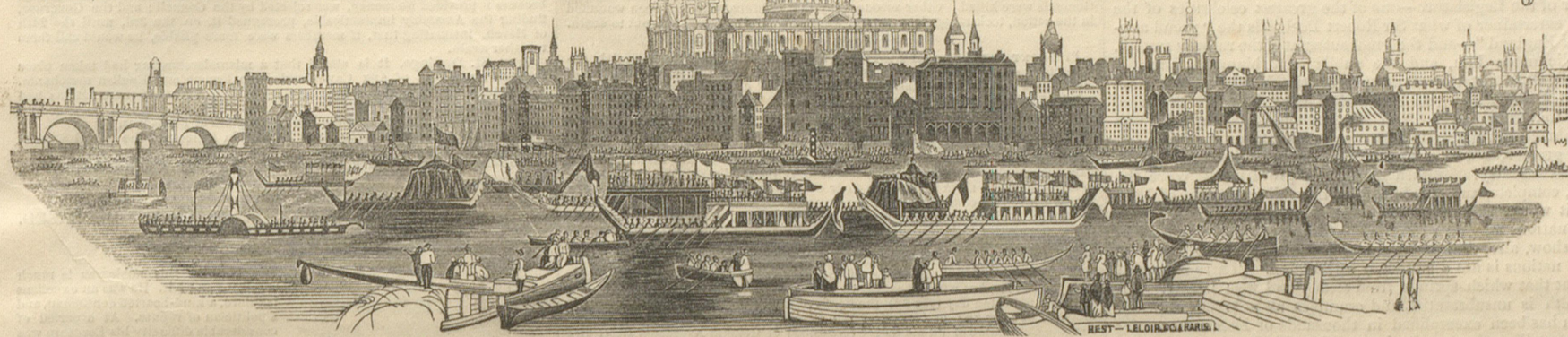


THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS



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FOR THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, APRIL 14, 1849.

[SIXPENCE.]

RAILWAY MORALITY.

It would be a curious psychological study, to investigate the sources of the too common sentiment conveyed in those popular sayings, that when a man is down it is permissible to kick him, and that he who has no friends may be hit hard. Though all men of refinement and good feeling repudiate such principles of action, there is a constant tendency in the crowd of coarser natures to indulge in them. It is the every-day philosophy of the vulgar—a kind of atonement which they endeavour to make to society for faults and errors committed by themselves. "This man," say they, "has been found out in an offence which we have committed; therefore, let him be made an example of—not for the offence, but for his clumsiness, mal-address, or ill-luck in being discovered." "Commit theft if you will," said the Spartan lawgiver; "but woe be to you if you are discovered." "Cheat the public, if you please," says that portion of society which gambled, in 1845, in Railway Scrip; "but woe betide you if you be discovered in any piece of roguery, which shall bring our doings and our vocation into contempt or discredit." The fox that loses his tail is persecuted by all the foxes; and the rook that is maimed is hooted out of the rookery. Mr. Hudson, the once great potentate of railways, is at present in a condition somewhat akin to, and almost as forlorn as these. The crowd of speculators who attempted to enrich themselves by gambling in shares are loud in the expression of their horror at a particular transaction of his life which happens at this moment to have been made rather painfully prominent. In fact, Mr. Hudson may be said to be "down," and there is, in consequence, a disposition in more than one section of the public not only to keep him down, but to kick him into the bargain. Did the pure alone raise the cry, it would be but a feeble one in comparison with that which we now hear against him. It is, however, too loud and general to proceed from those only whose hands are clean. The stags as well as the hounds are making a noise; and rogues as well as honest men are preaching a high morality.

But whatever may be the animus or the purity of those who condemn him, we must say, that, as regards the particular transaction which has led to the dethronement and disgrace of this so-called "King of the Railways," his present position is not unmerited. According to our notions of commercial morality, the committee appointed to investigate and report upon the matter have come to a right conclusion. Mr. Hudson, as Chairman and Trustee of a railway company, deputed by that company to purchase shares in the Great North of England Railway for the benefit of the company, sold to his constituents a large number of shares at a considerable advance upon the market price. He used the money of the company to make the purchase, and put upwards of £8000 into his own pocket, as his premium upon the transaction. The committee, after a patient investigation, have decided that the sum charged by Mr. Hudson for these shares ought to be reduced to the sum he actually paid for them, and that the difference is to be repaid with interest. The whole investigation portrays a looseness of management on the part of all the directors which may well surprise the public, and lays bare a system which, we hope, will receive its death-blow by the exposure. Mr. Hudson himself seems very far from having attained a conviction that he has done wrong. He knows that at the period when this bargain was effected all the world were endeavouring to pocket premiums; that he was held up to public adulation as one of the greatest men of the age for his skill in railway affairs; that his name was a tower of strength; that moral and religious men pocketed premiums without any compunctious qualms; that people of all grades of society flattered and fawned upon him for his interest to procure them allocations, not that they might hold them as *bonâ fide* proprietors of railway stock, but that they might dispose of them at premiums. He knows, too, that a monster subscription was got up to do him honour, not as a wise, a good, or a great man, but as a man who had grown rich in a hurry, as the Triton among the minnows of railway speculation, and as one who had it in his power to help others to do as he himself had done—to grow fat upon the madness of the public. He cannot bring himself to believe that his position, as Chairman and Trustee for a Railway Company, prohibited him, either in law or equity, from making a profit out of his brother shareholders. It is, doubtless, difficult for a man who was once almost worshipped for growing rich, to imagine why the idolators should turn away from his shrine; inasmuch as, whatever change may have come over the disciples, none came over the master. He has acted upon the same principle all along; and did no more in 1845-46-47-48, than he would be again prepared to do in 1849, should occasion present itself. "Raise shares to a premium, and pocket the premium if you can." This is the public and the private principle of the "stag" genus. It owns no other, and

never seeks to enquire by what arts the stock is raised to that comfortable state expressed by the words "above par." Provided the end be attained, the true stag cares nothing for the means. Although Mr. Hudson undoubtedly was a *bonâ fide* railway proprietor, he was tainted with the universal corruption of staggers. Even now his thoughts and sympathies are with the stags. "It is not my wish," says he, in his published defence, "to impugn the reasoning or question the conclusion of the Committee; but I must be allowed to state that this opinion of the position which I occupied in connexion with the company is one now presented to my mind for the first time. * * * I never thought myself restrained from entering into personal engagements either with the Company or with others, by reason of the position I stood in towards the Company, any more than if I had been an ordinary proprietor. * * * It is impossible for me to adopt the conclusion at which the committee have arrived, for, as far as my own view of my position is concerned, that conclusion is incorrect. * * * I care nothing for pecuniary considerations in this matter. I must pursue the course which my own feelings and judgment point out to be correct under the circumstances in which I find myself placed—circumstances to me of a most painful nature; but in which I have become involved without the slightest idea on my part that I was doing anything deserving of reprehension." This confession seems to us to be the most melancholy part of the whole business; for, not only did Mr. Hudson make this profit out of a company whose interests he ought to have considered identical with his own, but when he sold to the Company as principal with principal, he charged it with full brokerage, though he paid none either on his own account or that of the Company; and although, as a contemporary remarks, he made sundry other "pickings" for his own private and exclusive benefit. But the truth is that Mr. Hudson is neither better nor worse than the morality of 1845. He rose to wealth and importance at an immoral period; he was the creature of an immoral system; he was wafted into fortune upon the wave of a popular

mania; he was elevated into the Dictatorship of Railway Speculation in an unwholesome ferment of popular cupidity, pervading all ranks and conditions of men; and, whatever be the hue of the error he may have committed, it is rather too much to expect of him that he should be purer than his time or his associates. The commercial code of 1845 was, as far as Railways were concerned, framed upon anything but moral principles. The lust of gain blinded the eyes of men who, before that period, could see clearly enough the difference between right and wrong, between trading and gambling, and between legitimate and illegitimate speculation. Men who would have scorned to do a dishonest act towards any other real tangible living man, did not scruple to do acts against that great abstraction, the public, which no morality could justify. In the height of the Railway Mania it was generally admitted, that, ultimately, some parties must be losers; that the over-sanguine or the cautious who came in last, would have to pay the piper for all the gains made by those who came in early; but, as nobody knew who these individuals were, nobody cared about them or scrupled to make an immoral profit out of them. Mr. Hudson, from the superior magnitude of his transactions, from his superior talent in railway business, and perhaps, also, from his superior luck, became the representative of that system. He was to wealth what the Queen is to honour—its fountain; and all who desired to be wealthy without labour, and by a mere turn of the dice of Fortune, looked to him to aid them in their projects.

Old men and young, the famish'd and the full,
The rich and poor, widow, and wife, and maid,
Master and servant—all, with one intent,
Rushed on the paper scrip; their eager eyes
Flashing a fierce unconquerable greed—
Their hot palms itching—all their being fill'd
With one desire.

Mr. Hudson would have been more than human if, with the fame, the wealth, and the adulation he received, he could have seen



"HUDSON'S HOUSE," AT YORK.

"HUDSON'S HOUSE," COLLEGE-STREET, YORK.

In this house, we believe, George Hudson was born, in the year 1800. Here he served his apprenticeship to a linendraper; and subsequently, for many years, carried on the business with such success as to amass some amount of wealth. His fortune was next increased by a bequest from a distant relative, which sum he invested in North Midland Railway shares; and we recollect, that at a meeting of this company, held at Leeds, about ten years since, a Mr. Hudson addressed the meeting, advocating many alterations in the system of managing the railway; and concluding a remarkable speech by offering to guarantee double the dividend the shareholders were then receiving, if the alterations he proposed were agreed to. His speech had its effect, for Mr. Hudson was then appointed chairman of a committee of shareholders, which led to the dismissal of the Directors, and the appointment of Mr. Hudson as Chairman of the North Midland

Company; and, what is very remarkable, the shares gradually rose from £70 discount to £120 premium. Mr. Hudson next amalgamated the North Midland with other lines; and, undoubtedly, by his system of amalgamation with neighbouring companies, he considerably extended the accommodation to the public, besides effecting a considerable saving in the working of the line. It is, therefore, only generous to remember, at this moment, what Mr. Hudson has achieved in improving the management of railways. After Mr. Hudson quitted his business in College-street, he accumulated great wealth; and he is stated to have cleared, in a single day, £100,000! He has also been elected M.P. for Sunderland; has been twice Lord Mayor of York; has been appointed Deputy-Lieutenant of Durham; and to the Magistracy of the East and North Ridings of York, and of Durham. With all this wealth and fame, very likely he says, with hundreds of others, "I wish I had minded my shop, and not speculated in railway shares." Mr. Hudson married Elizabeth, daughter of James Nicholson, Esq., by whom he has a numerous family.



LONGCHAMPS, 1849.

(From a Correspondent.)

PARIS, April 12, 1849.
 ONE of the displays enjoyed by the English visitors was the annual pageant of Longchamps, with its *allées* of carriages, and lines of equestrians.

The magnificent walks of the Champs Elysées, yesterday strewn with wounded and encumbered with cannon, are to-day thronged with the people of fashion from the Faubourg St. Germain and the Banque, happy to be restored to ease and luxury. Among the elegant equipages, with which Paris abounds, to be seen in the first rank, the aristocratic carriage of the Princess Mathilde Demidoff, whose delightful, gracious, and smiling face, glows with exquisite resplendence. A little farther off, the crowd presses around the carriage of the President, distinguished by the beauty of the horses and elegance of the livery; but the general interest is engrossed by the fatigued and wan look of the chosen of his country, who consecrate his nights to meditation, to enable him to restore employment, order, and security; but the anxiety depicted on his thoughtful brow, indicates to the passers-by that, if Louis Bonaparte pays a tribute to luxury in encountering fashion, his sympathies are well exercised in the haunts of misery and hunger.

