guide me right, or relieve my need, or can and will, when I need it, do me good; but when his love signifies nothing but kissing my cheek or talking kindly, and can go no further, it is a prostitution of the bravery of friendship."

CHESTER.—In our army and navy the gout is almost unknown, at least among the common men.

Mrs. H.—The Portland Vase in the British Museum is a specimen of extraordinary skill in repairing broken china. It was broken in pieces some years since purposely; for no other reason but to prove the destructive propensity of human nature; but it was repaired so perfectly that the fractures can with close examination only be discovered. The Duchess of Portland purchased this vase of Sir William Hamilton, for the sum of eighteen hundred pounds. The material is glass.

JANE MARSH.—We know nothing of the merits of the cosmetic you mention; but we see no great harm in your making trial if you be so inclined, and you will thereby have the benefit of your own personal experience as to its efficacy. Our occupations do not permit us to undertake the proposed analysis, but we may suggest that it would possibly afford an agreeable amusement for your own leisure hours, when time hangs heavily on your hands.

A VERY HANDSOME YOUNG LADY.—We cannot recommend any preparation. Many things of the kind are constantly announced in our advertising columns; but it would be unfair on our part to single out any particular one for special recommendation. After all, we cannot understand what you should attempt to improve by art that which it would seem that nature had already made so near to perfection.

S. M. B.—The most usual, and at the same time the most distinct mode of address is to put your own name first and the name of the gentleman at whose house you are residing, within brackets, thus:—Miss S—, [John B—, Esq.] Grove Park, &c.

Mrs. C. C.—Received. We will endeavour to comply with your request next week.

ROBINS.—To boil smelts with herbs: first boil together a bunch of sweet herbs with some sliced onion, salt, pepper, half a spoonful of oil, and a quart of water. When the water is sufficiently flavoured, put in the smelts and boil them quickly.

A SUBSCRIBER FROM THE FIRST.—The cork tree is a kind of oak, a native of the south of Europe. The cork is the outer bark of the tree, and is taken off at certain intervals in longitudinal strips or sheets. When the cork is removed there is under it a fiber, or inner bark, upon which a new outer bark (or layer of cork) is, in due course, formed. After being detached from the tree, the sheets of cork are flattened by exposing the convex side to the action of heat, and they are charred on both surfaces for the purpose of closing up the transverse pores. These charred surfaces may be seen in bungs, but not in corks, which are cut the length way of the bark, the charring being cut off in the rounding. The tree is extensively cultivated for cork in the countries in the South of Europe. Much of the cork we use is obtained from Spain and Portugal. We are enabled at present, to point out only two places, in and near London, where you may see the cork tree growing: there is one in Kew Gardens, and another in the Chelsea Botanic Gardens.

CHARLOTTE.—The popular air alluded to, "Di Tanti Palpit," was composed by Rossini. It is stated that it was the expression of either his patience or his impatience, which vented itself in the above-mentioned composition, during the time he was waiting for his servant to bring him a dish of rice.

A VICTIM.—There cannot be a subject of greater importance to life and health, than the adulteration of food. It demands a more strict inquiry than that of individuals, and most certainly claims the attention of Government. It is carried on to a fearful extent: when even bread is scarcely to be obtained without some deleterious ingredient contained in it. It is easy to test flour by the following simple process: Mix with a portion of flour a little powder of guaiacum, stir them together with some water. If the flour be good, a fine blue colour appears, but in bad flour the blue colour is scarcely visible.

Advertisements.

NEW VOCAL DUET, for Two Trebles, or Treble and Tenor, I MUST DEPART FROM THEE. Composed by STEPHEN GLOVER. The Words by J. E. CARPENTER. Price, 2s. 6d. Also, I Come, I Come, and The Feast of the Flowers, for Two Voices, by LODEN. Price, 2s. each, free for stamps.—Z. L. Purday, 45, High Holborn.

NEW BALLADS: 1. Thy Parting Words, written by J. E. CARPENTER: music by W. H. Wells. 2. The Star and the Angel. 3. The Harp of my Own Sunny Land, from Martha, by FLOWER. Price 2s. each, free for stamps.—Z. L. Purday, 45, High Holborn.

CHRISTMAS SONGS.—"The Good Rhein Wine," the professional's and amateur's most powerful and telling song. Also, the lady's new echo song, "The Boatmen of the Forth; or, Callers Oysters." With piano and band parts for an orchestra. Beautifully illustrated by Harnage and L'Enfant. Price 2s. 6d. each.—Chappell, 50, New Bond-street.

THE CONCERTINIST: No. 1. Beautiful Venice. 2. Maids of Merry England. 3. Guy Young Spring. 4. Emigrant's Farewell. 5. Have Faith in One Another. 6. The White Squall. Arranged for concertina and piano by T. J. DUFFLE. Price 2s. each, or concertina only, 1s., free for stamps.—Z. L. Purday, 45, High Holborn.

DEPOSIT and DISCOUNT BANK.—FIVE PER CENT. paid on Sums received on DEPOSIT. Interest Half-yearly. Higher Interest for long periods. The Right Hon. the Earl of DEVON, Chairman. G. H. LAW, Manager. Offices, 6, Cannon-street West (E.C.)

ORNAMENTS FOR THE DRAWING-ROOM, LIBRARY, and DINING-ROOM, consisting of a great variety of Vases, Figures, Groups, Inkstands, Candlesticks, Inlaid Tables, &c., in Derbyshire Spar, Marble, Italian Alabaster, Bronze, &c., manufactured and imported by J. TENNANT, 149, STRAND, London.

GEOLOGY and MINERALOGY.—Elementary Collections, to facilitate the study of this interesting Science, can be had from Two Guineas to One Hundred. Mr. Tennant gives Private Instruction in Mineralogy and Geology.

HANDSOME NEW YEAR'S GIFTS.—HAIR COLLIERS, mounted with good solid gold snags, four gold ends, ornamental solid gold three bow slides; ditto, solid gold locket attached, made to order, complete for 17. 1s. Hearts united, hair rings, and lined throughout with gold, solid gold, double gold border and two gold hearts united upon, with the initials made to order, complete for 5s. 6d. The same with two gold hands united in place of hearts, 7s. 6d. Also with Forget-me-not cluster of good Torquiose stones, in place of hearts, 8s. Pins, studs, brooches, bracelets, chains, made in the most artistic designs, guaranteed that every order be made of the hair entrusted to them.—DAVORENS, Artists in Hair, 41, PERCEVAL-STREET, CLERKENWELL.—Kings' sizes sent on request.

SALE OF BONNETS, without reserve (the business being disposed of), comprising Winter Millinery Chip, Brad, Straw, Wedding, Widows' Mourning and Half-mourning Bonnets, Straw and Felt Hats. Any price. At BABY'S, near Chancery-lane, 295, High Holborn.

THORN'S WINTER MERINO UNDER-CLOTHING for LADIES' and CHILDREN'S Wear, consisting of Merino Vests, Drawers, Union Dresses, Petticoats, Hose, &c. Fleecy Hosiery for Invalids. A large Stock of Real Welch Flannels. Merino Vests from 3s. 6d.; ditto, with high necks, 5s.—Warehouse, 23, LUDGATE-STREET, three doors from St. Paul's.

EIDER-DOWN PETTICOATS.—W. H. BATSON and Co. respectfully invite Ladies to inspect their new and elegant Stock of EIDER-DOWN PETTICOATS. 1, MADDOX-STREET, Regent-street.

EIDER-DOWN QUILTS, of every Size and Colour, in Satin, Silk, and Cotton Cases. List of Prices at 1, MADDOX-STREET, Regent-street.

TO GROCERS, &c.—HOME EDUCATION.—Miss ROSS, of BALDOCK VILLA, LEYTONSTONE, Essex, is desirous of receiving ONE or TWO YOUNG CHILDREN of a GROCER or BOARDERS, for the Education of whom an advantageous arrangement would be made. The Course of Instruction embraces the usual Elementary Studies. References can be made to the parents of children at present in the establishment, as well as to those who have previously been under the care of Miss Ross.

TO LADIES.—MUSLIN EMBROIDERY, BRAIDING, &c.—The newest Designs on the best Muslin, ready for working, in Ladies' Jackets, children's Robes, Dresses, Petticoats, Caps, Night Dress Trimmings, Chemise Tops, D'Oyleys, Cushions, Anti-macassars; Fish, Cheese and Bread Cloths; Watch Pockets, Toilet Covers, Night Dress Wipers, Slippers, Smoking Caps, &c.; Edgings and Insertions in all widths, and every other article to which Embroidery or Braiding can be employed. Price List Free. A Collar for 5 stamps. No charge for copying Initials, Crests, or other designs, or designing to order. First-rate French and English artists being employed on the premises, new designs are constantly produced. Ladies' own materials traced or perforated at low prices.

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MILLINERY and DRESSMAKING, at F. WHYERS'S, 320, REGENT-STREET, nearly opposite the Polytechnic Institution. Bonnets unequalled at 18s. 6d., 1 Guinea, and upwards. Ladies' Caps from 8s. 6d., upwards. Dresses made in the newest style and fashion at 8s. 6d. and 10s. 6d. each. Mantles and Children's Dresses.—Country Orders attended.

COUGH MELANGE, by MILES DOUGHTY.—The never-failing cure for Coughs, Diptheria, Colds, Hoarseness, Influenza, Sore-throat, Loss of Voice, Spitting of Blood, Whooping-cough, Difficulty of Breathing, Asthmatic and Consumptive Diseases. 1s. 14d. and 2s. 9d., bottles. By MILES DOUGHTY, Chemist, 25, BLACKFRIARS-ROAD; Hanway, 63, and Sanger, 150, Oxford-street; Constance, 37, Leadenhall-street, London; and all Medicine Vendors and Family Chemists.

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THE
LADY'S NEWSPAPERAND
Pictorial Times.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1858.

CHRISTMAS.

WITH our whole hearts we congratulate our readers on the return of the one festival of the Christian Church which, with more or less of reverence, is agreed to be kept in remembrance by all classes and denominations of Christian communities, and that too with something of the old spirit of mirth and gladness which characterised the primitive Churches. Since the old apostolic days, the Church has been rent into many sections, who have quarrelled upon every conceivable point of doctrine and practice. Even the glad festival of Easter has been the occasion of a schism among parties who professed to hold in equal reverence the anniversary of our Lord's rising from the dead; but Christmas, the day of His birth, has been unanimously observed from the first ages, without a break in the chain of succession, and without any attempt to dispute the anniversary on which the festival was held. Even those communities who, in comparatively recent times, have doubted the propriety of celebrating the anniversary at all, have so far submitted to the mellowing influences of the time, that their protest has waxed feeble and faint with each succeeding year, and they have now all but abandoned it altogether. Christmas, therefore, stands forth to the world now as the one outward and visible link which unites all the different sections of the Christian Church in one body. Let us make much of it, and cherish it accordingly.

And we doubt if there ever was an occasion when the sanction of Heaven was more visibly given to our rejoicings as a nation than on the present anniversary. Abroad and at home we are in the enjoyment of a profound peace. Our trade is in a prosperous, and, upon the whole, we believe, it is in a sound position; and hence it is, that, though the most delicate and exciting questions are agitated throughout the country, the people were never less inclined to listen to the voice of the agitator and the demagogue. Abroad there is hardly a speck on the horizon to disturb our tranquillity. From all neighbouring States Her Majesty continues to receive assurances of respect and esteem; there is no question that threatens to involve the peace of Europe; and though it is certainly true that we can never tell when a disturbance may arise that shall light up the flames of war, yet there is neither sense nor wisdom in the anticipation of evils that may never arise. With regard to our own dependencies, again, there is nothing that need give us a moment's uneasiness. Owing to the prudent arrangements of recent years, our colonies have been left, in a great measure, to govern themselves; and the consequence is that discords which would formerly have shaken the loyalty of the colonists to the centre, are now quietly disposed of among themselves, and the Government of England is only called upon to sanction the arrangements which the colonists have agreed to among themselves. With regard to our great dependency of India, the recent information from that peninsula shows us the rebels everywhere losing heart; the Queen's proclamation, backed by the imposing presence of the gallant Commander-in-Chief, doing its work; and the natives submitting to the promise of an amnesty, proclaimed in the name of Her Majesty as the new Sovereign of India.

Let us compare, for a moment, this state of things with the appearances of this time twelve-month. That, as many of our readers may have painful occasion to remember, was a period of sadness and calamity. At home there was commercial dulness, the consequence of the then recent panic; in India there was the still

formidable elements of a great rebellion. It is true that, in both cases, there was the hope of better times: at home, there was the conviction that the worst was past made manifest in the dawn of a higher day; in India, there was the cheering intelligence that, wherever our troops appeared, they drove the rebels before them like chaff before the wind; but still the wounds inflicted by the panic at home, and the rebellion abroad, were too recent to admit of immediate soothing. And we have no doubt that, even at the present Christmas, there is many a family who are called upon to mourn over severe bereavements. We will not be impertinent enough to intrude upon private sorrows, or to fret the ear with commonplace words of consolation—

With the man who ever felt the sting
Of sorrow, sorrow is a sacred thing.

All we say is, that the outward and visible condition of the country is in harmony with the glad and festive season to which this Christian anniversary calls us. It is a time of rejoicing. The instincts of loving hearts have proved truer than theological dogmas, and men of all creeds have felt that the anniversary of the incarnation of Divinity was a worthy occasion for the rejoicing of humanity. It is fitting it should be so; only let us be careful that we make it a true brotherhood of man. This is especially the season when we are called to remember that the poor are our brethren—bone of our bone, and flesh of our flesh. Let us see to it, that those who are rich in this world's goods remember those who are not so highly favoured; and then we may humbly believe that our festivities are such as God approves. "Go thy way, eat the fat, and drink the sweet, and send a portion to those for whom nothing is prepared." If each of us, according to our ability, attend to that injunction, we may then, with a good conscience, turn to the enjoyment of our Christmas festivities.

PROTECTION TO LIFE.

TRIAL by jury is one of the greatest privileges of Englishmen, and its advantages are, upon the whole, so well understood and so thoroughly established in the hearts of our countrymen, that there is not much fear of their lightly giving up its benefits. To write a eulogy upon its institution is therefore unnecessary; it may serve a better purpose to comment upon those eccentric verdicts of juries which, from time to time, occur to remind us, we suppose, that there is no human institution altogether free from imperfection, or which does not require constant care and vigilance to see that it works for the advantage and not to the injury of society. There are some findings of juries in criminal cases this week, which, to say the least of them, are more likely to surprise than to satisfy the community. In the first a young man was charged with the murder of a girl to whom he had been paying his addresses, because, in obedience to her parents, she wished the acquaintance broken off. The plea of insanity was set up; and though nothing was proved on the trial beyond the fact that he was weak in disposition, fierce in his passions, and uncontrollable in his temper, the plea was admitted by the jury, and a verdict of not guilty on that ground was recorded. Now, we are not going here to discuss the question of capital punishments. In fact, it had nothing to do with the only question the jury had to try—whether the man was guilty of the crime or not. And it does appear to us to be fraught with great danger to the best interests of society if great crimes are to be excused on grounds so light and frivolous as was the murder of this unhappy girl; or if a man is to be held insane simply because he habitually gives the reins to the worst and vilest passions of humanity. We are taught, indeed, on high authority, that all sin is madness; but woe to the weaker portion of society if the ignorant, the depraved, and the brutal are taught that if they only indulge their passions to a sufficient enormity they will be considered irresponsible, and excused from all the consequences of their crimes.

The other case is even worse. Our readers cannot have forgotten the sensation of horror that thrilled through all hearts on learning that a confectioner in Yorkshire had mixed arsenic instead of plaster of Paris—a deadly poison, instead of an injurious adulteration—in his lozenges; and that the lives of between twenty and thirty human beings had been sacrificed to the fatal mistake. It does not appear that the confectioner is to be

even called to account for his conduct, because to cheat the public by selling lime instead of sugar is not an offence in the eye of the law. The chemist from whom he procured the deadly drug was put on his trial, but he has just been acquitted, because it was the hand of his apprentice, and not his own, that committed the blunder. Now, we should be the last to urge against the unfortunate man that he was guilty of the crime of wilful murder; but surely there is ample ground for charging him with gross and culpable negligence. It was proved that he kept a large quantity of arsenic on his premises completely unguarded; it was in a barrel, with a loose lid at the top, without label or intimation of any kind to warn the stranger of the deadly nature of its contents; and into a room thus charged with the agents of death, a poor ignorant lad was sent by his employer, without even being cautioned of the danger of making a mistake. The lad was told to take the stuff out of a barrel he would find in a certain corner. He went, and found that the corner indicated was without any barrel. But in other parts of the room there were two—the one containing the means of adulteration, the other of death. He chose the latter! And yet, though he knew that he had not, because he could not, fulfil his employer's instructions, and though the employer knew what terrible consequences were involved in his apprentice's making a mistake which his own careless arrangements had rendered so easy, it does not appear that either of them thought of communicating with the other before the substance which in its issue proved so deadly passed finally out of their hands. In the whole of this transaction, the apprentice was undoubtedly the least culpable of the two. His offence, if offence it was, consisted in not returning to his master, telling him that the barrel was not in the place he was told it would be, and submitting to his examination the substance he was about to deliver to his customer. The counsel for the prosecution, therefore, probably exercised a wise discretion in admitting him to be a witness in the case; but the employer, as it seems to us, stood on other grounds. The very arrangements of his chemical warehouse ought to have subjected him to punishment, much more when he allowed a mere lad ignorant of the nature of drugs free access to this magazine of death, and took no precaution to see that the agents of destruction were not sown broadcast over the district. Yet a jury have found that there was nothing to blame in his conduct! We fear this is not the way to ensure in the minds of the community respect and tenderness for human life.

WEEKLY RESUMÉ.

THE Court of Appeal has just pronounced its judgment in the case of the Count de Montalembert. M. de Montalembert has been acquitted of the charges of attacking the principle of universal suffrage, and the rights the Emperor enjoys from the Constitution. The Court has reduced the sentence of imprisonment to three months, but has confirmed the fine of 3,000*fr.*

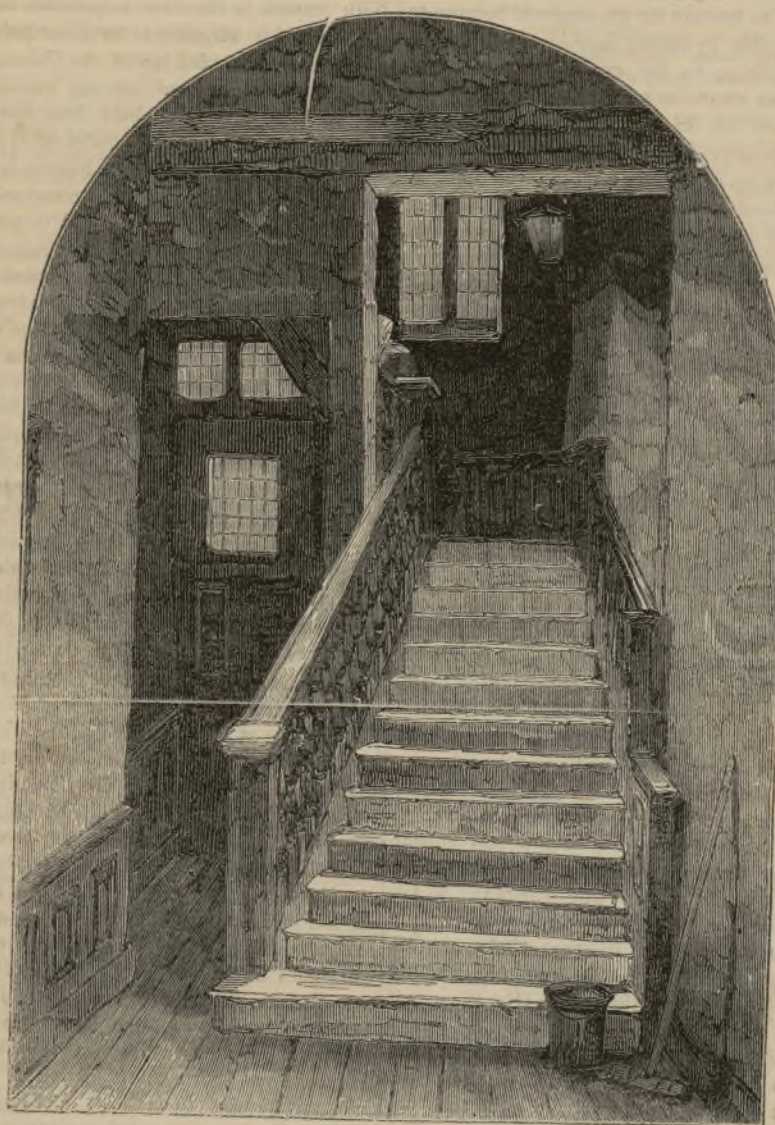
The Message of the American President was brought to this country in the course of the week. Prolixity is the most prominent characteristic of the American State paper; and in this respect Mr. Buchanan's Message does not yield to those of his predecessors—a report of twelve closely printed columns in length presents a dreary prospect for those who are anxious to make themselves masters of the state and prospects of the great Western Democracy. Fortunately, there is little indication of disturbed relations with their neighbours. With the European Powers America has no quarrel; even against England the usual resource of a grievance cannot be mustered up; and if the President shows himself bellicose at all, it is against his neighbours on his southern border—the anarchic bands that roam over Mexico and the feeble Governments that cannot preserve order on the route across the isthmus. In both of these cases Mr. Buchanan assumes that it is the duty of the United States to interfere, and, if need be, to apply to them that policy of annexation which we have pursued in India. Still more characteristic is the policy expressed with regard to Cuba. That island, Mr. Buchanan declares, ought to belong to the States, and he proposes that it should be bought. But how, if Spain be unwilling to sell? That obvious consideration he does not discuss.

