

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS



No. 106, Vol. IV.]

FOR THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, MAY 11, 1844.

[SIXPENCE.]

CRIME AND ITS CAUSES.



VEN the most careless must be struck with the saddening details afforded by the police intelligence of the week. It is more than usually prolific in cases of social crime, and the misery that is too often the impelling cause of it. Poverty is at the root of much of this—depravity too must be taken into the account, and when we add to these the joint operation of ignorance, we have three causes at work, which will for ever fill our prisons with criminals, and stain our daily records with tales of misery in its most appalling shapes, and violence in its most terrible forms, in cases of murder and suicide, which, though deplorable to read, it is better that society should know and hear of, in the hope that they may excite some attempt at remedy, than that they should be passed over in silence, and in silence be forgotten.

We seldom remember a heavier catalogue of crime and depravity than has been furnished by the domestic occurrences of the last week or ten days. At the present moment the circumstances of two dreadful murders are brought before the public mind, in the trial of one wretched man at the Old Bailey, and the surrender of another whose trial yet awaits him. In both cases women were the victims; one the wife of her murderer, and the other, from what is yet known, the benefactor of the family of the man charged with the deed. Another case is yet fresh in the recollection of all, in which a woman was sentenced to death, with unnecessary cruelty, for we hope, for the sake of human nature, that the infliction of the sentence would have been an impossibility, for drowning her child in an attempt to put a period to a life of intense misery and suffering. She was driven to the verge of madness by the accidental loss of a few shillings, the slender stock on which she was endeavouring to exercise her industry. A paltry sum, that thousands would squander without even a thought, would in this case have probably saved one human life, prevented the commission of a great crime, and stopped the frenzy of one poor wretch at a point short of utter madness; but the criminal mother is now, we believe, a maniac.

A case painfully similar to the above has just occurred: a man out of work at last obtained a little employment, but having no money to get the materials, raised a few shillings by pledging his tools; but when about to purchase what he required, he discovered he had lost his little all;—the excitement and anxiety of distress became madness, or bordering upon it, and he attempted

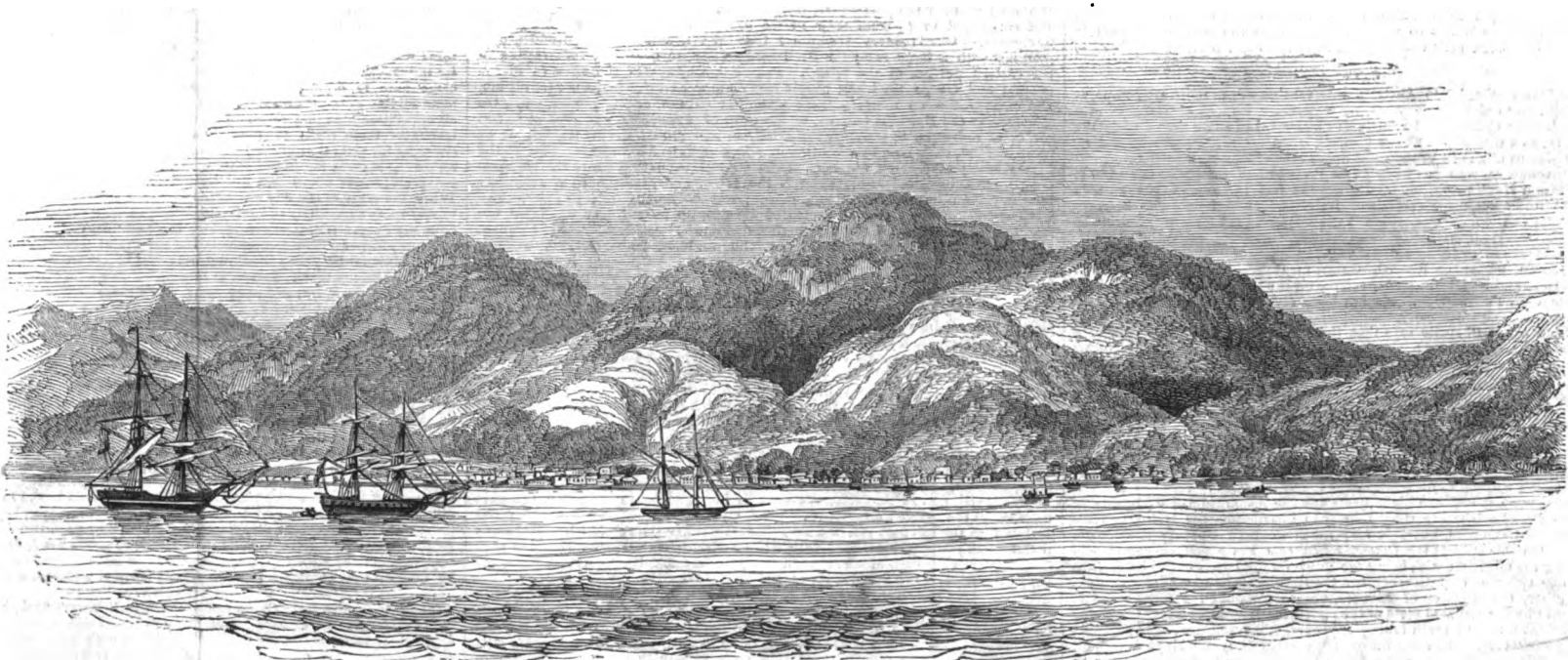
suicide. The cases are exactly parallel. They are of the class of crimes, or rather miseries, caused by the destitution of all means of living; but equal miseries are often caused by the abuse of competence. Drink is still a fertile source of crime of all kinds, and, notwithstanding the exertions of temperance and total-abstinence societies, and the improved tone of society generally in this particular, we frequently find cases of excess in this despicable propensity, the details of which are absolutely frightful. There is one given in the *Times* of Thursday that presents a terrible picture of the effects of this vice. The wife of a respectable mechanic was prevented from drowning herself from London-bridge, and her husband appeared to give an account of her when she was brought up at the Mansion-house.

The poor man drew a melancholy picture of the sufferings to which his wife's habits had for a long time exposed him. They had been married 11 years, and frequently had she during that period sold all the furniture, including the very beds, and the clothes which covered the beds. Despairing, after a great variety of experiments, of producing any improvement in her habits in this country, he determined to resign his situation, and to take her and their children to America. Thither they repaired, but the change of climate produced no alteration in those depraved habits which had inflicted so much domestic unhappiness, and he found his condition worse in the place to which he had fled as a refuge than it had been amongst those to whom he was known. He accordingly brought her back and was reinstated by his former employer; but the conduct of the wretched woman became worse and worse, and, alarmed at the example she held out to the children, he determined to let her have nothing except through the medium of the workhouse, to the authorities of which he made such allowance for her as they considered it right to demand.

Here is a case of all peace, hope, and comfort, being banished from a household where the means of enjoying all of them existed! But drunkenness is not the only vice that betrays its continual existence among us by some glaring and extreme proof of that existence; nor is crime, or the folly and profligacy that can be called little less than crime, confined to the haunts of poverty. The rich and fashionable quarter of the town has this week been startled by a visitation of the law, directed against those moral pests—the gaming-houses, which are the haunts of the wealthy fools who seem born for nothing but to be the prey of the needy sharpers. A general attack was made on several at the same time; and to ensure all the success that could spring from surprise, the police themselves were drawn out for "secret service," and not informed by their officers of what was required of them till it was impossible to give warning of the attack. In this the Commissioners exhibited a distrust of their men, which spoke more for their knowledge of, than for their confidence in, them. The caution was commendable, for, that the existence of such dens should be unknown to the police is impossible. From whatever cause arising, the utmost secrecy was observed, and the "drag-net" of the law being thus skillfully drawn, there was a large capture of loose fish, including many of the shark tribe, but the bulk of which were of the gudgeon species. When brought before the magistrate, there seemed an unusual preponderance of the

names of Jones, Smith, and Johnson, and the phenomenon is explained by the papers, which state that these plebeian names were given to save others better known, borne by men of rank and station. If these persons have any sense of shame, the present exposure will teach them their self degradation. Gaming is one of those vices, which, when the attachment to it amounts to a passion, levels all distinction; thus these aristocratic Smiths and Jones's are placed at the bar side by side with the scum and refuse of society. As the law, too long careless and slumbering, has at last interfered, we hope it will not relapse into inactivity; and if these haunts of vice cannot be utterly destroyed, let them at least continue to exist in terror and by stealth, that both their keepers and visitors may be in constant dread of the intrusion of the police, and an appearance, in their own persons, at the bar of public justice.

We are not optimists, nor have we much faith in the perfectibility of man; but the impossibility of doing all that could be desired, should not prevent us from effecting all we can. The utter want of self-control, which so many among the poorer classes exhibit, springs from their having had no moral training at all. The same deficiency exhibited among the rich, by the manner in which they abuse the blessings of fortune, arises from their having been cursed—not with the want of education—but with a bad one. Both are evils, and for neither of them do we see any attempt to provide a remedy. The poor struggle up as they can, untaught and uncared for, with no knowledge, and nearly as little religion; and, when temptations and trials beset them, they plunge into debauchery, or seek refuge in suicide. For much of the accumulation of crimes and sorrows of life, the State is accountable, by its total neglect of any provision for the education of the masses that are growing up in the midst of it. Thousands on thousands can be found to build prisons, but nothing can be spared for the schools that might render the prisons needless. The machinery of punishment is ingeniously and horribly perfect; but that for teaching, if it has not to be constructed, requires, at all events, to be put in action. If the police reports of the week were analysed carefully, with a possibility of arriving at an intimate knowledge of each case, though they are more in number, and more serious in degree, than usual, yet ignorance would in all of them be found to have had a powerful influence; and the best use that can be made of so unfortunate an accumulation of crime, is to make it a proof of the necessity of dispelling it. In currency questions and financial operations—in dealings with masses of wealth and heaps of bullion—our legislators forget the poverty that cannot help itself, deeming it, we fear, not worth helping. They may rest assured it is a grievous mistake either in men or ministers.



THE CITY OF HAYTI.

REVOLT AT HAYTI.

Papers have just been received by the Tweed steamer from the West Indies to the 9th of April, from Jamaica, announcing that "The unfortunate island of Hayti is again the theatre of insurrection. The inhabitants of what was the

Spanish part are in open revolt against the French population, which hitherto had succeeded in maintaining the dominion over the island generally, and are about to set up a republic for themselves. Whether they will be successful remains to be seen. Whatever may be the ultimate result certain it is that it will

inflict a deep and lasting injury upon that unhappy country, which years will not repair, if it does not deprive it of its independence altogether, and render it once more a dependent colony. The President has issued a proclamation, in which he tells the revolted, in very bombastic language, that 'I will come among you, so

complicated by the National Guard and all the brave soldiers who have contributed to the triumph of the revolution...

Her Majesty's Consul at Hayti has transmitted to the Governor General at Jamaica an "Arrete" of the Government of the public...

"Considering that the revolt which has just broken out in the eastern part of the republic is the result of a long and perfidious combination...

Hayti is the most fertile island in the West Indies. Its surface is nearly the extent of Ireland, and four times as large as Jamaica...

Hayti is divided into six departments. Port-au-Prince, the capital, is in the west, and is the chief seat of trade...

It is lamentable to view a fine country distracted, as Hayti is at the present moment, by civil dissension. Such, however, with few intervals...

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

SPAIN.

PARIS, May 7.

The affairs of Spain become each day more interesting, and merit the most serious attention of the public. That unhappy country is, or I am greatly mistaken...

A new Ministry has now been formed, prepared to obey, and passively follow the orders of Narvaez. It is thus composed:

- General Narvaez, President of the Council, and Minister of War. Marquis de Viduna, Minister of Foreign Affairs. Mon, Minister of Finances. Pedal, Minister of the Interior. Mayans, Minister of Justice. General Armero, Minister of Marine.

The only person of talent or respectability in the new Cabinet is M. Mon, and it is very doubtful whether he is aware of his appointment...

What Narvaez is doing in Madrid, the disaffected in Navarre and the Basque Provinces are not idle. A letter from Pampluna, dated the 30th ult., says:—"A vast conspiracy has been discovered..."

Catalonia is in a very disturbed state; the plains of Urgel and Lerida are overrun with guerrillas. Several collisions have taken place...

Messrs. Manuel Cortina, Joaquin Verdu y Peres, Juan Antonio Garnica, Manries di Benedicto, and Joaquin Garrido, accused of being accomplices in the revolt of Cartagena...

I have seen letters from Barcelona of the 2nd. They state that great fears were entertained for the tranquillity of the capital of Catalonia...

A great sensation has been created at Madrid, in consequence of the arrest of a person charged with having stolen a quantity of bills, shares, and other securities from the representative of M. Rothschild...

ITALY.

The Papal States—thanks to Austrian intervention—once more are comparatively tranquil; but order is far from being restored.

It is said that the College of Cardinals will be convoked some time during the month of May, as a Consistory, at the Vatican...

General Bustamante, who has been twice President of the Mexican republic, has returned from Naples to Rome. During the last two years he has resided alternately at Rome and other capitals of Italy...

GERMANY.

General Lieven, whom the Russian Government has already employed on several important and secret missions, arrived on the 29th of last month at Berlin, direct from St. Petersburg...

A letter from Aix-la-Chapelle says that the Baroness de Zoller, the wife of a very distinguished officer, has been condemned to five years imprisonment for having confined her mother, who was about to marry a Protestant...

FRANCE.

The King's birth-day passed over more quietly than I ever remembered. The only thing which caused some conversation, and is already forgotten...

Sixteen thousand persons, workmen, chiefs of manufactures, literary men, artists, physicians, and clergymen, have addressed to the Chamber of Deputies a petition, praying for the immediate abolition of slavery in the French colonies...

Corben: 14 houses were already destroyed, and the flames were devouring the remainder of the village.

On Friday last the electric fluid fell in the Commune of St. Jean-Robach, and caused the destruction of thirteen houses, which were burnt to ashes.

The Montpellier and Nimes Railroad is finished, and was tried on the 30th. The distance from Nimes to the gates of Montpellier was performed within an hour and a half.

The following are the number of passengers, and the amount of the receipts of the Paris railroads during the month of April:—

Table with 3 columns: Station, Passengers, Receipts. Rows include Saint Germain, Versailles (Right Bank), Ditto (Left Bank), Orleans and Corbeil, Rouen.

Several of our journals lately reported that a M. Lewski had been arrested, accused with constructing an infernal machine. This, I am positively assured, is not the case...

The National Exhibition for National Industry was opened on the 1st. I will send you full details in my next.

The Duchess of Kent continues sight-seeing, accompanied by the members of the Royal Family. Her Royal Highness will shortly leave Paris.

The races, on the 4th, on the Champ de Mars, were not so well attended as those of the preceding Sunday. The uncertainty of the weather, and the grand wakes of Versailles may be assigned as the cause for the falling off.