Many votaries of fashion displayed on this occasion great luxury and taste, as

much amongst the pedestrians as carriage people; the toilettes are very elegant, although furs and winter clothes are not cast off.

Longchamps has been as brilliant and picturesque as in former years: singularly contrasting with the faubourgs, which present the most sombre appearance, and continue perfectly noiseless. In the Champs Elysées is a mixture of carriages and hackney-coaches, and diplomatic equipages, and tradesmen's carts; nevertheless, we must own that the armorial bearings were rare: but to sum up, in seeing the present promenades of Paris, we can hardly believe that scarcely a year had elapsed since a pretty and witty actress of one of the minor theatres, Mlle. A. O., used these celebrated words: "Decidedly we must try to please the wounded of February; it is only they who can give us cachemires."

Never was France more interesting to visit; never will political excitement have more convulsed all classes of the community; and never will the press have greater circulation, than in the short time which must elapse before the elections.

Before the election of the 10th of December we were in an abyss; now we are on a peak. We have secret and ostensible committees, meetings of the delegates of the clubs, and banquets: in a word, all are really in commotion, while a profound lull appears to reign everywhere. The decree of the Court of Bourges has still more depressed the Democrats than the restoration of the guillotine for the reputed political assassins of General de Bréa:—Barbès, Albert, Louis

Blanc, Caussidière, condemned to an indefinite exile; Blanqui, to ten years imprisonment; Raspail, equally smitten; Caribé, absent; Proudhon, in flight; Haber, dishonoured. Notwithstanding, these proscriptions will rid the land for the advantage of the democratic elections. These men beaten from the field, in consequence of legal incapacity, make way for others of more moderate ambition. The number of aspirants find themselves restrained. The election of Red candidates will be much more certain now than it would have been if the Barbès, the Louis Blancs, the Blanquis, the Caribés, the Raspails, the Saccambres, the Caussidières, had carried the quota of their rancour to the number of dissentients which always signalise the heated period of contest. On the other hand, the Conservative party in Paris, and in the great seats of industry—such as Lyons, St. Stephen, Lisle—risk much in dividing their forces. The Orleanists—the Legitimists—the *white* or *half white*—the Napoleonists, whether Presidentists or Imperialists—the *Cavaignacites*, who possess, by the organ of electoral union, under the garb of order, all these elements, alike Conservative, are about to divide their strength and compromise the victory. However, all the correspondence received from the departments up to this day presages that the Legitimists will be returned to the new Chamber with 250 majority; and a project is even whispered of their making an appeal to the nation in order to discover if ancient Royalty itself should not be restored.



ON THE WEATHER IN THE MONTH OF MARCH, 1849.

TILL the 17th of March, with the exception of the 9th, 10th, and 11th days, the temperature of the air was above that of the season; the average daily excess was 4°. From the 18th, the temperature was below the average; the average daily defect was 3°. During the early part of the month the weather was very mild, and it was cold and rather severe towards the end of the month. The mean temperature of the month was 42°, exceeding the average value for this month from the observations of the previous seventy years by 1°. The average temperature of the four months ending March 31st, 1849, is higher than any other similar period for very many years. The mean reading of the barometer at the height of forty feet was 30.03 in., being above the average reading. The mean temperature of evaporation was 39°, and that of the dew point was 36°. The difference between the temperature of the air and dew point was 6°. This difference is greater than usual, and denotes dryness of the atmosphere. The highest reading of the thermometer was 60°, and the lowest reading was 27.9°. The average daily range was 17°. Rain fell on eight days only, and was somewhat less in amount than half an inch. Snow fell in small quantities on the 8th, 9th, 24th, and 25th. Several flashes of lightning were seen on the 22d. The month has been dry, and favourable for farming and agricultural operations.

Blackheath, April 12. [For more particulars relative to the unusual warmth of the past winter see the forthcoming Quarterly Report of the Registrar-General.]

THE PEW CASE AT CHELTENHAM.—On Saturday last, the magistrates gave their decision in this case, which was a charge of assault preferred at the Cheltenham Police Court on the previous Thursday, against Charles Lloyd Harford, Esq., one of Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the county of Gloucester, by Captain Henry Perrin Steele, a magistrate and deputy-lieutenant for the county of Dorset, and an occasional visitor to Cheltenham, who complained that on the previous Sunday, during the celebration of divine service in the parish church, the defendant forcibly ejected him from a pew, and by so doing squeezed his hand with the door. The defence was, that defendant's pew being a "faculty pew," he had a right to eject any intruder. After a full hearing of the evidence on both sides, the Bench deferred judgment until Saturday last, when the parties having re-assembled at the police court, Mr. G. E. Williams read the written decision of the magistrates, which was as follows:—"It is determined that the jurisdiction of the Bench in this matter is so questionable, that they have come to the determination of dismissing the case."

SLAVERY ON THE COAST OF AFRICA.

WE have been favoured by a Correspondent and an officer on the coast of Africa with the accompanying Illustrations and details of a most successful attempt just made by our gallant countrymen towards the extirpation of Slave Traffic, in that infamous hornet's nest of slave-dealers, the Gallinas, lying in

lat. 7° S., and long 11° E.; the coast being very low, and well adapted for the nefarious trade carried on there.

Our Correspondent states, that, on the evening of February 2, the small squadron which had assembled at Cape Mount proceeded for Gallinas River; the

man, after which the division joined the Commodore at the principal factory for the night.

Next morning, two more large establishments were destroyed without any resistance. The majority of the boats then left the river, but the Commodore remained to hold a conference with some of the neighbouring chiefs. Towards evening he entirely destroyed the place, and returned on board. Fourteen slaves only were brought away—some of them deplorably emaciated creatures, near the point of death.

The amount of loss sustained by the slave dealers must have been very great, as they were quite unprepared for such a visit, and their stores were full of goods. Some hundred barrels of fine powder caused a tremendous explosion. The general idea is that between £100,000 and £200,000 worth of property was burned—perhaps more.

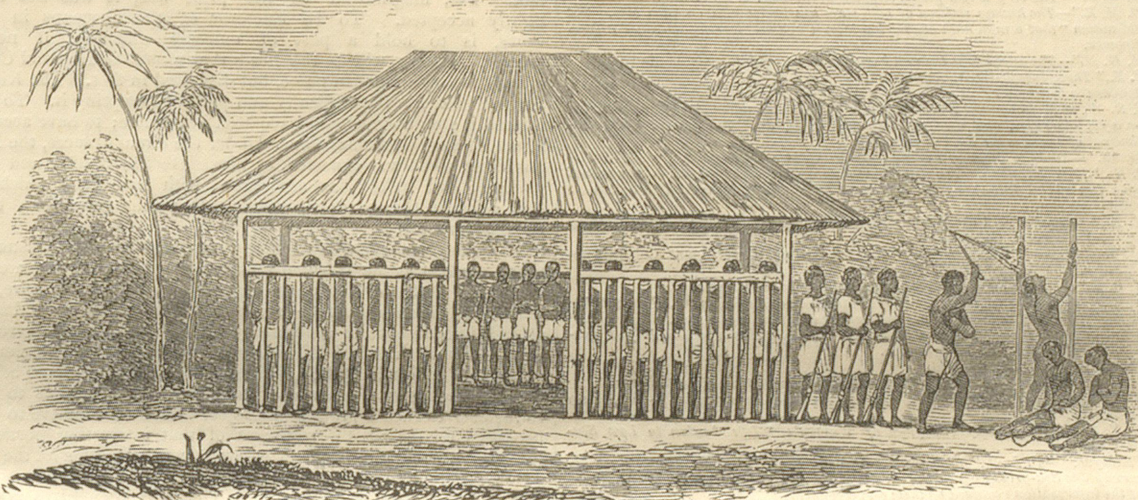
THE ENGRAVINGS.

The first Illustration shows the boats crossing the bar of Gallinas. The number of boats was about 21: the largest were the *Penelope's* paddle-box boats, with guns, and 75 men each; three pinnaces, with guns; and *Philo's* paddle-box boat, with rocket brigade. There was a tumbling sea on the bar, the current running out as fast as boats could pull: the crossing is very dangerous, and seldom made by ships' boats.

In the second large view is depicted the burning of the slave establishments on Solyman River. The foliage on the banks is thick and luxuriant to the water's edge. The explosion was terrific: a constant fire of musketry was kept up from the bush, answered by volleys from the four boats, with grape from brass guns.



CROSSING THE BAR OF GALLINAS RIVER.



SLAVE BARRACON.

Penelope towing *Waterwitch*, *Dart*, and *Bonetta*, and *Favorite* in tow of *Philo*. They found the *Sealark* there at anchor.

At daylight, on the morning of the 3d, the boats from these vessels made for the bar of the river, in two lines; the bar being as quiet as usual, but still a great surf, and the stream very strong.

The Commodore led in person, in one of the *Penelope's* cutters; five gun-boats followed, one with a rocket brigade, and about fifteen others, under command of their respective captains. We should here mention that the occasion of the visit was, in part, enquiry as to the fate of a thirty-ton boat stolen from the Governor of Sierra Leone. As the attack was not at all expected, there was no

resistance made, and the three principal factories were taken possession of, the owners having scarcely time to drive away slaves, but not to remove property.

The boats of the *Penelope* continued their route about twelve miles farther up the Solyman branch of the river, and there destroyed two large barracoons and a slave vessel building, meeting with little opposition on the east side, where their stockade was good, and four small iron guns were lying dismantled. A random fire was kept up from the bush, while the boats dropped down. One of their own people, a prisoner, in the gig with Captain Jones, was shot through the arm, and one man in another boat was slightly struck with a slug.

At sunset, another establishment was burned at the lower turn of the Soly-



SECTION OF EMBARKATION CANOE.

The premises destroyed were the residence and factory of Don José Luis, a Spanish dealer. The quarters were comfortable, and, from the external appearance of the factory, no suspicion was likely to be raised of the owner being a slave-factor; yet such he is, on an extensive scale.

In one of the smaller Illustrations is shown a Barracoon at the back of one of the factories in the creek: here flogging is an hourly occupation, and the sufferers frequently expire under the lash. The slaves are chained by the neck and legs; and, except when marched from one barracoon to another, on chance of shipment, they know no change for a year or two.

We have likewise engraved one of the embarkation boats used by the slave-factors: they are launched from the beach, with 200 slaves in their bottoms, besides 20 or 30 rowers to each boat, which is about 40 feet long, 12 broad, and seven or eight feet deep.



BURNING OF SLAVE ESTABLISHMENTS, ON SOLYMAN RIVER.

POSTSCRIPT.

CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT.

TRIAL OF DROUET.

Friday (yesterday) morning having been appointed for the trial of Mr. Drouet, for the manslaughter of the pauper children at Tooting, some interest appeared to be created by the proceedings.

The Judges (Mr. Baron Platt and Mr. Justice Wightman) took their seats on the bench at 10 o'clock, and the defendant immediately afterwards surrendered, and took his place in the dock.

The defendant was first arraigned under a charge of feloniously killing and slaying James Andrews, by omitting, contrary to his duty, to provide him with proper food and nourishment, and by omitting to provide him with proper sleeping accommodation, and proper clothing to protect him from the inclemency of the weather.

The indictment was of very great length, and contained a great number of counts. The defendant pleaded not guilty. He was then arraigned upon four other indictments of a similar character, to all of which he pleaded not guilty.

LATEST FOREIGN NEWS.

FRANCE. The President of the Republic was thrown from his horse on Wednesday, in the Bois de Boulogne, but the accident was not attended with the slightest injury to that distinguished personage.

M. Proudhon has taken up his exile in Belgium, from which place he has addressed a letter to the supporters of the People's Bank, in which he states, that, having been sentenced to three years' imprisonment, and a heavy fine, he does not intend to carry out his design of founding this bank.

SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN. Since the affair of Eckernförde no serious engagement has taken place. The Danes have captured altogether 28 German vessels up to the present time.

ITALY. From Genoa, our latest accounts state that, after General de la Marmora had bombarded Genoa for twenty-four hours, and the city had been set on fire in several places, a deputation from the municipality had waited on him on the evening of the 6th to request an armistice of forty-eight hours, in order to proceed to Turin to arrange a capitulation.

THE "CLERGY RELIEF" BILL.—MR. SHORE'S CASE.—This bill has passed through the second reading, to which it was referred, and has been reported with some important amendments. The objectionable fourth clause, enabling seceding clergymen to deprive and depose themselves, has been altered so as to make the deprivation and deposition the act of the Bishop, who is now directed to record sentence of deprivation and sentence of deposition against the seceder, and such sentences are to have the effect of sentences by any duly authorised ecclesiastical court.

TURN-OUT OF FACTORY HANDS AT STALYBRIDGE.—The agitation which has been going on for many weeks past at Stalybridge, amongst the factory operatives, against the relay system, has at length resulted in the stoppage of two of the mills there—those of Mr. Bayley Brothers, and Mr. Leech. In these factories, and indeed in nearly all the factories in Stalybridge, the adults have been working twelve hours per day, and relays (or "shifts") take place among the females, who leave the mill in turn, for two hours during the day—those left behind attending to their frames in their absence. The shifts are so managed, however, that the extra minding of frames does not extend to more than an hour per day for each person; and the hands are, by this system, enabled to make twelve hours' wages.

BANQUET IN HONOUR OF RICHARD COBDEN, ESQ., M.P. This festive compliment to the Hon. Member for the West Riding of Yorkshire, by his constituents, for which preparations on a grand scale have been making for some time past, was celebrated on Wednesday last.

The entertainment took place at the Corn-Exchange, Wakefield, where accommodation was provided for between 600 and 700 persons. The side walls were ornamented with branches of laurel; at the upper end was the Royal cypher surmounted by an Imperial Crown; and at the lower end of the apartment was suspended a flag with the inscription "Cobden and the Independent Electors of Wakefield," in front of the Chairman were emblazoned the mottoes "Protection is Robbery," "The Twins—Agriculture and Commerce," "Free Trade," &c.

The following acted as vice-chairmen—Messrs. W. H. Foster, of Bradford; F. Crossley, of Halifax; F. Schwann, of Huddersfield; C. G. McAlea, of Leeds; Edward Baines, of Leeds; R. Solly, of Sheffield; James Micklethwaite, of Wakefield.

The list of stewards comprised the names of the leading Free Traders of the district. The body of the hall was covered with fifteen tables, each accommodating forty persons. The dinner was supplied by Mr. Wigney, of the George Hotel.

Mr. Cobden, who was received with the most enthusiastic cheers, said—"I feel that it is from me that the apology should come that I have not long ago had the opportunity of meeting the electors of the West Riding at home. I ought to have paid my respects to you immediately on my return from the Continent, to have thanked you, and my friend in the chair especially, for the most prominent and responsible position he filled on that occasion in nominating me and returning me while I was thousands of miles away, conferring on me most distinguished honour that could be conferred on a citizen of this country. But, gentlemen, since my return home I have found myself occupied in public avocations; believe that my pursuits; that my aim has been your aim; and I have felt assured that, dealing as I have done with a body of intelligent and practical men, you have been satisfied, whilst I was in pursuit of what I humbly conceived my duty and your welfare, you would be satisfied that I should pursue my duties in Parliament, and be content to be together in spirit, though we were absent in body. Your excellent chairman has been good enough to associate my name with three principles—Free Trade, Economy, and Peace. I beg it

to be distinctly understood that in meeting you here to-day—in having the privilege of exchanging sentiments with you, we do not meet for the glorification of any individual or ourselves, but to do homage to those principles which your chairman has enumerated—(cheers)—to render, if possible, more secure the attainment of the first of those principles, and to pave the way for carrying out effectually and speedily the other two. I am not going to make a Free Trade speech; but an attempt has been made to show that Free Trade in corn—for that is about the limit of our triumph as yet, that free trade in corn, which we have had for some time short of three months, is a failure. Well, I don't know what we expected free trade in corn to do that it has not done for us, as far as it possibly could have done for us. Did anybody ever ask themselves this question—"What would have been our position now if we had not carried the repeal of the Corn Laws just at the time we did?" I have talked to men conversant with these matters, and I have put this question to them—"Supposing the old sliding-scale to have remained in operation now, what would have been the price of corn at this moment?" And the general opinion I hear is that what would be at 70s. a quarter. What would then have been the condition of England—what would the people have said in the condition of Yorkshire? Just what it was in 1839, after the failure of the harvest in 1838. Your towns would have been crowded with paupers, and your capitalists would have been meeting together to try and avert impending ruin, as they did in 1839. Now what is the condition of things? I don't say that trade is as good as it might be, or as I hope it will be; but, taking the condition of the mass of the working population now, and comparing this with what it was in 1839, 1840, 1841, 1842, and 1843, I say there is now a state of great prosperity (cheers); nay, I doubt very much whether that portion of the labouring classes of this country which has capital employed in the mechanical arts, in manufactures, and in other pursuits—I speak particularly of skilled workmen—ever in their lives were in the possession of a greater amount of comfort in exchange for their labour than they are at this moment; because you have now not merely food, but raiment, and all those human luxuries which are happily within the reach of the working classes, cheaper than, as a whole, at any time when the trade of this district was peculiarly prosperous. When we go back to 1835 and 1836, for instance, though there was great prosperity, the price of many articles of clothing was then much higher than now; cotton goods were about double what they now are. The working classes are doing better than their masters at present; but, however, I hope to see their employers deriving a full and adequate reward for their skill and capital. But we did not profess that free trade in corn was a sort of alchemy that was to discover the philosopher's stone, or cure all diseases; we never said so. Our opponents have said that of us, to try and make us ridiculous. We never said that free trade in corn would prevent the evils that follow excessive speculation in railways. (Cheers.) There is a sore place in almost every far-fetched counting-house, arising from these railway speculations. (Cheers.) We never said that free trade in corn would prevent the evils that follow excessive speculation in railways. (Cheers.) There is a sore place in almost every far-fetched counting-house, arising from these railway speculations. (Cheers.) We never said that free trade in corn would prevent the evils that follow excessive speculation in railways. (Cheers.) There is a sore place in almost every far-fetched counting-house, arising from these railway speculations. (Cheers.)

not to impose an 8s. or 10s. duty. (Cheers.) When I see the farmers getting up a row in South Hampshire, and carrying down a Mr. Shaw to be more prominent than the squires themselves in clamouring for Protection, I pity them; they are positively past all hope of salvation. (Cheers.) The farmers are a class of the most dependent, politically, on the face of the earth. They every now and then burst into a sort of saturnalia. These political bondmen—they mean nothing—it ends in nothing. The landlord is merely asked to go to his acre and say, "Tell all the farmers on such an estate they must vote for such a man"—and they do it. The whole thing is effected by a wink or a nod. It requires no noise. Besides, the farmers form a very small portion of the electors even in a county. We have a return before Parliament of the different kinds of qualifications; and in the most rural, the proportion of occupying tenants is about one-eighth or one-seventh, and in Lancashire, not more than one-tenth. To set up for themselves, without the middle class, is the most hopeless, helpless, childish thing that human beings could resort to. If they want a reduction of taxation, we will help them to obtain it. (Cheers.) My friend Bright (cheers) has proposed to get rid of the Game Laws for them. But they don't help him much. I don't see anything like the Game Laws ever again. The few men that will support Mr. Bright will be the Free Traders; they are the only friends the farmers have in the House of Commons. (Cheers.) You know what my motion about retrenchment is. It is a very simple case. I put it before Parliament, and I was sorry you found your representative in so small a minority. But I beg you distinctly to understand that I was in good company. (Cheers.) I had Lancashire with me—I had the metropolis with me—I had Edinburgh and Glasgow with me—I had Middlesex with me. Of all the large towns, only Liverpool—"a strange anomaly," seeing that financial reform commenced there, in Manchester, a peculiarly situated (a laugh), plumped against me. (Cheers.) Sheffield voted against me under peculiar circumstances, which you will understand; but that won't occur again. (Cheers.) I am very anxious that you in the West Riding should understand this, and if you will take the trouble to analyze the places whence my supporters came, you will find that enlightened and free public opinion was with me on that motion, as certainly as it ever was with Mr. Villiers before Sir R. Peel took up free trade in corn; and I may boldly say that I never expected to be in a majority in reducing our expenditure to the standard of 1835. Government will take care of that, as they did on the Corn Laws; they will do the work themselves. (Cheers.) If we were in the majority, the Queen would have to send for us (cheers), and that would not suit them. (Cheers.) Some Government must do it for us. To be sure, our right hon. friend and neighbour, Sir Charles Wood, has only made a beginning—that is his policy. It is intended only as an encouragement for us to go on. Perhaps he could not do more this time, but it is quite plain what he means if you persevere, especially in the West Riding. A great deal more will be done next year, and it will be all done at once. (Loud cheers.) What I proposed was to go back as speedily as possible to the expenditure of 1835. No answer was given to the facts I stated, viz. that the successive increases of our expenditure for armaments had all been occasioned by special circumstances, which have all passed away. (Cheers.) I stated other changes, which I hope will engage the attention of the West Riding. I want to enlist you in two or three practical questions, but which our opponents will call Utopias. (Cheers.) Utopias? The West Riding has a knack of making Utopias realities. (Cheers.) The West Riding made Utopias realities for the abolition of the slave-trade a reality. (Cheers.) The West Riding made Utopias realities for the abolition of slavery a reality. You made what was called madness in 1839 reality in 1840. (Cheers.) I want you to take up my other Utopias. (Cheers.) One of them is to reduce the expenditure by means which seem to follow naturally out of our Free Trade struggle. I want you to raise the cry for colonial reform. (Cheers.) Depend on it, you are as much interested in carrying out reform in our colonial system as the colonies themselves, or as you are in your own municipal affairs, because it is only by the reform of your colonial system that you can ever hope largely to reduce your present expenditure, or be in a position to undertake any other reform, or to reduce your own expenditure on any accidental cause that may arise. You may have another war in Caffraria or New Zealand. We must have our colonies put in a totally different position; we must raise the cry of "self-government for the colonies." Don't give a feeble response to that, under the idea, industriously spread abroad, that something tending to a dismemberment of the empire is involved in giving your colonial fellow-subjects self-government. As Englishmen they are entitled to it. If you don't separate yourselves from the dominant class—if there is a dominant class, for it is hardly fashionable to say there is—(Cheers)—if you don't separate yourselves from the dominant class, you are bound to give them self-government, for their younger sons, and that the aristocracy may nominate the government, you will have wars without end with your colonial fellow-subjects. English people, whether in North America, at the Cape of Good Hope, in New Zealand, in Australia, or in the West Riding of Yorkshire, will govern themselves. (Cheers.) You cannot take up a newspaper from any point of the compass without meeting complaints in every direction. I do not wish to be thought attacking the noble Lord at the head of the Colonial Office. I do not attack Earl Grey. I have a high respect for his personal honour, and for his moral courage and independence. He was one of the first that boldly advocated our principles of Free Trade. (Cheers.) Some of you recollect he abandoned office rather than lend himself to compromise on the slavery question. (Cheers.) Such a man is entitled to our respect. I make no charge against Mr. Hawes, a man of business from amongst ourselves, who industriously and honourably fills an office under Government. What I do find fault with, is that men should allow themselves to be put into an office to do impossibilities; it would require omnipotence and omnipresence almost to be able from a street in London to govern more than 40 dependent colonies in every latitude. Suppose we had to send up to Sir George Grey to have his authority for everything we do in municipal affairs, would we tolerate such a thing? And yet we have railway transit that performs the distance between this and London in six hours; and by the telegraph, that will communicate with the metropolis in a minute, you can talk with the Home Office; and yet you would not tolerate its interference in Wakefield, Leeds, or Manchester. How, then, do you think that in Downing-street they can govern the people of New Zealand and Australia? Before they can exchange communications, ten to one the object of those communications will have passed away. It is utterly absurd; and it is impossible, for the interest of the colonies, with the inalienable right of Englishmen and the rights of our own interest, that they should be kept in a state of pupillage any longer. If the colonies require our soldiers as a police, they must pay for it; they must pay every farthing required for their own defence and their own government; nor would they grumble to do so if we only gave them self-government. No doubt, I hear Lord John Russell meets Sir William Molesworth on this subject with an objection which, with all deference and respect, has shown me more than anything else that Lord John is not quite equal to the position in which he is placed. I refer to the purely party spirit with which he treated those profound arguments and most carefully-collected facts which Sir William Molesworth and others brought forward on this subject. He said twice in fact, "You want something totally different from me; you want to dismember the empire; you want to make this great united empire a smaller empire by getting rid of your colonies one by one: you are going the right way to accomplish your object." Is it right to treat this question in such a spirit? What is Free Trade for, if it be not carried out to its legitimate ends? There are some statesmen of our days who think the only object of the Reform Bill or the abolition of the Corn Laws was to place them in power (cheers), and that when once in power they are to remain there. The country is to be satisfied that they are there. They console themselves with the belief that the country wants nothing but that they shall be there; and they are utterly incompetent, or what is the same thing in effect, they are unwilling to carry out legitimately those principles by which they have acquired power, and of which they professed to be the champions. (Cheers.) Our colonies are subjected to an enormous expenditure in order that Government may exercise the patronage. We have five colonial governors and a governor in our North American colonies, with salaries amounting to £17,000 a year, while the United States, with 30 governors, paid only £14,300; our colonies having a population of 2,000,000, and the United States, 20,000,000. (Cheers.) The last appointment made by the United States was of a Governor of California, with a salary of £600; our last appointment was the Governor of Labuan, with £2000 a year.—The hon. gentleman then urged at great length the necessity of greatly reducing our armaments, insisting on the policy of arbitration instead of war. He also urged the formation of a convention between England and France and America, to prevent the indefinite increase of our naval force, and concluded an eloquent speech by calling on his friends to attend to the registration, as the best means of carrying out their pacific economical views. He sat down amidst loud cheering.