With respect to the slavery question, the President gives his adhesion to Southern policy. He avows it as the settled law of the Union, that an American citizen may go into any unsettled territory, and is entitled there to have himself and his property (including slaves) protected; that it is only when that territory becomes a State it is to be at liberty to decide upon its future constitution, and whether slavery shall be tolerated or not. This, of course, would make slavery the rule and freedom the exception in all the newly-settled districts, while the aggressive spirit developed towards the South, where alone slave life is practicable, shows for whose benefit this new doctrine is enunciated. The whole message indicates an unsettled and feverish condition of the Union in its internal relations; and much light is thrown upon it in a letter which Mr. Buchanan addressed only a week before to the citizens of Pittsburg, who invited him to be present at their celebration of the capture of that and the neighbouring fort of Duquesne from the hands of the English one hundred years ago. In his letter excusing his attendance, Mr. Buchanan adopts a desponding tone as to the prospects of the Union.

The labours of the Military Clothing Commission, appointed in consequence of Mr. Elliott's defalcations at Weedon, have virtually come to an end. We doubt whether the country has gained much from their labours. The Commissioners do not appear to have been suited to the task assigned to them. Mr. Turner, the chairman, abdicated his position in favour of Mr. Selfe, one of the London police magistrates. As a fitting conclusion to the farce, Mr. Turner, who, as we have said, abandoned his proper place to one of his colleagues at the beginning of the inquiry, was seized with a sudden fit of dignity at its close, and took it in dudgeon that the War-office had never corresponded with him all through the inquiry, but had addressed their communications to the actual, and not to the theoretical, chairman. This childish display of wounded vanity seemed to take all parties by surprise. They have not yet given in their report; but the charges they had to deal with were so palpable, that, in spite of all their own blunders, it is hardly possible they can miss suggesting some valuable reforms.

The result of a trial which took place the other day, brings out into a strong light some of the inconveniences that attend trial by jury. A gentleman brought an action against the Great Northern Railway for injuries sustained by a collision on the line. The company pleaded that they were not liable; that sudden and heavy rains had damaged the line, and caused the collision, and that this cause of collision they could neither foresee nor prevent. The question to be tried was, therefore, whether the company had exercised due vigilance in the matter or not. A former jury had been unable to determine the point; their successors in the present case, no doubt, plumed themselves on their sagacity in having compromised the matter—finding the company blameworthy, but taking care that the complainant should reap no advantage from their finding. They awarded him damages to the extent of one farthing; but they left out of their calculations that they had to render their verdict to that veteran in constitutional law, Lord Campbell. His lordship refused to receive the verdict, as contrary both to law and common sense, for the complainant had been seriously injured, and if the company were liable at all they ought to pay fair damages; if they were not liable the verdict ought to be for them absolutely. The jury were, therefore, locked up for the night; and then it came out—what, indeed, was apparent from the first—that they had never really agreed, that the sham verdict was a mere trick to save themselves further trouble in the matter. They now came into court avowing that they could not agree; and were in consequence discharged. For the sake of the despatch of justice, which often grievously miscarries through the present system, we trust that the alteration which Lord Campbell suggests may be adopted by Parliament.

An effort is being made to get rid of the coal-tax which the Corporation of London imposes, not only upon the inhabitants of the metropolis, but over a district extending into Kent on the one side, and Hertfordshire on the other. The nucleus of the tax is of old date, but from time to time it has been increased for different purposes, and now amounts to a very grievous impost, which falls with peculiar weight on the poor. A deputation lately waited upon the Government on the subject, and the Home Secretary, while he pointed out to the gentlemen who waited on him the difficulties in the way of removing the impost, promised to take the subject into his serious consideration.



A Woman's Bargain.

BY THE AUTHOR OF "THE WEDDING RING," &c., &c.

CHAPTER XIII.

HENRIETTA had now attained the summit of her own wishes. She had realised the hopes of her whole life, the dream of her school-days, the ambition of her more mature years; for young as our heroine might still be thought by those who were her seniors, she was yet of a ripened mind in worldly wisdom—thanks to that mingling of pride and poverty which prevailed in the cottage establishment, miscalled home.

Yes, Henrietta had now her mansion, her carriage, her own maid, her plate, her jewels, and her husband.

Where was now the charm of all these possessions? How many people have been cursed with the fulfilment of their own wishes? Henrietta had gained everything that she had once thought essential to human happiness, but *was she happy?* The honeymoon was scarcely over, and yet lines of care deepened their engravings on her face. In her husband she had found a master. Already she had resorted to those expedients against which men of any feeling are seldom proof. She had tried tears, hysterics, faintings. The first were as experiments, the second the working-up of indignant disappointment at finding these disregarded, the third the abandonment of all exertion in sheer despair. The one frightful swoon of her life was never to be repeated, that being the penalty which her woman-nature had paid for crossing the rubicon between the shores of natural affection and selfish ambition. Mr. Seymour was proof against everything. Her tears melted him no more than does the rain the rocks, and not even quite so much. Hysterics and fainting fits being, as he told her, not at all to his taste, he wished her to understand that he should invariably leave her to their indulgence, quite undisturbed by his presence; and, accordingly, he quitted the room the moment the slightest notice was given of their approach, not even taking the trouble to ring for her maid.

Was this early development of matrimonial bitterness quite natural? Mr. Seymour avowed his intention of beginning as he meant to go on, and his first step was to interdict Mrs. Mellish from coming to the Hall. Once or

twice a-year she should be invited in a grand ceremonious manner; but for his domestic privacy to be broken up by any mother-in-law in the land, he begged to say that he had no such intention; and that Henrietta might know that the measure was by no means personal, neither would he be disturbed by those cousins of his own, who had proved themselves far too convenient to be trusted, and who, of course, were nearer to him than any relation by marriage, and therefore he would leave the two parties to console each other.

Was it loneliness, was it natural reaction of the feelings, or was it a union of both, that made Henrietta long to see her mother with something like a real yearning of the heart. Half the happiness of her success depended upon being envied by the many dear friends who had so often made her feel that pretence was not the precious metal, and that show was not substance. Of what use was all this splendour, if she might not display it to admiring eyes? Everything around her was so still and quiet—she did not like the country. She must be in the busy world, or where was the use of all those splendid trappings. The silence of the place was insupportable.

There was only one thing more intolerable than the solitude she was compelled to endure, and that was the society of her husband, if society that could be called. Day by day he was growing increasingly withering and sardonic. The only relief was that now he was more and more withdrawn from his own home by legal business. Consultation with his lawyers certainly did not send him home improved in temper. The wife of his bosom did not then know that a day of trial was approaching in which the verdict might very materially alter her future destiny.

Whatever might be the cause, it was a relief to hear the great gates clang together after him, for even solitude was more supportable than his presence. Nevertheless, that solitude was almost too heavy a weight to be borne, and the lady of the mansion would pass from room to room, examining every article that came in her way a hundred times over. All the best apartments were her own; she was free to come and to go; but these were silent and deserted. Often would she hang over the banisters of the grand staircase and listen to the merry voices of the domestics, and the sounds produced by their labours, envying

her own servants the cheerfulness of their lives. In the midst of all this splendid misery of her "Woman's Bargain" one spirit of the past, like the ghost of defunct happiness, never ceased to haunt her steps. Need we say that the apparition wore no other form than that of Lionel Kendrick? He to whom she had been so faithless! He whom she had so basely injured! Did she repent now that it was too late? Repent, with anguish of heart and bitterness of spirit? She did, and with such an intensity of remorse, that could he have wished for revenge he had it. She had thrown away her happiness, and now she knew it; and to know it was the bitterest punishment retributive justice could inflict. And yet while repentance for transgression is the only act of conscience that can bring peace in the train of its own sorrow for the world's transgressions, our heroine's repentance simply aggravated her sin. Repentance itself was now a crime! Oh, whither should she turn, thus bereft of all hope, of all rest, of all consolation!

There was no resting-place for the sole of her foot, so she wandered about her own noble mansion—herself the unhappy spirit of her habitation.

One day it came into her thoughts that she would explore the upper chambers of the Hall. It would beguile the time. Mr. Seymour now always left her immediately after breakfast. There was one old servant in the house who had been there many years, and kept the keys of some of the shut-up rooms. This woman being summoned, came with her keys. She was taciturn; almost repulsive. Mrs. Seymour was made to feel that her appearance in those upper chambers was an intrusion. The inspection was soon over; but just as she was about to descend, another flight of stairs caught her eye. Dreary and dismal the place seemed, but it was all the more in keeping with the inner atmosphere of her own heart. She would explore that upper floor. The old domestic looked aghast. These were only attics and lumber rooms, full of dust and cobwebs and waste furniture. No matter. The keys were not at hand. Then they must be fetched.

The refractory servant found that there was no alternative. She went unwillingly enough, and remained away sufficiently long to wear out any tolerable patience. At last she returned with a bunch of rusty keys. After trying several, the right one grated in the lock, and the old door creaked on its hinges. It was exactly as her attendant had said. They were now in a range of attics, one room opening into another, full of old trunks, old furniture, and a mass of heterogeneous articles. Heavy joists jutted out of the wall, while the bare rafters displayed the angles of the roof. Perhaps the spirit of contradiction made Henrietta perverse, but on she persisted in going, until she had gained the very last of these divisions. It was lighted only by a mean, narrow lattice, itself heavily curtained by the laborious weavings of the spider.

What was there in that remote chamber of her splendid mansion to engage the attention of its mistress? A great number of old paintings in massive frames, loaded with dust and black with neglect, their faces turned towards the walls, some of them with the canvas almost parting from their fastenings. Now, Henrietta's curiosity was aroused. She must inspect this banished gallery. The woman demurred, objected that they were heavy, said that nobody ever came into that lumber room, hinted that her master might be angry. Then Henrietta felt that she must be in the famous Bluebeard chamber, and became doubly resolved. She was interested, actually excited. Seeing that the old servant would not use her strength, she cast aside her own daintiness, and exerting herself with right good will, so overruled the unwillingness of her assistant that the heavy frame was swerved round. Dust and cobwebs covered its face. Henrietta fell back. Had she received some bodily injury? It appeared to her that the apparition that continually haunted her steps, peeped over her shoulder when she looked into her mirror, and threw dark shadows over every path she trod, was now impressed upon the canvas. The face was the counterpart of that of Lionel Kendrick. The same frank, handsome, open-hearted expression seemed now to beam upon her, and the eyes fol-

lowed her own stricken glances. The dress was somewhat different from that in which she had usually seen her former suitor, and he appeared a little older and perhaps a little more fixed in character; but there was no fancy in the powerful resemblance.

Henrietta, with a look that was perfectly ghastly, and a lip that was blanched, gasped out, "Whose portrait is that?"

"The master's—I mean the old master."

"Of what?"

"Of this house, and everything in it."

"And his name?"

"Squire Kendrick—and a good name, too."

Mrs. Seymour sat down on an old dusty box, and covered her face with her hands.

(To be continued.)

A SINGULAR INCIDENT.

A few months ago, a shoemaker residing in the central district of the city, suddenly left town, in consequence of being unable to find employment, and went on the tramp to England. He did not inform his wife of his intention, and after he had been absent for some time, the poor woman thought that he had met with some accident, and applied to the Humane Society officials, who dragged the river for his body, but without effect. After the lapse of some weeks, however, the body of a man was recovered in the Clyde, and the wife of the shoemaker was apprised of the circumstance. She went and examined the body, which was somewhat decomposed; but from the circumstance that the features were somewhat similar to those of her husband—a front tooth being wanting, and the clothing of the same shape and colour—the woman declared that the body was that of her missing partner, and her daughters also identified it as that of their father. The body was accordingly interred, and a sum of money was obtained from a friendly society to defray the expenses. The matter was thus set at rest, and the woman actually thought she had consigned her husband to the grave; but a few weeks ago she was thunderstruck to see a person—or rather, as she supposed, an apparition—enter the house, and sit down jocosely by the side of the fire. She was struck with the resemblance which this personage bore to her husband, and asked him what he wanted? "What do I want," said he, "am I not your man?" "Atweel a wat ye're no," she replied; "I buried my man several weeks since." After explanations had been given, however, the guid wife was satisfied that she had made a mistake in identifying the dead man; and it is said that the living one has since become a better man, and has tilled less and worked more.—*Glasgow Herald.*

CAPTURE OF A TURKISH BRIGAND.

A letter from Constantinople of the 8th inst., in the *Gazette du Midi*, says: "Accounts from Aleppo state that Mehemed Rechid Pacha, the Governor-General of the province, has just rendered a signal service by effecting the arrest of Karaieid Oglou Ali, a brigand chief, who, for the last twenty years has been carrying on his depredations on the roads about that city. The terror he had everywhere inspired gained for him the name he bears, the son of the Black Giant. The governors of Adana and Marasch, two neighbouring towns, had in vain sent out expeditions against this formidable chief, who, with his band, not only pillaged villages, and robbed and murdered travellers, but encouraged a spirit of revolt among the mountaineers of Ghiavour Dag, whose warlike spirit is well known. Owing to the measures taken by Mehemed Pacha, Karaieid, with three of his companions, were placed in the hands of justice. Letters have been received from Beyrout which state that Ismail Heir Bey, the rebel chief of the district of Safta, who, after his defeat in the late disturbances, took refuge in the village of Ansaries, on the territory of Hama, was pursued so closely by the Ottoman troops under the command of Moustafa Pacha that he surrendered to them. The Pacha was disposed to treat him with clemency, but the inhabitants did not give him time. They seized on the rebel, his son, and his brother, cut off their heads and carried the bloody trophies to the commandant. The heads are now stuck on poles in the market place at Damascus."

The unfortunate young woman, who was found drowned, with her child, an infant a few months old, in a pond in Epping Forest, on Sunday week, remains unidentified. From special inquiries made by the police, and upon a close scrutiny of the whole facts of the deplorable case, there appears to be no reason for the suspicion thrown out that a third party was implicated, and it is believed to be purely one of murder and suicide. Certain marks of violence about the woman's body seem to have been occasioned after death, and not before; they may have been caused by her coming into contact with the bottom of the pond, and, when her lifeless body was being dragged out of the water.

All the judges of the Court of Session, except Lord Murray, have decided that the decree sought by the liquidators of the Western Bank of Scotland against the contributors who have not paid the late call of 100*l.* per share, ought to be granted without notice to the parties, and on the *ex parte* statement of the liquidators; further, that the minute of the 4th of October, 1858, of the liquidators, stating the assets and liabilities of the bank, and intimating to all the shareholders, is *prima facie* evidence that a decree for the call would be just and beneficial, and that it will be competent to each individual contributory to suspend the decree, and raise the question of his special liability by suspension.

LONDON AND PARIS FASHIONS.

DESCRIPTION OF THE ENGRAVINGS.

Fig. 1.—Dress of silver grey silk with two skirts. On the lower one a broad flounce is set on in box plaits, and edged with a narrow frill of green silk, also in box plaits; and surmounted by quillings of green ribbon. The upper skirt is trimmed with ruffles of green ribbon, disposed in perpendicular rows all round the skirt in the style called *medaillons*, and edged with narrow blonde. The corsage fits closely to the figure, and the sleeves are trimmed with ruffles of green ribbon, disposed in the same style as those on the upper skirt. Collar and sleeves of Alençon lace. Bonnet formed of rows of white crinoline and brown velvet, ranged alternately. Bavolet and strings of striped brown and green ribbon. On one side a bouquet of roses.

Fig. 2.—Chemisette to be worn with a low or half-high corsage. The foundation is net. At the upper part there are three rows of narrow lace insertion; and between the rows, drawings of net.

Fig. 3.—Under sleeve, consisting of a full puff of plain muslin. In the wristband, there is a running of coloured ribbon, finished by a bow and long ends.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS ON FASHION AND DRESS.

The following description of some newly-made ball costumes may afford hints to those ladies who are preparing dresses for the present festive season:—A dress of pink crape has been made with two skirts each trimmed at the edge with a gouffered flounce. The corsage, plain and pointed both in front and behind, has a berthe of the same material as the dress, and trimmed with two fluted frills. Three similar frills cover the sleeves. With this dress pearls and sprays of foliage are to be worn in the hair. A dress of white tulle is trimmed with twelve narrow flounces, each edged with two small rouleaux of white satin. The corsage is in folds in front and behind. The sleeves consist of a puff edged with a loose, flowing fall descending nearly to the elbow. Head-dress, pearls and flowers. A dress of Azoff green satin, sprigged with small bouquets of flowers, has no trimming on the skirt. The corsage is plain, and has a berthe of tulle edged with a deep fall of blonde of a very rich pattern.

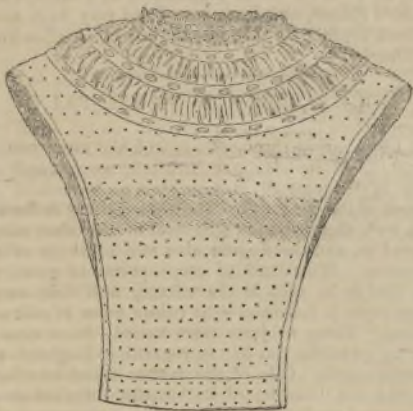


Fig. 2.

The sleeves are formed of one puff of the silk composing the dress, covered by an *odalisque*, or long, flowing sleeve of plain tulle. The latter is open from top to bottom in front of the arm, and is edged round with a small ruche of blonde. Coiffure, flowers and bows of ribbon.

The out-door dresses prepared within the last few days include one composed of violet-colour moire antique. It has a double skirt, and the corsage is round at the waist. The sleeves are loose, and descend to the wrist, where the fulness is drawn on a small band. Over the upper part of the sleeve a loose epaulet descends nearly to the elbow. A turned-up cuff of worked muslin finishes the sleeve at the wrist. The upper skirt is ornamented with a front trimming, formed of fluted plaits of black velvet, having the flutes disposed horizontally, and this trimming is continued up the front of the corsage. The bonnet, adopted with the dress just mentioned, consists of violet-colour velvet, with strings of black velvet. A *voilette* of black lace is thrown back over the bonnet. The under-trimming is formed of blonde, and a wreath of foliage in green velvet. Cloak of black velvet trimmed with lace. Another out-door costume consists of a dress of emerald-green terry velvet, the skirt trimmed with quilles, formed of rows of black velvet and black velvet buttons. Bonnet of maroon-colour velvet, trimmed on the left side with a demi-wreath of flowers in velvet. Shawl of black velvet, trimmed with passementerie in silk and jet, and edged with deep fall of black lace.

Several very tasteful caps have just made their appearance. We may mention one or two of those which have elicited the greatest share of approbation. A small cap, suitable for the theatre or for in-door evening dress, is formed of rows of white blonde, scalloped at the edge, and disposed alternately with rows of black velvet. On each side there is a bouquet of flowers of various colours intermingled with foliage. Another cap, composed of worked muslin and lace insertion, has a curtain of plain tulle, ornamented with runnings of green ribbon. A bow of green ribbon is placed above the curtain at the back of the cap, and there is a bow of the same at the ear on the right side. The strings are of green ribbon, and may, if preferred, be edged with quillings of narrow green ribbon. One of the new caps has a crown of spotted tulle, covered with

rows of narrow cerulean blue ribbon, crossed one over the other in the form of a *resille* or net. The edge or border of the *resille* is trimmed round with loops of blue ribbon, and a row or frill of beautiful white guipure forms the outer portion of the cap. The strings are composed of blue ribbon, rather broad, and at the back of the cap there is a bow with long ends.