The Minister of Commerce Plate of 2000 francs, for horses and mares of three years old and upwards, bred in France, whose pedigree is marked on the French Stud Book, was won by Oremus, the property of M. A. Lupin.

We have nothing fresh in either the Musical or Dramatic World. M. de Brambilla continues the idol of our fashionable saloons; she has never been in finer voice than at the present moment.

The Tribunal of Bordeaux have issued a decree by which any person hissing an actor shall be fined; and if repeated, imprisoned.

AMERICA.

We have received, by the New York packet-ship Independence, Capt. Nye, New York papers of the 8th of April, the day of her sailing from that city. They do not possess any news of political importance...

The Tweed Royal Mail Company's steamer-ship, Captain R. Sharpe, arrived at Southampton on Tuesday last from the West Indies and Mexico, bringing 64 passengers and invalids.

WEST INDIES.

The Tweed brings 280,000 dollars, 55,719 of which are for the Mexican dividends. She also brings 97 serons of cochineal, 17 bales of gum, and a quantity of gold dust...

The Tweed experienced head winds the whole passage; had not this been the case she would have arrived two days earlier.

At Bermuda—Admiral Sir Charles Adam, in the Illustrious, and the Inconstant and Eurydice frigates. The Wasp, Albatross, and Ringdove were fitting out to suppress the slave trade on the coast of Africa.

The Royal mail steamer Teviot, with the lat of March mails, arrived at Kingston (Jamaica) on the 1st April.

There had been some refreshing rains in Jamaica, which would be a seasonable relief to the parched districts, although coming late for the sugar crop of the present year.

The following lamentable account of the insurrection at Hayti we copy from the Jamaica Gazette of the 8th of April:—"The French brig Adeline, Captain Tahet, arrived in this port on Saturday evening, bringing disastrous intelligence, and no less than 140 passengers, including 25 children—all persons of colour, and compelled to fly from their native land to seek refuge under the flag of foreigners."

Our readers remember that the new President, Herard, had marched with a large army for St. Domingo city, to quell the insurrection in the eastern portion of the island. Taking advantage of the absence of the general and troops, the black people rose en masse on Sunday, the 31st ultimo, and commenced an indiscriminate slaughter of the brown population.

We regret to learn that a collision has taken place between certain of the inhabitants of Hayti and her Majesty's ship Eurydice, Captain Elliot. It appears that the watering parties sent from the ship to the River Biscaion, with that disregard common to sailors, trespassed on a neighbouring estate...

The West India papers brought by the Tweed do not contain any other news of importance.

THE OVERLAND MAIL.

INDIA AND CHINA.

SCINDA.—The intelligence this month is exceedingly meagre in interest. Scinde the sickness has diminished most pleasingly, and the country is thorough peaceful. The number of troops on the Indus amounts to about 14,000...

HYDRABAD.—The number of troops at Hyderabad amount at present to 407, and of these only 467 were in hospital; of 1892 at Sukkur, 146; while at Sirkarpoore there were 1015, and only 54 in hospital. The women and sick of her Majesty's 86th arrived at Hyderabad on the 19th March, and the right wing was expected on the 21st inst.

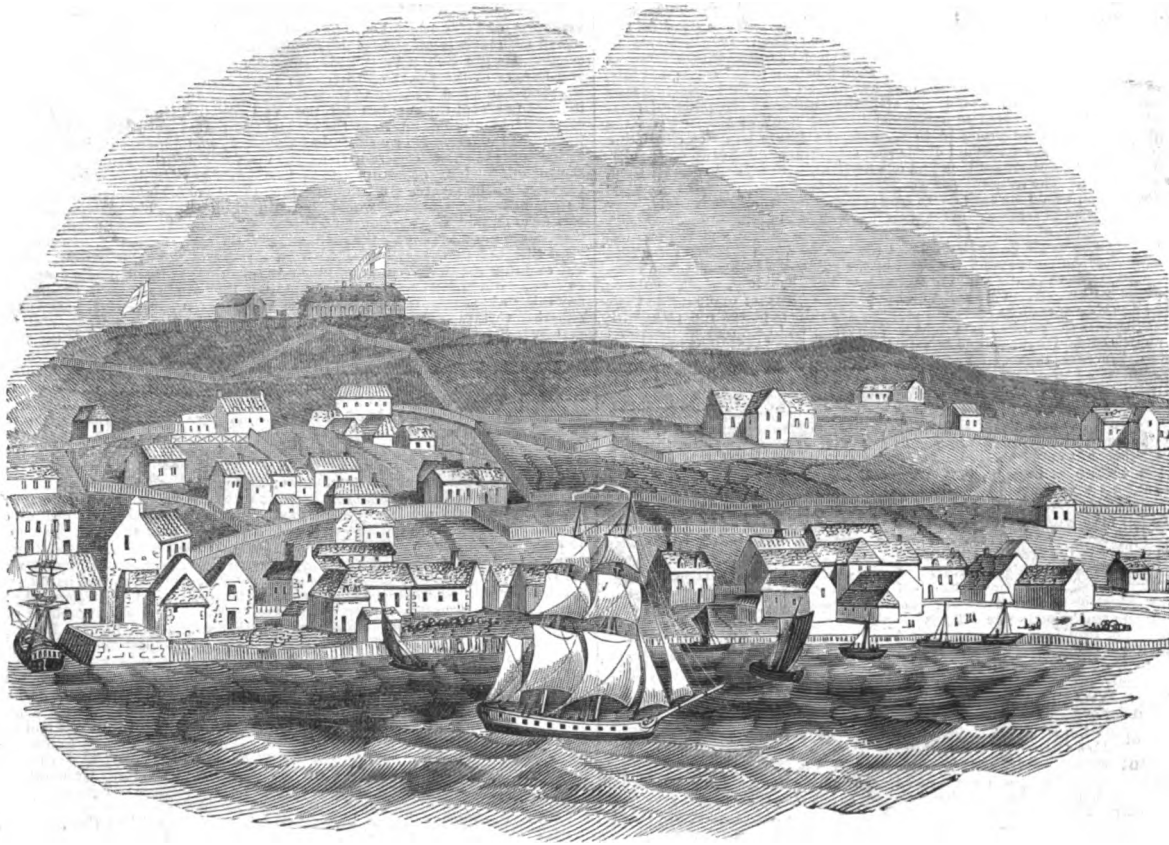
PUNJAB.—Affairs in the Punjab remain in statu quo. The extensive preparations formerly in progress either for the defence of this distracted province from the enemies within or around it, are still going on.

AFGHANISTAN.—The intelligence from Afghanistan still continues dubious. The Khan of Bokhara, having, as formerly stated, made an incursion into the province of Khiva, the Government of which he had left in the hands of his Minister, Abdool Sumud Khan, is stated to have set off immediately back to his own dominions...

GWALIOR.—In Gwalior some slight disturbances had occurred, during the celebration of the Hotee Festival, between the British soldiers and the inhabitants of the town. Eosign Thomson, of the 2nd Grenadier Regiment, was attempted to be stabbed by a Mewatte with a dagger, but without success...

CALCUTTA.—Lord Ellenborough, on his arrival in Calcutta, was presented with an address from a large number of the inhabitants, European and native, and on the 14th a ball and supper was given him by the civil members of the community, which was numerously attended.

CHINA.—The intelligence from China comes down to February 27th, but contains little of importance. At Canton scarcely any business was doing, and the high rate at which the teas were offered, in comparison with their present price in London, prevented merchants from any purchases...



ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND.

March, April, and May, are on the way from the northern shores towards the south, and cover the sea adjoining the island to a great distance. Across this stream of icebergs, it is believed that vessels sailing between England and New York will cross; and steam-vessels, in dark weather, owing to their velocity, strike on these hidden perils: in April, 1831, an American ship struck on them, and went down at midnight, with thirty-three souls on board; in the same month and year, the "Great Western" steam-ship just escaped this sea of ice; but the missing "President," is, by persons familiar with the navigation of the Atlantic, supposed to have been lost here.

The principal animals of the island are deer, beavers, dogs, and foxes; seals, cod, salmon, herring, and mackerel. The best cod-fishing grounds are on the Great Bank, 600 miles long, and the fishery is conducted from stages or platforms built along the shore. On the northern shores of Conception Bay are caught that breakfast relish, the delicate capelin, by bucketsfull. What is in England called the Newfoundland dog is comparatively rare in the island; the common dog has a thin tapering snout, a long thin tail, and short and smooth hair; he is less handsome, but more sagacious, and fishes as well as his master.

St. John's port and town are on the east side of the island. The entrance of the harbour is so narrow that two ships can hardly pass abreast with safety: it is sheltered with high rocks, and strongly fortified. The town consists of one main street, and several irregular lanes: the houses are mostly of wood, but some few are of stone or brick, and the public buildings are handsome: in 1815, 140 houses, and half a million's worth of property, were destroyed by fire. The population scarcely exceeds 10,000 in summer, but the return of the fishermen in winter increases it to 11,000. Harbour Grace, the next town in importance, has a population of 5,000. The other settlements consist chiefly of a few wooden houses. The fisheries produced, in 1836, £208,066. The inhabitants import salt provisions from Ireland and Germany, biscuit from Germany, flour and Indian corn meal from America, &c.

The government of the island was long administered by surrogate courts (captains and lieutenants of the navy), but the country has now the benefit of a representative system.

The aboriginal Red Indians of the island are believed to be now extinct; but about sixteen years since a few were in existence, and a society was formed for their civilisation. A tribe of Micmacs, however, dwell in the southern interior.

ANNIVERSARIES.

ESCAPE OF MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS FROM LOCHLEVEN CASTLE.

Every phase in the life of this ill-fated sovereign is regarded with interest, and her entire career would seem to belong to the romance of history. Neither of its strange events, however, surpasses the

escape of the imprisoned Queen from the Castle of Lochleven, an ancient fortress situate on a small island at the north-west end of the lake, in Kinross-shire, Scotland. It was once the property of the Douglasses of Lochleven, but is now a heap of ruins. Thence Mary escaped on the 2nd of May, 1568.

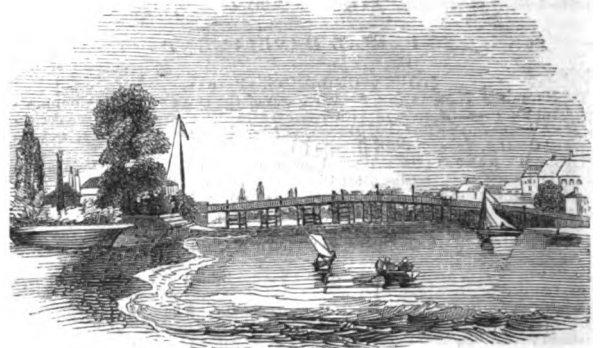
It appears that the marriage of Queen Mary with Bothwell raised the public indignation to such a pitch, that the nobles rose against them, and they fled before an armed and indignant people from fortress to fortress. At length, after they had collected some followers, a pitched battle near Carbery Hill was about to ensue, when Mary abandoned Bothwell, and threw herself on the mercy of her subjects. They conducted her first to Edinburgh, where, as she still persisted in regarding Bothwell as her husband, the nobles resolved that she should be confined during her life in the fortress of Lochleven. She was in a paroxysm of distress when Lords Ruthven and Lindsey arrived at the Palace of Holyrood to inform her that they were commanded to put in execution the order for her commitment. They charged her women to take from her all her ornaments and royal attire; and, being clothed in a mean dress, she was conveyed to the prison appointed for her. The Lords Seton, Yester, and Borthwick endeavoured to rescue her, but failed in the attempt. She was delivered over to William Douglas, the Governor of the Castle of Lochleven, who was nearly related to the Regent Morton. Here, however, Mary continued a prisoner less than twelve months, when she effected her escape by the aid of the governor's brother, George Douglas, who had become enamoured of her. On May 2, in the year above named, when her keeper was at supper with his family, George Douglas having possessed himself of the keys of the Castle, hastened to the Queen's apartment, and conducted her out of prison. Having locked the Castle gates, they entered a boat which awaited them, and being rowed across the lake, the Lord Seton received the Queen with a chosen band of horsemen in complete armour. That night he conveyed her to his house of Niddrie, in West Lothian; having rested there a few hours, she set out for Hamilton, and was soon at the head of a gallant army. The battle of Langside ensued, where she was completely routed; upon which she fled towards Galloway, and thence passed into England, hoping to secure the favour of Elizabeth. In this, however, she was mistaken; for Elizabeth contrived to detain her a captive in her dominions till Feb. 8, 1587, a period of about 19 years, when Mary was beheaded for alleged conspiracy, in Fotheringhay Castle, in the 45th year of her age.



ESCAPE OF MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS FROM LOCHLEVEN CASTLE.

BATTERSEA-BRIDGE.

This aboriginal specimen of bridge-building has just been brought into notice from its having been the scene of a terrific murder, or rather of the infliction of a wound which led to almost immediate death. It has already been given in evidence by a gentleman resident at Chelsea, that on the night of Monday, the 29th ult., about half-past ten o'clock, he passed through the toll-gate of Battersea-bridge on the Surrey side, and crossed the road to the left or upper side of the bridge, when he stood still, and looked over the top of the bridge, to see how the tide was running, it being clear moonlight. Saw no one at that moment on the bridge, but presently afterwards he saw a woman running towards him from about the top or crown of the bridge. When he first observed her, he heard her cry out, "Oh dear!" and, on seeing him she came up to him, and, laying hold of him said, "Oh dear, will you be good enough, sir, to take me to the toll-house?" Thinking that she had been drinking, he asked her what she wanted to go to the toll-house for; when she instantly replied, "Somebody has cut me." She was



BATTERSEA-BRIDGE.

then reeling, and as she looked round she saw the toll-collector, and ran off to him. He then observed that his hand had blood on it, and he immediately followed to the toll-house, and said to the toll-collector, "What is the matter with this woman?" when the toll-collector replied, "She says some one has cut her." The woman then fainted. It was dark at the time, but still light enough for him to see blood flowing from under her arm. He then examined her throat, and on doing so, exclaimed, "Good God! her throat is cut." She was then removed to the Swan, where she shortly afterwards expired. As might be expected, the bridge has since been visited by thousands of curious persons.

We may take this opportunity of stating, that Battersea-bridge was erected in the year 1771, at a cost of £20,000: it is private property, and a toll is accordingly levied upon all passengers, &c. It has been the scene of many accidents to steam-boats and small craft; for it would be difficult to design a structure more inconvenient to the navigation of the river than is this bridge—aboriginal we have termed it from its rude construction. It is a point of considerable interest to Thames anglers.