GENOA.—FROM AN ORIGINAL SKETCH.

THE CITY OF GENOA.

The beautiful city of Genoa lies on the coast of the Mediterranean, at the foot of the Ligurian Apennines, in the recess of a wide crescent-like gulf. The town stands partly on the declivity of several hills rising in the form of a semicircle round the spacious harbour, and partly on a narrow strip of ground between them and the sea. It is inclosed on the land side by a double line of fortifications, the external one being 8 miles in length. The higher Apennines rise immediately behind, dividin the waters which run to the Mediterranean by the valleys of

Bisagno and Polcevera, from those which flow northward into the Scrivia and Bormida, two affluents of the Po. Upon the summits of these mountains, which are near enough to command Genoa, are several detached forts. The appearance of the city from the sea is truly superb. A succession of fine buildings lines the shore; palaces and gardens, churches and convents, rise on the steep sides of the hills.

Mr. Dickens, in his "Pictures from Italy," sketches "the noble bay of Genoa, with the deep blue Mediterranean; monstrous old desolate houses and palaces dotted all about; lofty hills, with their tops often hidden in the clouds, and with strong forts perched high up on their craggy sides." Again, "They who would know how beautiful the country immediately surrounding Genoa is,

should climb (in clear weather) to the top of Monte Faccio, or, at least, ride round the city walls—a feat more easily performed. No prospect can be more diversified and lovely than the changing views of the harbour, and the valley of the two rivers, the Polcevera and the Bisagno, from the heights along which the strongly-fortified walls are carried, like the Great Wall of China in little.

There lies all Genoa, in beautiful confusion, with its many churches, monasteries, and convents pointing up into the sunny sky. The fort within the walls commands that height upon the right. The broad sea lies in front there; and that line of coast, beginning by the light-house, and tapering away, a mere speck in the rosy distance, is the beautiful coast road that leads to Nice."



DINNER TO MR. COBDEN M.P., AT THE CORN EXCHANGE, WAKEFIELD.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)



SPRING.—THE COUNTRY

THE INVITATION TO THE FIELDS.

Why should we ever toil
In silence or turmoil,
To gather gold like Californian slaves?
Why should we still debate,
In melancholy state,
Knowledge abstruse to lead us to our graves?
Or dream majestic dreams,
Filling the earth with schemes
Of human happiness from our Utopian shelves,
World-wide, alas! but far too narrow
for ourselves?

Let us be young again,
And o'er the grassy plain
Gambol like children, and give Care the slip,
Forgetful of distress
And mental stateliness

Let us be young in spirit, as we trip
Beside the running brooks,
Headless of men and books,
And heart-sore Wisdom's frowns or
magisterial sighs,
Looking contemptuous down upon our
revelries.

Have we outgrown the joys
That fill'd our hearts, as boys?
And does the music of the thrushes bring
No more the young delight
That in our childhood bright
Made beautiful the mornings of the
spring?
Ripple the streams no more,
As in the days of yore?
Or are our ears so dull'd by commerce
with our kind,
That we can hear no hymns between
the trees and wind?

In our too plodding homes
We ponder over tomes,
Ledger and day-book, till we quite for-
get
That there are fields and bowers,
And river-banks and flowers,
And that we owe our languid limbs a
debt:
A debt most sweet to pay—
A needful holiday—
A brain-refreshing truce, 'mid intellec-
tual strife,
That, fought too keenly out, impai-
r the mortal life.

We do our nature wrong
Neglecting over long
The bodily joys that help to make us
wise:
The ramble up the slope
Of the high mountain cope—

The long day's walk, the vigorous exer-
cise,
The fresh, luxurious bath,
Far from the trodden path,
Or mid the ocean waves dashing with
harmless roar,
Lifting us off our feet upon the sandy
shore.

Kind heaven! there is no end
Of pleasures as we wend
Our pilgrimage on life's undeviating way
If we but know the laws
Of the Eternal Cause,
And for His glory and our good obey.
But intellectual pride
Sets half these joys aside,
And our perennial care absorbs the soul
so much,
That life burns cold and dim under its
deadening touch.

What pleasures he hath miss'd
Who struggles to exist
Amid factitious wants and luxuries
vain:
Spending his youth and prime,
As if our comrade, Time,
Were but a servitor in Mammon's
train.
And, waking up at last,
When threescore years have
pass'd,
With stiff and palsied joints, and just
enough of breath
To own how wrong he was, and pay his
court to Death.

Welcome, ye plump green meads,
Ye streams, and sighing reeds!
Welcome, ye corn-fields, waving like a
sea!
Welcome the leafy bowers,
And children gathering flowers,

And farewell, for awhile, sage drudgery
What, though we're growing old,
Our blood is not yet cold:
Come with me to the fields, thou man
of many ills,
And give thy limbs a chance among the
daffodils!

Come with me to the woods,
And let their solitudes
Re-echo to our voices as we go.
Upon thy weary brain
Let childhood come again,
Spite of thy wealth, thy learning, or
thy woe:
Stretch forth thy limbs, and leap—
Thy life has been asleep;
And though the wrinkles deep may
furrow thy pale brow,
Show me, if thou art wise, how like a
child art thou!

CHARLES MACKAY.



SPRING.—ST. JAMES'S-PARK.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

PICTURESQUE SKETCHES OF LONDON, PAST AND PRESENT.

BY THOMAS MILLER.

CHAPTER XI. THE PARKS.

THOSE who wish to witness the out-of-door pomp and pride of mighty London, must visit the Parks; for there all the array of rank, and fashion, and aristocratic beauty congregate...

St. James's Park, in the reign of Henry VIII., appears to have been nothing more than a wide space of open fields, formerly occupied by an hospital; on the site of which Hal erected a palace, and formed a park, which he enclosed with brick walls.

There are many "pretty bits" about St. James's Park, as you look up towards the pale marble arch, on which the Royal banner of England, that throws out its golden lions upon the breeze, used to float; when, seen through the opening green of the foliage, it seemed to carry back the imagination into the land of old romance and chivalry.

The Green Park possesses but little to interest us, beyond a walk beside the gardens which run up in a line with James's Park, although far behind it. But those who know the locality, will not pass without pausing to gaze at one house, conspicuous by its large bow-windows, the upper one of which is encircled by a gilt balustrade.

No stranger would ever think of entering Hyde Park without first casting a look at Apsley House, the abode of the Duke; if he did, the statue of Achilles, which seems stationed as if to point it out, would remind him where he was.

Hyde Park is mentioned as early as the reign of Edward VI., and was no doubt enclosed long before that period. During the time of the Commonwealth it was put up to auction and sold in lots, the deer alone being valued at near upon a thousand pounds.

Hyde Park was the great mustering-ground for the May-day holidays in the olden time. Cleveland, who wrote and fought in the time of the first Charles, makes mention of it in a poem entitled "May-day," which contains many beautiful lines.

Regent's Park has greater attractions than its scenery, although many portions of it are very beautiful. Here we find the Zoological Gardens and Colosseum, both important enough to deserve a separate notice in our Sketches of London. On entering the Gardens you see a beautiful terrace, which reaches from the rural dells to some distance, while below are placed the cages which contain the noble animals; and these are very commodious and airy.

The ground occupied by Regent's Park is not without its interest. The old manor house of Marylebone stood within its boundaries in former days, and had in the time of Elizabeth its park and deer.

The new Parks which are now forming around the metropolis do great credit

to Government, and will, like charity, cover a multitude of minor transgressions; for those who legislate for the benefit of posterity, must be influenced by something more noble than narrow and selfish views.

It was an "open" spot in days of yore; But something ails it now—the place is cured.

Walworth Common has vanished; and the little fairy Green before the Swan, at Stockwell, is now no more; while even Clapham Common seems in our eyes to lessen every year.

The populous solitude of bees and birds, And fairy-framed, and many-colour'd things, And all, who speak more sweet than words, And innocently open their glad wings, Fearless and full of life: the gush of springs, And all of lofty fountains, and the hum Of stirring branches; and the bud that brings The swiftest thought of beauty.

BYRON.

THE THEATRES.

HER MAJESTY'S.

Prematurely, Mdle. Lind, intitled in the portraiture of the gender heroes of the drama, is about to leave the stage. The mantle of the Queens of Lyral tragedy, which Pasta, Catalani, and Mailbran bore, is about to be dropped by the last that maintained it. We need not, therefore, feel astonished at seeing how great a sensation was created by the announcement of a new claimant, who put forward the loftiest pretensions to the inheritance.

We have left no space to describe how warmly the audience applauded Mdle. Caterina Hayes, in a series of passages of feeling, that she is most admirable—her last appeal to Oressa, her "Qui cor trahit," were fraught with natural and irresistible feeling.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.

The anxiously-expected debut of Miss Catherine Hayes, the new prima donna, the successor of Mdme. Persiani, took place on Tuesday night, in Donizetti's "Linda," with signal success. The new contralto, Mdle. Meric, also made her first appearance in this country, in the same work, as the Savoyard boy, Pierrotto, and met with the most decided success.

She has youth and beauty, besides an excellent voice and cultivated style. She is rather above the middle height, very fair, and although slender in figure, extremely graceful and easy in her deportment. Her voice is a soprano of great compass, the medium and lower portions of which are particularly rich, mellow, and sympathetic.