SIR C. WOOD ON POPULAR EDUCATION AND LITERATURE.

Sir Charles Wood, M.P., at a recent *soirée* of the Halifax Mechanics' Institute, made some remarks on popular education and literature. He said that he entirely agreed with those who approved the introduction of well-selected light literature into libraries. He thought those who opposed it had looked back to old times, when novel-reading young ladies were held up as frivolous persons; but the light literature of this country had received as great an improvement as almost any other branch of literature could possibly have done, and the novels of these days were as little like the novels of former days as the eloquent and impartial histories which had been written of late were superior to the bald chronicles which were written four or five centuries ago. (Hear, hear.) He did not think that

refer was the introduction of newspapers. He knew there were many persons who objected to reading-rooms in connexion with mechanics' institutions. He thought that was quite an old-fashioned, and ought to be exploded—he would say, superstition. ("Hear, hear," and laughter.) He did not think that now-a-days any man was a well-informed man who did not read the newspapers. There was a great deal in newspapers which supplied the place of the former periodical literature, and even on that ground they were useful. But were we, a people such as we were, taking part in the political management of the country, to be kept in ignorance of what was going on either at home or abroad? A large portion of the people of this country were entrusted with the exercise of political duties in choosing the members of the House of Commons, and probably when any change took place the number so entrusted with the franchise would be extended; but at any rate, whether so or not, it was notorious that what was called public opinion was the ultimate resort which determined everything which took place in this country. The opinion of the country at large, though exerted, it might be, sometimes regularly and sometimes irregularly, was sure, when fairly pronounced and made known, sooner or later, to pervade the Legislature and Government, and influence them in the



Fig. 1.

it was reasonable to suppose that people who had been hard at work all day long should go to a mechanics' institution to study a problem of Euclid, or read a hard book upon any subject. Other classes of the community did not do it. He had had a good deal of mental hard work in the course of his life, and if after a long day's work—poring over blue-books, long despatches, and matters of that kind—he wanted refreshment and relaxation in an evening, he should not take up a hard mathematical book to study. Was it not reasonable to suppose that if people who had been employed the whole of a hard day in an absorbing occupation were, instead of going to a public-house, or wasting their time in frivolous or absurd amusements, to have recourse to a reading-room, they would read such books as would be a relaxation to their minds, and not additional toil? (Hear, hear.) Of course, there were some books from which no benefit could be derived; but care on the part of the directors of the institution would effectually prevent the introduction of anything that might possibly be injurious, and well-selected light literature would be a means of inducing persons to take books home to read instead of wasting their time in idle amusements, and would thus make them better husbands, fathers, and heads of families. (Hear, hear.) The other subject to which he would

course which they took. It was quite essential, therefore, that the public should be well informed upon what was passing near them and in distant parts of the world, because it was impossible to separate the history of this country from the circumstances which took place elsewhere. Take the case of the Crimean war for example. How much support the Government received during that war from the public opinion of the country! How much improvement was effected by the expression of public opinion on various points connected with the war! How much information was conveyed to the public of this country in enabling them to form that opinion by the public press which they otherwise could not have had! Why, everybody would be living in the dark if they had not the public press to refer to. (Applause.) He believed, therefore, it was perfectly necessary that in a free country like this all the intelligent portion of the community should have access to papers of every description and advocating all classes of opinions.

Burgess, the man who murdered his infant daughter at Exmoor, in July last, and afterwards threw her remains into a pit, was convicted of that offence on Monday, at the Taunton assizes, and sentenced to death.

LORD MALMESBURY'S SPORTING DISASTERS.

The *Field*, in an article on the Earl of Malmesbury, says: "At Achnacarry, near Fort-William, in Scotland, his lordship for many years has rented the deer-forest and lakes of 'Lochiel,' the chief of the Camerons, and while deer-stalking with his famous smooth-barrelled gun, he has made some of the most brilliant shots of successive seasons. It was here that Lord Malmesbury met with the following adventure, which will give our non-deer-stalking readers an idea of the dangers of the chase, as well as of the power in the fore-foot of a hind. His lordship had shot at a 'dry, or yeld hind,' and the deer apparently falling dead, he made in to give the *coup de grace* with his hunting-knife, when, on approaching the deer, and before he could grapple with her, she suddenly rose on her hind legs, and striking him with her fore-foot, gave his lordship such a severe blow on the face, narrowly missing the eye, as to stretch him for a few moments on his back, completely stunned and deluged with blood. The hind had only been grazed by the ball, and at the instant of his lordship's approach had recovered all her vigour. His lordship excels equally with short gun and rifle, and used to be a considerable proficient with the foils. In a 'bout' of this latter description, from the button of an adversary's foil being broken off, we believe his lordship was either run through the body, or, at all events, considerably wounded."

JUSTICE IN RUSSIA.

A St. Petersburg letter, in the *Emancipation* of Brussels, relates the following curious story:—"Prince Leon Kotchoubey, of a rich and ancient family, a man of an imperious character, had long employed as his land agent an Austrian named Saltzman. About a year ago, when they were alone together in the Prince's cabinet, a warm discussion arose about some accounts. A pistol was suddenly fired, which wounded the agent in the side. When some of the household rushed in to see what had taken place, the Prince accused Saltzman of having fired the pistol at himself in a spirit of revenge and to drag the Prince into a criminal trial. On the other hand, the agent asserted that Prince Leon had fired at him in a fit of rage. The medical men who were called in declared that the wound could not



Fig. 3.

have been produced by the man's own act. The case came before a police tribunal, presided over by a General Pool. The influence brought to bear on the Court led to a declaration that the Prince was innocent, and the unfortunate Saltzman, being declared guilty of wounding himself, was thrown into prison. The sentence, in due time, received the confirmation of the Governor of St. Petersburg, and the affair seemed at an end. The wife of the imprisoned man, however, was a woman of energy, and she went about from door to door with her four young children, imploring every one to aid her in obtaining justice. She was at last called to Tsarskoe Selo, and also imprisoned, leaving the children to be provided for by any one who might have pity on them. Public rumour brought the case to the knowledge of the Emperor, and he ordered an inquiry to be instituted by the Senate, whose decision no one doubts of. The following are said to be its dispositions:—1. Saltzman, having been unjustly condemned, has a right to fix the indemnity which the Prince should pay him; secondly, the governor who confirmed the sentence cannot be reached in his person, as he is dead, but his memory shall be branded with reprobation; and thirdly, General Pool is to be tried for injustice, and his two assistants in the affair shall be similarly treated."

In the course of a discussion in the Chamber of Deputies at the Hague, a few days ago, the Minister of Public Worship was asked what the Government had done at Rome on behalf of the Mortara family. He answered that though knowing that the isolated action of a Protestant State of the second order would produce no effect, it had still made representations there in favour of the principle of liberty of conscience.

A singular case came before the Court of Probate and Divorce on Monday—that of "Tabbs v. Prout and others." This was a testamentary cause in which issue had been joined upon a question arising out of the massacre at Cawnpore. A husband and wife having both perished in that massacre the question in dispute was which of them had survived the other. The cause was ordered to be tried before a special jury.

POET'S CORNER.

WE GREET THEE, MERRY CHRISTMAS!

BY J. HAY DOBBIN.

Oh! we greet thee, merry Christmas,
With thy bright and happy smile,
As a stage in life's sad journey
Where the poor may rest awhile.
But thy face with care is wrinkled,
And thy brow seems stern and cold:
We feel not the joyous lightness
That thy coming caused of old!

Still, we greet thee, merry Christmas,
We have long'd for thy return;
For thou com'st to stay life's battle,
And to cheer the hearts that mourn.
In thy smile let dull earth glisten;
Let thy blessings, manifold,
O'er our world be scatter'd broadcast—
Shed abroad the joys of old.

Yes, we greet thee, merry Christmas,
Though our pleasure's overcast;
For we miss the dear, kind faces
That mix'd with us in the past.
But the joys they threw around us
Are fix'd deep in Memory's hold—
We can ne'er forget the true friends
That we lov'd in days of old.

Still, we greet thee, merry Christmas,
Though dark shadows on the wall
Come between us and the sunshine,
Causing doubt and fear to fall,
That no more thy smile shall gladden—
That we may no more behold
The glow upon thy bright face
That we knew in days of old.

Well, we greet thee, merry Christmas,
For a trustful faith is ours,
And the brightness of the future
Cheers life's quickly-passing hours.
But a brighter Christmas cometh,
By the prophets long foretold:
Oh! may we, when it dawneth,
Join the friends we lov'd of old!

MISTLETOE TIME.

The mistletoe droopingly hangs from the wall,
Hark! to the sounds in yonder hall,
Where the young, and the joyous, light-hearted and free,
Join in the Christmas revelry.

See! the young girl, with eyes so bright
(They shine as a star on a wintry night),
She's under the mistletoe—ah! look there!!
"He's" kissed the girl with the golden hair.

"She" pouts and she flouts—vain attempt to be cross—
And she gives her sweet head a very high toss:
"Papa" does not care; as he sits at his ease,
Says, smilingly, "Harry may kiss his Elise."

LITERATURE.

Books, Publications, &c., for Review, should be addressed to the Editor, 83, Fleet-street, London.

The Town: its Memorable Characters and Events.
By LEIGH HUNT. New Edition. London: Smith, Elder, and Co.

We have had many guide-books of late through the ever-growing labyrinth of London; but, in spite of their varied merits, we doubt if any one of them surpasses the charming volume which has now been some years before the public, where every street, every public building, has some curious association, historical or personal, connected with it. Mr. Leigh Hunt's familiarity with the writings of the wits who, from the days of the Stuarts downwards, have walked and worked and trifled in, and written about, the modern Babylon, enables him to people every thoroughfare with the noticeable men and women who once moved about there, to call up their living images before us, and give us a specimen of their conversation and manners. No one can have read Mr. Hunt's volume without finding that the streets they walk, and the houses they pass, have acquired a new interest in their eyes; and we need not say that all this information is conveyed in the most pleasant manner, the refined taste and poetical genius of the author having enabled him to extract from his multifarious reading only those matters that are fitted to please, and to weave the motley mass into one uniform and consistent whole. But the book has been long before the public, its merits have been universally recognised, and it has taken its place along with the other works of the gifted author among the classics of our age. We have only to add, that the present edition is in a very handsome form, equally remarkable for its elegance and its cheapness, and that whenever the occasion requires it, the letter-press is illustrated by beautiful and highly-finished wood engravings.

Children's Bread from the Master's Table. Knight and Son, Clerkenwell.

An elegant little gift-book for children. The idea is a happy one, and happily carried out. There is a verse from the Bible, followed by a verse of a hymn in the nature of a comment, provided for every day in the year, and both the verse and the metrical comment are admirably suited to children's capacities. We do not know that a mother could make her child a

more valuable present than this elegant little volume, with instructions to commit to memory the daily lesson here provided.

LITERARY AND FINE ARTS MISCELLANY.

Nearly 8,000 copies of Dr. Guthrie's new volume of "Sermons"—published by Messrs. A. and C. Black—were sold to the trade on the day of publication.

Mr. Scott, the architect into whose hands the Government have just confided the building of the new Foreign Office, is a grandson of the Rev. Thomas Scott, the celebrated commentator.

Count Montalembert's much spoken of pamphlet has lately been sold at Paris with the title printed reversed, "Edin' L Rus Tabéd Nu, par Ed Trebmelatnom." Masses of the pamphlet were disposed of before the police got aware of the trick.

The colossal lion has arrived at the British Museum. It is still in its case in the court-yard, and will so remain till the glass box for the reception of this and other expected antiquities from the East and Carthage is completed, and the noble front of the Museum turned into the likeness of a tinker's street in Whitechapel.

In the window of the library, No. 212, Rue de Rivoli, there has lately been exhibited an engraved portrait of Mr. Charles Dickens, with a beard, à la *Impériale*, sitting at a desk in a thoughtful position, and writing. The police entered the shop the other day and told the proprietor in very angry terms to take the engraving out of the window. They mistook Mr. Dickens's portrait for a caricature of the Emperor!—*Paris Letter*.

The *Malta Observer* says:—"We feel great pleasure in being able to state that our proposal to publish a journal in Maltese has been approved by the several gentlemen who desire to see that language more generally read by the inhabitants of these islands. Some of them have, in fact, kindly offered to assist in the preparation of instructive matter for publication; and we trust that we shall be able ere long to convince those who are still wavering of the possibility of writing a language which is spoken by about 130,000 inhabitants."

The Bishop of Oxford has offered a prize for the best essay on the following subject: "The best method of promoting reverence and devotion among school children during Divine worship." Competitors for the prize are confined to the Diocesan Association of Schoolmasters, which consists of about 150 members, and is designed to extend the sphere of action of the Diocesan Board of Education, by the increase of unity and sympathy amongst the promoters and teachers of Church schools in the diocese of Oxford.

Edward Hodges Baily, the favourite pupil of the illustrious Flaxman, and the sculptor of one of the most poetic groups in English art, "Eve at the Fountain," has retired from the art he advanced—not too well off, we are sorry to hear—fuller of honour than of riches. His last work was the model for the St. Paul's statue of Mr. Ruskin's Turner. But the Turner statue was given to Mr. Macdowell, a younger sculptor, but one eminent in his art; and Mr. Baily has handsomely drawn his retiring mantle around him. He will be heard of hereafter as a master in his line.—*Illustrated London News*.

Mr. R. M. Milnes writes to the *Ayr Observer* to state that the pension and subscription to Mrs. Begg and her daughters were procured by the zeal of Mr. Thomas Carlyle. Mr. Milnes, on making the suggestion to Sir R. Peel, was informed that there was no pension to bestow, but that Lady Peel had 10l. per annum which she was willing to confer. Both Sir Robert, however, and the Duke of Buccleuch contributed to the subscription.—In reference to a continuance of Mrs. Begg's pension to her daughters, Mr. M. Drummond writes on behalf of Lord Derby, that no funds will be available for Civil List pensions till next July, and that there were many claims on the fund.

M. Rigault, the eminent ex-professor and writer of the *Débats*, is seriously ill. While writing an article the other day his pen fell from his hand, his brain gave way, and it was found that he was, temporarily, afflicted with a total loss of his memory. A journal mentions, as a ground for hoping that M. Rigault's loss of memory may not be definitive, that fifteen years ago M. Villenain, when Minister of Public Instruction, was afflicted with a similar visitation, and that he was on that occasion superseded in his office by M. de Salvandy. M. de Salvandy is now dead, and M. Villenain, the spiritual perpetual secretary of the French Academy, is in the full enjoyment of his mental and bodily faculties.

The *Newfoundland Courier* states that the Roman Catholic Cathedral of St. John's has lately received some remarkable additions to the works of art which enrich it. Five large stained-glass windows, each twenty-one feet high, and nine feet wide, have been placed in the apsis over the choir, behind the grand altar. They contain the figures of our Saviour, the Virgin, St. John the Baptist, and the Twelve Apostles, three figures in each window, surrounded by arabesque ornaments, and surmounted by circular ornaments, containing monograms. The panels under the windows will be ornamented with paintings, and emblazoned with the names of the chief contributors to the expense of these decorations.

Northern Germany contrasts strikingly with Southern Germany both in production and consumption of books. In Northern Germany, Saxony, and Prussia—i. e., Leipzig and Berlin—are the great centres both of publication and sale. In Southern Germany, Austria, though the smallest producer, is

the largest consumer. In the last few years quite a new market has been opened up to the trade in Austria. Bavaria, on the other hand, is the worst market of the Southern States. What taste exists in Bavaria is for art rather than literature. The library of the well-to-do farmer or manufacturer in Bavaria consists of little more than a couple of Prayer-books and some bound volumes of the *Fliegende Blätter*, a great contrast to the neat collection of solid books which every better farmhouse in Northern Germany has to show. In Wurtemberg (Stuttgart) there is more intellectual life, and more production; but it is not a good market. Baden and the Rhenish Palatinate, on the contrary, publish little, but buy a good deal. It would appear, however, that the quality of the books sold has by no means kept pace with the extension of the trade. The number of copies of books of the highest class which is now sold is neither greater nor less than it was.

COMIC EXTRACTS.

[From PUNCH.]

RIVAL ACHIEVEMENTS.—Captain Parry got round Melville Island, but Sergeant Parry cleared Guernsey.

A REASON AGAINST THE ENFIELD GUN-FACTORY.—Surely it is superfluous, when the Government already produce such an enormous number of smooth bores.

THE MAGIC OF REFORM.—Even talking about it does wonders. Bright becomes obscure; Lowe takes high ground; Newdegate talks downright radicalism and Milner Gibson confesses that he knows nothing.

JUDGING THINGS BY THEIR FRUITS.—John Bright insists, that because we employ American machinery for making bricks, we ought, therefore, to resort to American machinery for making legislators. The argument halts. We use the former machinery for the very same reason that we reject the latter—because it turns out the bricks.

HOW TO STAY THE PASSPORT PLAGUE.—The *Times* says, that "it is asserted, on the highest authority, that the passport system is only kept up because it maintains some thousand poor fellows, who would otherwise have to sweep the streets for their bread." This being so, could not British travellers, comprising so many both of the mercantile and fashionable world, subscribe enough money to buy up the interest of the French passport officials in their several offices? Why, surely the members of the Travellers' Club alone could do it, if they would all club together.

AMUSEMENTS.

HAYMARKET THEATRE.—"UNDINE; OR, HARLEQUIN AND THE SPIRIT OF THE WATERS."—The following story has furnished the materials for the plot of this pantomime: Undine, the beautiful Spirit of the Waters, was, when a child, left on the banks of a broad lake, near an Enchanted Forest, by her kindred, that she might grow up amongst mortals until reaching her eighteenth year; when, if, during that time, she could resist the power of love, she would be worthy to succeed to the throne of her mother under the waters. Being discovered by an old fisherman, he brought her home, where she lived with him and his wife until her eighteenth birthday, when a young knight, who had braved the dangers of the Enchanted Forest, to prove his valour, and please a lady to whom he was betrothed, sought refuge in the fisherman's cottage. Undine, on beholding the stranger, fell at once in love with him. The water-spirits, on knowing this, were greatly incensed against Undine; but allayed their anger by the knowledge that, should the knight prove untrue to her, it was her doom to destroy him. In vain Undine sought her companions in their ocean home—in vain she absented herself to conquer her fatal passion. The power of love gave her a soul, and henceforth she became mortal, and subjected to all the infirmities of mortality. The young knight, for a brief space, returned the passion of Undine, but, on the arrival of the lady betrothed to him, Undine discovered his falsehood, and bade him a sad adieu. On his bridal night she sought his chamber, and finding him there alone, flung herself into his arms and gave him the kiss of death. This sacrifice atoned for her weakness, and she became restored to her high station amongst the Spirits of the Waters. The foregoing is the subject of the opening scenes of the pantomime, and founded upon the well-known German legend by the Baron de la Motte Fouqué. The character of Undine will be sustained by Louise Leclercq; Translucia, her sister, by Fanny Wright; and Mrs. Leclercq will personate the false knight. The scenery has been painted by Mr. Frederick Fenton, and the unrivalled pantomimists of last year—Arthur Leclercq, Charles Leclercq, Louis Leclercq, and Fanny Wright—will sustain the harlequinade, the comic portion of which is invented by Mr. W. Dorrington. The scenery of this portion is painted by Messrs. O'Connor and Morris, and the entire pantomime produced under the direction of Mr. Leclercq.

The exhibition of Madame Tussaud that has for many years maintained its place as an object of undiminished attraction, has been re-embellished for the holidays; the ladies have been re-dressed in splendid Court costumes by Mrs. J. Tussaud, whose well-known taste has for several years been the theme of admiration to the frequenters of their promenade.

A monster concert, on a scale of monstrosity never before heard of, is projected to be held in Paris in April next. 203 choral societies, numbering among them 7,000 performers, are to be congregated within the walls of the Crystal Palace in the Champs Elysées. M. Delaporte, the president of the Choral Society of Paris, and M. Vautin, a *réducteur* of the *Orpheon* and of the *Pays*, are the leaders of the enterprise, which is said to be patronised by Meyerbeer.