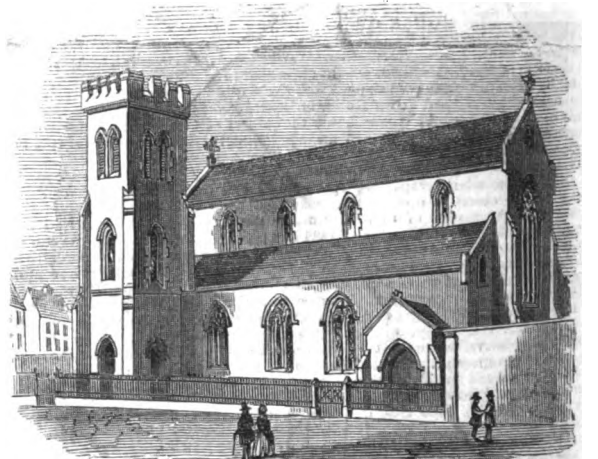
Formerly, Blackfriars and Westminster-bridges were favourite places of resort, but various causes have driven the fish up the river; and the first station is now Battersea-bridge, where good roach and dace fishing may be had, during the months of July, August, September, and October, from a boat fastened to the piles of the bridge.

CHURCHES OF THE METROPOLIS.—No. XLII.

NEW CHURCH, CHELSEA.

This neat edifice has been erected on a piece of ground adjoining the Royal Military Asylum premises; the south side of the structure facing Turk's-row; the east and west ends are at present partially obscured—on the east by the asylum wall, and on the west by some dwelling-houses, which in all probability will ere long be removed, so as to afford a much better view of the building than can at present be obtained.

The church is in the early English style, and consists of a nave and two side aisles; the clerestory walls being supported by arches springing from octagonal piers; a spacious gallery is continued round three sides of the church, and, with the seats on the ground-floor, will accommodate 850 persons; more than half of that number being free seats. The interior throughout is lofty and well proportioned.



NEW CHURCH, CHELSEA.

The tower is placed at the south-west angle, with an entrance in two sides; the lower part containing the staircase to galleries, and the upper part being occupied by the belfry; a small porch at the south-west corner forms another entrance into the church.

The church is from the design of Mr. Basevi, one of the architects of the New Conservative Club, now erecting in St. James's-street. The church has been well built of stock-bricks, with Caen stone dressings, by Mr. Freake, of Chelsea.

The expense of erection will be about £3000; to be defrayed by grants from the Church Building Commissioners, and the Incorporated Society for Building and Enlarging Churches, and by subscriptions; the Rev. Richard Burgess, Rector of Upper Chelsea, has taken a prominent part in the proceedings from the commencement. The foundation, or, more properly speaking, the first stone, was laid by the Governor of Chelsea Hospital in the early part of the spring of last year, and the edifice is now very near completion.

THE DRAWING-ROOM POLKA.

We are much gratified in being enabled to lay before our readers an accurate description of the *véritable*, or *Drawing-room Polka*, as danced at Almack's, and at the balls of the nobility and gentry in this country.

La Polka having appeared amongst us under so many different guises, we determined to spare no pains to procure a true description of its dance; for which we are indebted to Mrs. James Rae, who has been fortunate enough to secure the details from M. Coralli, fils, the instructor of the young noblesse and gentry in Paris.

La Polka, like its predecessors, the waltz and galop, is a *danse à deux*, couples following each other in the *salle de danse*, commencing at pleasure, and adopting, of the following figures, that which pleases them most at the moment. All those anxious to shine in La Polka will dance the whole of them, returning from time to time, by way of rest, to the first figure.

The measure, or time, is 2-4; but to facilitate our definition we subdivide each measure or bar into one—two—three—four; the accent on the two, &c.: to be played not so fast as the galop.

The steps are two, and the following description may, in some measure, convey them to our readers; we commence with the first and most general. At the one, hop on the right leg, lifting or doubling up your left leg at the same moment; at the two, put your left leg boldly forward on the ground; at the three, bring your right toe up to your left heel; at the four, advance your left foot a short step forward; now at the one in the next measure or bar of the time, hop on the left leg, doubling or lifting up your right leg, and so on—proceeding in this step with your arm circling your partner's waist round the room, as shown in our sketch. This may be termed the first figure.

As the change of figures and duration of each in this dance is left entirely to the cavaliers, as also the most careful guidance of his lady round the room, we must be supposed to be addressing ourselves to them in these remarks, though, at the same time, our definitions will be equally understood by their fair partners.

Figure 2. Still adopting the same step, with your right arm round your partner's waist, and her right hand in your left, you place your lady exactly before you, and back all round the room, your lady pursuing you (as shown in our

sketch); you then reverse this figure, and let your partner do the back step whilst you pursue her, and at the same time carefully guide her round the room. In backing, the leg which in figure 1 you put boldly forward on the ground, you now fling boldly backward, and are thus enabled to effect your progress round the room.

Figure 3.—With the same step you waltz round the room—in other words, you perform the galop waltz, substituting the Polka step just described.



Figure 4.—This also is a waltz with the second step, which we will now describe as the "Heel and Toe step." At the one, make a little hop on the right leg, dropping your left heel close to the right foot; at the two, another little hop on the right leg, pointing your left toe (not forward, but as close to the right foot as possible); at the three, another little hop on the right leg, advancing one step forward with the left foot; at the four, bring up the right foot, turning at the same instant, and passing your partner over to your left arm from your right arm; in the next measure return your lady to the left arm, and so on.

Figure 5.—This is termed the back waltz. The step adopted in it by yourself and partner is the back step described in figure 3; and you turn in this waltz exactly the contrary way to that in which you turn in all other waltzes—hence its name.

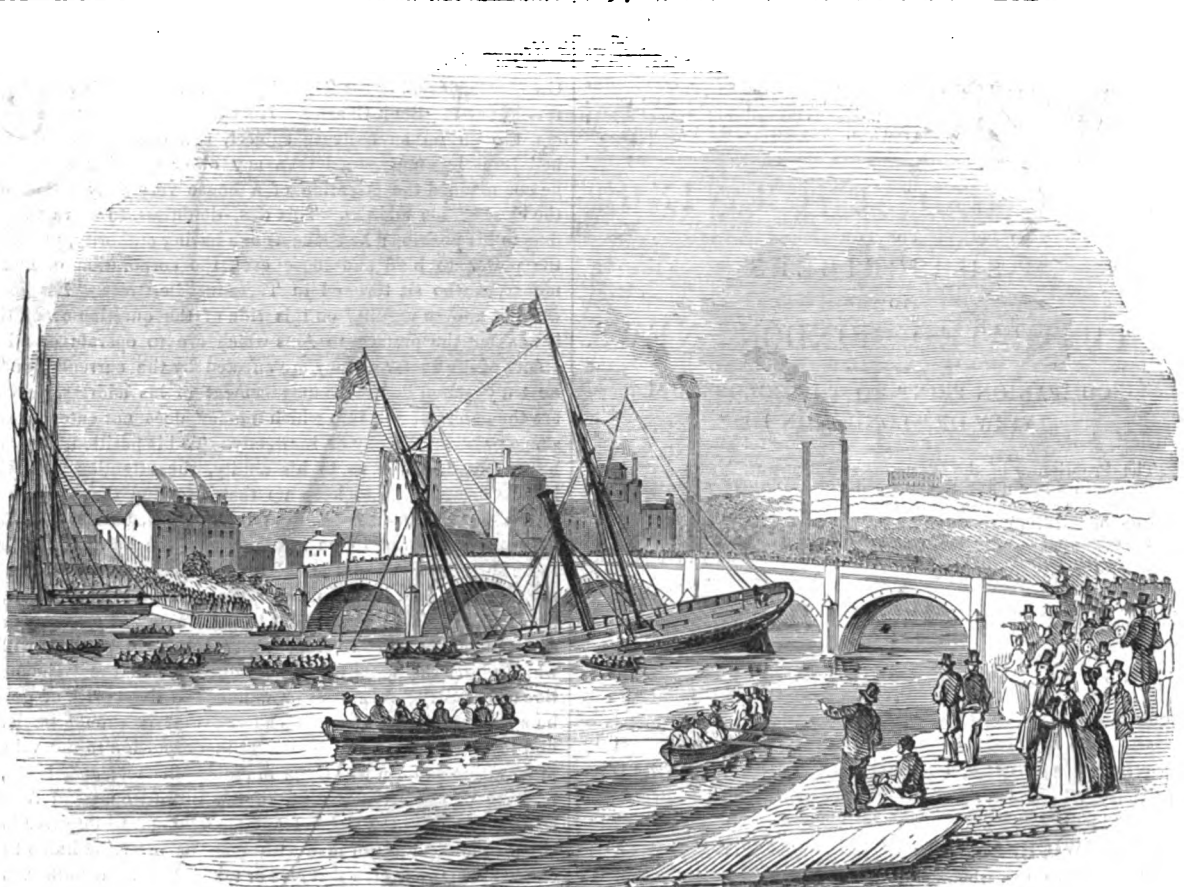


In *La Polka*, before commencing the figures we have just described, there is a short introduction (of which we give a sketch), consisting of four measures, danced thus—leading your partner from her seat, and giving her her place in the circle, and placing yourselves *vis-à-vis*, you take her left hand in your right, and make the first step four times—first forward, then backward, forward again, and then backward, taking care to gain ground in the forward steps; you then start with the first figure.

In conclusion we would observe that *La Polka* is a noiseless dance; there is no stamping of heels or toes, or kicking of legs in sharp angles forward. This may do very well at the threshold of a Bohemian *auberge*, but is inadmissible into the *salons* of London or Paris. *La Polka*, as danced in Paris, and now adopted by us, is elegant, graceful, and fascinating in the extreme; it is replete with opportunities of showing care and attention to your partner in assisting her through its performance. To our fair readers, however, we would say one word, for careful as their cavaliers may be, the front of many dresses, particularly in executing figure 3, will have much chance of being trodden upon and torn, unless the usual length is considerably shortened. This we have seen done with



much grace on one or two occasions by the transplanting of a bunch of artificial violets, with a long pin attached thereto, from the waist to the lower part of the dress, which serves to loop up to the desired shortness, and which contributes greatly to the elegance of this dance, as the feet are thus shown, which is indispensable.



WRECK OF "THE SEVERN" STEAMER, NEWPORT-BRIDGE.

WRECK OF THE "SEVERN" SCREW-STEAMER.

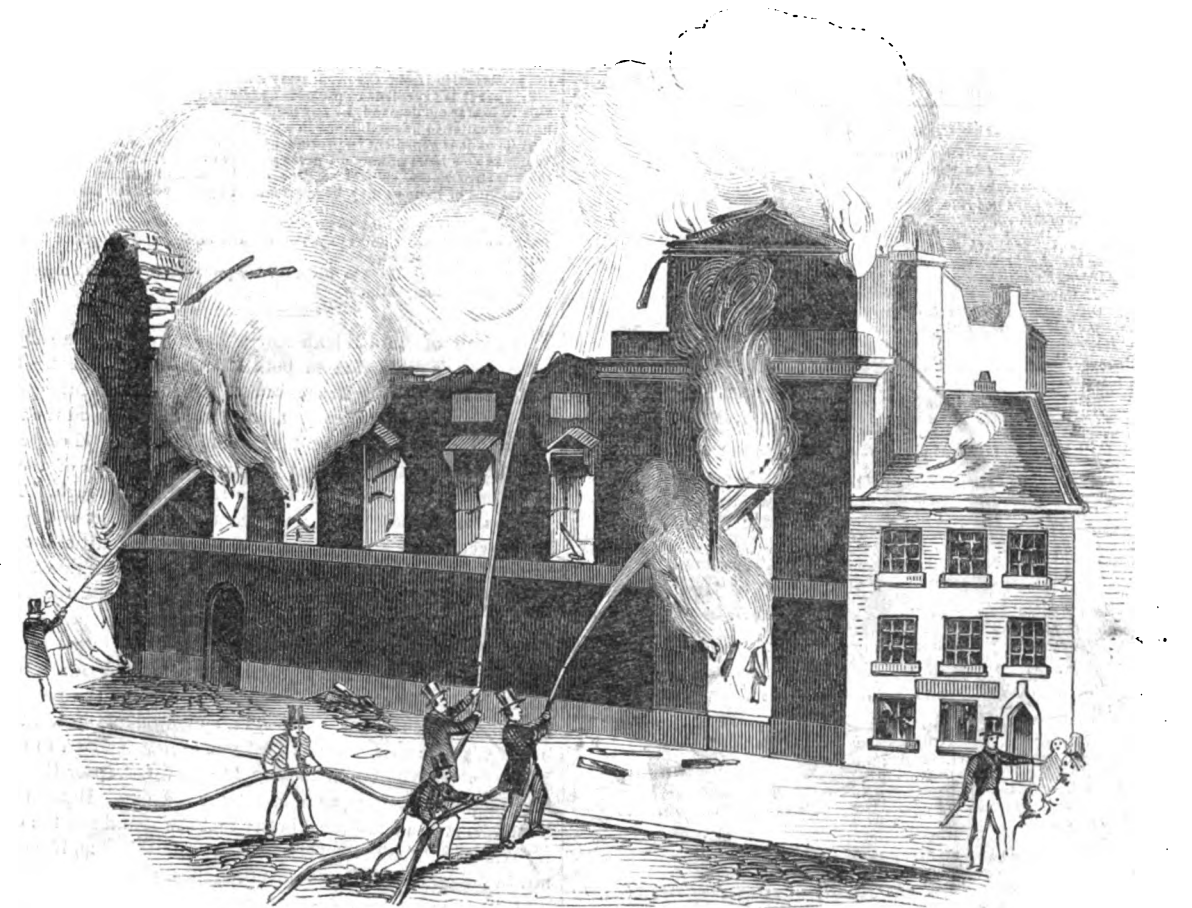
Within these few weeks two new iron steamers, the *Severn* and *Avon*, fitted with the Archimedean screw and high-pressure engines, have been started in opposition to the old line of steam-packets between Bristol and Newport, South Wales. On Saturday evening last, about a quarter to six o'clock, when about to start, the *Severn* was lying at her berth, near the Newport bridge, with her bow towards the bridge, her stern being down the river, or in the direction of Bristol. At this time the tide was running up the Newport river very strongly, at about seven knots an hour; and of course near to the bridge the current produced by the tide shooting through the arches of the bridge was much stronger. The signal for starting having been given, the captain commenced swinging the vessel round, and cast off the stern-chain, depending upon the bow-ropes and the power of the engine, for bringing her round with her head to the tide, and thus getting her under weigh. At this moment, when the order was given to back her, it was found that the screw would not revolve; the vessel immediately swung round, and, carried with the run of the tide, struck with her bow the wedgelike buttress of the bridge, and, recoiling, almost instantly struck with her side against another buttress, with such force that every one on the bridge fully expected to see her turn clean over. At this moment the scene was truly distressing—the spectators on shore, as well as their friends on board, screaming dreadfully. Boats were instantly put in requisition, and the passengers, upwards of fifty in number, were fortunately all got on shore; but not without great difficulty. The pumps were then rigged, and exertions made to save the steamer, other persons being employed in removing the luggage, &c., which was safely effected. In about an hour and a half, however, she was seen to go down, the captain and crew having only just jumped into some boats, previously to her sinking; indeed, they stayed by her so long that their boats were swamped; but the crew were fortunately picked up and rescued, though not until some of them had been drawn under the bridge, and to some distance above it.