Mdle. Meric is very young and possessing, with one of the most magnificent voices we have ever heard. It is sweet, sonorous, and powerful, with great tractability. The first air of Pierrotto, "Carì uogni," is sung behind the scenes with a concertina accompaniment, and no sooner were the luscious tones of Mdle. Meric's voice heard, than a burst of enthusiastic encouragement emanated from the auditory; and on her coming on the stage she was cordially received.

ceived a double encore. The deep pathos with which Meric sang in this air created the greatest sensation. The two voices blended beautifully, and the cadences were executed with unerring precision by both singers.

On Thursday, "Massaniello" was repeated for the seventh time, being the first extra performance, and the house was again crowded to excess. There was, however, a disappointment in the cast—Mario, as stated in the bills at the door, having been unable to appear, from indisposition.

THE EASTER PIECES.

The entertainments provided by the managers of the different theatres for the holiday-makers, have been remarkably successful, all of them having been well received on the first evening, and performed, in spite of their elaborate machinery, without hitch or hindrance of any kind.

LYCEUM.

Once more, whilst the recollections of the little Green Dog with one ear, and his companion, May-Flv, are vivid before us, the management of this theatre, he treats us with another burlesque spectacle, mounted with all that perfection of accessory and detail which can alone now carry the notions of an audience, each day becoming more fastidious in the perception of what ought to be, into the realms of fæerie and romance.

The Seven Champions are, as might be surmised, impersonated by seven very attractive young ladies, amongst whom are Miss Kathleen Fitzwilliam, Miss Louisa Howard, Miss Marshall, and Miss De Burgh, who lately made her debut at the Olympic.

The burlesque contains more hits at passing affairs, than Mr. Planché has of late cared to favour us with. An admirable joke at M. Proudhon's theory, "Le propriété, c'est un vol," is thus made:—

All property's a theft; In fact, no one is right till night is left.

as well as we can remember it. This was eagerly seized on by the audience, as were all the others. In fact, "The Seven Champions," as a burlesque, stands beyond all question, at the head of its contemporaries, and will, as usual, live the longest, and allow Mr. H. Marshall to drag on another prolonged animal existence. It is no bad compliment to him to say that he is a "perfect beast."

PRINCESS'S.

Mr. Edwards, who comes forward for the first time as a writer of holiday extravaganzas, may be well satisfied with his debut—his "Noureddin and the Fair Persian" being an excellent piece, well constructed, smartly written, and shrewdly put upon the stage.

The representation of a conflagration on the stage being so well effected, that it was believed to be real. Many rushed from the house in terror; but an equal number had the good sense to keep their places; and, when something like order was restored again, the piece went on again, with louder applause than ever.

MARYLEBONE.

Two new pieces were put forward by the spirited manager of this theatre on Monday evening, for the entertainment of its patrons. The first was a play in five acts, called "The Heart's Trials," written by Mr. Henry Hughes, the actor at the Adelphi, and produced, as we suppose, for the purpose of furnishing Mrs. Mowatt and Mr. Davenport with two new characters.

The burlesque of "Guy Fawkes; or, a Match for a King," which followed, served to bring the whole force of the company into advantageous play, and, more especially, allowed Miss Saunders to appear to greater advantage as the hero than we have for some time seen her.

SURREY.

One of the most crowded and noisy audiences we ever remember to have seen wedged within the walls of a theatre, filled the Surrey on overflowing on Easter Monday; and kept up such a constant excitement among themselves—such a succession of squabbling, proclamations of order, and distant recognitions, that we must be excused from detailing the plot of Mr. Fitzball's new drama, "Barnard Moor," or in doing more than allude to the admirable mise en scène, which at all events we could see, and the striking and effective manner in which some of the tableaux were arranged.

of the latter lady is somewhat too refined for a transpentine audience, which looks for broad effect rather than delicate painting.

ASTLEYS. "The White Maiden of California; or, the Horse of the Ocean," is the title of the holiday equestrian spectacle at Astleys, the management deeming it proper that, somehow or another, under every circumstance—and in this case it is a shipwreck—a horse must make a principal figure.

Mdlle. Louise Tournaire—one of our most graceful equestres—has returned to Astley's, and was warmly welcomed. She is fully equal to any of the graceful trouper who have lately visited us; and we have still vivid recollections of her Esmeralda—one of the most charming "acts" ever performed on horseback.

The ADELPHI and SADLER'S WELLS were the only theatres that produced no novelties, relying upon the attractions of their present bills.

MUSIC.

GRAND CLASSICAL CONCERT AT HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE. On Thursday night the first grand Classical Concert of the series of Lind Concerts was given. The stage was arranged as for an oratorio, the chorus singers being seated on raised platforms, and the principal singers being placed in front of the foot-lights, on chairs.

The sixth concert of the Choral Harmonists was given at the London Tavern on Monday night. On Wednesday, Mr. Lucas had his third musical evening. The scheme comprised quartets—No. 1 by Spohr, op. 58; No. 3 of Beethoven—and Mozart's Clarinet Quintet, op. 103; the executants were Blagrove and Goifrie (first and second violins), Hill (tenor), Lucas (violin), Lazarus (clarinet), and W. S. Bennett (piano).

LONDON INSTITUTION. The last soirée of the season took place on Wednesday, when the Institution was attended by near eight hundred of the proprietors and literary and scientific visitors.

OPENING OF THE LOOP LINE FROM LINCOLN TO GAINSBOROUGH. On Monday this further portion of the Great Northern Railway was opened for public traffic. The line was certified by the Government Inspector last week, and on the arrival of the train from Boston at 9.15 a.m. on Monday, the first passenger train started for Gainsborough; it was well filled with passengers and gentlemen connected with the company.

CHESS.

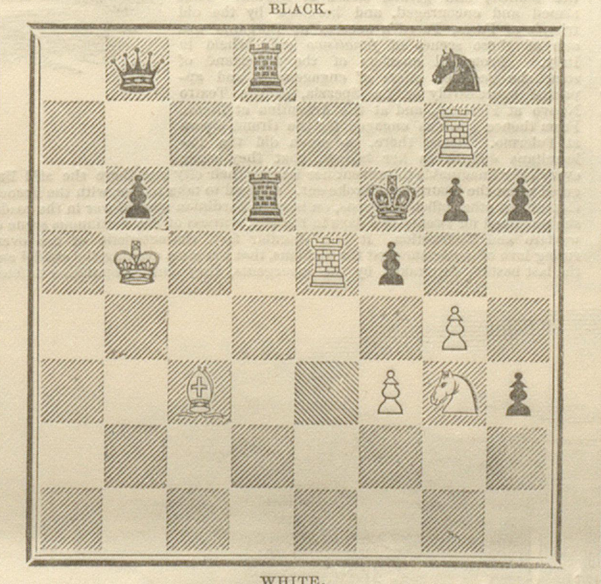
TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"F. G. R."—The Key move in Enigma 399 is—1. K Kt to K 4th. We must leave the rest to your own sagacity. "Ignoramus," Tunbridge Wells.—Obviously, because the Black Pawn could take the Pawn in passing. "J. W."—Melrose.—See the early chapters of the Chess-Player's Handbook. "Noran."—He can demand a Queen or any other Piece.

Correspondents not replied to this week will understand that the cause is our want of space.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 272. WHITE. 1. Kt to K 7th (ch) K to K 5th 4. Q to K Kt 2d (ch) K takes Kt 2. Kt to K B 5th P takes P 5. Q to K Kt 4th 3. K to KR 4th R to K 3d Mate.

PROBLEM No. 273. By M. JULIUS BREDE, of Altona. (From Mr. Staunton's forthcoming work, "The Chess-Player's Companion.")



WHITE. White to play, and mate in five moves. CHESS ENIGMAS. No. 431.—By OMICRON.

White: K at Q 6th, B at K 7th, Kt at K Kt 6th; P's at K R 5th, K B 3d, K 6th, Q 5th, and Q B 4th. Black: K at K B 4th, P at Q 2d. White to play, and mate in five moves.

MR. KLING'S CHESS PROBLEMS.—We have much pleasure in directing attention to a prospectus just issued, announcing that a collection of this author's admirable problems, to be printed in colours, and published by subscription, is now preparing.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

The past week, although not rife with important events, has been a busy one amongst the holiday-makers, who have entered into the various amusements incident to the season, with as much zest as the state of the weather would permit.

LATEST BETTING AT NEWMARKET.

Table with betting odds for various races at Newmarket, including categories like 'TWO THOUSAND GUINEAS STAKES' and 'METROPOLITAN HANDICAP'.

NEWMARKET CRAVEN MEETING.—MONDAY.

Table listing race results and bets for the Craven Meeting at Newmarket on Monday, including 'The Hinchinbrook Stakes of 100 Sovs each, h. ft.' and 'Handicap Sweepstakes of 25 Sovs each, 10 f.

WEDNESDAY. Mr. Stanley's St. Amb, 4 yrs, 7st 7lb (Chapple) 1 Duke of Bedford's Saddle, 5 yrs, 8st 9lb .. (F. Butler) 2

THURSDAY. Capt. Lowther's Piccola (Dockeray) 1 Lord Exeter's Olysses (F. Butler) 2

FRIDAY. Duke of Bedford's Quasimodo, 8st 7lb (Robinson) 1 Col. Anson's Knight Errant, 8st 3lb (F. Butler) 2

SATURDAY. Duke of Bedford's Saddle, 5 yrs, 8st 9lb (F. Butler) 1 Lord Exeter's Bishop of Romford's Cob, aged .. (Bartholomew) 2

SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE RAILWAY. This, one of the most important railway communications in the midland counties, was commenced in the month of June, 1845, and traverses a district unparalleled in agricultural and mercantile importance.



SIGNORA PARODI, AS "NORMA," AT HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.

After several other toasts had been drunk, the Mayor quitted the chair, and the meeting, which seemed to afford much gratification to every one present, broke up about seven o'clock.

The festivities of the day terminated with a Ball in the Town-Hall.

SIGNORA PARODI.

The following is an outline of the history of this young artist, the pupil and adopted daughter of Pasta, who made her *début* at Her Majesty's Theatre on Tuesday. She was born at Genoa, in 1827: her father is a retired and pensioned employé of the Sardinian Government. So early did she display natural musical gifts, that at twelve years of age she was placed by her parents at the Musical Institute at Genoa, under Maestro Celli; from which she was removed to the tuition of a professor of some celebrity in the same city, Maestro Degola. In 1844 she had exhausted the lore of these masters, and was taken by her mother to Milan, to study under Felice Ronconi. She had not been many days in the capital of Lombardy, when she happened to be heard at a private concert by the husband of Pasta, who was so struck by the resemblance of her vocal gifts to those of his renowned consort, that the following morning he hurried back to his villa at Como, to tell La Pasta that he had heard a young singer, in whom her voice and dramatic spirit were revived. Pasta repaired to Milan, to gratify the curiosity her husband had excited. Such an impression did the young musical pupil produce upon her, that she employed every means to persuade Madame Parodi to leave her daughter under her care, and return to her family at Genoa. Madame Parodi consented: Pasta took her daughter with her to her villa at Como, and from that time she became her pupil and adopted daughter. Felice Ronconi, it is true, having complained of being deprived of a pupil, from whose success he expected to derive an addition to his fame, she having been so suddenly withdrawn from him, Pasta could not resist his entreaties; but she returned with Parodi to Milan, and gave her lessons at the same time as her professor, and soon withdrew her once more to

Mlle. Parodi, who that night sang *Norma* to an immense crowd of auditors, who had assembled to hear their favourite singer, although the streets were scarcely passable with the ruins that had fallen. The advance of the Royal army soon dispelled all dreams of peace and all pursuits of pleasure.