The old system of charges for booking and fees to box-keepers will, we are glad to hear, be dis-

countenanced by Miss Louisa Pyne and Mr. Harrison at Covent-garden Theatre. Programmes, too, will be delivered, free of cost, to all who enter. A plan is to be tried which may possibly need modification. The engaged seats are to be distinguished as such by cards, affixed under managerial supervision. So far, so good; but the practicability of allotting disengaged seats by numbers corresponding with those on the pass-checks to visitors as they arrive remains to be tested.

THE MIDSHIPMAN'S THREE DINNERS.

I do not think there is any harm in putting the following story on record. It was told me, many years ago, by the hero of it, my very valued friend, Captain (afterwards Admiral Sir Francis), Beaufort. There are many men in whose mouths such a story would pass for a flourish, but all who knew Sir Francis Beaufort also knew how singularly and eminently free he was from all disposition to exaggerate. In fact, nothing but the notoriety of his character in this respect, and in several others which tend the same way, would justify the publication. To gain him the reputation of a mender of good stories would be rather a difficult task. The oddity of the circumstance struck me so much that I remember the details, and almost the phrases. We were talking of a midshipman's appetite as a thing which bears a high character for energy and punctuality, and Captain Beaufort said it had never been fully tried how many dinners a midshipman could eat in one day. "I," said he, "got as far as three." I begged to know the particulars and he gave them as follows: "I had eaten my dinner at the midshipman's table, and a very good one, as I always did. After it, the captain's steward came up and said, 'The captain's compliments, and desires the favour of your company to dinner.' 'But I've dined,' said I. 'For mercy's sake don't say that, Sir,' said he, 'for I shall be in a scrape if you do; I ought to have asked you this morning, but I forgot.' So I thought I must go, and two hours afterwards I did go, and I dined, and I think I made my usual good dinner. Just as we rose from the table a signal was made by the admiral to send an officer on board, and as it was my turn I had to go off in the boat. When I got on board the admiral's ship the admiral said to me, 'Ah, Mr. Beaufort, I believe,' said he, 'the papers you are to take back will not be ready this half-hour, but I am just sitting down to dinner, and shall be glad of your company.' Now, you know, as to a midshipman refusing to dine with the admiral, there are not the words for it in the naval dictionary; so I sat down to my third dinner, and I am sure I did very well, and I got back to my own ship just in time for tea."—*Notes and Queries*.

MOUNT LEBANON SMALL TALK.

Supper was then announced, and we sat down to a meal like that of the morning, with the same persons to partake of it. Hunger satisfied, we washed our hands in the eastern fashion, served by two of the deacons of the convents. The never-failing coffee and pipes were then brought. Several of the other monks dropped in, and there came also two or three of the Maronites. We talked of crops, prices of corn, the next land to be sold in the village, and that never-failing topic in Lebanon—the ruling price of silk and cocoons. These subjects were varied, from time to time, by questions put to me regarding England and its government. One of the monks asked whether it was true—he "had heard it, but could not believe it, and begged pardon for putting the question to me"—that England was governed by a Queen, who was married; but whose husband had no more power or authority in the country—was, in fact, one of his wife's subjects. When I replied that this was the case the exclamations of "Wonderful!" "God is great!" "The English are a strange people!" "A wife to govern over her own husband!" burst forth on all sides. My jolly old friend, the superior of the order, out of pure politeness, I believe, and with the intention of giving me a loop-hole of escape, suggested that although perhaps the husband of our Queen had no actual authority in England, yet he might be a member of the great Medjlis (the council), of the nation; and he had heard from a Frank merchant many years ago, that the Queen of England could do nothing without her council. For the honour of Great Britain I was obliged to say that both these statements were true; that the Queen could do nothing without her council, and that her husband was a member of that council. I palliated this violation of strict truth to myself by remembering that the Prince Consort is a member of the Privy Council, and that to enlighten these mountaineers on the difference that exists between Parliament and the Privy Council, which the superior evidently had confounded into one and the same thing, would be but a vain toil. With that natural politeness which distinguishes even the poorest and least educated among the Arabs, the conversation was then changed, and flowed again in its old channel, respecting the news of the mountain and the price of silk.—*Dickens's Household Words*.

We are informed that the total replies to an inquiry made by the Lord's Day Observance Society of the shareholders of the Crystal Palace Company, show a majority of two to one, both of shareholders and shares, in favour of rescinding the late resolution to "admit shareholders to the Palace and grounds on Sunday afternoon."

Lady Bulwer has been grossly insulted in open day in the midst of Pera. The Ambassadoress was proceeding on foot to pay a visit, preceded according to diplomatic usage, by a cavass. A pupil of the Military School passed by and began a series of insult. M. Outray, the first dragoman of the French Embassy, happened to be in the street, and ran to the nearest police-station and demanded the arrest of the cadet, who was seized and taken off to the school. The Sera-kier has sentenced the delinquent to a term of imprisonment and a dose of the bastinado.

OBITUARY.

THE PRINCESS DORIA.

We announce, with much regret, the death of the eldest daughter of John, Earl of Shrewsbury. The Princess Doria expired on Saturday last, at her residence in Rome, after a lengthened illness, leaving a family of five children—three daughters and two sons. The Princess's death will be a severe blow to society in Rome, of which she was one of the brightest ornaments.

THE COUNTESS DE LAVRADIO.

We are sorry to announce the death of this lamented lady, which melancholy event took place at the residence of the Portuguese Legation at ten o'clock on Wednesday morning, after a brief illness. The Countess Lavradio was highly and deservedly esteemed by a numerous circle of friends for her amiable qualities, and her loss will be deeply deplored by all who had the honour of being acquainted with her excellency. The Countess was very much attached to this country, having been always received by Her Majesty the Queen with marked attention, and having also enjoyed the intimate personal friendship of the chief members of the Court and aristocracy of St. James's.

LORD POLTIMORE.

We regret to announce the demise of the above nobleman, who expired on Saturday, at his seat, Poltimore-park, in his 73rd year. Lord Poltimore was the son of the late Sir Charles W. Bampfylde, Bart., whom he succeeded in 1823; and in 1831 he was created a peer. His lordship married, first, in 1807, the only daughter of the Rev. Ralph Saeyd, who died in 1835, and secondly, in 1836, the eldest daughter of Lieut.-Gen. Frederick Buller, by whom he leaves an only son, who attained his majority about three months since. Lord Poltimore has been a Lord in Waiting to the Queen, an office which he resigned in 1841. His lordship was much respected for his benevolent disposition, and his loss will be severely felt where he was best known, in the neighbourhood of his own estates.

DR. BRIGHT.

We regret to announce that Dr. Richard Bright, the eminent physician, died on the 16th inst., at half-past twelve o'clock, after a short illness. The lamented gentleman received patients and was out in his carriage on the previous Saturday, after which he complained of indisposition, and retired to his chamber, which he was destined never to leave again alive. The deceased was the third son of Mr. Richard Bright, of Ham-green, Somerset, and was born in Bristol, in September, 1789, so that he was in his 70th year. In 1816 he was admitted a licentiate of the Royal College of Physicians, and was shortly after elected assistant-physician to the London Fever Hospital. In 1820 he confined his public duties entirely to Guy's Hospital, of which he had been elected assistant-physician, and continued to discharge the duties of that office till 1854, when, on the retirement of Dr. Laird, he succeeded him as physician of that institution. For some sessions he lectured alone, and afterwards associated with him Dr. Addison. In 1832 he was made a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, and the following year was appointed Gulstonian lecturer, and in 1836 chosen one of the four censors, the late Drs. Paris and Chambers and Sir H. Holland being his colleagues. The late Dr. Bright contributed largely to the advancement of medical science by his various books. His works on dropsical affections have a universal reputation, and have been translated into all the languages of Europe. He was greatly esteemed by the members of his profession. He was physician extraordinary to the Queen, was a Fellow of the Royal Society and several other scientific institutions. He was twice married; first to Martha, youngest daughter of the late Dr. Babington, and secondly to Miss Follett, youngest daughter of Mr. Bryan Follett, of Topsham, near Exeter, and sister to the late Sir William Follett.

At the Baden-Baden races next year there is to be a St. Leger stake of 10,000 francs. The course is to be lengthened.

The porcelain factory, at Messen, has recently completed, according to an order received from Paris, the portraits of the Emperor and the Empress of France. They have been executed in medallion shape, with a rich porcelain frame, and are destined for the cabinet of the Empress. German papers pronounce these portraits as the finest works of art which porcelain painting has yet produced.

That English society is undergoing a gradual transition is a fact too obvious to be for a moment denied. There is, however, one trait in the English character which is not likely to be easily obliterated, namely, sympathetic benevolence. This characteristic, so peculiar to the English people, is strongly evinced by the number of Christmas presents made at this season of the year. The great obstacle to the full development and free exercise of this quality is the extreme difficulty of obtaining suitable articles for presentation. This has been entirely surmounted by Messrs. Parkins and Gorton, of 24 and 25, Oxford-street, who have opened four large show-rooms for the sale of really useful and elegant articles, particularly adapted for presents. No effort is made to attract admiration by superb looking-glasses and costly gilding. On the contrary, this needless outlay has been studiously avoided; but the visitor is at once struck with the immense stock (of the value of many thousands of pounds), selected with excellent taste. Here are convenient travelling-bags and dressing-cases, fitted in the most complete manner; beautiful specimens of morocco and russet writing-cases; articles in pearl, tortoiseshell, burl, and papier mache; elegantly-mounted inkstands, envelope-cases, and blotting-books, Bibles, Prayer-books, Church-services, bound in pearl, tortoiseshell, oak, &c.; in fact, an endless variety of every description of useful articles, on terms surprisingly moderate. This enterprising firm fully deserves the patronage it receives.

THE INDIAN REBELLION.

CAMPAIGN IN OUDE.

By the Bombay mail we have advices from India to the 25th of November. Respecting the campaign in Oude the *Times* correspondent supplies a few details:—

"What appears most evident is, that Lord Clyde is determined to effect the pacification of Oude with as little bloodshed as he can, and this view is fully borne out by his proceedings at Amethce. The fort of that name is situated midway between the two rivers Gogra and Sye. It is easily approached from Sultanpore and Pertabghur. I have already described to you Sir Hope Grant's approach to it on the 9th of November. Sir Hope Grant on that day held a position south-west of the fort. Brigadier Wetherall by a parallel movement advanced against it, from Sorraon to Abeyah. He stormed Abeyah on the 8th with some loss, and on the 9th took up a position north-east of Amethce, cutting off the line of retreat to the Goomtee. Lord Clyde himself, crossing the Sye above Pertabghur on the 8th, advanced through Bela, and placed himself on the 9th within two miles south-east of Amethce. Surrounded on three sides, and offered the alternative of surrender under the proclamation, Lal Madho could not hesitate. He gave himself up on the 10th, and the garrison was allowed to retire unmolested to the westward; sixteen guns found in Amethce were sent in to Pertabghur, and Lord Clyde, with his whole force, marched on the 12th to Shunkarpore, where doubtless he hopes to induce Beni Madho also to yield. I cannot see, indeed, how that chief can do otherwise. Brigadier Eveleigh has captured his fort of Simree—not Rewaree, as stated by mistake in my last; his Lieutenant, Oomroo Singh, has been beaten at Pattan Behar, near Poorwah, by Major Balwer's force, and he is well nigh surrounded. The country north of the Cawnpore and Lucknow road is closed to him by detachments, the course of the Gogra and Ganges is carefully guarded, and Lord Clyde is approaching him with 15,000 or 20,000 men. The upper line of brigades marching perpendicularly to the course of the Ganges from Rohilund has made progress equally alarming for the rebels. Rohea occupied on the one side, Semapore on the other, there will remain shortly to the insurgents but the districts north-east of the Upper Goomtee and Gogra. The Bagum at Boonree, in alarm, is said to be on the eve of joining Gorbuksh Singh in the strong place of Bhitoolee, situated, like Allahabad, at the fork of two rivers near Nawabgunge and Barra Bouki. The Gonda Nawab is removing his valuables into Nepal. There is every symptom, in fact, of a general break-up, without much effusion of blood. I had almost forgotten to say that, on its march to Seetapore, Troup's Brigade took Nourungabad with twelve guns, and Mithowlee, the fortress of Louee Sing Mehandee. Hoosain still remains in the entrenchments of Huriah, with Lord Mark Kerr's force near him. He will soon be met also."

Mr. Russell, of the *Times*, describes in detail the operations in Oude. He says: "Already our enemies are reduced to three manageable bodies—one in the Seetapore district, one in the Salome district, and the third at the other side of the Goomtee, and notably in the Buraech division." It is stated that General Grant has defeated an army of 25,000 rebels at Sealka, killing 1,800 of them, and capturing six guns.

CAPTURE OF RAMPORE.

By the reports received Rampoore Kusseah must have been a formidable place to attack. It consisted of a very strong entrenchment, constructed across the neck of a bend of the river Saee, with a line of six bastions, connected by curtains, of a total length of 700 yards, within which was a sort of citadel in the midst of the densest jungle. Part of the works was swept by the fire of our outworks on the other side of the river. The approach to the place was most difficult, the jungle thick and swampy, and in one place it was necessary to construct a causeway before the troops could advance. Mr. Russell says: "The column arrived before the place at ten A.M. on the 3rd of November. Inside the works were 4,000 of the enemy, most of them Sepoys of the 17th, 28th, and 52nd Native Infantry, many of them dressed in red and wearing our uniform and carrying our arms. The heavy guns were put in position and played on the place soon after ten o'clock, and under the fire the wing of the 9th Punjab Infantry, under Captain Thelwall, advanced towards the works near the river. Here they were received by a heavy fire of grape, and Captain Thelwall, thinking he saw an opportunity of gaining a great success by a rapid rush instead of falling back on his supports, gave the word to his Sikhs to charge, and in a minute those hardy soldiers dashed into the entrenchment, through the embrasures, capturing two guns, which they at once turned against the flying enemy. The Sepoys rallied, and seeing that the Punjabees were few in number, made an attempt to drive them out, but two companies of the 79th and four companies of the Belooch Battalion came up to the assistance of their comrades, and the attack was repulsed. Just as the reinforcements entered the place a large mine, containing 8,000 lb. of powder, said to be the principal magazine, blew up and hurled some of our men into the air. As the body of a native was observed flying up in the blast, it is supposed that the mine was fired by a fusée. Colonel Farquhar was at the same time so severely wounded that his leg had to be amputated. But the enemy, who made one more attempt to recover their work, were now beaten, with the loss of 300 men, and fled through the jungles. The cavalry pursued them as well as they could, but no guns could be sent after them. In the pursuit Dr. Clement Smith received a very severe wound in the arm from a Sepoy armed with a tulwar, and several of our cavalry were killed and wounded. Inside the work the captors found seventeen guns and four mortars, both mostly of small

calibre, though there were some pieces of good brass and iron; all of them were burst or rendered unserviceable. In addition they discovered a foundry for casting cannon, an establishment for making gun-carriages, English circular saws included, and a laboratory for gunpowder. The colours of the 52nd Native Infantry were taken by Duffadar Wallee Mahomed Kahn, who slew the bearer in single combat. Our loss was—Her Majesty's 79th, 2 killed, 7 wounded; Belooch Battalion, 1 officer wounded, 1 killed, 14 wounded; 9th Punjab Native Infantry, 4 killed, 30 wounded; 1st Punjab Cavalry, 7 killed, 5 wounded, and one officer wounded. It will be seen from this that the heat of the fighting was borne by the Punjabees, and that the pursuit of the enemy by cavalry is a very dangerous service. Indeed, in every action of the campaign this has proved to be the case. When brought to bay the enemy fight individually like tigers, and some of our very best officers have fallen in conflict with isolated Sepoys or matchlockmen."

ANOTHER CARTRIDGE DIFFICULTY.

Mr. Russell states that in consequence of repeated reports of the inefficiency of the Enfield, owing to the impossibility of loading it, a rigid investigation was made into the ammunition and the new Enfields in the arsenal at Allahabad by officers under the direction of the Commander-in-Chief, and it was then found that the bores of the Enfields varied, so that at least twelve per cent. of them were too small for the ammunition. The latter was all of proper size. "It is quite as well that this little mistake was discovered out here, and that it was not reserved for exposition to the time of some great European war, in which we should have found twelve men out of every hundred soldiers helpless in the day of battle. As I am talking of cartridges I may add that great excitement has been created in a regiment of military police at Lucknow in consequence of their finding Enfield cartridges greased with pig's and cow's fat in the ammunition served out to them for service. We walk, indeed, on slumbering fires in this sultry India. Here were the greased cartridges in the cartouch-boxes of Hindoos of all castes, and of Mohammedans—all repugnant to the fat of cow or pig! The native officers acted admirably; they searched the men's pouches, and had the Enfield packages removed, but some of the men cried bitterly, and seemed to think Government was bent on ruining them in this world and the next. The worst of the matter is this: The cartridges were, no doubt, placed among the other ammunition for the worst purposes by some scoundrels who have had access to our magazines! An investigation into all the circumstances is taking place at Lucknow, and measures have been adopted to examine the ammunition in future, and to prevent the recurrence of such a dangerous event."

FLIGHT OF TANTIA TOPEE.

The borders of Northern Khandeish are the scene of the last exploits of Tania Topee. From the defiles of Gondwana, he has eluded the grasp of the columns thrown across his path by General Michel. A long line seemed to bar access to the country north between the Santpoora range and the banks of the Nerbudda. Unless Tania forced this line he was lost. He made the attempt, however, and succeeded. After plundering and setting fire to Moohye he doubled back north, crossed the line of our march from Hosungabad by a flank movement, penetrated the labyrinth of hills which forms the eastern spurs of the Santpooras, and flung himself into the jungly slopes of the mountains which look down upon the Nerbudda. In five days' march westwards he entered Peeplood, upwards of a hundred miles from Baitool, burnt and plundered that place, then turned due north to Kunjwah and Churam, reaching the latter place on the 18th of November, and threatening to cross the Nerbudda at the fords above Mandlairsir. The most energetic efforts were now made to strengthen the line of the Taptee, in order to prevent him from entering Khandeish if he should think fit to make such an attempt. . . . On the 24th Sir Hugh Ross arrived at Seerpore on the main road from Dhoolia to Indore. In the meanwhile symptoms of a break-up had become visible among the rebels. The Banda Nawab, who had already made overtures at Sohagpore, surrendered under the proclamation, and went by Mandlairsir to Indore to give himself up to Sir Robert Hamilton. Tania Topee, the Rao, and the Bhopal Sirdar, Wasil Mahomed, did not follow his example. On the 23rd of November they entered Kuchrawad, about ten miles from Mandlairsir, and appeared ready to make an inroad on the latter place. But they had intelligence of the despatch of the 92d Highlanders from Mhow on the 20th, and abandoned their purpose. They now resolved to continue their flight westward, and detachments were sent towards Sindwah to watch the Great Trunk-road. On the 24th they crossed that road at Julwana, and marched in the direction of Barwannee, fifty miles west of Mandlairsir, and close to the left bank of the Nerbudda. There, no doubt, they will cross, as the river is fordable, and they will then enter a country which has been hitherto free from every incursion. They threaten us, in fact, in the most vulnerable part of our dominions—namely, Guzerat, where, having no friends, they will not hesitate to plunder and burn without stint. Broach or Baroda are within their reach, and we may anticipate much mischief.

The most noticeable fact from the Bombay presidency is the pacification of the Sawant Warree Dessaeas. These chiefs have been out for a year and a half harassing the Madras detachment in the jungles of North Canara, and when hard pressed crossing into the Goa territory, where they found a safe asylum. The same cause protracted the rebellion in these very districts long ago. The Goa Governor, however, has been induced to grant permission to our forces to cross the Goa frontier in pursuit of rebels whenever they may think fit. This concession was obtained by Colonel Lagrand Jacob, and its effects have been im-

mediate. The Warree Dessaeas surrendered on the 23rd at Goa.