The cause of the catastrophe is thus explained in the *Times* report, the information having been received from a gentleman connected with her engineering department, and who was on board at the time of the accident. He says that on the arrival of the *Severn* at Newport, on Saturday, it was intended to put a new screw into her; when the captain stated it to be so late upon tide, that if it were done, he should not have time to swing her round in the slack tide. The intention was then abandoned, and shortly after, while the cargo was being landed, the vessel grounded, upon which the captain, finding that she could not be swung until the next tide, the screw she was then working with was removed, and a new one put in; and this gentleman says that almost immediately up to the time of the water covering the screw all was free and everything right, for he himself turned round the screw by hand. The steam was then got up, and no

danger was apprehended. Upon the orders being given on Saturday evening, the screw was put in motion, but before it had made a single revolution it stopped, and the vessel drifted up the river. She then struck forward, but only bent the iron; the after-strain was, however, so great, that it shortly became a rent, and her fore compartment instantly filled with water (the vessel being built in watertight compartments). Every exertion was made, until the water rushing over her decks, she filled and sank, rolling heavily over. Still no cause could be assigned for the non-action of the screw; but, on the tide leaving her, a chain was discovered firmly twisted round the screw, which had thus caused her destruction. How the chain came there is a complete mystery, as all her mooring chains have since been examined, and are safe, and the captain and crew say that they had no such chain on deck. The vessel subsequently rolled over with every tide, and had a rent in her side from the deck to her keel, large enough for men to walk in and out.

The accompanying sketch is taken from the Old Company's wharf, and includes the Bridge Inn, the Bridge, and Castle—the latter now used as a brewery; the large building in course of erection upon the hill is the new *Barysaks*.

At low water, as the wreck lay dry, the owners were enabled to examine her damages. It was then discovered that she had a transverse fissure in her larboard bend, the iron plates of which were rent asunder, from two to three feet wide, and from six to seven feet long, caused by her coming in contact with the pier, and the constant friction produced by the action of the tide upon the vessel. During the whole of Saturday night, men were engaged in repairing the breach and lightening the vessel, but the tide returning on Sunday morning, carried the vessel back against the bridge, sweeping away a large portion of her bulwarks; for a few moments she righted; but such was the force of the tide, that she fell over on her larboard side, and her masts, coming in contact with the bridge, they snapped asunder, and, with her standing rigging, were carried away with the tide. During the whole of Sunday, the workmen were engaged in covering the breach with boards, and caulking every joint, stopping all the ports, scuppers, hatchways, and making every effort to get out and keep out the water on the return of the tide; a number of empty barrels were put into the hold, with a view to buoy her up; strong warps and chains were attached, and a steam-tug procured; but, notwithstanding every exertion made, the assistance of the tug-boat and fifteen stout brewery horses, such was the force of the tide, that it was found impossible to move her. On the ebb of the tide, the vessel was carried down the river forty or fifty yards, upon a hard gravelly bottom, considerably abrading her keel and bottom plates; and on the flow she was carried back to her old position against the bridge, where she now remains, on her beam-ends, a complete wreck. The vessel, it is believed, belongs to Messrs. Stothem, Slaughters, and Co., of Bristol, and was considered to be one of the finest boats leaving that port.



BURNING OF THE MANCHESTER THEATRE ROYAL.

DESTRUCTION OF THE MANCHESTER THEATRE ROYAL

BY FIRE. We regret to state that on Tuesday morning last, the extensive Theatre Royal at Manchester was totally destroyed by fire. It appears that the theatre was used on the previous evening, and was closed about the usual time. Just after the police left their beats, at a little before six, some persons going to their work

observed flames issuing from the windows, and immediately gave information to Mr. Rose, at the police-yard. That active officer immediately hurried to the spot with the *Niagara* engine, and was speedily followed by his son, Mr. Thomas Rose, with eight other engines, being the entire effective force of the Fire Brigade. Upon their arrival they found the building on a large mass of flame; they made strenuous attempts to save the place, and succeeded in preserving the dressing-

rooms and part of the wardrobe. The scenery speedily fell a sacrifice to the flames. Mr. Rose, finding it impossible to save the stage part of the building, next attempted to save the auditory, in doing which a large portion of the roof gave way, and fell upon Mr. Rose and four or five of the men, one of whom was carried to the infirmary, where he now lies in a dangerous state. At half-past seven, the building was entirely gutted, and nothing but the walls were left, as they are represented in our engraving, sketched during the conflagration. A party of military were sent from the barracks, and kept off the crowd. The building of the theatre was insured for £4000 in the Imperial, and we understand that Mr. Roxby, the manager, is insured to the extent of £600 or £700; but these amounts are far below the real loss. The origin of the fire is unknown.

SPLENDID ENGRAVING FOR THE SUBSCRIBERS TO THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS. COMPANION PRINT TO THE COLOSSEUM VIEW OF "LONDON IN 1842."

The Proprietors of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS have great pleasure in announcing the forward preparation of a most superb Engraving, as a companion to their celebrated large Print, entitled "London in 1842." In selecting this Engraving, they are convinced that the subject chosen, from its paramount interest and attraction, will meet with universal approbation. It will represent a Magnificent

PANORAMA

THE RIVER THAMES,

Showing at one view "the Royal-towered Thame;" its "forests of masts;" its crowded Docks and Port; its fleet of Steamers; its NOBLE BRIDGES, UNEQUALLED IN THE WORLD; its busy Wharfs and Quays, and the various objects of interest and beauty upon its immediate banks, including

GREENWICH, AND ITS SUPERB PALACE-HOSPITAL; and exhibiting the winding of the "Silver Thames" through the mighty mass of buildings that form the Metropolis of the Commercial World.

Showing as distinctly as in a Map, yet with beautifully picturesque effect, the several

STREETS OF THE METROPOLIS;

with the many hundred Churches, Palaces, Columns, and Arches; Government Offices, and Public Institutions, Club Houses, Noble Mansions, and Palatial Homes; embellished Street Architecture Terraces and Villas; Theatres; Railways; Parks and Public Walks; Factories and Warehouses; and, in short, a perfect Picture of the Vast Extent, Architectural Character, and Most Recent Improvement, of the

BANKS OF THIS NOBLE RIVER.

To be Engraved in the FIRST STYLE OF THE ART, From a most Elaborate Drawing made expressly for the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS; And which has occupied the Artists for several months, so that the strictest reliance may be placed on its accuracy. The entire length of the PRINT will be

UPWARDS OF EIGHT FEET! but it is impossible to enumerate one tenth of the objects. The interest of the subject cannot be surpassed, and the highest talent is employed in its execution.

Further announcements of this Magnificent Print will be duly given. 198, STRAND, April 18, 1844.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, May 12th.—5th Sunday after Easter. MONDAY, 13th.—Old May Day. TUESDAY, 14th.—Ann Boleyn born, 1504. WEDNESDAY, 15th.—Cuvier died, 1829. THURSDAY, 16th.—Ascension Day, Holy Thursday. FRIDAY, 17th.—Dr. Jenner born, 1749. SATURDAY, 18th.—Bonaparte declared Emperor, 1804.

HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGES, for the Week ending May 18.

Table with 7 columns (Monday to Saturday) and 2 rows of high water times (h. m. and a. m.)

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

- "M. H. F. D." cannot be "A Constant Reader," else he would have seen our account of Carisbrooke Castle, Isle of Wight, in No. 39 of our journal. "W. B."—We have not room for the details of Payne's Process for the Metallization of Wood. "Φιλομαθης"—is thanked. Our correspondent, A. L. K., wished to ascertain the best Latin Grammar. "Alfred."—The cemetery is open to the public daily. "Ecnar." Cambridge.—We cannot extend our space for advertisements. "T. S. O." Devonshire-street, appears to have lost sight of our object in the History of Wood-Engraving—a branch of art so intimately connected with our journal. "Νικηκος."—The children of Knights of the Bath take precedence of Knights' eldest sons and Barons' younger sons. We are not aware of the present residence of Count Rivarola. "Leila."—The etiquette is for the lady to bow first, provided her station be superior. "I. I. C." Windsor, is thanked for the drawing, which shall be returned when copied. "Americano."—We have not room for the note on trout-fishing. "A Tenant." Dymchurch, had better apply to a respectable solicitor. "C. C." Upper Mount-street, Dublin.—A cant phrase. "Belinda" should see the journals of last week. "A Constant Reader."—No. 92 of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS contains a portrait of Mr. Sheil, as Counsel in the late State Trials. "H. C." a Constant Subscriber.—The question proposed is too much a matter of opinion. "A Fifteen Months' Subscriber."—We advise our correspondent to avoid the foreign lotteries generally. "I. K."—See future announcements of the Print. We will consider of the portrait. "W. F. L. S." may find the information he seeks in Scott's History of Napoleon, or Alison's History of the French Revolution. "Clericus" shall be replied to next week. "R. M." Drogheda.—We have not room. "A. O." Bidick, is thanked. We have devoted as much room as we can spare at present to the Strike of the Pitmen. "A. G. C." Citadel, Hull.—We have not space. "Constant Subscriber."—The sketch and description shall appear. "I. M."—The proportion of guano for plants is about one pound to four gallons of water. "I. A."—Declined. "C. D."—We have no knowledge of the manuscript in question. "W. B." is thanked, but we cannot entertain his suggestion. INELIGIBLE.—The Jolly 'Oad, by D. E. G.; Lines on May 1st; Lines, by Democritus; Zuppa, Od. We have to apologise to our Dublin subscribers for the delay of the engraving of the plate presented by H. R. H. Prince Albert. If we succeed in obtaining the sketch, it shall appear next week. "H. S." Witney, is quite right in his correction about the composition of Lord Ross's speculum a-mix., copper 126.4 and tin 58.9. The chess portraits will, in all probability, appear in a future number. The donation of "F., P., B." has been received by the editor, and forwarded.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, MAY 11, 1844.

On Monday evening Sir R. Peel brought forward his plan for the revision of the Bank Charter. His speech occupied three hours, and though on an abstruse subject, and one which, we firmly believe, is less understood than any other question of the day, he commanded the attention of a house very fully attended to the close of his address. This was, doubtless, to a great extent, due to his position; he spoke as one having authority, possessing the power to bind and loose even the corporation of money-monarchs who sit throned in Threadneedle-street. His speech was not a mere arguing on this side of the question or on that; it was but the preface to Acts which are to operate on all the affairs of life so far as they are affected by the currency, and, as he truly stated in the commencement of his address, very few are the affairs of life into which money does not enter in some shape or other, directly or indirectly. To his position, then, may be attributed, as well as to his ability, the attention with which he was heard; and to keep up that attention through the immense mass of matter he went into, required no slight effort. We cannot attempt to go into the question here; it is one of those subjects on which the differences of opinion are greater and more various than on any other. We have every shade of it, between Sir R. Peel's attachment to the solidity of cash payments, and the power of converting paper into gold at will, without which power the paper would be valueless, and the "Emancipation of Industry" men, who pronounce the fixed price of gold to be a fixed injustice, and who contend that it should be left to find its natural price in the market in proportion to the value of other articles—for a free trade in money, in fact; and, lastly, the extreme paper-currency men, of the Birmingham and Attwood school, who deny the right of any Government to interfere in the commercial dealings of man with man, or prescribe limits to the extent to which one man may give or take credit from another. Both these sections are of course opposed to the present system, and still more to the prospect of an extension of it which is held out by the resolutions of Sir R. Peel, which evidently point to the future establishment of only one bank of issue.

The prospect of this result has thrown the currency enthusiasts into dismay, and they predict nothing less than universal ruin and anarchy as the destiny of the nation. But in the meantime the nation seems in no wise alarmed about the matter, but goes on producing, buying, and selling, and, through its representatives, supporting the Prime-Minister in giving solidity to the "representative of value."

We must refer the reader to our report of the Premier's speech for the arguments by which he supports his plan, merely appending here, in a separate form, the "resolutions," which will remain under the consideration of Parliament, and then be embodied in a measure, which the Bank of England has, by anticipation, accepted.

- 1. That it is expedient to continue to the Bank of England, for a time to be limited, certain of the privileges now by law invested in that corporation, subject to such conditions as may be provided by any act to be passed for that purpose. 2. That it is expedient to provide by law that the Bank of England should henceforth be divided into two separate departments—one exclusively confined to the issue and circulation of notes, the other to the conduct of banking business. 3. That it is expedient to limit the amount of securities upon which it shall henceforth be lawful for the Bank of England to issue promissory notes payable to bearer on demand, and that such amount shall only be increased under certain conditions to be prescribed by law. 4. That it is expedient to provide by law that a weekly publication should be made by the Bank of England of the state both of the circulation and of the banking departments. 5. That it is expedient to repeal the law which subjects the notes of the Bank of England to the payment of composition for stamp duty. 6. That in consideration of the privileges to be continued to the Bank of England, the rate of fixed annual payment to be made by the Bank to the public shall be £180,000 per annum, and shall be defrayed by deducting the said sum from the sum now by law payable to the Bank, for the management of the public debt. 7. That in the event of any increase of the securities upon which it shall be lawful for the Bank of England to issue such promissory notes, as aforesaid, a further annual payment shall be made by the Bank of England to the public, over and above the said fixed payment of £180,000, equal in amount to the net profit derived from the promissory notes issued on such additional securities. 8. That it is expedient to prohibit by law the issue of promissory notes payable to bearer on demand, by any bank not now issuing such notes, or by any bank hereafter to be established in any part of the United Kingdom. 9. That it is expedient to provide by law that such banks in England and Wales as now issue promissory notes payable to bearer on demand shall continue to issue such notes, subject to such conditions and to such limitations as to the amount of issue as may be provided for by any act to be passed for that purpose. 10. That it is expedient to provide by law for the weekly publication of the amount of promissory notes payable to bearer on demand circulated by any bank authorised to issue such notes. 11. That it is expedient to make further provision by law with regard to joint-stock banking companies.