Mlle. Parodi left Palermo to join her family once more; and, on her way, paid a visit to her adoptive mother, Pasta, at Como. There she found innumerable engagements—one, twice renewed, from Covent Garden, others from Spain, San Carlo at Naples, &c. But Mlle. Parodi refused every offer, at that time being betrothed to the Duke de S—, whose family had resisted the marriage, and whose consent reached her at that moment. Subsequently, however, the disasters of Charles Albert, and the devastation of Italy by intestine war, opposed a new obstacle to this marriage. Mlle. Parodi determined, for a time, to return to the stage, and accepted her present engagement at Her Majesty's Theatre. Mlle. Parodi is 22 years of age; of stature above the middle size, her form and features are adapted to dramatic effect. She is an energetic actress, and an impassioned singer; and, as to her voice, its resemblance to that of the never to be forgotten Pasta is singularly striking. As regards Pasta, the interest with which this resemblance inspired her, induced her to write to her pupil numerous letters, which all who have had access to them have read with the deepest interest. They show how profoundly the great *prima donna* had investigated the resources of her twofold art, and how admirably she has always reasoned on its philosophy. They are written in Italian: we subjoin translated extracts:—

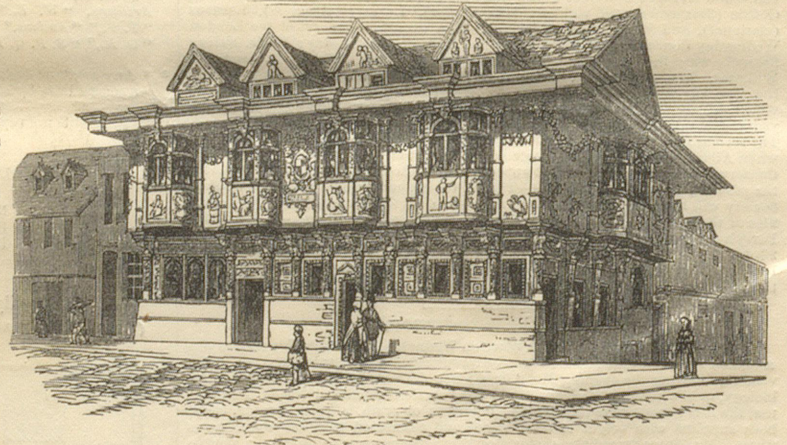
"My dear child,—I am transported with pleasure by the description given me of your most fortunate *début*. What delicious commotion you must feel in thinking of the happiness you are shedding in the minds of your good father and your family; this is the real reward which is found in our career, and truly it is a balm which falls from heaven, and leaves a remembrance the sweeter as time cannot efface it. Your successes have spread far and wide, for I have here by me the offers of engagement from Maestro Costa, Director of Covent Garden Theatre, in London; from the *impressario* of Naples and Barcelona, &c., which I keep until you arrive. Thou mayest imagine how agitated I was, were it only with thinking that you were going to England—that country which is so dear to me, which I love as my own fatherland. Oh, why am I not permitted to visit it once more before I die, and in thy company, my child? Now, I beg of thee, in thy letter, when thou hast tendered me the proofs of thy affection, to speak to me of thy progress—since, under the fostering warmth of applause, like plants in their genial natural temperament, talent develops all its beautiful energy—at least, when the soul is sound, and the mind virtuous, like thine. Such influence in you has increased the love of study, after which the inspirations are not only more beautiful and more prompt, but more truthful, and do not allow the sincere lyrical votary to fall into triviality.

"How happy I am to find that in practice, in the duo trials of the stage, thou hast adopted my precepts; that thou hast remembered that nature and truth must be of all things studied; and that thou hast been a severe judge, despising sycophancy and treacherous praise of all thou hast executed, vocally and dramatically. With what pain I have seen other young singers of greatest hope, in the hour of their maturity, fall into vocal and dramatic exaggeration—a poison which introduces itself into the whole lyrical system under the cover of false and unmerited applause, which cheats actors more readily, as it awakens all their self-love, and upsets their caution. They forget that, on the stage, as in society, it is far more important to study personal dignity, than to excite passing admiration by trickery. They abuse energy by grimace—they employ abrupt gestures and physical resources, which, if they may sometimes attract questionable and unreflecting applause, disturb the full and truthful evolution of the vocal organ—forgetting that the strongest dramatic expression can be rendered by the look, the countenance, and the hand. How deeply I feel these circumstances must be obvious, when thou rememberest that I abandoned my career, although it had been so fortunate, a few years before its natural termination, because I could not attain and reproduce those beauties and excellences which render our art truly divine. Not all the sounds and tones I could command would express the depth of sentiment, the truth of passion, which I felt. Thus many phrases remained imperfect. I suffered deeply from this, and it appeared to me as if each day I was getting more distant from perfection. Now I am consoled, for I live in thy triumphs."

NOOKS AND CORNERS OF OLD ENGLAND.

MR. SPARROWE'S HOUSE, IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.

This fine old house, one of the most striking in its picturesque appearance to be met with perhaps in England, stands in the Butter Market, Ipswich. It seems,



SPARROWE'S HOUSE, IPSWICH.

From documentary evidence, and from the date, 1567, which occurs in the interior, that the house was built in that year by George Copping, and it was purchased of him by one of the ancestors of the present occupier, in 1570. The front of the house is about seventy feet to the extreme ends; and, from the overhanging story supported by bold corbels, springing from richly ornamented pilasters, between which are sunken panels sculptured with flowers, fruit, &c., and windows, a great variety of light and shade and picturesque effect are produced. The second story has four bay windows in its front, and one looking into St. Stephens-lane; and on the front panels under the windows are carved representations of Europe, Asia, Africa, and America, with their distinctive emblems; the side panels under the windows being also filled with sculptured work. The spaces between the windows are filled with carvings representing wreaths of roses, birds, animals, flowers, and other devices. On the side of the house in St. Stephens-lane are wreaths of flowers, an Atlas supporting the globe, and a group representing a shepherd under a tree, surrounded by his flock, whilst another shepherd, hat in one hand and a crook in the other, and also having sheep around him, approaches the sitting figure. A wide projecting platform crowns the whole of the upper part of the front and ends, having a deeply moulded cornice, broken at intervals over the windows. Four attic windows, correspond to the windows below, rise from the roof; and in their gables are bas-reliefs of Cupids playing. The rooms in the house are as richly decorated with carving and devices as the exterior. One room on the first floor extends the whole length of the building, and is lighted by the five bay windows. The ceiling is divided into compartments by massive beams of oak, the compartments being enriched by carvings of wreaths of flowers; and in the corners of the ceiling are shields, having the family crests. The dining-room has beautifully carved panelling of dark oak, the fire-place having wreaths of vine and fruits, with the arms of the Sparrowes in the centre. The beams of the ceiling, the doorway, &c., as well as the panels, are all richly carved. A bedchamber on the first floor also is in the same character of sculptured decoration. In the Church of St. Laurence is the family vault of the Sparrowes, on which is the quaint inscription over the door, "*Nidus passerum*"—"a nest of sparrows"! We are happy to add that the oak carving is in fine preservation.

HAYMARKET THEATRE.

The Messrs. Brough—who can claim the somewhat novel honour of having two burlesques running together at two popular theatres—have chosen "*The Sphinx*" as their subject; and by making the great proponent of "nuts to crack" of antiquity a sort of Egyptian *Billy Black*, for ever asking riddles, and devouring the unhappy elves who fall to answer them, have thrown a capital burlesque air over the old story. It was a good notion, famously worked out; and the principal character, in the hands of Mr. Keeley, becomes a great feat. He is assisted by Mrs. Keeley, as *Mercury*, who acts, in some measure, as Chorus; and Miss P. Horton, as *Edipus*; and the fun these great artists in burlesque, aided also by Mr. James Bland, make amongst them, is first-rate. It required much ingenuity to concoct even a one-act burlesque from the materials; but nothing can go off with greater spirit. The mere absurdity of the *Sphinx's* riddles—which are not of the elaborate school, as puzzled the ancient Thebans, with respect to the animal that walked on four legs in the morning, three at noon, and two at night, but of the more homely class of "When is a door not a door?" provokes roars of laughter; and the quaint manner in which this idea is turned to account in the "tag" of the piece brings down the curtain with loud demonstrations of enjoyment and approval. Indeed, the piece was soundly applauded throughout. The dresses are very classical and effective, the make-up of the hero (for the *Sphinx* is here a "he") being perfect; the scenery admirably painted; and the

recreate his exhausted strength by visiting its agricultural portion. Indeed, he hoped to see the miner of Bilston and the artisan of Wednesbury with as ruddy faces as the peasantry living upon Cannock Chase. (Applause.) Indeed, this county, where every article of iron was manufactured, from a cannon-ball to a half-inch nail, might be deemed the California of England—(applause)—and all it needed was the means of sending forth its productions, which this railway would greatly afford. However, he wished not to run his engine past the station of discretion—(laughter)—and therefore he at once gave them the health of the Directors of the South Staffordshire Railway. (Applause.)

C. S. Forster, Esq., in acknowledging the toast, noticed that the line brought into communication the town of Burton, the city of Lichfield, and the town of Walsall, and adverted to the mutual advantages likely to arise. He also happily referred to the long-neglected but now well-known quotation from Dr. Darwin:—

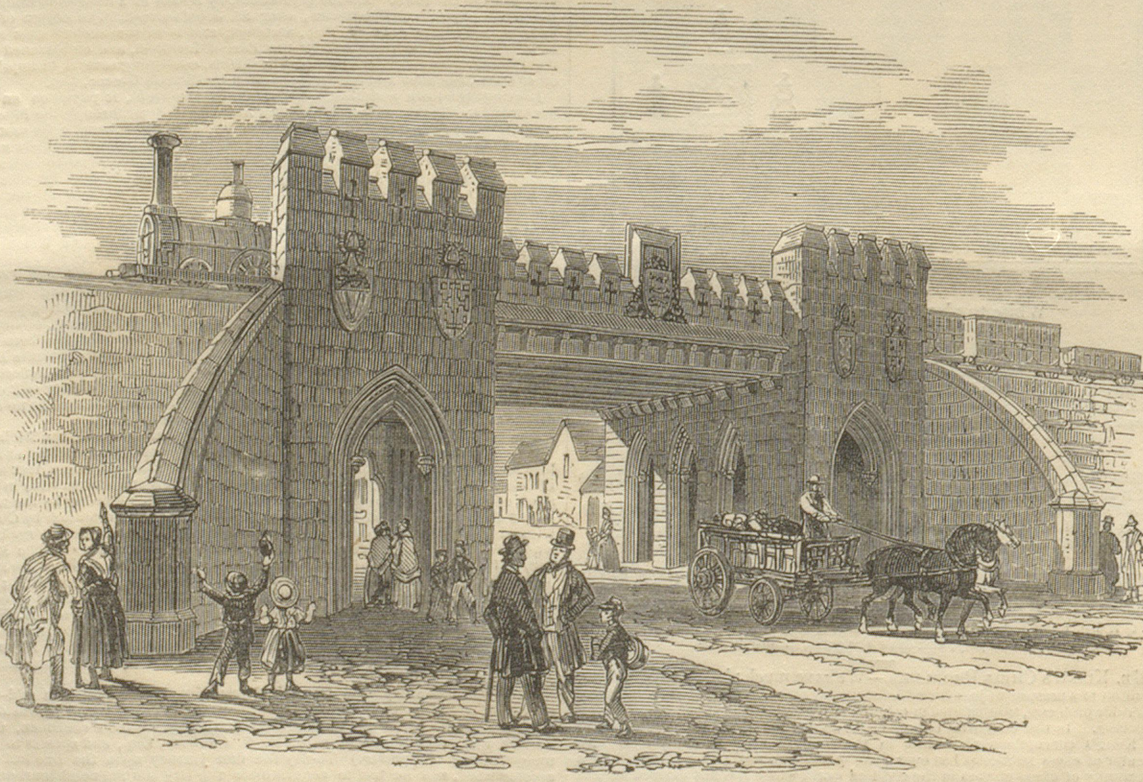
Soon shall thy arm, unconquer'd steam, afar
Drag the slow barge, or drive the rapid car;
Or on wide waving wings expanded bear
The flying chariot through the fields of air;

and remarked, that, with a degree of prescience truly wonderful, the Lichfield poet had ventured upon a prediction which was now fulfilled, and that within the walls of his own city, to the very letter. (Applause.)