The Bombay correspondent of the *Daily News* thus describes the fugitive Tania Topee:—

"Tania Topee is a Mahratta, and a soldier by profession. He is of mean origin, of no education, and destitute of talent—unless the Pindaree characteristics which he has displayed of late can be regarded as such. He can neither read nor write, but he possesses courage, and his followers have confidence in him. Containing in himself all the energy and perseverance of a robust and vigorous frame, he infuses zeal and strength into others more by his physical than moral example. He is perfectly acquainted with our system of warfare, and prefers fatiguing us by long and rapid marches to encountering us in battle. He knows that his men and his matchlocks are incapable of standing before our soldiers and their Enfield rifles; and he consequently trusts the destruction of our troops to exposure to the sun by day, and the noxious exhalations of the jungle by night. Our generals, however, are now too careful, and our force too numerous to render this system of warfare successful for any length of time; so that his death or capture may now be regarded as inevitable. Tania Topee is in the vigour of manhood, being about forty years of age. He is rather above the middle height, and is in person vigorous and robust. His countenance is good, and his bearing bold and martial. His eyes are piercing, fierce, and restless; the eyebrows black and oval-shaped; the forehead high and expansive; the nose aquiline; the mouth small, and the lips compressed, covering while in repose the teeth, which are, as is usual amongst natives, of ivory whiteness. His whiskers are black, and his complexion olive. He dresses very plainly, seeking comfort rather than ostentation, and wears generally the loose white robes of the Hindoo, with a Cashmere shawl thrown over his shoulders. His usual guard is composed of twenty or thirty men; but he dispenses with this pomp on the field of battle. He is frequently seen on horseback, and only resorts to a palanquin when wounded or over-fatigued. He styles himself the Viceroy of the Peishwa Nana Sahib, and indulges in dreams which he will never see realised. His followers are lesing heart, and desertions are numerous."

EAST INDIA COMPANY.

A General Court of the East India Company was held on Monday, the main business of which appeared to be to get a right understanding as to its present position. There were speeches and there were resolutions—there was confusion and there was adjournment. Mr. Crawshaw presented a report of the committee appointed to take measures with reference to the future management of the company's affairs. This report was received, the committee were thanked, and a resolution was moved claiming, on the part of the company, the current and unclaimed dividends. Against this was put an amendment that the responsibility of unclaimed dividends should be given to the Government, and that the future business, as Lord Stanley had suggested, should be transacted in the India House establishment. The motion for adjourning the discussion was carried by a majority of one vote. The meeting was renewed on Tuesday. The question in reality was whether the responsibility of the unclaimed dividends should rest upon the new India Board or the Company. Lord Stanley said the new board, and Mr. Crawshaw said the Company. Mr. Crawshaw's motion was carried; and it was further carried that counsel be consulted on the subject, and that Lord Stanley's offer of the use of the India House for the Company be accepted. Other motions were adopted having reference to the payment of salaries, to bye-laws, and to the security fund. There was, as before, a great deal of personal recrimination.

The President of the United States has sent to Mr. John Gill, master mariner of Plymouth, a handsome medal, in remembrance of his praiseworthy conduct in April, 1854, in rescuing, during a storm in the Atlantic, seventy-four passengers—men, women, and children—from the dismasted ship *Black Hawk*, of New York, from Liverpool, with 730 passengers, the remainder of whom were saved by other vessels.

FROME.—The Earl of Cork presided, on Wednesday, at the annual meeting of the Agricultural Society, when a handsome silver vase was given to the exhibitor of the best pen of sheep by Mr. Donald Nicoll, member for the borough. More than usual interest was taken in the after-dinner speeches, as the Conservative members for that division of the county of Somerset, Mr. Miles and Mr. Knatchbull, attended with their opponent, Sir Henry Hoare, Bart., who at the next election will seek to represent the Liberal interest. The borough constituency had previously held a crowded meeting in the great hall, and passed a resolution of confidence in their present member, Mr. Nicoll, who stated that he had not given and would not give a factious vote, but much doubted, after the antecedents of the present Government, of even the possibility of their bringing in such a Reform Bill as would satisfy the people generally, and because it would appear, from recent speeches made by Ministers and their supporters, that their intention was to increase the influence of the landed interests in the House of Commons at the cost of the manufacturing boroughs. Mr. Nicoll declared himself a supporter of the ballot, and in favour of an extension of the suffrage, both in boroughs and counties; he also stated it to be his intention still to adhere to that section of the Liberal party who, with Messrs. Bright, Milner Gibson, and others, usually sit below the gangway on the Opposition side of the House of Commons. By the same resolution Mr. Nicoll was thanked for his independent exertions in Parliament, and the electors then present pledged themselves to support his re-election whenever the occasion should arise.

CHRISTMAS.

BY MRS. C. L. BALFOUR,

AUTHRESS OF "SKETCHES OF ENGLISH LITERATURE," &c.

CHRISTMAS is here again. Old Christmas: merry Christmas: homely Christmas. Old, but with the gift of perpetual youth. Merry, but often changing the outward form of its merriment. Homely, always—a domestic festival, sacred to meetings of long-parted relatives, assemblings of households; gatherings of the aged, the mature, the young, the infantine; consecrated in its wide human sympathies with the joyful tears of love, the beaming smiles of friendship, and the gay laughter of innocence.—Then, welcome Christmas!

Very instructive it is to look back along the

vista of time, and trace with rapid glance the course of Christmas. The earliest Christian custom was to celebrate the death-day, rather than the birth-day, of its holy ones. Thus there was an annual commemoration of the first martyrs—the Innocents—and of Stephen, long before the Church decided on an annual festival in commemoration of the advent of the Saviour. An ancient heathen carnival was held in Rome in winter—"The Birth of Sol;" and at the end of the fourth century this was happily superseded by the Great Christian Festival commemorating the Redeemer's birth. Once established, the memorial day (though not intended to be literally so in point of time) so commended itself to the pious and grateful remembrance of the Christian world, that it never lost its *prestige* as the most joyous celebration of the Christian year.

But the outward mode of its celebration has varied with the lapse of ages and the customs of society. Nations have their youth as well as individuals; and in the youthful time of our and other Christian nations there were many celebrations by no means in harmony with the purity of our hallowed faith—wild revelry of noisy, and often joyless, mirth, stimulated by gluttony and intemperance. The most sacred things were travestied by an *authorised* caricature, and the "Boy Bishop," the "Abbot of Unreason," the "Lord of Misrule," as their names imply, held wild and profane mimes and mummings, not merely in the mansions, but in the churches of the land, during the boisterous times of our country's youth.

Then came the early manhood of the nation, which became ashamed of the mere annual carnival so strangely associated with the Christian

name, and sports of a more intellectual character—the masques and carollings arose, that poetry and music helped to improve. More recently still, the cold utilitarian doctrine began to prevail, and finding an argument against the festival in the wild follies of its earlier celebration, some were for passing it by unnoticed, or, at most, giving it but a cold recognition.

But while Christmas may be compared to the human body, of which the history is the bony fabric, the modes of celebration the drapery and vestment, the spirit of Christmas is ever the same. A living, loving, domestic, holy spirit; linking the present with the past and the future, weaving feelings of earthly love with memories that carry us back to old Judea, and forward to the New Jerusalem. Yes; Christmas is a loving spirit. The children come home from school to feed

WINTER'S CONTRASTS.—I. JOY.



the flame of family affection; the poor relation hastens to the annual gathering; the ties of kindred are knit afresh; the comfortable table is spread with a liberal store; and if any are absent—and where is the family that has not some absent ones?—they are remembered with special affection and followed by good wishes. Never are the absent ones so loved, and so missed, as at the Christmas table. Then there is the evening, not only merry, but happy—for love is in the midst tuning all hearts to harmony.

The Christmas tree is lighted (that pretty custom which Germany has taught us), and the presents are distributed, and the children's little hearts throb with pleasure as they look at their treasures, and prattle with each other; and the elders renew their childhood; their hearts grow young again, however old their heads may be. They

feel that this sweet domestic festival, above all other times of rejoicing, symbolizes the sacred words, "And He took a young child and set him in the midst." Yes, they become again as little children at the touch of the loving spirit of Christmas!

Christmas is a forgiving spirit. "Let not the sun go down upon your wrath," is the Divine command. If this is too hard for poor human nature to obey, surely we may—we must—not let the year go down upon our wrath. The high spirit, without any sacrifice of its poor loftiness; the proud, without so great a compromise of its cherished and perhaps worthless dignity; the reserved and timid, wishing for and yet not knowing how to seek reconciliation—each and all are helped out of their difficulties by Christmas. It is the festival of Him who obtained

forgiveness for our sins, and each and all should say, "For His sake, let us forgive one another."

Christmas is a benevolent spirit. Above all, it is that. The Yule log, the bonfire, the roasted ox, the conduit of wine, are among the things of the past; but Charity is a perennial spring—and it is needed, for "The poor ye have always with you." The poor! who will dare despise or neglect the poor? Christmas comes to tell us of a babe, so poor, that his birth-place was a stable—his bed, a manger. That holy child, Jesus, consecrated virtuous poverty. Make the blaze of your own fire brighter to your eyes, by the thought of having kindled a Christmas-fire in some poor abode. Promote the digestion of your own good dinner, by the comfortable feeling that some poor neighbour's fast has been turned into a feast by you. Sun yourselves in the light of your children's

eyes all the more pleasantly, for thinking that you have kindled a sparkle in the eye, and a glow in the heart of some who but for you would have been benumbed by chilling poverty.

Great are the social contrasts of winter! Hard is the lot of the poor! The rich can make the adversity of the year the season of highest enjoyment: they may say:—

With his frost, and snow, and rime,
Let the bleak winter come;
I know not of a sunnier clime
Than a love-lit winter home.

But the poor have often cold within and cold without, and even when not absolutely in want are exposed to many dangers. The poet Thomson, amid his winter scenes, drew the most affecting picture that has ever been presented of a snow-storm and its effects. He described the wife preparing for her husband's return, the little

children looking out from the cottage door into the snowy and windy night; their father meanwhile, overtaken and bewildered by the storm, wanders awhile, and sinks down at last to die, his faithful dog wildly bemoaning him.

If, gentle reader, you realise and manifest that Christmas is a loving spirit, a forgiving spirit, a benevolent spirit—as the inner life shapes the outer, yours will be a right "Merry Christmas," and will surely lead, in the best sense, to a "Happy New Year."

DEATH-BED OF SIR CHARLES NAPIER.

In June, 1853, he took to his couch, and for him who throughout his life had refused to render allegiance to pain, this act was a confession that, to use his own phrase, "he had come to the battle where all fall." He had always a passionate love for his horses, and when he felt himself sinking he desired that the Arab charger which had borne him through his campaigns might be brought to his bedside, that he might bestow on it his farewell caresses. The animal started back at the novel sight, "and with a sad look, and a sigh of disappointment, Charles Napier turned away and commended it to the care of his wife and children." The end was at hand. "On the morning of August the 29th, at five o'clock, he expired like a soldier, on a naked camp-bedstead, the windows of the room open, and the fresh air of heaven blowing on his manly face. Surrounded by his family and some of his brothers, he died. All his grieving servants were present, and at his feet stood two veterans of his regiment, gazing with terrible emotion at a countenance then setting in death which they had first seen beaming in the light of battle. As the last breath escaped, Major M'Murdo snatched the old colours of the 22nd Regiment, the colours that had been borne at Meenec and Hyderabad, and waved them over the dying hero. Thus Charles Napier passed from this world. An intrepid soldier in his life, he died amidst trophies of battle, and his camp-bed was his bier: the colours of the 22nd gently waved over him, and between them the grand picture of Meenec leaned forward above his pale heroic countenance, as if to claim his corpse for that bloody field." He was buried in the churchyard of the military chapel at Portsmouth, and sixty thousand

WINTER'S CONTRASTS.—II. SUSPENSE.



In vain the officious wife prepares
The fire fair-blazing, and the vestment warm;
In vain his little children, peeping out

Into the mingling storm, demand their sire
With tears of artless innocences.

THOMSON.

WINTER'S CONTRASTS.—III. SORROW.



Alas!
Nor wife, nor children, more shall he behold,
Nor friends, nor sacred home. On every nerve
The deadly winter seizes, shuts up sense,

And, o'er his inmost vitals creeping cold,
Lays him along the snows, a stiffened corse,
Stretch'd out and bleaching in the northern blast.

THOMSON.

persons, including the whole of the garrison, attended his funeral, drawn together by spontaneous admiration of the hero, who, having performed the most glorious public services, was now being laid in his grave as a private man. Great in strategy, chivalrous in courage, careful of the soldier's life and prodigal of his own, inflexible in physical endurance, untiring in industry, sagacious in government, beneficent in his aim, stern in his integrity, and strong in his affections, he presents a combination of which there are few such examples in the history of the world. The observation of Lord Halifax, that a man has rarely a good quality but he possesses too much of it, may in like manner have been true of him, and, as he says of himself, he may have been at times "too arbitrary and violent." With a soul of fire, his warmth may occasionally have carried him too far; with an iron will, he may not always have been as supple as policy required; but without that fiery soul and iron will he would not have been the conqueror and civiliser of Scinde; he would not have defeated the wild Belooch in war or tamed him in peace. His very failings were of the heroic kind; the failings of a mind impatient of injustice, fancied or real—of opposition to designs for the benefit of mankind—of individual selfishness preferring personal interest to the public weal. To the dead, fame is not even that empty sound which it is proverbially called. But though it can never more affect the departed, it is of the utmost importance to the living that deeds like those of Sir Charles Napier should be kept blazoned before the world, that future soldiers who have not been gifted with his genius may yet learn from his example to what proportions a hero can attain, and that no difficulty is too arduous, no danger too appalling, no toil too excessive, no sacrifices too costly, where humanity is to be benefited and the nation to be served.—*Quarterly Review.*

IN ADDITION to the reconstruction of the house at Longwood, in St. Helena, occupied by Napoleon I., and of his tomb, the French Government has resolved on having reconstructed in that island the house in which General Bertrand resided, and also on having a statue of Napoleon placed on an eminence in view of the sea. An engineer officer has just been sent out to execute these works on plans approved of by the Emperor.

A JURY LOCKED UP.

In the Court of Queen's Bench, on Friday week, an action was brought by a Mr. Smith, a commercial traveller in the firm of Sergeant, Webb, and Co., dry-salters, London, to recover damages from the Great Northern Railway Company for serious injuries occasioned through the alleged negligence of their servants. The nature of the accident has been several times before the public. On the 13th August, 1857, the plaintiff was a passenger by the defendants' railway en route to Aberdeen. The day was exceedingly stormy. It rained in torrents, accompanied with thunder and lightning. The rivers and streams were flooded, and the low lands on either side of the line were covered with water. When the train arrived at Carlton-upon-Trent, it was thrown off the line, owing to a portion of the roadway having been washed away by the flood, and the injuries complained of were inflicted. The plaintiff was severely cut about the head, and suffered for a month from concussion of the brain at a small inn at Retford before he could be removed, and his mental powers have greatly suffered in consequence.—Lord Campbell, in summing up, said that if the flood was sudden, unforeseen, and unexampled—if there was nothing to indicate danger, and the speed of the train was not excessive—the company would have been guilty of no negligence, and therefore entitled to a verdict. But the jury would form their own opinion whether or not it was the duty of the station-master at Carlton, upon such an awful night—when it thundered, lightened, and rained more than ever had been known within the memory of the oldest inhabitant—to put up the signal of "caution," and whether it was in consequence of his want of prudence that the accident occurred. The plaintiff was not entitled to the verdict unless he proved negligence on the part of the servants of the company which involved the injuries from which he had suffered; and, if the plaintiff were entitled to recover, the damages should be adequate yet moderate.

After an absence from the court of two hours and ten minutes the jury returned, and the foreman said their verdict was for the plaintiff—Damages, one farthing.

Lord Campbell: I really cannot, in the discharge of my duty, gentlemen, receive that verdict. It cannot be right. It is impossible that it can be right. It cannot stand. The Court of Queen's Bench would set it aside. If you find for the plaintiff, you are bound to give him reasonable damages. If he is not entitled to your verdict, you must say so. I must beg you will return to your chamber.

Several Jurymen: There is no chance of our agreeing, my lord.

Lord Campbell: I really hope, gentlemen, that by consultation and deliberation you will agree. Trial by jury has flourished in England to the great benefit of the land in which we live; but it has been so by reason of jurymen deliberately and calmly consulting each other, and usually after that deliberation coming to a conclusion either on one side or the other. Now, in this case it is quite clear that you have not done so. I must respectfully tell you that you have not done what the law requires you to do, and I must beg you to withdraw and deliberate. I cannot receive such a verdict. I should be guilty of a dereliction of duty were I to receive a verdict which is unquestionably wrong. You cannot agree in a verdict which is wrong; but, by consultation, some of you may change the opinion which you originally had, and unless you deliberate and try to come to a just opinion, in which you all concur, it is not possible that the law can be administered. I must request you to withdraw.

The jury then retired a second time.

At half-past five o'clock, after the lapse of a further interval of two hours,

Lord Campbell ordered the jury to be brought into court, and asked them whether they had agreed upon their verdict.

The Foreman: My lord, there is no chance of our coming to any agreement.

Lord Campbell: Then I can only order you to return to your chamber and deliberate upon it. That is what the law requires, and I must enforce it.

The Foreman: We have gone over it, my lord, and we cannot agree.

Lord Campbell: The law is binding upon me and you. Though not to force your consciences, you must return and be locked up until you agree.

A Jurymen: We have agreed.

Lord Campbell (warmly): You have agreed in a verdict contrary to law, to justice, and to common sense, and I am astonished at it. No judge ever sat upon the bench with a greater respect for juries than I have, and the more that I have assisted in the administration of justice in conjunction with juries, the more I have admired the admirable tribunal which they form. It does surprise me to find that gentlemen of your intelligence will now, after being told that your verdict cannot be received, and is a verdict contrary to law, justice, and common sense, persist in a verdict for the plaintiff, giving it as your opinion that there was negligence on the part of the company, whereby he suffered severe injuries, and then cutting him off with a farthing. That is not credible. You will return to your chamber.

A Jurymen: Does your lordship refuse to receive the verdict?

Lord Campbell: I do refuse to receive it, as the law requires me. You will return to your chamber.

The jury withdrew, and before leaving the bench Lord Campbell directed the officer of the court to receive any proper verdict, but expressed a determination not to discharge them until the next morning if they persisted in the verdict they had already returned. At twelve o'clock the jury were locked up.

At the sitting of the Court on Saturday morning, Mr. Badeley, one of the counsel for the plaintiff,

said that, rather than the jury should be exposed to the inconvenience of being locked up all night, he had made an offer to the other side to take the verdict which they had found for the plaintiff, and to leave the amount of the damages to be named by his lordship. He was still ready to abide by that offer.

Lord Campbell said he did not wonder that the offer had been refused; and he thought the counsel for the defendants would not have done their duty to their clients if they had acted otherwise.

Mr. Rochfort Clarke, one of the counsel for the company, said, that if he had accepted the offer, he should not have shown that admiration for trial by jury which his lordship had expressed. Mr. Clarke then proceeded to state a fact which had occurred last night after his lordship had left. One of the jurymen wrote a letter, stating that he was ill and desiring his medical attendant to be sent for. He (Mr. Clarke) wished that letter to be forwarded to his lordship, but that was not done. The jurymen repeated the request, and, at his (Mr. Clarke's) instance, a medical officer was sent for to see the jurymen. The medical officer reported that the jurymen was suffering from carbuncle and had a wound in his back, and had been ordered to take food every two hours, or two hours and a-half. Thereupon, the attorneys on both sides agreed that the medical officer should be at liberty to administer to the sick jurymen whatever he thought proper, which was done accordingly.

Lord Campbell said he entirely approved of what had been done.

Mr. Clarke said he mentioned this circumstance in order that his lordship might be aware that the jurymen were not now on an equality in point of food, as that might influence his lordship's conduct when the jury came into court. The jury did not go out for refreshment at one o'clock yesterday, and consequently had had no food since breakfast yesterday morning.

Lord Campbell said that, as the law now stood, the jury might have refreshment before they retired to consider their verdict. He recollected that Lord Ellenborough had so decided. But after they were locked up they could not be so refreshed. His lordship then directed the jury to be sent for to see if they were agreed.

The jurymen then came into court, and as they took their seats in the box the majority looked extremely discontented, and one or two appeared very pale and ill.

On being asked whether they were agreed on their verdict, the foreman said they were not.