The recall of Lord Ellenborough has furnished the subject for one evening's discussion in both Houses of Parliament. In both of them the Ministry was asked to produce the correspondence that has passed on the subject, and in both it refused the request. The refusal is defended, on the ground that it would cause inconvenience and embarrassment in the administration of the affairs of India, and would do injustice to Lord Ellenborough. The objections are equally strong to producing any part of the papers, as the whole; for a time, therefore, the public must still continue in ignorance of the specific reasons for the step taken by the Court of Directors. In the House of Commons, Sir R. Peel, though he equally refused to produce the papers, gave a kind of statement of the differences that had taken place between the two bodies, the Directors and the Government, with which the public is already acquainted, and an account of the negotiations that have taken place as to the appointment of Lord Ellenborough's successor. Sir R. Peel was at first inclined to give the Directors the right of choosing the new Governor-General, as they had thought proper to recall the old one. But, on second thoughts, it was considered better that the Board and the Government should, if possible, act in concert in this step, if they could not in the other, and it was thus brought about by the Premier:—

I said to the Chairman of the Court of Directors that, on the part of Government, I am willing to enter into communication with them for the purpose of deciding upon the appointment; but then I will not venture to suggest any one unless I feel assured that he will receive the confidence of the Court of Directors and that the line of policy he will pursue will be approved of (cheers). As it was the desire of the Court to act in harmony with the Government on this question, I named to the Deputy Chairman my right honourable friend Sir Henry Hardinge (hear), and I said that when I reflected on that right honourable gentle-

man's public conduct, with my long experience of his character, added to the military eminence he has attained, and the great experience he has had in civil duties,—I said that on the whole I was of opinion he was the man best qualified to undertake the vacant office of Governor-General of India (cheers). I was informed at once that the same name had occurred to the Chairman, and I was assured that no person could be selected who would be so acceptable as my right honourable friend. With respect then to the successor of Lord Ellenborough, the Crown and the Court of Directors have settled the question in perfect concord.

Thus, if any inconvenience has been caused by the quarrel, nothing, apparently, can be more satisfactory than the reconciliation. The concurrence of the Board of Directors in the appointment of Sir H. Hardinge seems an indication that the offence of Lord Ellenborough is of a personal character, rather than a matter of policy, for the late Secretary at War will, no doubt, pursue the course marked out by the Cabinet at home; but then he, as a man of common sense and experience—who, being a real soldier, will indulge in no military affectations—will pursue it in a less objectionable manner. As if to justify the Board of Directors in the determination they came to to recall the ex-Governor-General, one of the last Indian papers contains a report of a speech delivered by him at an entertainment given as a compliment to him at Calcutta, which, though short, is "in the Hercules vein," and conveys censure, threat, and insult to those he governs, in the course of a few brief sentences. What can be the meaning of such phrases as this?—"Most people come here to make their fortunes, but I came here to do my duty;" again, "I have met with opposition, but I have put down all opposition hitherto—and I will beat down all opposition that may arise." The following is rather mysterious, but it shows plainly enough that there is something wrong at Calcutta:—"I have come among you again; and if those social relations which are desirable, do not exist, the fault will be yours and not mine."

HAVING last week remarked on the incomplete state of the improvements in Trafalgar-square, we feel bound to express some degree of satisfaction at perceiving some indications of a disposition to proceed with the works at, we hope, a somewhat quicker rate than heretofore. A paragraph has appeared in the daily papers, stating that the sculpturing on the base of the pillar is being proceeded with, and the basins having been filled, by way of experiment, have been emptied again for the purpose of fixing the jets for the fountains. This is as it should be; but we have to regret that there has been some misconduct on the part of the public, to be attributed, for the most part, to that ubiquitous generation—boys and children—who could not resist the temptation of two tolerable large surfaces of water, to set afloat cork and bits of orange peel, to the disfigurement of the ornamental basins. This has been made a subject of complaint and remark in our daily contemporaries; but we think there is no ground for alarm. A couple of policemen (who never seem to be placed where they are most wanted) would have prevented all this, and the novelty that now attracts numbers to the spot, will soon cease. These trifling inconveniences may be easily remedied, and the place will be, what it is, a great and undoubted improvement, especially if, as it is rumoured, some alteration is to be made in the National Gallery, by the removal of the two unsightly "parrot cages," or "pepper-boxes," at each end, which at present grace, or rather disgrace it.

THE COURT AND HAUT TON.

The Queen, accompanied by the Princess Royal, and attended by the Marchioness of Douro, Lady in Waiting, left Buckingham Palace, at a quarter before six o'clock on Saturday afternoon, in a carriage and four, escorted by a party of the Royal Horse Guards, for Claremont. His Royal Highness Prince Albert, attended as usual, went from Buckingham Palace shortly before six o'clock on Saturday afternoon, to attend the annual dinner of the Royal Academy in Trafalgar-square. After the dinner his Royal Highness departed for Claremont.

CLAREMONT, Sunday.—Her Majesty and Prince Albert, and the ladies and gentlemen of the Royal Suite and Household, attended Divine Service on Sunday morning, at Claremont. The Hon. Rev. Mr. Courtenay officiated.

MONDAY.—On Monday morning at ten o'clock, his Royal Highness Prince Albert left Claremont on horseback, attended by Colonel Wyld, equerry in waiting, and rode to Richmond. His Royal Highness left Richmond in a travelling carriage and four for town, and proceeded to the Hanover-square Rooms, where he remained during the rehearsal of the concert of ancient music, which had been selected by his Royal Highness, the Prince being the director of the concert on Wednesday evening. After the rehearsal Prince Albert, attended by Colonel Wyld, went from the Hanover-square Rooms to Buckingham Palace, where his Royal Highness arrived at ten minutes past two o'clock. The Prince, after luncheon at the Palace, took his departure in a carriage and four, and returned to Claremont at half-past four o'clock, attended by Colonel Wyld.

TUESDAY.—On Tuesday morning the Queen and Prince Albert walked in Claremont Park. The royal family were taken their accustomed daily airing, in the gardens of Claremont.

WEDNESDAY.—The Queen and Prince Albert, accompanied by the Princess Royal, arrived in town soon after three o'clock on Wednesday afternoon, in a carriage and four, escorted by a party of the Royal Horse Guards, from Claremont. Their Royal Highnesses the Prince of Wales and the Princess Alice followed in another royal carriage. A grand dinner was given in the evening, at Buckingham Palace, to the noble directors of the Concert of Ancient Music, his Royal Highness Prince Albert being the director for the evening. At eight o'clock his Royal Highness Prince Albert, accompanied by his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, and the Duke of Wellington, left Buckingham Palace for the Hanover-square Rooms. At a quarter past eight o'clock the Queen left the Palace, to honour the performance of the concert with her presence at the Hanover-square Rooms. Her Majesty was accompanied by her Royal Highness the Duchess of Cambridge, and was attended by the Duchess of Buccleuch.

THE QUEEN DOWAGER.—Her Majesty, we are gratified to state, is very much better. On Monday her Majesty left Marlborough-house in an open barouche and four, attended by the Hon. Charlotte Hudson, maid of honour in waiting, and took an airing, for the first time since her recent indisposition. After a long drive her Majesty returned to Marlborough-house.

THE DUCHESS OF GLOUCESTER.—Her Royal Highness continues slowly but gradually to recover from the effects of her recent accident.

THE EMPEROR OF RUSSIA.—It is stated that Lieut.-General Lord Bloomfield, G.C.B., &c., Commandant of Woolwich garrison, has received her Majesty's commands to proceed forthwith to St. Petersburg, for the purpose of escorting his Imperial Majesty to England. It is generally believed that Lord Bloomfield has been selected for the honourable duty in consequence of his lordship being personally known to the Emperor during his long residence at the Court of Sweden. In the absence of Lord Bloomfield, the command of the garrison will devolve on Major-General Sir Hew Ross, K.C.B., Deputy Adjutant-General of the Royal Artillery.

The Countess of Jersey gave a splendid ball on Monday night at the family mansion in Berkeley-square. At least 500 of the elite of fashionable society were present at the fête.

The Marchioness of Hertford, we hear, is seriously indisposed at her chateau of Bagatelle, near Paris. Her ladyship has been for many years an absentee. The Marquis of Hertford is on the Continent.

Sir J. Leighton, Bart., died at Ostend on Tuesday week. The deceased baronet who was in holy orders, succeeded to the baronetcy in 1827.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

THE POST-OFFICE.—The ordinary Post-office returns, which have just been made to Parliament, show, among others, the following results:—The number of letters delivered in the United Kingdom, in 1843, was upwards of 220 millions. The three weeks which are given of 1844, show an increase over the corresponding week of 1843, of a quarter of a million of letters per week—this is an increase in the rate of increase, owing, no doubt, to improvement in trade. The letters of the London district post are now at the rate of 26 millions per annum, or fully double the number under the old system, notwithstanding that up to the date of the returns, there had been no increase in the number of newspapers delivered. The gross revenue of the year 1843 was £1,620,867, and the net revenue £640,217; showing in each instance an increase, as compared with 1842, of about £40,000; which, considering the important reductions in foreign rates,



SOCIETY FOR THE PROPAGATION OF THE GOSPEL IN FOREIGN PARTS.

Probably, the most impressive commemoration in the Metropolis, in the month of May—and, therefore, popularly termed one of “the May Meetings”—is the preaching, in St. Paul’s Cathedral, of the Anniversary Sermon in aid of the funds of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts. Upon this very important occasion, the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor proceeds in state to the Cathedral, attended by a number of the civic corporation, and is there met by the President (the Archbishop of Canterbury), and the corporation of the above society, in full canonicals. This year the anniversary was held on Thursday, the 2nd instant, when, as the Archbishop of Canterbury subsequently stated, the Lord Mayor attended at church with a larger number of the corporation than his grace had ever the satisfaction of seeing on any former occasion of a similar character. In the engraving at the foot of the annexed page, our artist has represented the meeting of the ecclesiastical and civic procession at the choir of the splendid cathedral. The sermon was preached by the Lord Bishop of Hereford.

In the evening, the Lord Mayor, according to custom, entertained at the Mansion House the prelates of the church, who were called together by the occasion with a brilliant assemblage of lay guests. The company, comprising a numerous collection of ladies, sat down to a splendid entertainment, at six o’clock. The show of gold and silver plate, of every description, was superb, and the Egyptian Hall, which was opened on the occasion for the first time for festive purposes, during the present Mayoralty, presented a most magnificent appearance, having been thoroughly repainted, and the gilding of the capitals and entablature of the massive Corinthian columns renewed. In the vicinity of the chair we noticed the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Archbishop of Armagh, the Bishop of London, the Bishops of Winchester, Bangor, Carlisle, Llandaff, Ripon, Salisbury, Hereford, Worcester, and Lichfield, and the Bishop of Newfoundland; Archdeacons Hale, Robinson, Hamilton, and Manning; the Rev. Drs. Spry, Russell, Croly, Birch, Burnett; Sir George Hayter, R.A.; the Rev. Drs. Mile and Harrison, chaplains to the Archbishop of Canterbury; Aldermen Sir C. Hunter, Bart., Brown, Lucas, Sir John Key, Bart., Farebrother, Wilson, Thomas Johnson, Sir John Pirie, Bart.; the Hon. C. E. Law, M.P., Recorder; Aldermen Wood, Gibbs, John Johnson, Sir George Carroll, Hooper, Farncomb, Challis, and Hughes; Sheriff Moon, the Chamberlain, the Common Sergeant, Town Clerk, and several of the principal City officers; John Masterman, Esq., M.P.; R. H. Pigeon, Esq.; Messrs. Baldwin, Capel, Delrayn, Manning, Alsager, &c.

The dinner having terminated, and grace having been said, the Lord Mayor rose, and the ancient ceremony of drinking “the loving cup” followed. It is a massive gold vessel, capable of holding two quarts, and on the present occasion it was filled with spiced wine. His lordship first presented the cup to the Archbishop of Canterbury, who, having removed the lid, formally declined, and returned the vessel to the presenter, the Lord Mayor, who then drank to all his guests,



PRESENTATION OF “THE LOVING CUP,” AT THE MANSION HOUSE.

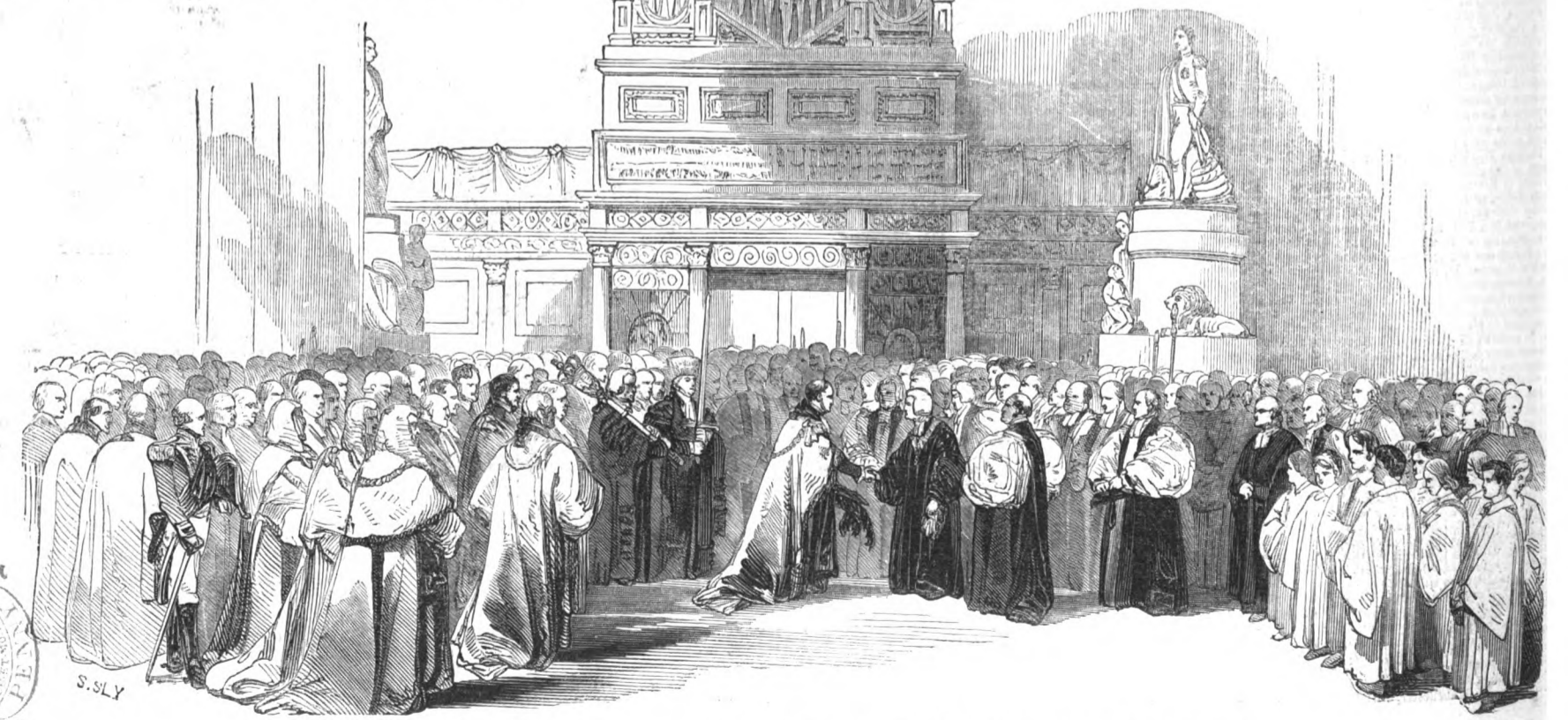
bidding them a hearty welcome. Of this interesting scene of civic etiquette we present our readers with a correct representation. As soon as the last words were pronounced, the room was on a sudden brilliantly illuminated with gas, the effect of which, with the hall in its renovated splendour, elicited expressions of approbation from all present.