The Chairman then proposed the "Members for South Staffordshire;" for which Lord Lewisham returned thanks, and concluded by proposing the health of the excellent chairman, the Mayor of Lichfield, which was drunk with three times three. The "Member for the City of Lichfield," the "Health of Earl Talbot," and the "Corporation of the City of Lichfield," were the next toasts.

Captain Dyott, after noticing at some length the advantages likely to arise to the district through which the railway passed, and stating that, unlike the Trent Valley, which owed its parentage to Manchester, and was brought to a birth by a celebrated nurse at Tamworth, who turned the first sod, the present line owed its existence to local patronage and support, proposed the health of Messrs. Maclean and Stileman, the engineers, and the officers of the company. (Applause.)

Como, where she remained a whole year, without returning to Milan. The young Parodi, who has four brothers and three sisters, anxious to contribute as soon as possible to the support of her father and mother, with their numerous family, determined to appear on the stage at the first opportunity. The *Fiera di Bergamo*, one of those united festivals of commerce and of music so peculiar to Italy, presented her the first opportunity of *début*; and Pasta, finding she could not prevent the departure of her adopted daughter, and retained at home by her domestic duties, on her leaving, conferred upon her all the ornaments she had worn when acting the fictive queens of lyrical tragedy—the tiara, zone, and girdle of *Medea*; the crown, the mantle, and golden sickle of *Norma*. Thus armed and encouraged, and heralded by the old friends of Pasta, Parodi's success at Bergamo was one of those scenes of *fanatismo* only beheld in Italy. From all quarters of the fatherland of song she received offers of engagement, and appeared successively at La Spezia, at the Teatro Nuovo at Florence, and at the Argentina at Rome. From thence she was engaged for the Grand Opera at Palermo. Once there, so much did the Palermitans delight in her talents, that they made every offer imaginable to prevent her leaving their city and there she still lingered when the insurrection broke out. Obligated to take refuge, with the French Consul and other official persons, on board a Sardinian man-of-war in the roads, she remained for twenty-two days in the bay, witness of the continuous scene of warfare and destruction. It is a singular fact, characteristic of the overruling love of music amongst the Sicilians, that the same evening the citadel and the last bastion were taken by the insurgents, they sent a deputation to fetch



THE SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE RAILWAY.—BRIDGE ACROSS ST. JOHN'S-STREET, LICHFIELD.



SCENE FROM "THE HOP-PICKERS," AT THE ADELPHI THEATRE.

rapid hits at topics of the day, showers of puns, and selection of popular music exceedingly clever. To say that it was performed to the top of the tree is scarcely necessary. The present cast at the Haymarket includes certainly the best burlesque performers we have upon the stage. The extravaganza was announced for repetition every evening amidst unqualified applause; and the authors, being loudly called for, had to appear before the curtain to acknowledge the compliment thus paid to them by a crowded audience. They can take their places amongst the first burlesque writers of the day.

Our illustration portrays an incident in the fourth scene, where *Edipus* enters at the head of a body of peasantry, whom he has armed against the *Sphinx*. The *King* is alarmed at the warlike "demonstration;" but *Edipus* quiets his fears by assuring him that his "agitation" has been a peaceable one; and thus parodies in mock heroic style—such as Miss Horton alone can accomplish—the "Death of Nelson:"—

"'Twas in Trafalgar-square,
(You've seen the fountains there
This morn at half-past ten,
I a meeting did convoke;
For half an hour I spoke,
Unto these gentlemen.
I roused their pluck, and made them brave,
Three cheers the gallant Thebans gave,
And thought my speech a beauty,
To fight the *Sphinx*; then off we ran;
And I expect that every man,
This day will do his duty."

This hit at one of the great events of 1848 was highly enjoyed by the audience and was re-demanded.

ADELPHI THEATRE.

The continued success of "The Hop-Pickers," and the farce of "Who Lives at No. 9?" rendered unnecessary the production of any Easter novelty; the manager wisely resolving to let well alone. The only change is the reproduction of the "Enchanted Isle," the raucousness of which is as heartily relished as ever.

"The Hop-Pickers" is a genuine Adelphi drama, with many excellent situations and incidents, very neatly put together; and its success is well merited by author, actors, and those concerned in producing the piece.

We have engraved the closing scene of the first act. In the centre of the picture, *Vivian* (Madame Celeste), has recognised in *Hester Leyton* (Miss Woolgar) her long-lost sister; while *Brian Callum* (Mr. O. Smith), a returned convict, discovers in *Maurice Gavelling* (Mr. H. Hughes) the proprietor of the hop-grounds, and guardian of *Hester*, a former companion at the hulks, who, having escaped, has assumed respectability. On the opposite side, *Restless Wriggle* (Mr. Wright), who has joined the hop-picking party, is expressing his envy at the recognition and wishing he also could find a sister as affectionate. The other characters are the party of hop-pickers, who are making merry on the occasion; some of the groupings, by the way, are very picturesque. The scene, painted by Pitt

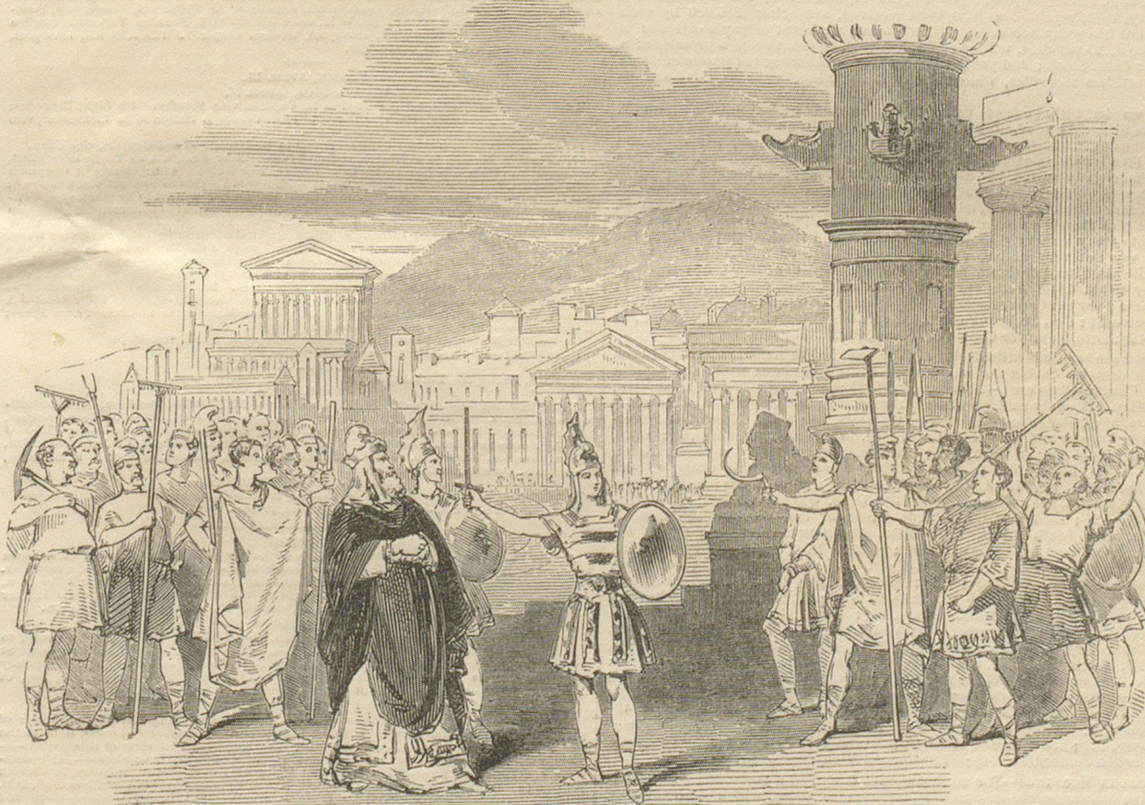
and Johnstone, is remarkably real and effective, reminding one of what appears but to have been of late years admitted by travellers—that the hop-grounds of Kent exceed in luxuriant beauty the boasted vineyards of "the sunny South."

ROMAN ANTIQUITIES AT HEADINGTON, NEAR OXFORD. The remains of a Roman Villa, &c., which have recently been discovered near the above place, by Mr. Llewellyn Jewitt, local member of council of the British

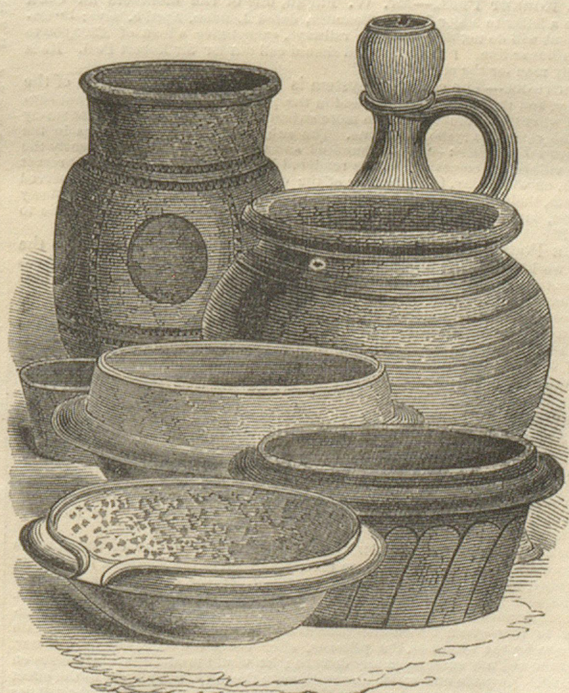


ROMAN POTTERY FOUND AT HEADINGTON, NEAR OXFORD.

Archaeological Association, are situated at a distance of about three-quarters of a mile to the west of the Roman road leading from Alcester to Dorchester; and the foundations at present excavated lie in the two parishes of Headington and

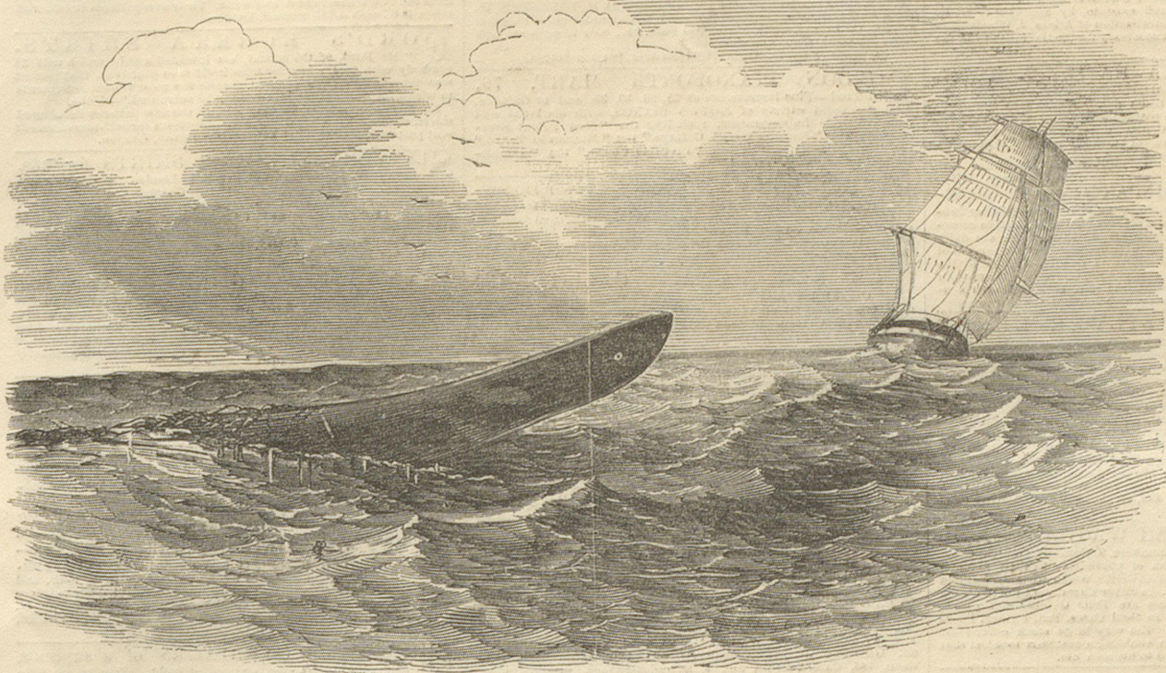


SCENE FROM THE NEW EXTRAVAGANZA OF "THE SPHINX," AT THE HAYMARKET THEATRE.