Lord Campbell said that in so answering, that they were not agreed, the jury had given a sensible and reasonable answer, such as the law sanctioned and demanded; but with respect to the answer which they had given yesterday, "a verdict for the plaintiff, with one farthing damages," that was not a reasonable answer, and the law would not sanction it. It was quite clear the jury did not all agree on that verdict, that the plaintiff had suffered only one farthing damages. The plaintiff was a respectable man, had suffered seriously, and had done nothing to hinder him from recovering the damages which he had sustained, and to which he was entitled by law. It was therefore impossible for him to receive that verdict. But now that they stated they were not agreed he had a discretion as to the time when he should discharge them from giving a verdict. At the assizes, according to the traditional law, a jury which could not agree were to be locked up during the assizes, and then carried in a cart to the borders of the next county and there shot into a ditch. (Laughter.) But as the jury had sat up the whole night, and had already been exposed to great inconveniences, he should now discharge them. Such was the law at the present time, but his lordship added that it was his intention to bring in a bill in the next session of Parliament to alter the law on this subject. He was anxious that the old maxim, that no one should be found guilty of crime, unless the jury were unanimously of opinion that he was guilty, should still be maintained, but in civil causes his lordship thought a verdict might be given either by a majority, or a certain number of the jurymen. He should submit some such measure to the Legislature, and he thought the change would be an improvement in the administration of the law. As the jury were not agreed, this trial would go for nothing, and the question would be submitted to another jury, who, it was to be hoped, would agree upon a verdict which would be satisfactory.

The jurymen listened with great attention to his lordship's address, but appeared to be well satisfied to go and have their breakfast. One of them, however, ventured to remind his lordship that they had last night informed him that they were not agreed.

Lord Campbell: You are discharged.

On Sunday evening the fourth of the special evening services was held under the dome of St. Paul's. The number of persons who attended was larger than on any previous occasion, notwithstanding the wetness of the night. The preacher was the Rev. Dr. Hook, the well-known vicar of Leeds. Many hundreds of persons who were anxious to hear the rev. gentleman were disappointed in obtaining admission. The prayers were intoned by the Rev. Morgan Cowie, B.D., rector of St. Lawrence Jewry. Dr. Hook selected for his text the 20th verse of 32nd chapter of Isaiah: "Blessed are ye that sow beside all waters, that send forth thither the feet of the ox and the ass." A new arrangement with regard to the sounding-board over the pulpit has been made, and Dr. Hook had apparently no great difficulty in making himself heard. The preacher named for next Sunday evening is the Rev. William Cadman, M.A., rector of St. George the Martyr, Southwark.

MR. BRIGHT AT GLASGOW.

A great meeting was held at Glasgow, on Tuesday evening, at the City Hall, to hear an address from Mr. Bright, M.P., on the subject of Parliamentary Reform. The hall was completely filled, there being about 2,700 persons present. The chair was taken by Mr. Walter Buchanan, M.P.

After a few introductory remarks from the Chairman,

Mr. Bright rose amid loud cheers. He said he was there to consider, along with the citizens of Glasgow, a great question of constitutional reform. The illustrious founder of Pennsylvania had given his definition of a free country; that is, a free country where the laws rule, and where the people have a share in the making of the laws. We are now in a different position on this question to what we were when he (Mr. Bright) was in Glasgow before. No one now rises to oppose Parliamentary Reform. But he (Mr. Bright) was accused of repeating again and again the same facts and the same numbers in illustration of his views on the subject of Parliamentary Reform. But how could it be otherwise? We have at least six millions of grown men in this kingdom, and not more than one million have votes. These facts he was bound to repeat and reiterate until he had roused public opinion and wrought a change. As a machine for carrying on the legislation of the country, it would perhaps be impossible to construct a more clumsy one than the British Parliament. Mr. Bright described at great length the numerical disproportion which exists in the representation and constituencies of England. The House of Commons, he said, is a convenient club, a kind of lounge; it does not respond with any heartiness or willingness to the aspirations of the people for better government. He was accused of always dwelling upon mere numbers and ignoring property. Whether we take numbers or wealth, the great populations were most inadequately represented. He had been told that the sentiments which he had expressed at Birmingham, and which caused such a howl from the press, both Tory and Liberal, had been much moderated at Manchester, and almost abandoned at Edinburgh. Now, he denied altogether that he had abandoned one single opinion which he had first promulgated at Birmingham. What was the change which he proposed? Simply this, that the franchise should be lowered from what it is now, and that votes should be given to all who are rated to the poor. This was an excellent provision, and he saw no reason why it should not be extended to England. As regards the county representation, he thought the forty-shilling franchise ought to be granted to Scotland. After referring at great length to the necessity of securing the ballot, Mr. Bright said the most difficult question in the forthcoming Reform Bill would be the mode of allotting the representatives to constituencies. He was not prepared to say what limit he should be disposed to recommend, but he hoped large cities like Glasgow would not be satisfied with the position which they held at present. Mr. Bright described the operation of the laws of primogeniture and entail, and said he believed that a consequence of a Reform Bill such as he proposed would be that Parliament would find a remedy for the many evils which arose from the monopoly in land. We should be able to apply to land the same principles of political economy which we had already applied so successfully to trade. Again, we should be able to control the national expenditure, particularly that portion which arises out of our diplomacy and our foreign policy. He had often compared in his own mind the people of England and the people of Egypt, and the monuments of Egypt to our Foreign-office. We have, indeed, no obelisks or columns such as those on the banks of the Nile, but in the Foreign-office of England you will find a mystery as great, a superstition as fearful, and a loathsomeness as horrible, as among the ancient tombs of the Egyptians. In conclusion, he said he was not there to set class against class. He implored the middle and working classes to unite their powers on this question of representative reform. Mr. Bright sat down amid loud cheering, having spoken one hour and a-half. Brief addresses were afterwards given by Messrs. Dalglish, Ewing, and Buchanan, who each promised to aid Mr. Bright in the House of Commons. On the motion of Professor Nichol, a committee was appointed to adopt measures to advance the object of the meeting.

THE ARRESTS IN IRELAND.

The excitement created by the Castle proclamation and the subsequent arrests is passing off like any other nine days' wonder. No one as yet has got an inkling of the result of the private investigation now holding before the Crown officials in the south, and until something from that quarter is permitted to transpire, the public must only grope their way through the mists of speculation. Two or three additional arrests have been made. The Killarney correspondent of the *Evening Mail* has ascertained that the Phoenix Club was established in Kerry, by a person engaged in the Ballingarry cabbage-garden of 1848. At the weekly meeting of the Cork Young Men's Society, the Very Rev. Dean Murphy, as spiritual director, delivered an impressive address, in which he pointed out the stupidity and criminality of seditious associations—how plainly wrong they are in principle, and how unexceptionably mischievous in practice. He explained that no one could consistently remain for an hour a member of the Young Men's Society who had joined such a body, because he had incurred excommunication, was incapable of approaching the sacraments in accordance with the fundamental rule of the society, and had placed himself in open and flagrant antagonism to the Church of God. As a further illustration of

priestly aversion to all Secret Societies, the following copied from the *Armagh Guardian*, is not the least notable: "On last Sabbath the Rev. Mr. Campbell, R.C.C., delivered an earnest address to the congregation assembled at third mass, warning them against having any connexion with the Phoenix Clubs, which he denounced in the strongest language. After quoting a number of authorities to prove that the Church condemned all such illegal fraternities, the reverend gentleman ably exposed the sin and folly of such combination, and said that it grieved him to hear that the system existed in Armagh, that he knew its members, when and where they met, their signs and passwords, and that if they did not immediately give up all connexion with the system he would publish their names, and employ the utmost rigour of the Church against them. Among the signs, one was said to be 'passing the right hand over the right cheek,' the countersign being a 'motion of the left hand at the back of the right ear.' Among the day passwords were, 'Don't be ignorant; 'Have better breeding.' The night—'The night is dark; 'The clouds are dark and heavy.' The quarrelling—'France and England can't go to war; 'The Irish Brigade are advancing.' The Most Rev. Archbishop Dixon was present, and the congregation was evidently much affected by the eloquence and earnestness of the Rev. Mr. Campbell. We understand that several others of the Roman Catholic clergy in this county have pursued a similar course in condemning the Phoenix Club organisation."

We regret to hear that while Rear-Admiral Wilson, of the *Howe*, was walking on the road near his residence, on Wednesday evening week, he lost his footing on the shot ice, and in falling broke his leg.—*Kendal Mercury*.

Accounts have been received from Bangkok, the capital of Siam, to the 26th Oct., which mention the arrival there of M. de Castelnau, the French Consul. After the official reception, the King invited the consul to a grand banquet, which was served in a hall having on one side a large aviary, containing the most magnificent birds, and on the other a large courtyard, in which were a number of elephants, some of them almost in a wild state. Military music played during the entertainment. When the consul left the palace, the King gave orders that he should be conducted to the grand pagoda of the palace, which contains innumerable ornaments and gigantic idols in gold and glittering with precious stones.

On Friday week an inquest was held in the board-room of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, touching the death of Mr. H. G. P. Griffith. Mrs. Griffith, the deceased's wife, deposed that he was a clerk in the General Post-office, St. Martin's-le-Grand, and was on leave of absence, and on Monday week he fancied that detective officers were after him. Witness told him to compose himself and sit down and read the *Family Herald*, which he did. He suddenly jumped up, and said he would go to the sideboard and get another book, when he took a razor and cut his throat. The deceased had a sister out of her mind at the present time, and he was a man of very intemperate habits. A verdict of Temporary Insanity was returned.

Accounts brought by the Niagara from New Zealand are encouraging. The colony is prosperous. The gold fields there are steadily increasing in value. They have now been discovered about eight months, and 100,000*l.* worth of gold in dust and nuggets have already been obtained from them. They are situated close to Massacre Bay, where a boat's crew of the famous circumnavigator, Tasman, were massacred by the natives. This bay is fifty miles from Nelson, and in August last 1,000 persons were at work at the diggings. The gold is of very good quality. At Sydney business was dull. The fresh gold diggings just discovered to the north of Sydney had excited much interest, and about 5,000 gold diggers weekly were leaving Victoria bound for New South Wales.

We are sorry to have to state, on what we believe to be reliable authority, that the distressing circumstances arising out of the fearful accident at Weston, the seat of the Earl of Bradford, have not yet come to a termination. It will be remembered that Lord Newport, in his endeavours to extinguish the flames, which ultimately proved fatal to his lamented sisters, was himself seriously injured, we believe, in both hands. It is now stated that the injury to one of them has proved much more important than was at first imagined, and that latterly the wounded part has become so much worse as to occasion great uneasiness, not only to the noble lord himself, but to his lordship's family and friends. We sincerely hope the gloomy accounts which have reached us may prove greatly exaggerated.—*Birmingham Post*.

ACCIDENT AT THE BASINGSTOKE STATION.—A serious accident occurred at this station on Wednesday, in consequence of the train, which leaves Southampton at 11.30 A.M., running into the Salisbury train, due at the same place a few minutes previously. The latter train had arrived at its proper time, and was in the act of shunting into a siding when the Southampton train approached; and although the danger signals were all properly exhibited, the driver, from some unexplained cause, was unable to bring up his engine in sufficient time to avoid a collision, by which the two last carriages of the Salisbury train were knocked off the rails, one of them falling completely over on the down line, and seriously hurting several of its occupants. Two of the occupants of a second-class carriage were so severely shaken that it was deemed desirable for them to remain at Basingstoke, but all the other passengers came on to London in less than an hour. Of these a young woman, residing at Brentford, and two labouring men (one of them accompanied by his wife), were the most hurt.

MISCELLANEA.

The sub-deanery of St. Paul's Cathedral has been conferred upon the Rev. W. C. F. Webber, M.A., incumbent of St. Botolph, Aldersgate.

The Bishop of Exeter has offered 1,000*l.* towards the endowment of a chapel of ease in the parish of St. Mary Major, in that city.

Two wealthy Hindoos generously liberated all the debtors incarcerated in Bombay gaol on the day when the Queen's proclamation was read, by paying their debts for them. By this act of benevolence about thirty individuals were set free, and the cost to the donors was about 4,000 rupees (400*l.*).

The Liverpool Chess Club have accepted a challenge from the Manchester Chess Club to play a match by electric telegraph, to come off on an early date. The *parti* is looked forward to with considerable interest, not only in Manchester and Liverpool, but also in London.

On Sunday morning the Bishop of London held a general ordination at St. Paul's Cathedral. Full choral service was performed, the sermon being preached by the Rev. Dr. Vaughan, Head Master of Harrow School. The bishop was assisted in the ordination by the Archdeacon of London, the Sub-Dean, and the Rev. J. Lupton, M.A., rector of Queenhithe.

A letter from Trebizond states that a serious affair took place in the early part of November between the Russians and the Circassians in the neighbourhood of Anapa. A fort occupied by the former was carried, after a sanguinary combat, by the Circassians, under the command of Ibrahim Pacha, son of Sefer Pacha. The Russian garrison, consisting of 200 men, were overpowered by numbers, and a large quantity of arms fell into the power of their assailants.

In consequence of information received by the French Minister of the Marine of the hostile disposition of the Riff pirates, who, it is said, have threatened to pillage the vessels of Christian nations, navigators obliged to pass the Straits of Gibraltar are cautioned not to go farther south than the parallel of Cape Tres-Forcas, to avoid all approaches to that headland, and in general to navigate at least twelve miles from the Riff coast.

In the Court of Bankruptcy, last Saturday, Mr. Townsend, M.P., underwent another long examination. Mr. Shepherd, the opposing creditor, was also examined with regard to the circumstances under which Mr. Townsend's debt was contracted. Mr. Linklater delivered an able speech on behalf of the bankrupt, contending that his difficulties had arisen from misfortune. He applied for a third-class certificate. The Commissioner postponed his decision.

At Stepney, last Saturday, a man of gentlemanly appearance deliberately plunged into the Regent's Canal, within a short distance of the Commercial Dock. The act was witnessed by several persons, but he sank before they could reach him, and by the time the body was got out of the water life was extinct. A female of respectable appearance also destroyed herself by leaping into the Thames, at Blackfriars-bridge. In her descent the unfortunate woman struck the buttress of the bridge, and completely smashed one of her knees. She was got out quite dead.

Henry Brady, Esq., son of Luke Brady, Esq., of Brookville, near Ennis, accidentally shot himself on the morning of the 15th inst., whilst in pursuit of a snipe. It appears that while Mr. Brady was traversing a swamp, in pursuit of game, with a double-barrelled gun, he winged a snipe, which having fallen, he ran forward to pick it up, when unfortunately he tripped and fell. The second barrel of the gun which he held was on full cock, and when Mr. Brady tripped it exploded, the contents entering under the jaw and out through the head, causing almost instantaneous death.

Dr. Beck, of Dantzic, has just made a curious discovery. He has found an antidote, or rather a counterpoison, for ardent spirits. It is a mineral paste, which he encloses in an olive, and which at once absorbed, destroys not only the rising effect, but likewise the disastrous consequences of drunkenness. He tried several experiments on a Pole, an irreclaimable drunkard. The individual, named Radevil, swallowed three bottles of brandy in succession, and after each bottle ate an olive, prepared by the doctor. He experienced neither the effect of drunkenness nor the slightest sickness.

According to the *Manchester Guardian*, an invention in pianos has been registered by Messrs. W. Knowles and R. Burrows, which produces an extraordinary effect upon the powers of the instrument. By means of a cheap and simple arrangement of rollers, which can be fitted to any piano, and which are worked by pedals, the performer can at pleasure, by striking any note, sound it an octave higher, or in the bass an octave lower, and with equal facility can four notes be made each to sound an octave higher or lower at once. Thus, if we suppose the fingers to strike eight keys, we should have sixteen notes sounded, and a power would be thus imparted to the instrument which would largely increase its value.

The French War Department has just published the general account of its material for the year 1857, stating the exact quantity of stores of every kind which existed on the 31st December in that year, with their value. According to this account the material represents an approximate value of 631 millions, in which enormous sum the service of artillery alone stands for nearly one-half. This estimate of more than half a milliard, in which are not included the different storehouses, shows the immense resources which France possesses to meet

any eventuality. The amount of 631 millions is, nevertheless, lower by more than six millions than the account of the previous year. That decrease is naturally explained by the conclusion of peace.

We regret to announce that Mr. Balguy, the Commissioner in Bankruptcy for the Birmingham district, expired at his residence, Duffield-hall, near Derby, on the evening of the 16th inst. A fortnight ago he was discharging the duties of his court; but, being taken ill, he retired for a brief space of time, under the expectation of speedily resuming his place, as there was apparently no danger apprehended. His decease was sudden. He was, we believe, in his seventy-eighth year; had occupied the position of Commissioner since the establishment of the Court in 1842, and was Recorder of Derby and Chairman of the Quarter Sessions for that county.

On Saturday last the police authorities received information of the following robbery. It appeared that at Maidstone a trunk containing a quantity of valuable jewellery and ladies' wearing apparel was securely strapped on the footboard of a travelling carriage, which proceeded to London *via* Sevenoaks, at which place, and also the next stage, the trunk was safe, but on the carriage reaching London, the trunk, with its valuable contents, was gone, the straps which secured it having been cut. A light cart was observed for the last few miles close to the carriage, and is supposed to have belonged to the thieves, for whose apprehension a large reward has been offered. The value of the stolen property is stated at 400*l.*

There has been talk of constructing a new theatre in Rome. Several sites have been thought of, but when closely examined they were all found to be too near either to churches or convents, and so have been given up. The municipality, too, have discovered that the building will cost a million; and they can find no other means of raising that sum than by imposing a tax on dogs, canary-birds, and horses. Cardinal Antonelli has replied that, as for the horses, they belong in most cases to the clergy, who are exempt from taxation; that the canaries belong to the nuns, who have no other amusement; and that the dogs belong to nobody—or, at least, soon would be in that position if a price were set upon their heads. And so the matter rests.

A shocking accident occurred on the 11th inst., resulting in the death of Mrs. Eckett, a widow, residing in Arboretum-street, Derby. It appears that Mrs. Eckett, having put her two youngest children to bed, was dressing her hair by a glass over the chimney-piece about nine o'clock, when her dress, which was muslin, and expanded in the dangerous fashion of the day, was drawn towards the fire and ignited. Attempts were made to envelop her in the hearth-rug and table-cover, but she threw them off and rushed into the street, screaming fearfully; the draught, of course, added to the intensity of the fire, and before the neighbours, who were alarmed by her screams and hastened to assist in extinguishing the flames, could succeed in doing so, she was severely burnt in nearly every part of her body. Every attention was paid to the sufferer, but she gradually sank from the injuries inflicted and the shock sustained by the system.

On Saturday morning, a frightful accident, which it is feared will terminate fatally, occurred at the Victoria Docks. A labourer named Roberts, who is a remarkably active and powerful man, was employed in unloading a vessel, now discharging her cargo. The cargo was very nearly out, and of course there was a considerable depth in the hold, it being nearly empty. The injured man caught his foot against a spar lying on the deck, and before he could raise himself he fell headlong down the hold, a depth of nearly forty feet. Being a heavy man he descended with fearful velocity, and was taken out frightfully crushed and mutilated. He was speedily brought out and conveyed to a neighbouring surgeon's, but no hopes are entertained of his recovery.

Mr. James, in addressing the jury in the Bail Court, in a recent trial of ejection, in which the defence was that rent had been received by the plaintiff's attorney, said, they must not be surprised at Mr. Ashley having received the money, because one of the first things told to an attornied clerk was—never refuse money; take any that is offered, and the right owner will turn up some day or other, but if he does not you will not lose anything. It was something like a story he had heard of a gentleman who followed the respectable calling of a thimble-rig professor at races; he was about to die; he called his son to him and said, "My boy, your respected parent is about to die—I can't leave you anything except the table, the thimbles, and the little pea, but I can give you some advice. If you are at the races and there should be a row, and the police should come, 'grab the stakes.'"

A number of wild boars were seen a few days ago near Rheims, in the forest of Gueux. There could not be fewer, it was estimated, than twenty, old and young, and these latter were at first taken for wolves by some persons, who determined to attack them. A man observing some hesitation on the part of the assailants, armed himself with a butcher's knife, and getting close to one of the young boars inflicted on it a deadly wound in the neck. He then pursued the herd on horseback, and killed two other young ones in the same manner. A fourth was despatched by a gardener with his spade. The main body of the animals then dispersed towards Dieu-Lumiere, and the keeper of a wine-shop shot two. A stray animal having entered a timber yard, near Rheims, was surrounded by the workmen, fourteen in number, and one of them after having dealt it a blow with a hatchet was bitten by it in the hand. The animal was then despatched by the other men. Being cut up into fourteen parts, it was

distributed among the assailants, and the wounded man received the skin in addition. On the whole, about fourteen boars are believed to have been destroyed in this singular hunt, most of them being young ones.