The Lord Mayor having proposed “The health of the Archbishop of Canterbury, and of the Prelates and Divines present, and prosperity to the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts,” the Archbishop of Canterbury returned thanks in an eloquent address, in which he strongly advocated the claims of the Society to support. This support, his grace observed, had of late been insufficient; but he was happy to observe a growing disposition to encour-

age the Society; and he trusted that ensuing years would demonstrate that these indications were not fallacious, and thus an undertaking of so much importance to the good of our fellow-countrymen residing in the colonies, and of the benighted races who bordered upon those colonies, and also of such consequence to the interests of the empire at large, would be carried to a triumphant issue. We would thus further what he considered to be the design of Providence in giving us an extent of dominion, and a preponderating political and moral influence in the world, which have never been enjoyed by any other race or country. (Hear, hear.) Before sitting down he would, with the permission of those present, propose, “The health of the Lord Mayor,” adding that it was with great satisfaction that that opportunity was afforded him of expressing his respect for the ancient City of London, and of testifying that respect in proposing the health of its chief magistrate, acknowledging, as he did with pleasure, the ability and integrity with which he performed the duties of his office, and also bearing a ready and merited testimony as to his personal worth.

His lordship then proposed “The Health of the Lord Bishop of Hereford,” by whom the anniversary sermon had that day been delivered. The right rev. prelate returned thanks. Several other toasts were drunk, after which the company broke up, highly gratified with the evening’s entertainment.

“The Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts” has now been in active operation for nearly a century and a half, having been incorporated in 1701, for the receiving, managing, and disposing of funds contributed for the religious instruction of her Majesty’s subjects beyond the seas; for the maintenance of clergymen in the plantations, colonies, and factories of Great Britain; and for the propagation of the gospel in those parts. The corporation consists of the Bishops of the United Church of England and Ireland, the members appointed by charter, and of 300 other members. When the extent and vital importance of the objects of this society are duly considered, we should conceive that the mere announcement of the state of its funds will have the effect of insuring the support of all who “enjoy the luxury of doing good.”



ANNIVERSARY MEETING OF THE CIVIC AUTHORITIES AND THE METROPOLITAN CLERGY, IN ST. PAUL’S CATHEDRAL.

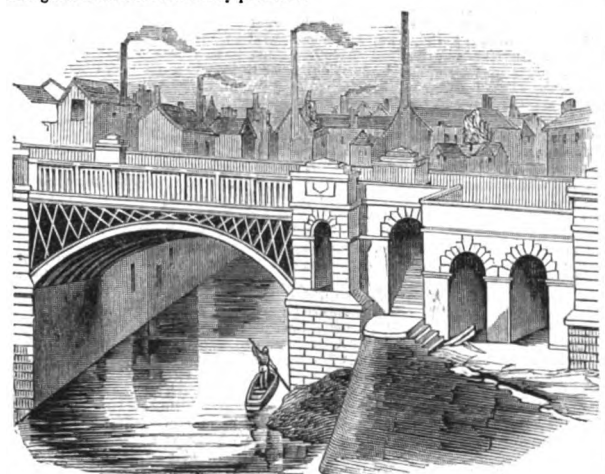
NEWSPAPER
LONDON NEWS
ILLUSTRATED

OPENING OF THE RAILWAY CONNECTING THE MANCHESTER AND LIVERPOOL WITH THE MANCHESTER AND LEEDS LINES.

On Saturday morning last was opened the important connecting link of the long chain of railway communication between Liverpool and the northern parts of England and Scotland. Our readers will remember that we briefly described, in our journal, last January, the opening of a part of the Leeds railway, which brought that line down to the Hunt's Bank terminus, much nearer to the Exchange, and the more important parts of Manchester, than did the Station in Oldham-road. The junction we are now about to describe is a continuation of that line to the terminus of the Bolton, Preston, and Lancaster Railway, at Salford, and thence to near that of the Manchester and Liverpool road, thus forming an unbroken line of railway conveyance from Liverpool, through Manchester, to Leeds, York, the whole of the eastern coast, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and, very shortly, to Edinburgh herself.

The line from Hunt's Bank crosses the road at Strangeways, by an iron bridge of about 82 feet span; and then the river Irwell by another bridge (which our sketch illustrates), of from 115 to 120 feet span; and thence, by a series of arches, to the New Bailey station, at Salford; where it joins the Preston and Lancaster Line. The new road then is carried on over an iron viaduct, supported by massive cast-iron pillars of Egyptian architecture, running parallel with the Preston line for about 200 yards, and then, keeping to the left, over brick and stone arches, some of them of exquisite workmanship, to its junction, just beyond the Bolton canal, with the Manchester and Liverpool railroad. The whole distance from Hunt's Bank to this place is a mile and a few yards. In passing over this new line, the passenger is astonished to find himself flying, as it were, over the tops of the houses of half Salford, and such is nearly the fact; for the line goes directly across the town, over Greengate, Chapel-street, and New Bailey-street, and the numerous smaller streets lying between these great thoroughfares: and that, too, at an elevation equal to most, and higher than many of the houses situated in this densely peopled neighbourhood.

There was little ceremony in the opening, except that the engines were dressed with flags during the early part of the day. The completion of this junction is very important, not only for its concentration of the place of starting from, and of arriving at, for nearly all the railways to and from Manchester; but thus it opens a continuous line of railway for the conveyance of not only passengers, but for the raw and manufactured material, to and from the most important points of our island. Extensive arrangements have been made by the Directors for the convenience of so large an addition of passengers to the station as this junction and general terminus naturally produces.



IRON BRIDGE, MANCHESTER AND LEEDS RAILWAY.

ROYAL VISIT TO THE EXHIBITION OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY.

On Friday, the 3rd inst., the Queen and Prince Albert honoured the exhibition of the Royal Academy, in Trafalgar-square, with a visit. Her Majesty and his Royal Highness arrived at the Academy from Buckingham Palace shortly before 1 o'clock, attended by the Duchess of Buccleuch, Mistress of the Robes, and the Marchioness of Douro, Lady in Waiting. The Hon. Miss Hamilton and the Hon. Miss Stanley, Maids of Honour in Waiting, and the Earl of Hardwicke, Lord in Waiting, followed in a second royal carriage; and the Equerries in Waiting, Colonels Buckley and Wylde, occupied another royal carriage.

Sir Martin Archer Shea, President of the Royal Academy, received the illustrious visitors on their arrival, and conducted her Majesty and his Royal Highness through the different schools. The Lord Chamberlain, the Master of the Horse, and the Groom of the Stole to Prince Albert, were also in attendance.

At 2 o'clock, the Queen and Prince Albert, attended by the royal suite, left the Academy and returned to Buckingham Palace.

Our engraving represents the royal party in the Hall of the Gallery; this portion of the edifice is, altogether, a pleasing composition, and the redeeming grace of this un-national structure.

THE EXHIBITION OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY.

This exhibition of the pictures painted by members of the Royal Academy, and by those contributors who send their works to the Gallery under their auspices, is, on the whole, a good one. There are no pictures of the very highest order of excellence, or at least very few, and these must be considered only in reference to the class to which they belong, and not in relation to art taken generally. Thus, there are some few, very few, cabinet pictures, some miniatures, and a conversational picture or two, which are entitled to the highest praise, as works *sui generis*, but which rather decorate and enliven, than dignify or exalt art, and certainly cannot be said to belong to what is called, and called justly, high art.

In the department of sculpture and marbles, there are some of the best busts ever produced by English sculptors; some that may challenge, with confidence, a comparison with the very best busts of foreign artists; and there are several figures and groups which are exquisitely beautiful. Amongst the busts there is a cast of O'Connell, and a marble bust of Lady Talbot, which are eminently deserving of notice. These, we understand, are by a new hand in this department of art—Mr. Jones, of Cannon-row—who is said to be a self-taught artist, and certainly his creations are most racy, and bear the stamp of undoubted genius.

There is not a sufficiency of these last-mentioned works to place English art so high as it ought to reach, or to cause any particular exultation at what the Gallery presents. Nevertheless, this exhibition—the seventy-sixth since the establishment of the Royal Academy—may be said to be, if taken as a whole, a good one. The aggregate merit of the pictures will form a good sum-total of genius, talent, industry, and knowledge; and the English school will not suffer from this display of pictures, if compared with the exhibitions of modern pictures on the Continent, in the judgment of men of taste and of unprejudiced critics.

It is to be regretted that there are so many portraits, and so few historical or biographical pictures; but for this regret the public must take the blame upon themselves; artists must live, like other people; and if the means of living are to be more readily acquired by administering to the vanity of those by whom they are employed, than by painting pictures from which instruction and genuine taste might be derived, nobody can quarrel with those who take advantage of the folly to support and uphold themselves.

Having made these few preliminary observations, we will at once proceed to specify those pictures which, in our judgment, deserve a more palpable notice; there may, very probably, be some which we ought to mention honourably, which we may have overlooked or passed unheededly, but when it is remembered that many pictures are hung in such bad situations, and in such deficient lights, that it is impossible to estimate their merits or defects, and that during the week since the exhibition has been opened to the public, the gallery has been so completely crowded with company that a view could only be obtained by jostling and pushing through hundreds of gazers, our readers must excuse any omissions on our part, and the artists whom we have not named must accept our apology for what is only seeming neglect of their pictures.



THE CHINESE SUMMER-HOUSE, BUCKINGHAM PALACE GARDENS.

[THE CHINESE SUMMER-HOUSE, BUCKINGHAM PALACE GARDENS.

The exhibition at the Royal Academy of three of the finished studies for the frescoes ordered by her Majesty for the embellishment of the Chinese Summer-house in Buckingham Palace Gardens, having called public attention to that building, we have prepared a view of it, which will, we hope, enable our readers more readily to understand the circumstances under which these—our first English frescoes—will be seen.

The Summer-house is a small octagonal structure, which crowns the summit of an artificial hill, built without any design to be richly decorated; and, therefore, not calculated for the proper display of the treasure it contains. The light is obtained from a latticed door and four small latticed windows, and does not fall happily on the pictures. The style of architecture is in accordance with the architect's whim; at least it belongs to no order; this may be no very serious objection, considering that it was intended to be little more than a garden seat; but it is an evil, now that it is likely to become an object of universal interest and attraction. The one room of which it consists (we take no account of two small apartments behind, and the aviary, which forms an underground floor, falling with the hill) is, as we have said, octagonal—but an irregular octagon; two of the eight sides being much larger than the other six. From these eight sides run up

to a point in the roof, sixteen compartments; each of these compartments being occupied with a design in arabesque by Mr. Aglio, which that gentleman has executed in encaustic.

The encaustic colours are very brilliant; the frescoes are, on the contrary, somewhat dull; so that the glaring hues of Mr. Aglio go far to kill the tones of Mr. Leslie and Mr. MacIse, while Mr. Aglio himself sustains much injury by their neighbourhood; for in his designs he has introduced several figures, semi-human; and has been placed at a manifest disadvantage in being seen in juxtaposition with the first artists of the age. This is an evil which time will not remedy; but as the interior of the building is not quite finished, much may yet be done to give the frescoes "fair play."

The poem illustrated is "The Masque of Comus;" and the frescoes are (or rather are to be) in number eight; the artists charged with their execution being Messrs. Eastlake, Leslie, Stanfield, MacIse, Etty, Uwins, E. Landseer, and Sir William Ross. Mr. Eastlake and Mr. Landseer have not commenced theirs; the other six have completed their works; and of these we are enabled to speak in terms of the highest commendation, although we have great fears of the durability of the colours—some of which, we are told, have already sunk in an injurious degree.

The neighbourhood of the Summer-house is enlivened by the presence of a number of foreign birds, which are especial favourites of the Royal children.



HER MAJESTY'S VISIT TO THE ROYAL ACADEMY.

We abstain from any animadversions on what we consider bad pictures. The task of finding fault is not a pleasing one, and knowing the fallibility of our judgment, we refrain from inflicting an injury which might possibly be unmerited, but which, we are fully aware, might be very fatal to the interests of very deserving persons.

EAST ROOM.

- No. 10. A very pleasing picture by G. A. Solomon.
- 11. "Ostend." J. M. W. Turner, R.A. A charming view of the Belgio port, which will at once be recognised by all who have ever seen the original.
- 13. "The Otter Speared." E. Landseer, R.A. This picture is one of the



FORNASARI'S BENEFIT—SCENE FROM THE OPERA OF "ZAMPA," AT HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.



FORNASARI.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.

The return of Cerito to this house on Saturday last, was a cause of delight to all frequenters of the Opera: she is, as ever, "redolent of spring," and graceful as

*Curling mists that rise
To kiss the stars in twilight skies!*

Cerito is certainly improved in elegance, as well as dexterity—some of her performances during her "aerial flights" are truly astonishing, and exhibit the "poetry of motion" in new and most captivating rhythms—if we may apply the word to the music of her gesticulations. Mario, in "La Sonnambula," sang most exquisitely. On Tuesday, Donizetti's "L'Elisir d'Amore" was produced, and gave Corelli an opportunity of vindicating his claims to public notice and applause. He sang, most excellently well—not, perhaps, obliterating from our memory poor Catone, but still in a style which deserves to be highly commended.

On Thursday Herold's opera of "Zampa" was re-produced for the benefit of Sigr. Fornasari, who on the occasion personated the hero. This opera has been universally called the *chef d'œuvre* of the composer, but we cannot find out the truth of the opinion. He has written many other things far superior in our judgment. When composers are either above or below their styles they never produce anything startlingly good; and Herold's genius was not vast or wonderful, although delightfully pleasing: in fact, he was in music what our Shenstone was in poetry. He had not the Weberian strength to grasp with the subject of "Zampa": still there are some beautiful things in it, and they never appeared to more advantage than on the occasion we record. Fornasari was magnificent as *Zampa*, and gave a reading of the *Pirate*, which would have delighted even Byron himself, from whom the subject has been stolen. The opera of "Zampa" may be fairly said to be resuscitated. Fornasari is a great actor as well as singer. The house was not as full as we should have wished to see it: but this is owing, perhaps, to the public's being acquainted now-a-days that an announced benefit is for the manager's profit, and not for the *affiché bénéficiaire*.



AUBER.

AUBER.—"THE CROWN DIAMONDS."