ROMAN POTTERY FOUND AT HEADINGTON.

Elsfield. From the earthworks and foundations the remains appear to be of considerable extent; and in the partial excavations which have at present been carried on, some massive walls of solid masonry, a small bath lined with a reddish-coloured plaster, and a room measuring fourteen feet by ten feet six inches, likewise plastered, and having a concrete floor, have been laid bare, and many interesting relics brought to light. Amongst these are a beautiful little globular



SUPPOSED APPEARANCE OF THE GREAT SEA-SERPENT, FROM H. M. S. "PLUMPER," SKETCHED BY AN OFFICER ON BOARD.

THE GREAT SEA SERPENT.

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)
H.M.S. Plumper, Portsmouth Harbour, April 10, 1849.

NOT having seen a sketch of the extraordinary creature we passed between England and Lisbon, and being requested by several gentlemen to send you the rough one I made at the time, I shall feel much obliged by your giving it publicity in your instructive and amusing columns.

On the morning of the 31st December, 1848, in lat. 41° 13' N., and long. 12° 31' W., being nearly due west of Oporto, I saw a long black creature with a sharp head, moving slowly, I should think about two knots, through the water, in the north-westerly direction, there being a fresh breeze at the time, and some sea on. I could not ascertain its exact length, but its back was about twenty feet if not more above water; and its head, as near as I could judge, from six to eight. I had not time to make a closer observation, as the ship was going six knots through the water, her head E. half S., and wind S.S.E. The creature moved across our wake towards a merchant barque on our lee-quarter, and on the port tack. I was in hopes she would have seen it also. The officers and men who saw it, and who have served in parts of the world adjacent to whale and seal fisheries, and have seen them in the water, declare they have never seen nor heard of any creature bearing the slightest resemblance to the one we saw. There was something on its back that appeared like a mane, and, as it moved through the water, kept washing about; but before I could examine it more closely, it was too far astern.—I remain, yours very truly,

A NAVAL OFFICER.

[We have engraved our Correspondent's sketch, which coincides with one forwarded to the Lords of the Admiralty previous to the return of H.M.S. Plumper.—ED.]

ELIZA CHESTNEY.

THE excellent conduct of Eliza Chestney in aiding the ends of justice at the trial of Rush, the murderer, has called forth a simultaneous expression of sym-

pathy for her suffering, and admiration of her heroic fidelity, from many of our contemporaries, and more emphatically by the Norwich Journals.

The Norwich Mercury says:—"This most faithful and courageous woman, an example to all classes, and particularly to those of her own class, had, we understand, felt a proper desire to give her testimony without regard to her own personal safety. However this feeling could not be otherwise than respected, its indulgence of course depended upon her state. Fortunately, that state was sufficiently satisfactory to enable her medical attendant to permit her to give evidence, and a bed was constructed, to be carried by men in a manner similar to that of a sedan chair with a canopy and curtains. On Wednesday afternoon the wounded girl left that hall, the scene of so much guilt and so much mourning, for Norwich. In this palanquin she was carried by two men, with relays at certain places, and at every forty yards a slight stop was made, for the double purpose of rest to the carriers and for the convenience of the patient. A body of county police accompanied the invalid, and at Hartford-bridge the cortege was met by a large body of city police, under the direction of Mr. Yarington, in case any rash persons should have collected. These formed a line ahead and behind the county police, who marched at the side and directly across the road at a distance from the main body, and thus prevented any evil from eager curiosity or improper conduct. Thus did Eliza Chestney enter Norwich to aid in the great purposes of legal and moral justice. Its effect upon those who saw this peculiarly interesting procession—and we have heard several speak of it, women both of high and low position—was the same; a sensation of faintness, but also of deep feeling, almost amounting to silent prayer for the safety of one whose devotedness to her mistress more than amply compensated for, if it cannot hide, the shame which attaches to the county for the great guilt of the perpetrator. Thus passed the procession to the house of Mrs. Watson, opposite the Shire-hall, where rooms had been secured—a procession which long will be remembered, and would be no uninteresting—a procession which long will be remembered, and would be no uninteresting—a procession which long will be remembered, and would be no uninteresting—

A Norwich artist has sketched for our Journal this touching scene. We are gratified to learn from the Norfolk Chronicle that it is proposed by several of the inhabitants of the county to mark their respect for Eliza Chestney by raising for her a subscription, to be opened at Messrs. Guineys and Co.'s, and Messrs. Harveys and Hudson's, bankers, Norwich. The money will be invested in the names of the Earl of Leicester, Lord Wodehouse, and Mr. T. B. Proctor, who have consented to act as trustees. The following are among the names already received:—Earl of Leicester, £10; Hon. Edward Coke, £5; Mr. W. Bagge, M.P., £5; Lord Huntingfield, £2; the Bishop of Norwich, £10; the Dean, £3; Lord Hastings, £5; Mr. Berney Petre, £3; Sir W. B. Proctor, Bart., £2; Lord Wodehouse, £5; Earl of Orford, £5; Earl Cadogan, £5; Mr. William Burroughes, £2; Colonel H. Fitzroy, £2; Sir H. Durrant, £2; Rev. Caion Wodehouse, £2; Sir John Boileau, £5; the Mayor of Norwich, £2; Mr. T. B.



ELIZA CHESTNEY CARRIED ON A LITTER TO THE COURT-HOUSE AT NORWICH, AT THE RECENT TRIAL OF RUSH.

Proctor, £3; Sir Jacob Preston, £4. Her Majesty has intimated her intention of lending her assistance to the unfortunate girl, and has directed a communication to be forwarded to the county magistrates, requesting to be informed how her Majesty's pleasure may be most effectually carried into operation.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

FREDERICK HAYES WHYMPER, of Trinity College, has been elected to one of the Classical Scholarships founded by Lord Craven. The electors stated that William Owen, of St. John's College, acquitted himself in such a manner as to be deserving of special commendation.

THE ADAMS PRIZE.—The fund raised by several members of St. John's College, for the purpose of founding a prize, to be called the Adams' Prize, has been accepted by the University. The prize is to be given for an Essay on some subject of Pure Mathematics, Astronomy, or other branch of Natural Philosophy. It will be given once in two years, and is open to the competition of all persons who have at any time been admitted to a degree in this University. The Examiners give notice that the subject for the first Prize is—"The theory of the long inequality of Uranus and Neptune, depending on the near commensurability of their mean motions." The essays must be sent in to the Vice-Chancellor on or before the 1st of July, 1850. The successful candidate will receive about £130. He is required to print the Essay at his own expense, and to present a copy to the University Library, to the Library of St. John's College, and to each of the four Examiners.

B.A. EXAMINATION, 1851.—Notice has been given, that, in addition to the fixed subjects for examination for the degree of B.A., the following are selected for the year 1851:—1. The last fourteen chapters of the Acts of the Apostles. 2. St. Paul's Second Epistle to the Corinthians. 3. "Medea" of Euripides. 4. Forty-fourth book of Livy. 5. The first and second books, and the first and second parts of the third book of Paley's "Moral Philosophy." TYRWITT'S HEBREW SCHOLARSHIPS.—The examination for these Scholarships will take place on the second Wednesday in May next.

SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING CHRISTIAN KNOWLEDGE.—The next general meeting of the society will be held on Tuesday, the 17th inst.

SOCIETY FOR THE PROPAGATION OF THE GOSPEL IN FOREIGN PARTS.—The one hundred and forty-eighth anniversary of the society will be celebrated in St. Paul's Cathedral, on Monday, the 21st of May. Divine service will commence at half-past three o'clock. The sermon will be preached by the Bishop of Lichfield.

ETON.—The following is the result of the examination for the New-castle Scholarship:—1. Lewis (Scholar); 2. Freemantle, ma. (Medallist); 3. Herbert.

BISHOP OF PRINCE RUPERT'S LAND.—The Rev. David Anderson, formerly Vice-Principal of St. Bees' College, has been appointed to the newly created Bishopric of Prince Rupert's Land, including the whole territory of the Hudson's Bay Company.

The Reverend Richard H. Podmore, M.A., of Trinity College, Cambridge, has been appointed Chaplain Priest in the church at Ottery St. Mary, Devon.

THE ROYAL HOSPITALS.—On Monday, the Lord Bishop of Lichfield preached the first 'Spital sermon at Christ Church, Newgate-street; and on Tuesday last, the Rev. S. R. Cattle, Chaplain to the Lord Mayor, preached the second sermon before the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, the Aldermen, and Sheriffs of London and Middlesex. A beautiful Easter anthem was sung on both occasions by the boys of Christ Hospital.

THE PRUSSIANS AND THE DANES AT LEITH.—On Thursday evening (last week) a skirmish took place between the Danish and Prussian sailors connected with the vessels at present in Leith Docks belonging to those two countries. The colours were pulled down from one of the Prussian vessels, and, but for the prompt and effectual interference of the police, it is probable that a serious encounter would have taken place between the belligerents, in their absurd zeal to participate in the quarrel which unhappily exists between Denmark and Prussia. Some of the most active promoters of the disturbance, says the Scotsman of Saturday, were taken into custody, and brought up before Bailie Ford, and fined in sums varying from 5s. to 20s. each. On the following night an attempt was made to renew the hostilities of the previous evening, but, by the intervention of the police and special constables, this was fortunately prevented.

THE STATE PRISONS AND NEW BARRACKS AT THE TOWER.—The celebrated Beauchamp Tower, which has for a long period been used as a mess-house for the officers of the garrison, will shortly be thrown open to the public. The Beauchamp Tower was the prison-house of the unfortunate Lady Jane Grey, the Earl of Essex, Sir William Wallace, the hero of Scotland, and at one period contained two Sovereigns as prisoners, viz. James of Scotland, and the King of France. The new and splendid barracks, which have been erected upon the site of the disastrous fire which took place some years ago, are now occupied by the men of the 2nd battalion of the Coldstream Guards. The officers' quarters are not yet completed.

AN UNFORTUNATE FAMILY.—The family of Mary Ann Staight, the poor girl for whose murder Pulley suffered the last penalty of the law, on Monday week, at Worcester gaol, has (says the Gloucester Journal) been almost destroyed by fatalities. Sarah Staight, the mother of the girl, was tossed by a cow over a hedge near the spot where her daughter was murdered, and died of the injuries she sustained. This woman had two brothers, one of whom, a game-watcher on the estates of the late Earl of Coventry, was killed at Piton by a gang of poachers some years since. Richard Staight, the other brother, was killed by a wall falling on him. The murdered girl's grandmother died three days before Pulley's execution.