The police continues its visits in Jewish families, in order to ascertain whether any Christian domestics are kept by them. These visits often take place at very unreasonable hours. When, some time ago, a Jew remarked to the intruders that it was rather inconvenient to be disturbed by them, the ruffians fell upon him and beat him so severely that he was confined to his bed for three weeks. The Jews of Rome groan under the heavy yoke weighing upon them, and many of them anxiously look for the means to escape from a bondage as bitter as that of their ancestors in Egypt. The Mortara family has received a definite answer to its memorial, that "baptism once administered cannot be revoked." Nor were the parents any longer permitted to see their child, on the plea that when they came it was sick. This will account for their having quitted the Papal States.—*Jewish Chronicle*.

To obtrude a public sympathy on a private sorrow can only be excused when the bereavement lamented is one in which the public may claim some sort of general share. Such is the excuse for referring to the announcement of the death in London on the 11th inst., of the only son of Mr. Hope Scott, Q.C. This interesting child, the only living male descendant of his illustrious great grandfather, Sir Walter Scott, whose name he bore, was only a year and a half old, and had survived his mother, the poet's granddaughter, little more than six weeks. An infant sister died here a fortnight ago, on the 3rd; and thus since the 26th October, the date of Mrs. Hope Scott's death, the afflicted father had also to lament the loss of two children. Only one little girl remains, and that she may be long spared to her bereaved parent, and to bear the great name of which she is the sole surviving representative, will be the prayer of many a sympathising Scottish heart.—*Scotsman*.

The police have succeeded in apprehending the thieves who carried off the silver épergne, the wedding present of the city of Cologne to the Princess Frederick William. The stolen metal, valued at 25,000 R. th., or the greater part of it, has been recovered, but already melted down, so that the costly workmanship of the piece is lost. It was stolen in the night of the 4th, but not missed till several days later, when persons came to remove it to the new palace. The female servants had repeatedly passed in and out of the throne-room, and had noticed that the chest which contained it stood open, but, with the usual insouciance of Berliners, had never thought of examining further. The thieves were a servant of the palace (a man of sixty-eight, and father of a family, in respectable circumstances) and a silversmith (a man of bad character, who has been before convicted). The thieves had left behind them the pedestal, of three hundred-weight, as being more than they could conveniently carry away.

A report was spread in the silk trade in August last that MM. Castanet and Co., wholesale fringe and lace makers of the Boulevard Sébastopol, were on the eve of bankruptcy; and a run was accordingly made on their firm. The rumour turned out to be quite unfounded, and they were able to meet all demands. They instituted an investigation to discover how the false report had originated, and they ascertained that a company called the *Sureté du Commerce*, which undertakes to give traders confidential information respecting parties with whom they have to deal, had informed one of its subscribers that they were *en suspension*, by which was meant that they were unable to meet their engagements. On the 16th, MM. Castanet and Co. brought an action before the Paris civil tribunal against the company, to obtain 500*l.* damages, for having by a false report injured their credit. The company maintained that they had incurred no liability for a confidential communication, and that, besides, no real injury had been done the plaintiff. The tribunal, however, condemned the company to pay 300*fr.*; also to pay for the expense of inserting the text of the judgment in four journals.

On Friday week a meeting of the Metropolitan Board of Works was held in the Council Chamber, Guildhall, John Thwaites, Esq., in the chair. The business transacted by the board formed an important era in the history of the metropolis, as it embraced the receiving of tenders for the construction of the northern high level sewer, being the first of the main intercepting sewers for carrying out the scheme for the main drainage of the metropolis. The estimate of Mr. Bazalgette, the engineer, was stated to be 179,000*l.* The tenders received were as follows:—"S. P. Hockin, 276,000*l.*; John Wilson, 266,725*l.*; Thomas Crook and Son, 259,858*l.*; Geo. Myers, 238,760*l.*; Wm. Jay, 234,130*l.*; Wm. Webb, 202,888*l.*; H. and J. Wood, 195,680*l.*; R. Butterbury, 191,000*l.*; J. and B. Bird, 189,389*l.*; Wm. Hill, 186,875*l.*; W. Dethink and E. Thirk, 186,000*l.*; Jos. Diggle, 185,600*l.*; Lemon and Bird, 189,370*l.*; W. R. Roe, 180,433*l.*; Baldock and Webster, 189,090*l.*; Wm. Moxon, 152,430*l.*" The board then resolved themselves into a committee of the whole board, when it was resolved that the contract be given to Mr. W. Moxon, whose tender was the lowest, subject to his sureties being satisfactory.

The unfortunate man, Edward Tombes, who is charged with the murder of Charles Canty, by cutting his throat, still remains in Newgate, and it is the opinion of the medical officers of the prison that he is in a hopeless state of insanity. He is at times extremely violent, and a keeper is continually with him. When he was brought up to take his trial at the Central Criminal Court last week, evidence was given that he was not in a state of mind

to plead, and the jury returned a verdict to that effect. An order was thereupon made by the court that he should be removed to a criminal lunatic asylum, and he will shortly be sent to Bedlam under that order. As some of our readers may possibly not understand the effect of that proceeding, it is as well to state that this does not dispose of the case; but the indictment for murder will remain upon the files of the court, and in the event of the prisoner's mind being restored he will be liable at any time to be brought back to Newgate and tried for the murder. At present there does not appear the slightest chance of such a result taking place. He is constantly raving, and does not appear to have the least consciousness that he has committed any offence. If he should continue in this condition, he will, of course, remain in custody for the rest of his life.

MARKETS.

MARK-LANE, Monday.—The supplies of both English and foreign wheat are small, and the market has rather more firmness than the last few weeks. The rates of this day week were maintained for all descriptions of English and foreign wheat. Flour sells at last week's prices. Malt and barley supports late rates, but grinding descriptions are 1*s.* per *qr.* lower. Beans and peas are unaltered in value. We have only moderate arrivals of oats, the trade is rather better, and the prices of this day week are supported. We have more arrivals of cargoes, but no business has been done to-day, full prices are asked.

LEADENHALL POULTRY MARKET, Monday.—Turkeys, 6*s.* 0*d.* to 1*s.* 0*d.*; geese, 4*s.* 0*d.* to 8*s.* 0*d.*; ducks, 1*s.* 0*d.* to 3*s.* 0*d.*; tame rabbits, 1*s.* 0*d.* to 1*s.* 9*d.*; wild, 10*d.* to 1*s.* 2*d.*; pigeons, 8*d.* to 1*s.*; large Surrey fowls, 6*s.* 0*d.* to 10*s.*; chickens, 4*s.* 0*d.* to 6*s.* 0*d.*; barndoor, 3*s.* 0*d.* to 5*s.*; leverets, 1*s.* 0*d.* to 3*s.* 0*d.*; hares, 2*s.* 0*d.* to 3*s.* 0*d.*; partridges, 0*s.* 0*d.* to 0*s.* 0*d.*; pheasants, 2*s.* 0*d.* to 3*s.* 0*d.*; snipes, 1*s.* 0*d.* to 1*s.* 9*d.*; teal, 1*s.* 0*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*; wild ducks, 2*s.* 0*d.* to 3*s.* 0*d.*; widgeons, 1*s.* 0*d.* to 2*s.* 0*d.*; plovers, 1*s.* 0*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*; guinea fowls, 0*s.* 0*d.* to 0*s.* 0*d.*; roasting pigs, 4*s.* to 7*s.* each. English butter, 1*s.* 3*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.* per lb. English eggs, 1*s.* 0*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*; French ditto, 1*s.* 0*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.* per 120.

BREAD.—The prices of wheat bread in the metropolis are from 6*d.* to 7*d.*; of household ditto, 4*d.* to 6*d.* per 4*lb.* loaf.

COAL MARKET, Wednesday.

	s. d.	s. d.	
Cassop	18 9	Hartlepool	19 3
Wylam	15 6	Hilda	16 3
Hartlepool West Hartley	14 9	Belmont	17 3

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

APLIN.—December 18, at Limerick, the wife of Capt. Aplin 3rd Regt., of a son.
CLIFFORD.—December 17, at Ugbrooke, the Lady Clifford, of a son and daughter.
DIGBY.—December 20, at 5, Belgrave-square, Lady Digby, of a son.
ECCLES.—December 15, at Peasefield, Tunbridge-wells, the wife of Alfred Eccles, Esq., F.R.C.S., of a daughter.
HARTLEY.—December 14, at Beech Park, Clonsilla, county Dublin, the wife of Richard W. Hartley, late Capt. in the 87th Regt., of a son.
KERR.—December 14, at Montalto, county Down, the wife of R. Kerr, Esq., M.P., of a son.
KELLY.—December 18, the wife of the Rev. J. D. Kelly, Vice-Principal of Elizabeth College, Guernsey, of a son.
MONRO.—December 16, at Cavendish-square, the wife of Dr. Monro, of a son.
POWELL.—December 16, at 6, Stanhope-street, Hyde-park-gardens, the wife of the Rev. Baden Powell, Savilian Professor of Geometry in the University of Oxford, of a daughter.
ROBERTSON.—December 14, at Gloucester-terrace, Hyde-park, the wife of Capt. R. Robertson, of a daughter.
WELLS.—December 19, at Christ Church, Oxford, the wife of the Very Rev. the Dean of Wells, of a son.
WOOD.—December 18, at the Rectory, Devizes, the wife of the Rev. P. A. L. Wood, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

COLE—KERR.—December 17, at St. Paul's Church, Camden-square, by the Rev. G. Cole, Rector, and uncle of the bridegroom, G. Wynne Cole, Esq., Lieutenant 1st Regiment Madras Infantry, to Catherine, youngest daughter of David Kerr, Esq., of Camden square.
HAMILTON—GLOVER.—December 18, at Philipstown, Kings' County, by the Rev. Wm. Little, Rector of Philipstown, Edward Hamilton, F.R.C.S., Resident Surgeon of Dr. Steeven's Hospital, Dublin, to Eliza, only surviving child of John L. Glover, M.D., of Philipstown.
HURLY—BOYD.—December 18, at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, by the Rev. F. T. Hill, uncle of the bridegroom, assisted by the Rev. W. G. Humphrey, vicar of the parish, John Hurly, Esq., of Bridge-house, Tralee, county Kerry, Ireland, to Elizabeth Augusta, widow of William Dundas Boyd, 14th Light Dragoon, and third daughter of the late Colquhoun Grant, M.D., of Kinchirdy, Morayshire, Esq., for many years Principal Medical Officer to Her Majesty's Forces in the Island of Zante.
KEENE—CHAMBERLAIN.—December 16, at Trinity Church, Tunbridge-wells, by the Rev. C. Campe, the Rev. Thomas P. Keene, LL.B., to Caroline Fry, eldest daughter of the Rev. Robert Chamberlain, curate of Woodstone, Huntingdonshire.
MACNAGHTEN—MARTIN.—December 18, at St. Peter's, Eaton-square, by the Rev. J. Hamilton, Edward Macnaghten, Esq., of Lincoln's-inn, to Frances Arabella, only daughter of the Hon. Sir Samuel Martin, one of the Barons of Her Majesty's Court of Exchequer.
PARR—HASTINGS.—December 15, at Hadley, Middlesex, the Rev. J. R. Parr, to Louisa, second daughter of the Rev. Joseph Hastings, incumbent of St. Peter's, Islington.
PORTER—HALL.—December 18, at St. Gabriel's, Piccadilly, Neale Porter, Esq., Captain 1st Warwickshire Regiment of Militia, to Amelia, younger daughter of the late J. G. Hall, Esq., of Clapham.
WILLIAMS—ARNOLD.—December 16, at Tipwell, Retland, by the Rev. C. W. Arnold, M.A., the Rev. W. J. Williams, M.A., Curate of St. John's, Stamford, to Louisa Hastings, second daughter of the Rev. Charles Arnold, Rector of Tipwell, and Hon. Canon of Peterborough.

DEATHS.

BEWGLASS.—December 10, of pneumonia, James, the infant son of Mr. Robert Bewglass, of Woolwich.
CAPE.—December 20, at Bologne sur-Mer, Mrs. Cape, the widow of Major Cape, of 31, Gloucester-place, Portman-square, aged ninety.
DAY.—December 18, at Acton, Henry Day, M.D., surgeon, R.N. aged seventy-one.
DOBSON.—December 15, at Mildford, near Bath, Eliza, wife of Capt. George Dobson, R.N.
LAMBERT.—December 17, at Aston House, Oxfordshire, in the sixty-seventh year of his age, Sir Henry John Lambert, Bart.
NEVILLE-GRENVILLE.—December 14, at Torquay, William Wyndham Neville, youngest son of the late Dean of Windsor and Lady Charlotte Neville-Greville, aged twenty-four.
POLTMORE.—December 18, at Poltimore Park, Devonshire, in the seventy-third year of his age, the Right Hon. George Warwick, Lord Poltimore, deeply and universally regretted.
RAMSEY.—December 17, at 2, St. Paul's Villas, Islington, Maria Joanna Ramsey, eldest daughter of the late Lieut.-General Ramsey, Royal Artillery, Commandant of Woolwich Garrison, aged eighty-two.
SULLIVAN.—December 20, at Brighton, George James Sullivan, Esq., late Captain in the Royal Horse Guards, alias of Redgrave Hall, Suffolk, and Wilmington, Ryde, Isle of Wight.
WALLER.—December 16, at Milton Parsonage, Stourport, aged thirty-nine, Harriet Eliza, wife of the Rev. Stephen Richard Waller, M.A.

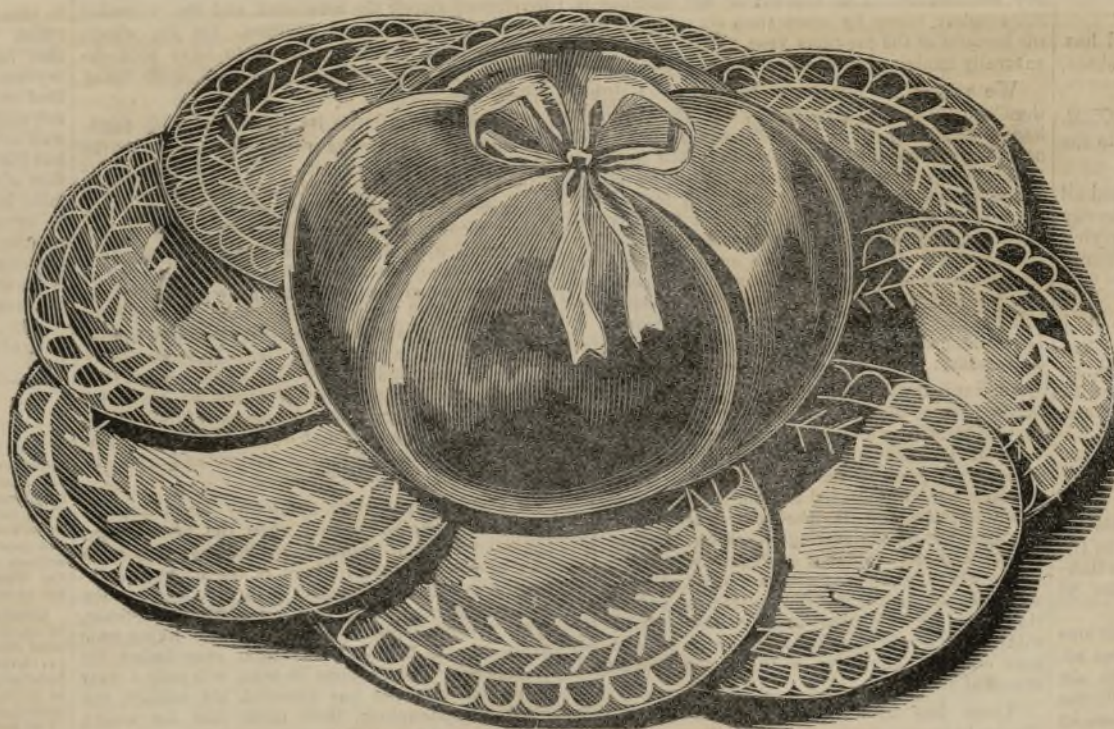
THE WORK-TABLE.

CONDUCTED BY MADEMOISELLE ROCHE.

ALTHOUGH the affection which exists between relations and friends looks for no proof that cannot be found in its own reciprocation, yet the feeling will not always rest satisfied with itself without manifesting its own active existence by some little offering which proves that it is a living principle. There are seasons when tokens of love and goodwill gain force and spirit from a most happy accordance, and in England Christmas is that especial occasion. National practice and approval have long since sanctioned the custom. It is not the cost but the sentiment which gives its value to any of the articles which friend proffers to friend, or relative to relative. On the contrary, it is often something of little intrinsic worth which is most highly prized by the recipient, especially something that has been wrought by the hand of faithful affection. Thus it is that the labours of the Work-Table are associated with the best feelings of the heart. By its means numberless conveniences and elegancies of life are fabricated both for the home and the indweller there, and these are in truth the best pledges of true affection. We venture to hope that our own services have ministered to this pleasant end, and that very many of the designs which we have now so long been privileged to submit to our numerous subscribers have been acceptable for this very purpose. To feel that we have, even in the smallest degree, been instrumental in helping to facilitate the interchange of tokens of affection seems to us to put a value upon our own services most grateful to our feelings. We trust that in the copious supply of varied articles, accompanied by their respective illustrations, succeeding each other from week to week in our Journal, the Work-Table, where it makes its regular appearance, will be amply provided with a choice from which to select offerings for the largest circles of relatives and friends. For ourselves, we have the satisfaction of believing that our labours are acceptable, and we take this opportunity of heartily thanking our many correspondents for the kind expression of an approbation which is at once an encouragement and a reward.

CHRISTMAS TABLE BASKET.

We hope that Christmas will be celebrated in Merry England as long as time shall last, and that the homage offered up to it may always be the deep and warm affections of domestic life. If feelings could be photographed, how many bright pictures an English Christmas would produce. The anniversary of this



PINCUSHION.

festival seems like a flag of truce from Heaven to stay the battle of life for one day in the year, in order that human hearts should lay down all animosities, and meet in the spirit of peace and friendship.

It is so essentially a hospitable season, that any little arrangement to unite elegance with this virtue is, we think, quite belonging to our jurisdiction. Any article possessing this quality, whether it belongs to the table or the toilette, comes therefore within our especial province. The pretty, and at the same time inexpensive, little basket which we give in our illustration, is particularly appropriate at this time, when so many friendly entertainments are exchanged, and the young and happy meet together. Where the refreshments consist of cold viands and confectionary, these baskets are exceedingly ornamental. They are very quickly made, only requiring a strip of thin card-board, a little silver paper—pure white is the prettiest—and a few skeins of orange wool. The paper is cut into strips of about three inches wide. It is then cut finely, as if for curling, to the depth of two inches. The method for crimping deserves especial attention for its extreme simplicity and efficiency, and the very pretty effect produced. A great many strips of the cut paper may be all laid together, and folded round

and round at the part which is left plain in the cutting. The part which is cut is then crushed and crumpled altogether in the hand into a kind of ball; a little light dexterity alone being required to produce the desired effect. It is then unrolled and the strips separated, when they will be found very prettily crimped. The strip of card-board cut to the size the basket is required to be, is then stitched together at the two ends, and the crimped paper is gummed on it in rows. The card-board must be entirely covered; therefore it requires the rows to be very close to each other. A row of paper roses is then made of the three sizes given in the diagram; six of these, that is, two of each size, form the rose with a little yellow wool for the centre, and are placed close together round the top of the basket and on the handle. We recommend these ornamental little articles, knowing that they are really worthy of being adopted in the numerous and elegant entertainments which will be given during the present season.

BERLIN WATCH POCKET.

It is more than possible, that the greatest waste of the precious hours of life arises from disinclination to

early rising. To those who have succumbed to the power of this torporising habit, the chains grow stronger and stronger every day, until at last they suppose themselves compelled to submit to the self-imposed slavery, and so abandon a large portion of their lives to an oblivion, or at least a dreamy forgetfulness, which has certainly the effect of shortening the natural term of their existence.