Denis Esprit Ferdinand Auber was born in Paris in 1795, and was brought up in commercial, not musical, pursuits. His propensity, however, was for the latter: and with a modesty almost always accompanying genius, he published his first productions under the name of Lamarre. After two years' residence in London he returned to Paris, and produced an *opéra comique*, entitled "La Bergère Châtelaine." Subsequently he brought forth two others, "Le Sejour Militaire" and "Testament et Billet-doux." After a variety of vicissitudes, which but ill-accommoded with the views of a mind like Auber's, he placed himself under the tutelage of Cherubini, and soon produced at the Opera Comique "Emma," which met with immense success. This was followed by several other operas at the same house, which ultimately opened the doors of the Royal Academy to him, where he produced his "Muette," the fame of which has not only influenced the musical taste but the politics of Europe. To enumerate his subsequent successes would exceed our limits considerably: suffice it to say, that no composer has written more or more varied beauty than Auber. His vocal writing is exquisitely wrought, and his orchestral the very perfection of instrumentalism. His modesty prevents him from producing what his genius would suggest, and carry him through if he would but essay, or we should have symphonies and quartets rivalling those of Haydn, Mozart, or Beethoven. The operas of "Masaniello," "Fra Diavolo," "Gustave," and a host of others, have conferred



SCENE FROM THE OPERA OF "THE CROWN DIAMONDS," AT THE PRINCESS' THEATRE.

immortality upon the genius that invented them.

His last opera with which we have been made acquainted, namely, "The Crown Diamonds," does not sparkle with the jewels that are to be found in "Masaniello," or "Gustave," but still it abounds with beauties, which, if not lustrous, are at least solid. He, no doubt, wrote his "partition" for voices of a peculiar range, and if a composer ever feels delight in putting the powers of a vocalist to the test, Auber must have been pleased in running to the extreme, the facilities of Madame Thillon's vocal powers. Next week we shall give a fine portrait of this most accomplished vocalist and actress.

WILLIS'S ROOMS.

Miss Steele, once the pupil of the establishment in which she is now a distinguished professor of singing, gave her annual concert on Monday evening last, at these rooms, which were attended by a host of friends to the fair *bénéficiaire*, more on account of the respect and esteem she herself is held in, than attracted by the somewhat too lengthy bill of fare she had provided for their entertainment. The chief novelty of the evening was Madame Dorus Gras, who made her first appearance this season, and who, notwithstanding the fatigue consequent upon a long journey, sang as freshly and flexibly as ever. A deprecatory address was made for her by Sir H. R. Bishop (who conducted the concert), but there was no necessity for it. The fair *bénéficiaire* herself sang some things very charmingly; other vocalists acquitted themselves in many morceaux—too many to be all enumerated, and "glorious John" delighted the audience with his "Norma" and other drolleries.

MALAHIDE CASTLE.

Few places in Ireland are more identified with its history than Malahide Castle. One of the earliest built, it is one of the longest preserved, while its unfailling



MALAHIDE CASTLE.

line of noble lords for 650 years stands distinguished in the annals of the country for excellences of the highest order. Before the Norman invasion, there were no strongholds in Ireland; but Henry II. seeing that he could not retain the fruits of his invasion without garrisoning the country, bestowed grants of land on his several followers, on the condition that they should entitle themselves to a tenure each by the erection of a fortress. Richard Talbot, son of the Lord Eccleswell, in Herefordshire, who accompanied Henry on the Irish expedition, was presented with the lands of Malahide, and other estates in its neighbourhood; agreeable to the terms of seisin he built a strong crenelated castle on a limestone rock, commanding the beautiful little bay. Ever since, that castle and the baronial estates have been held in possession by the same family, through an unbroken succession of male heirs, for a period of nearly seven centuries.

The seigniorial estate of Malahide is the only one in Ireland, which can be traced as having been held directly and immediately under the Crown, while all the others were held of subjects by rent, suit, and service. The lords of Malahide, pursuant to charter, and the right of tenure, never acknowledged a superior but the King of England, nor rendered homage to any but the Crown. The Talbots de Malahide spring from a common stock with the Talbots of Shrewsbury.

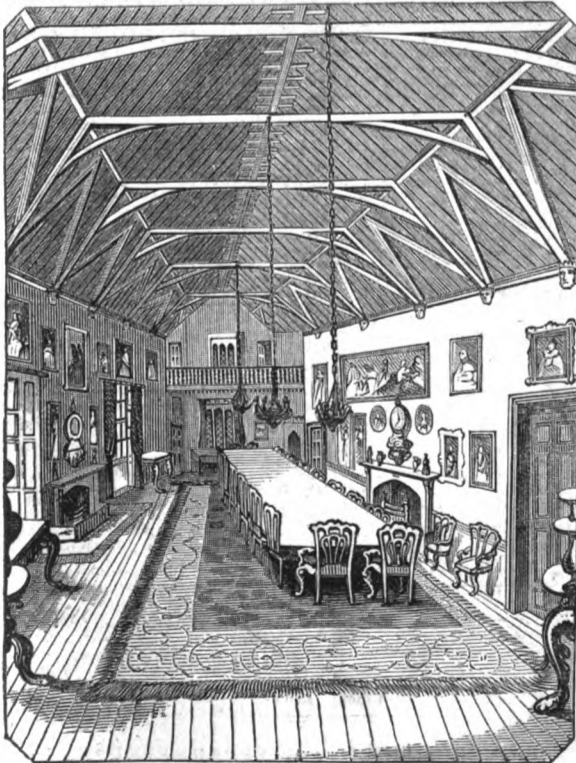
Ricard Hogan Talbot, the common ancestor of both great families, is mentioned in "Domesday Book" as being possessed of several "hides" of land. The Talbots de Malahide were ever special favourites of English sovereigns; and from John to Edward IV. we find each emulative of his predecessor in adding to the privileges of the Barons of Malahide. Among other privileges, Edward IV. exempted the family from homage for fifty years, and granted them a license to leave Ireland for three years at a time, created them absolute masters of their own port, and allowed them to appropriate the customs of merchandise. Sir Thomas Talbot, who, in 1529, succeeded to the estates, was grandfather to William Talbot, who first acquired the estate of "Carta," in county Kildare, and was created a baronet in 1622; he was great grandfather to Colonel Richard, who, in 1685, was created Earl of Tyrconnell by James II., and died chief governor of Ireland. The Duchess of Tyrconnell was sister to the Duchess of Marlborough, and the most distinguished belle in the court of Charles II.

Lord Talbot's intimate acquaintance with the real state of Ireland, and his thorough knowledge of the true character of his countrymen, render him a valuable adviser and assistant to whatever Lord-Lieutenant may be sent to govern Ireland. He has long withdrawn himself from active political life, and now devotes himself chiefly to those refined studies which tend to elevate and ennoble the human mind. His social circle always comprises persons distinguished for ability and worth; and wherever genius may be found, whether it lurks beneath the fustian jacket of the mechanic, or the threadbare coat of the poor scholar, or ornaments a coronet, it is sure to find a fostering hand and a ready welcome from the Lord of Malahide. Lady Talbot, who is to Dublin society what one of the Lady Patronesses is to Almack's, is an amiable, kind-hearted gentlewoman, who is highly esteemed by the nobility and idolized by the poor. Her boundless charities are dispensed without any regard to sect or party—an example which, if more generally adopted by the Irish nobility, would do much to ameliorate the condition of what is not inaptly termed poor Ireland.

The castle occupies a commanding site, and is a large, crenelated, embattled building, unequal in height and irregular in form. The injuries which Cromwell had done its towers have been repaired, while other improvements and restorations preserve it as a specimen of feudal architecture, and a home for modern magnificence. A circular tower rises on either side of the entrance, which is by an arched door that opens into a hall, from which a winding stair-case, of antique fashion, conducts you to a spacious and most curious apartment, called the "Oak Chamber." This is a long, narrow room, lighted by one window, and that of stained glass; it is wainscoted and rafted with carved oak, black and shining with age. The panelling is carved with devices illustrative of Scripture, and a beautifully carved figure of the Virgin Mary surmounts the mantel-piece.

The baronial, or great dining hall, is on the right of the oak room. This room is lofty and vaulted, after the manner of cathedrals, with richly-carved oak. At its south end there is a gallery. It has two large open hearths, and is lighted by three Gothic windows. There is a splendid portrait of Mary Queen of Scots, by Holbein, as also portraits of Tyrconnell, his duchess, and his daughter. Off this room is the library, in which is an iron chest, containing the family records. The drawing-room is on the left, very tastefully modernised, and were it not for admonitions from the casements, one would soon forget they were in a building of antiquity. This room is furnished with some good paintings, by Hals, Hobbins and Calot, among which the most striking is "The Temptations of Anthony." There is also a portrait of Mary of Scotland, which was brought to England by James I., given by Charles II. to the Duchess of Portsmouth, who, on her return to France, presented it to the niece of Tyrconnell; there is also an altar piece, by Albert Durer, which was originally placed in the oratory of Holyrood house, while occupied by Mary.

Our limits prevent us giving a more detailed account of this interesting place, which we had prepared for publication.



MALAHIDE CASTLE—THE GREAT DINING-HALL.

HISTORY OF WOOD-ENGRAVING.

(Continued from page 294.)

Nicholas Le Sueur, a French wood-engraver, who was born in 1691, and died in 1764, excelled in the execution of chiaro-scuro engravings. His works in this style are decidedly the best that appeared in the eighteenth century. His small wood-cuts are generally engraved in a dry spiritless manner; they display neither freedom nor delicacy of execution, and are totally devoid of what is termed "effect." P. S. Fournier, the younger, a celebrated letter-founder, born at Paris, 1712, died 1768, also occasionally engraved on wood. He, however, chiefly merits a passing notice here in consequence of three tracts which he published, between 1758 and 1761, relating to the origin and progress of wood-engraving, and the invention of typography. About that period considerable curiosity appears to have been excited in France and Germany with respect to the origin and early history of wood-engraving, in consequence of the researches of Schœpflin, Meerman, and others, respecting the invention of printing. In Germany, at this period, there does not appear to have been a single wood-engraver of the slightest pretensions to talent. Schœpflin, in his "Vindiciæ Typographicæ," having made an assertion on a question of wood-engraving, as being admitted "by all experienced persons," Fournier remarks, that "so far from there being many experienced wood-engravers to choose from, M. Schœpflin would be the most likely to experience some difficulty in finding one to consult." For the purpose of showing that at this period wood-engraving was not in a better condition in Italy than in Germany we merely remark that the wood-cut ornaments in the copies of the Pope's Bulls and Decretals printed at Rome between 1760 and 1770, are not superior to the

cuts which are to be found in cheap editions of the "Pilgrim's Progress" of the same date, notwithstanding that the engraver—Lucchesini—has put his name to them as if he had performed a work from which he deserved to be held in honourable memory. The cuts in a Spanish book entitled "Letania Lauretana de la Virgen Santissima," translated from the Latin, and printed at Valencia in 1768, are by the same engraver; considerable fancy is displayed in the designs, and though the execution be paltry, yet the book, as Tom Hearne says, "is a curiosity," and possibly might justify the Rev. Waldo Sibthorp in his denunciation of what, since his re-conversion, he calls "MARIOLATRY."

Though wood-engraving was in a very languishing state when Thomas Bewick first began to practise the art, it yet was not wholly extinct, as some persons have imagined who have ascribed to him the credit of re-inventing it. Such an assertion, indeed, could only have been made by persons who had no knowledge of the state of the art, either in England or on the Continent, in the time of Bewick's boyhood: they might have been well-informed in other respects; but most certainly they had never read Papillon's work, which contains a minute account of the practice of the art, nor had ever seen the "Oxford Sausage," a highly-seasoned little volume of wit, which first appeared in 1764, when Bewick was about eleven years old, and which contains several cuts, probably engraved by a person of the name of Lister. About 1763, a person of the name of Watts engraved some large cuts, after drawings by Luca Cambiaso, besides several others of small size; and there are four cuts, "engraved by T. Hodgson," in Sir John Hawkins's "History of Music," which was published in 1776, the year in which Bewick first visited London. At this time he certainly was not the sole professor of the art in England, and neither



INFANT HERCULES—FROM THE PICTURE BY SIR JOSHUA REYNOLDS.

did the wood-engravers whom he found established in business in London, and amongst whom he found employment, acquire their practical knowledge of their art from him. Though it may be unquestionable that Bewick was self-taught, it by no means follows that the art of wood-engraving was lost in England when he first entered on his course of self-instruction. There can, however, be no doubt that the genius and talents of Bewick chiefly contributed, not only to recal attention to the art of wood-engraving, but also to elevate its character and promote its extension, both in England and in other countries.

Thomas Bewick was born on the 10th August, 1753, at Cherry-burn, in the county of Northumberland, but on the south side of the Tyne, about twelve miles westward of Newcastle. A view of the cottage in which he was born is introduced in the cut of "The Blackbird," in his "History of British Birds." His father rented a small land-sale colliery at Mickleby Bank, in the same neighbourhood, and Bewick, when a lad, was occasionally employed in the pit. He received his education at the school kept by the Rev. Christopher Greason, at the Parsonage-house, at Ovingham, on the opposite side of the Tyne. It was in this pleasant neighbourhood that Bewick, when a lad, fishing for trout in the Tyne, and seeking for birds'-nests in the woods on its banks, first acquired that love of nature which, becoming enlarged and confirmed as he grew in years, is so strikingly displayed in his works. Though Bewick, as an artist, had no master, yet Nature was his mistress: he courted her on the hill-side and in the meadow, in the dene and in the loaning, by the stream and in the wood; he courted her as a country beauty, and as he found her so has he depicted her.

Bewick having shown a fondness and an aptitude for drawing when a lad, was placed by his father, in 1767, as an apprentice to Mr. Ralph Beilby, a copper-plate engraver, in Newcastle-on-Tyne. Though Mr. Beilby used to engrave copper-plates for books and bill-heads, when he had the chance of such work, yet the principal part of his business consisted in engraving crests and initials on articles of plate for silversmiths, and in cutting brass clock-faces and door-plates. Bewick, in the latter part of his life, told a friend of his that when an apprentice the cutting of clock-faces made his hands as hard as a blacksmith's, and almost disgusted him with engraving. Circumstances, however, occurred, which gave him an opportunity of trying his hand on a more yielding material—wood,

Dr. Charles Hutton, late Professor of Mathematics at Woolwich, then a schoolmaster at Newcastle, being about to publish his "Treatise on Mensuration," and wishing to have the diagrams engraved on wood, consulted Bewick's master on the subject. The result was, that he undertook to do them; but, as he knew nothing of engraving on wood, their execution was committed to Bewick, who invented a graver with a fine groove at the point, which enabled him to cut the outlines by a single operation. In one of the diagrams a view of the tower and steeple of St. Nicholas Church, Newcastle, is introduced. The publication of Dr. Hutton's "Mensuration," in numbers, commenced in 1768, and was finished in 1770. Bewick afterwards engraved bill-heads on wood; and it is likely that, while he remained with Mr. Beilby, he also engraved the cuts for a little book, entitled "Youth's Instructive and Entertaining Story Teller," printed by T. Saint, Newcastle, 1774.