To be reminded how fast the hours are slipping away by any convenient contrivance of the Work-Table is, we think, a service that will be considered useful, and therefore acceptable. The form of the watch pocket we are now introducing to our subscribers is expressly adapted to this end. Leaving the face of the watch uncovered it shows at a glance that Time is moving its hands, so registering its passing as to deprive the half-awakened slumberer of all pretence of ignorance as to the real progress of time.

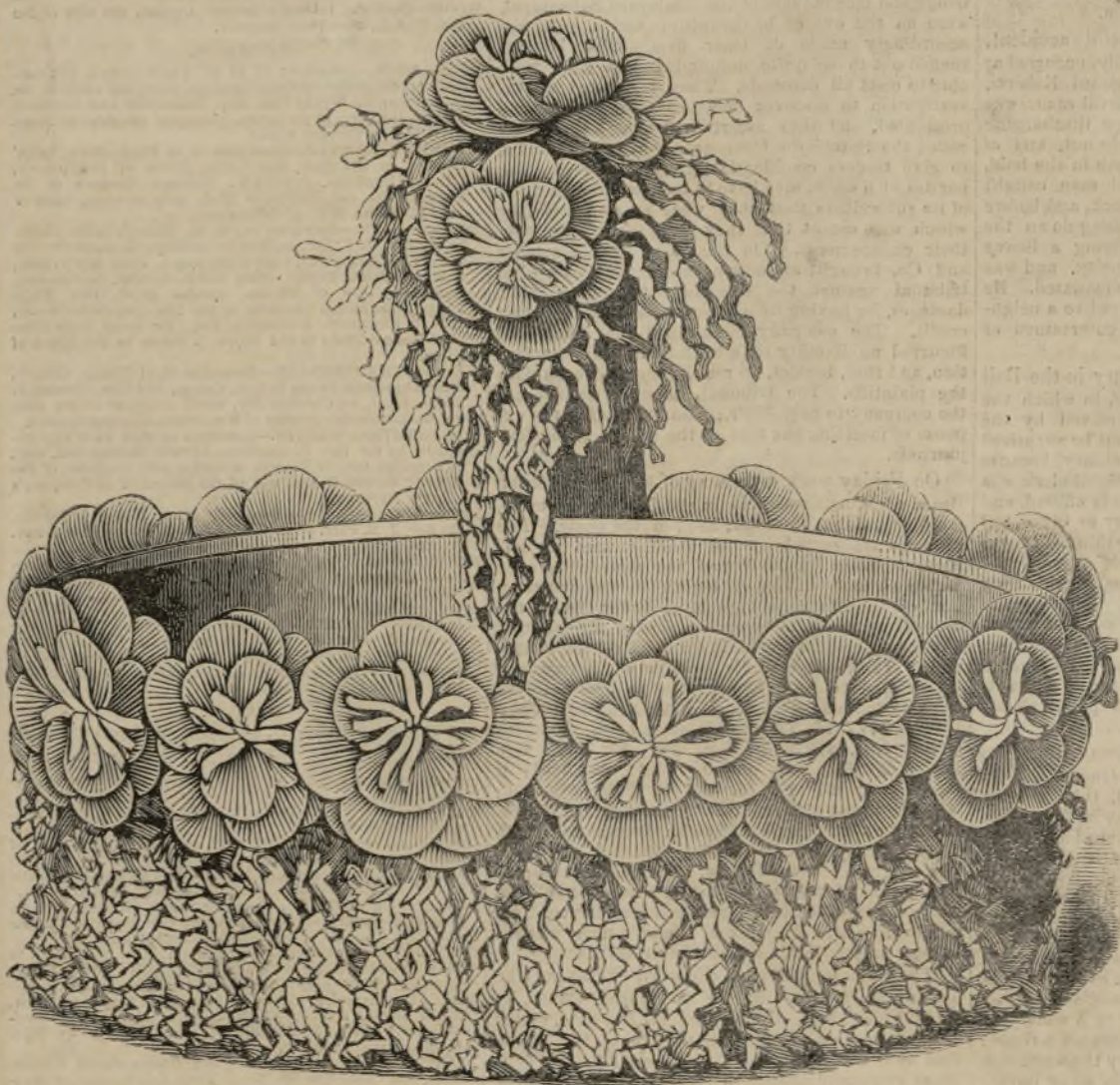
This useful watch pocket is also an elegant ornament for the bed-head, and can be made without difficulty, although requiring some dexterity of hand to preserve that neatness which is essential to its elegance. The shape is first to be cut out in the coarsest of the sorts of perforated card-board. This shape is next to be covered with scarlet cloth or satin, carefully stretched and well fastened down at the edge, and, after having been accurately cut to the shape all round, is to be neatly bound with narrow ribbon to match the colour of the material. This being completed, the bead-work follows, the small beads being in chalk white and the larger ones in either gold or steel. The cotton used for this purpose ought to be both smooth and strong, and we therefore recommend that Messrs. Walter Evans and Co's. No. 20 Crochet Cotton should be selected. The front, with its circular opening for displaying the face of the watch, is a separate piece, prepared exactly in the same way, fastened on with a small gusset at each side.

The reason why perforated card-board is to be used, is simply that, in working on the ornamental pattern in beads, the needle may pass easily through without either blemish or difficulty.

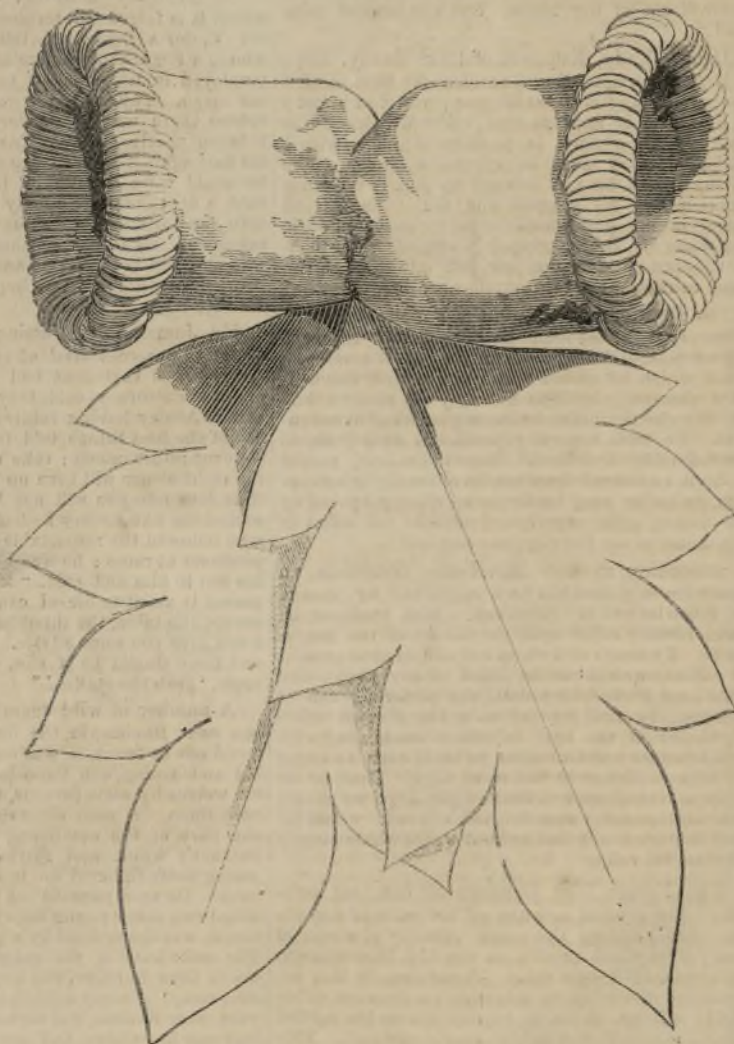
A hook is to be fastened on the spot shown in our illustration, and a lining laid on the back. It is suspended by a bow of ribbon, which is all the more handsome if enriched with a few beads.

BERLIN PINCUSHION.

We give among our illustrations a very ornamental as well as new kind of pincushion. It is composed of scarlet cloth or satin and chalk white beads. A number of small circles are cut accurately in card-board, and covered neatly with the cloth or satin. On these circles a small pattern is worked in the white



CHRISTMAS BASKET.



BELL FLOWER AND LEAF.



beads according to the engraving, with a small loop of beads round the edge, leaving a space sufficient for the next to wrap over. These small circles are all arranged round a larger circle cut in a firmer card-board, in the form of a wreath, each projecting slightly over the last, leaving a space for the cushion in the centre. A round cushion is then made sufficiently large to fill the centre, covered with the same material. It is drawn down either with a scarlet cord, strings of white beads or gold thread, so as to form four quarters from the centre, and is attached by means of this cord to the card-board foundation. This cushion should be sufficiently full to look well-raised and handsome. The foundation circle should be covered with a slight material previous to the ornamented circles being placed upon it. It has a very pretty effect when completed, the bright red contrasting well with the white drapery of the toilette table. The Berlin watch pocket and this pincushion are arranged to match. The beads should be worked on with Messrs. Walter Evans and Co's No. 20 Boar's Head Crotchet Cotton.

BELL FLOWERS.

The suggestions we have lately given for Christmas decorations have not been suitable for illustrations; but as a pretty and simple manner of making a paper flower may be required for the numerous festive occasions of the season, we give a small design of one which is very graceful for different ornamental purposes. It is formed of a strip of pure white paper of about seven inches in depth and eight in length. Both edges are cut in a very fine fringe and curled over a knife. The two ends are then gummed together. A strong crochet thread is then tightly tied in the exact centre, which forms the two bell-shaped flowers given in the illustration. The leaves are cut out of the same kind of paper according to the design, and attached to the bells where they are tied in the centre, hanging down gracefully. About three in number are required for each double bell.

ADVENTURES OF A BELGIAN SAILOR.

A Belgian vessel called the *Leopold* ran, in a violent storm, on a rock, on the 12th of April last, near one of the Falkland Islands, on the coast of Patagonia, and went to pieces. It was supposed that all her crew, nine in number, and their officers, had perished. But the authorities of Ostend have just received a letter from a sailor, named Declerk, of that town, one of the crew, announcing that he alone escaped. It appears that he swam from the wreck with the captain and some of the men towards an island which they saw near, but he alone reached it, the others being drowned by the violence of the sea. He found no inhabitants on the island, and had to live on some bits of bread which had been washed ashore, wild celery, and some birds which he killed with a stick. He happened to have matches on him, and succeeded in lighting a fire, which he fed with turf. To make his fire burn well, he partly surrounded it with some planks washed ashore from the wreck. In the night of the 5th the wind blew these planks into the fire and they were consumed. He thought this a terrible misfortune, but it was the means of saving him. An American ship happened to be passing two miles off, and seeing the rising smoke—an extraordinary thing on a desert island—some of her crew disembarked. They found the poor fellow crouching over the fire, and on hearing his tale they took him on board, provided for his wants, and on the 1st of June landed him at the port of Stanley. The Belgian sailor does not give the name of the ship, but says the captain's name was Smyley, and he expresses the warmest gratitude to him and his crew.

SOCIETY FOR THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF THE FINE ARTS.

A preliminary meeting was held in the Hanover-square Rooms, on Friday week, for the establishment of a new society under this title. The room was filled with ladies and gentlemen, who came in "dress," since the proceedings had somewhat the character of a *conversazione*, and music, as well as a small collection of paintings, and other works of art, had been provided for the entertainment of the company. The chair was taken, in the absence of the Earl of Carlisle, by Viscount Ranelagh, who shortly addressed the meeting upon the plan and the objects of the proposed society. He observed that the growing appreciation of art amongst all classes of the people was now made evident by frequent instances which had exhibited themselves of late years; and not only had a great change taken place in the relations between the public and professional artists of every kind, but the cultivation and practice of the various branches of fine art had become more common in private society, and the number of persons who were connoisseurs had largely increased. Under these circumstances, it was now thought desirable to establish an institution embracing the professors and amateurs of all the fine arts, who would find in it a centre of union and a medium for the interchange of their ideas upon the subjects to which their attention was devoted. After mentioning some examples to show that the guidance and advice of trained artists were requisite to direct

the taste of the unlearned, the chairman said that the operations of this society, which was not intended to interfere with any already existing, would be by lectures and discussions, by classes for study, by occasional exhibitions, by maintaining a permanent exhibition of engravings and a library of reference, and also by granting medals, testimonials, and other rewards, to encourage and assist artists, as well as to educate the public taste. The management of the society would be independent of any clique, and there would be no favouritism or exclu-

siveness in bestowing the aid and countenance it might command.—Mr. H. Otley, the hon. secretary, then read a paper explanatory of the views of the promoters.—The Rev. Mr. Bellew spoke upon the advantage of cultivating a just appreciation of grace and beauty in the popular mind.—The Chairman then declared the Society for the Encouragement of the Fine Arts duly constituted.—A vote of thanks to Lord Ranelagh was passed, on the motion of Mr. G. Adams; then the company went on to promenade amongst the pictures, and listen to the music.

The *Independence Belge* states now that the whole story of the arrest of Namik Pacha, the Governor of Jeddah, his forcible embarkation in the *Caradoc*, and his being brought to trial, are circumstances ascertained to be utterly false.

The comet first became generally visible at Melbourne on October 11, about a week before the mail steamer left. As seen at the Antipodes, the nucleus appeared to be stellar, and the gradation of light well marked between it and the coma. The comet had a winged appearance, and there was a pulsation from the nucleus to the wings, giving the appearance of flashes across the coma.



FRENCH AGGRESSION IN THE FRIENDLY ISLES.

The New Zealand papers contain an account of an aggression of the French at the Friendly Isles. It appears that on the 7th of July last some French priests landed at Lifuka, on the Haabai group of islands, and insisted on leaving one of their number there to promote the Catholic faith. The native governor said that strangers could not settle there without the consent of the King, who was then at Tonga. The French priests then left for Tonga, where a French frigate was lying; and, on the ground that the Governor of Haabai's refusal was in violation of a treaty with the French, the King was compelled to agree to the following paper:—

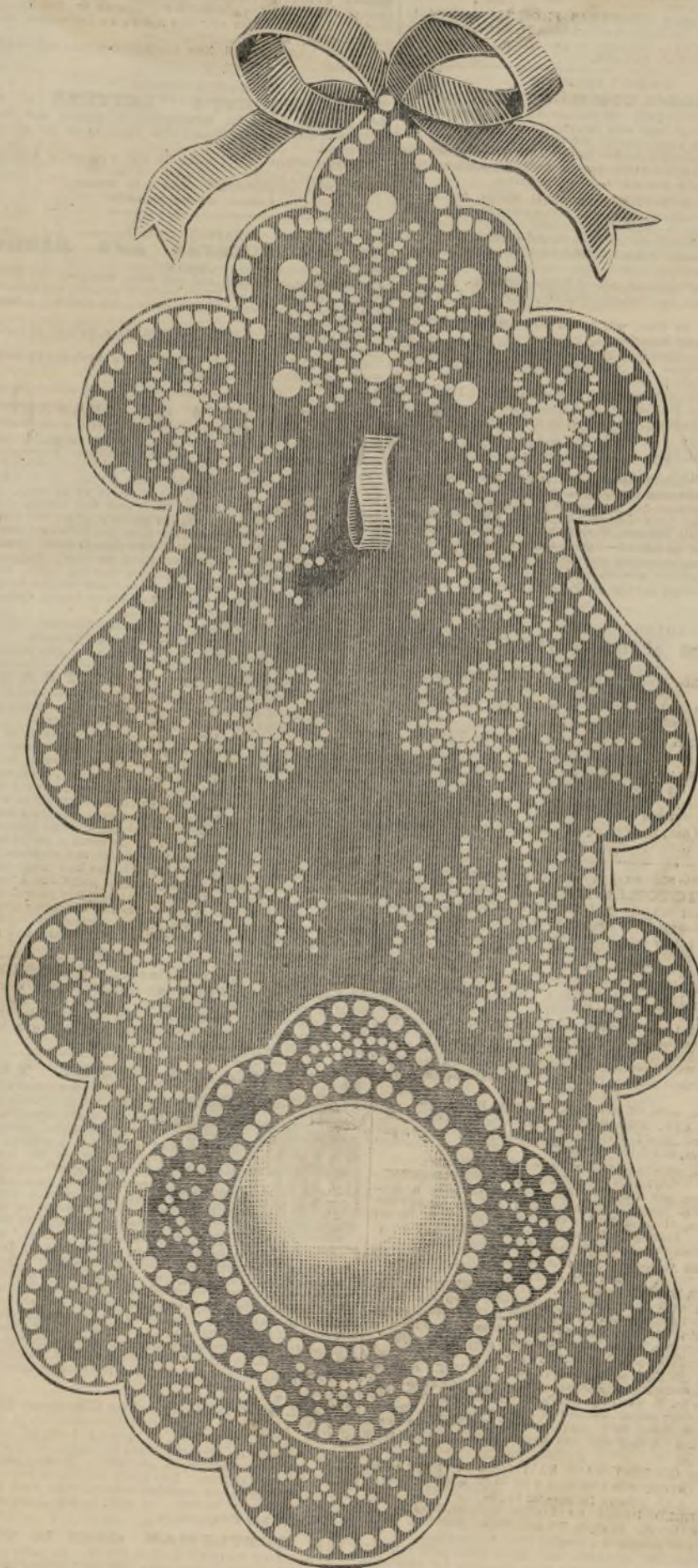
- "1. Tupuo, King of the Archipelago of Tonga, promise,
- "1. To depose Josiah, Governor of the Haabai Islands, for not having allowed the Catholic missionaries to land at Lifuka, on the 8th July.
- "2. To convey to Lifuka, in the month of August, the fathers, their servants, and their luggage required for the establishment of a Catholic station on the island, the fathers and servants being chosen by the Rev. Father Cheveron.
- "3. To choose (or select) a piece of ground on the beach of equal dimensions to the one now occupied by the Wesleyan missionaries, and to enclose it with reeds.
- "4. To build on the above-mentioned ground two houses, each of the following dimensions: eight fathoms in length and four in breadth; the pieces of wood, pillars, and fastenings, reeding and thatching, are to be of the same material employed in the houses of the Wesleyan missionaries. Both houses are to be built in three months from this day—July 31.
- "Additional.—At the kind request of the Rev. F. Cheveron, the chief Josiah, Governor of the Haabai Islands, shall not be deposed immediately, but according to his behaviour to the Catholics during the three months appointed for the building of the houses, the said sentence shall be pronounced or annihilated.
- "The commander of the frigate H.F.M.S. *Le Bayonaise*."

ATROCIOUS ATTEMPT AT CHILD MURDER.

At the Taunton Assizes, a few days ago, Elizabeth Ann Keel, a respectable-looking young woman, was indicted for attempting to murder her infant child, Mary, at Bath. The prisoner was the wife of a porter who rented a house in Galloway-buildings, Bath, which he sub-let to lodgers. On the afternoon of the 18th of October, Mrs. Dowse, a lodger in the house, went to the parlour occupied by the prisoner. She was not there, but hearing a splashing of water in the adjoining room, Mrs. Dowse went in, and there saw the prisoner standing over a pan of water, in which she was holding down her infant fifteen months old. The child had its clothes on, and its head was under water. Mrs. Dowse exclaimed, "What are you doing?" and the prisoner replied, "I am going to drown the young ——" The child was rescued, and eventually restored. Mr. John Barrett, surgeon, was called in and found the prisoner in a drowsy state. On being roused and questioned about what she had done, she became very excited, and said she would do it again, if the Queen and all her army was present. In Mr. Barrett's judgment the prisoner was labouring at the time under the species of insanity called moral insanity by Dr. Prichard. She was very fond of her children, and particularly of this infant.—At the close of the case for the prosecution the prisoner was asked if she had anything to say in her defence. She replied, "I am very sorry for what I have done. I did not know what I was doing at the time. I will promise never to do it again."—The learned judge left the jury to say whether, at the time of the commission of the offence, the prisoner was in a state of mind which made her responsible for her acts.—The prisoner was acquitted on the ground of insanity, and was ordered to be detained during her Majesty's pleasure.

A letter from Berlin says that a decision has been unanimously come to in the Council of Ministers that a bill for establishing civil marriages shall be presented to the Chambers, and the Prince Regent has given his consent. This bill will prevent clergymen from refusing to marry divorced persons.

A letter from the Isle of Réunion states that the volcano in that island is in full eruption; the communication in one of the arrondissements is interrupted by a stream of lava, three or four hundred yards long and three yards thick on the main highway. It had, at the last date, Nov. 8th, reached the sea.



WATCH POCKET.

Advertisements.



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TEETH

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