Bewick's apprenticeship having expired in October, 1774, he returned to his father's house at Cherryburn, where, though he continued to do work as a general engraver for Mr. Beilby, he applied himself chiefly to wood-engraving. While living with his father, it is probable that he engraved the cut of the "Huntsman and the Old Hound," for which a premium was awarded to him by the Society for the Encouragement of Arts and Manufactures." This cut was first printed in an edition of Gay's "Fables," with illustrations by Bewick, published by T. Saint, 1779; and it is given in Charnley's edition of "Select Fables," with cuts by Thomas and John Bewick, 1820. In 1776, Bewick visited London. After working there for a few months, he returned to Newcastle, where he entered into partnership with his former master, Mr. Ralph Beilby. There seems reason to believe that Bewick was employed when in London by a person of the name of Hodgson—probably the engraver of the cuts in Sir John Hawkins's "History of Music"—who published about 1780 a little work, entitled "A Curious Hieroglyphick Bible." It is at any rate certain that many of the cuts in this book were engraved by Bewick.

Bewick, who was decidedly a man of country habits and country taste, did not like London. Writing, in 1803, to one of his old school-fellows, Mr. C. Gregson, the son of his old schoolmaster, who then kept an apothecary's shop in the neighbourhood of Blackfriars, he says: "I wonder how you can think of turmoiling yourself to the end of the chapter, and let the opportunity slip of contemplating at your ease the beauties of nature so bountifully spread out to enlighten, &

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THE EDITOR OF THE MEDICAL TIMES (now the Leading Medical Journal) will next week (May 18) commence the publication of a series of ORIGINAL RESEARCHES by a Physiological Chemist of European Celebrity, on the TRUTHS and FALSHOODS OF THEORIES OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM.

THE MEDICAL TIMES, the only Medical Journal published at its own Office, and independent of all Publishers.

THE MEDICAL TIMES of Friday, May 17, will contain a course of Clinical Lectures by Sir B. Brodie, Bart.; Clinical Lectures on Medicine; Respiration on Animal Physiology; Wharton Jones, F.R.S., on the Eye; a brilliant Penicilling of Professor Orfila; Sayings and Doings of Parisian Medical Men; and an Abstract of every thing valuable in the Medical Journals; Dr. Willshire on the Progress of Therapeutics; Dr. Armstrong on the Cattle Epizootic; with a mass of matter nearly equal to an octavo volume.

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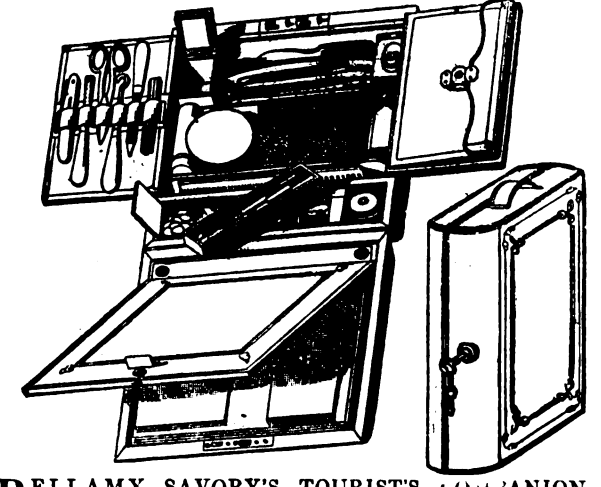
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COLOSSAL STATUE OF THE LATE DUKE OF GORDON.

In our journal of last week we briefly announced the placing of this colossal statue on its pedestal, at about the middle of Castle-street, in the good city of Aberdeen. The figure was cut by Messrs. M'Donald and Leslie, after a model by Campbell, of London, from a block of granite brought from the Dancing Cairn Quarries, which weighed some 16 tons. It measures, including the plinth, 11 feet 3 inches. The pedestal is of red granite, from the Stirlinghill Quarries, near Peterhead; it stands 10 feet 3 inches, so that the height of the figure and pedestal is 21 feet 6 inches.

As a specimen of sculptural design, this work will greatly add to Mr. Campbell's already extensive fame. The Duke is represented in military character, leaning gracefully on his sword, with his left foot resting on a broken mortar. The gentle turn and downward inclination of the head, the simple arrangement of the drapery, and the calm and dignified repose that reigns over the whole, prove that the artist has not studied the antique in vain.

"The inspection of this work of art," says the Aberdeen Constitutionalist, "naturally leads one with pensive, yet not unpleasing associations, to call up recollections of him whose memory it is designed to perpetuate. He was the last of a noble family, whose name has long held a prominent part in the history of our country; he was possessed of personal accomplishments, and manners at once the most noble and engaging, joined to the greatest kindness of disposition; and we feel assured in saying, that to those who ever had the happiness of his acquaintance, no monument was required to induce them to cherish his memory."

Professor Traill, in his pamphlet "On the Introduction into Scotland of Granite for Ornamental Purposes," says, in reference to this statue, on his visit to the works of Messrs. M'Donald and Leslie: "Two men were at work on the drapery. They worked with fine chisels, held very obliquely, and urged on by iron mallets of two or three pounds in weight. The attitude of this statue is simple, and the features are said to be very like the original. This, which may be considered as the first specimen of a British statue of a single block of granite, in emulation of the durable monuments of ancient Egypt, is a memorial by the country to the late noble and gallant officer; and, when erected, will be a distinguished ornament to Aberdeen."



COLOSSAL STATUE OF THE LATE DUKE OF GORDON, AT ABERDEEN.

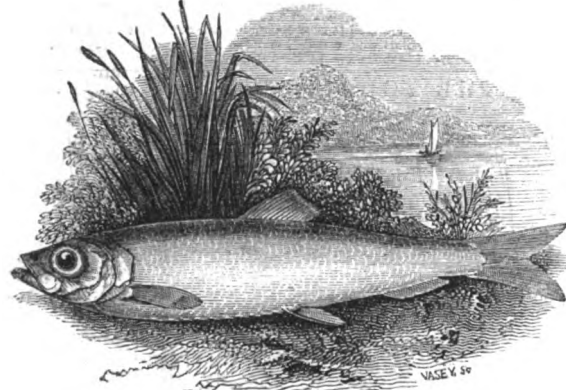
WHITEBAIT.

By JOHN TIMBS.

[It should be explained that the following paper, written last spring for the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, appeared only in a portion of No. 51; it having been removed to make room for the intelligence of the lamented death of H. R. H. the Duke of Sussex. As the subject of Whitebait is of annually recurring interest, we repeat the contribution, with additions.]

Strange as it may appear in these palmy days of science, epoures, from generation to generation, flocked to Blackwall and Greenwich, to enjoy the delicacies of "a Whitebait Dinner," without possessing any actual knowledge of the delicacy itself. The little creatures, "fried silk-worms," as Theodore Hook delighted to call them, were rapidly brought in myriads, with acres of their brown bread-and-butter accompaniment, and washed down with goblets of iced punch, as rapidly disappeared. Now then, a liping demoiselle inquired of her neighbour at table as to the natural history of the choice morsel; but the question was blinked with perverse ingenuity. Cabinet Ministers ate their "annual fish dinners;" fellows of learned societies, lord mayors and aldermen, purdy citizens and purse-proud parsons; in short, all who could sport the luxury of a guinea dinner, "obscured in bulk as in brains," went to Blackwall or Greenwich—

"Impletur veteris Bacchi, pinguisque clipeus," but all were in an equally parlous state of ignorance as to the Whitebait; in short, Lovegrove, who has sacrificed glittering millions, heeded not their natural history, but contented himself with the specie of his customers.



WHITEBAIT.

At length, Mr. Yarrell, the eminent ichthyologist, proved historically and anatomically that this little fish was not, as had been supposed, the young of the shad, but a distinct species. In its habits, it differs from all other species of clipeus that visit our shores or our rivers. From the beginning of April to the end of September, this fish may be caught in the Thames as high up as Woolwich or Blackwall, every flood-tide, in considerable quantity, by a particular mode of fishing to be hereafter described. During the first three months of this period, neither species of the genus clipeus, of any age or size, except occasionally a young sprat, can be found and taken in the same situation by the same means. The young shad of the year are not two and a half inches long till November, when the Whitebait season is over; and these young shad are never without a portion of that spotted appearance behind the edge of the upper part of the operculum, which, in one species particularly, is so marked a peculiarity in the adult fish. The Whitebait, on the contrary, never exhibits a spot at any age; but, from two inches long up to six inches, which is the length of the largest Mr. Yarrell has seen, the colour of the sides is uniformly white.

About the end of March, or early in April, Whitebait make their appearance in the Thames, and are then small, apparently but just changed from the albuminous state of the young fry; whereas, the shad do not deposit their spawn till the

end of June, or the beginning of July. During June, July, and August, immense quantities are consumed by visitors to the different taverns at Greenwich and Blackwall; in May too, and at the moment we are writing, the work of gormandise is going on. Pennant says: Whitebait "are esteemed very delicious when fried with fine flour, and occasion during the season a vast resort of the lower order of epicures to the taverns contiguous to the places where they are taken." If this account be correct, there must have been a strange change in the grade of the epicures frequenting Greenwich and Blackwall since Pennant's days; for at present, the fashion of eating Whitebait is sanctioned by the highest authorities, from the court at St. James's Palace in the West, to the Lord Mayor and his court in the East; besides the philosophers of the Royal Society, and her Majesty's Cabinet Ministers. Who, for example, does not recollect such a paragraph as the following, which appeared in the Morning Post of the day on which Mr. Yarrell wrote his account of the Whitebait, September 10, 1835:—

"Yesterday, the Cabinet Ministers went down the river in the Ordnance barges to Lovegrove's West India Dock Tavern, Blackwall, to partake of their annual fish dinner. Covers were laid for thirty-five gentlemen."

For our own part, we consider the Ministers did not evince their usual good policy in choosing so late a period as September; the Whitebait being finer eating in July or August; so that their "annual fish dinner" must rather be regarded as a sort of prandial wind-up of the parliamentary session than as a specimen of refined epicurism. Mr. Yarrell states that the Whitebait fishery is continued "frequently as late as September; and specimens of young fish of the year, four and five inches long, are then not uncommon, but mixed, even at this late period of the season, with others of very small size, as though the roe had continued to be deposited throughout the summer; yet the parent fish are not caught, and are believed by the fishermen not to come higher up than the estuary, where, at this season of the year, nets sufficiently small in the mesh to stop them are not much in use."

"The particular mode of fishing for Whitebait, by which a constant supply during the season is obtained, was formerly considered destructive to the fry of fishes generally, and great pains were taken to prevent it by those to whom the conservancy of the fishery of the Thames was entrusted; but since the history and habits of this species have been better understood, and it has been ascertained that no other fry of any value can swim with them—which I can aver—the men have been allowed to continue this part of the occupation with little or no disturbance, though still using an unlawful net."—(Occupation of British Fishes, vol. ii., p. 204. Second Edit.)

The rule and order of the Lord Mayor and his court is, that "no person shall take at any time of the year any sort of fish usually called Whitebait, upon pain to forfeit and pay five pounds for every such offence; it appearing to this court that under pretence of taking Whitebait the small fry of various species of fish are destroyed." How the civic parties justified the infraction of this law for their Whitebait course, is another matter.

Mr. Yarrell describes the net by which Whitebait are taken as by no means large, measuring only about 3 or 4 feet in extent; but the mesh of the hose, or bag end of the net, is very small. The boat is moored in the tideway, where the water is from 20 to 30 feet deep; and the net, with its wooden framework, is fixed to the side of the boat, as shown in the engraving. The tail of the hose, swimming loose, is from time to time handed into the boat, the end untied, and its contents shaken out. The wooden frame forming the mouth of the net does not dip more than four feet below the surface of the water; and, except an occasional straggling fish, the only small fry taken with the Whitebait, are sticklebacks and the spotted or freckled goby. The farther the fishermen go down towards the mouth of the river, the sooner they begin to catch Whitebait after the flood-tide has commenced. When fishing as high as Woolwich, the tide must have flowed from three to four hours, and the water becomes sensibly brackish to the taste, before the Whitebait will appear. They return down the river with the first of the ebb-tide; and various attempts to preserve them in well-boats in pure fresh water have uniformly failed.

The Thames fishermen who live at and below Gravesend, know the Whitebait perfectly, and catch them occasionally of considerable size in the small meshed nets used in the Upper and Lower Hope for taking shrimps, called trinker-nets, which are like Whitebait nets, only larger. The sprat-fishers take the adult Whitebait frequently on the Kentish and Essex coasts throughout the winter.

The Hamble, which runs into the Southampton waters, is the only other southern river from which Mr. Yarrell has received Whitebait; but this he believes to be owing rather to the want of a particular mode of fishing, by which so small a fish can be taken so near the surface, than to the absence of the fish itself; which,

abounding as it does in the Thames, Mr. Yarrell has very little doubt might be caught in some of the neighbouring rivers on our south and east coasts. In the vicinity of the Isle of Wight, Whitebait, from their brilliancy and consequent attraction, are used by the fishermen as bait on their lines when fishing for white trings; hence the name.

Dr. Parnell has found Whitebait inhabiting the Frith of Forth in considerable numbers, during the summer months; and in the neighbourhood of Queensferry he has captured in one dip of a net, about a foot and a half square, between 200 and 300 fish, not more than two inches in length, mixed with sprats, young herrings, and fry of other fishes. "In their habits," says Dr. Parnell, "Whitebait appear to be similar to the young of the herring, always keeping in shoals, and swimming occasionally on the surface of the water, where they often fall a prey to aquatic birds." Whitebait being thus added to the delicacies of the Scottish table, it is expected to be hereafter sent to the Edinburgh market in such quantities as to render it as profitable as the sprling or smelt fishery.

Mr. Yarrell thus technically describes the Whitebait:—"The length of the head compared with that of the body alone is as two to five; the depth of the body compared to the whole length of the fish, as one to five; the dorsal fin commences half way between the point of the closed jaws and the ends of the short and middle caudal rays; the longest ray of the dorsal fin as long as the base of the fin; the ventral fin arises from behind the line of the commencement of the dorsal, and half way between the point of the closed jaws and the end of the longest caudal rays; the tail long and deeply forked. The fin rays in number are—D. 17: P. 15: V. 9: A. 15: C. 20. Vertebrae 56.

"The head is elongated; the dorsal line less convex than that of the abdomen; the scales deciduous; the abdominal line strongly serrated from the pectoral fin to the anal aperture. The lower jaw the longest and smooth; the upper slightly uncrested; the tongue with an elevated central ridge without teeth; the eye large, the irides silvery; the upper part of the back pale greenish ash; all the lower part, the cheeks, gill-covers, sides, and belly, silvery white; dorsal and caudal fins coloured like the back; the latter tipped with dusky; pectoral, ventral, and anal fins, white." The only food Mr. Yarrell could find in the stomach were the remains of minute crustacea.

In conclusion, we must return to the prandial portion of our subject.

The vulgar axiom, that a certain unmentionable person "sends cooks," is falsified in the dressing of Whitebait for the table at Blackwall and Greenwich; since, we are persuaded that the famed delicacy of the dish rests almost as much upon its skillful cookery as upon the freshness of the fish. The mode of cooking, as practised at Lovegrove's, at Blackwall, has been "let out" by Dr. Pereira, in his excellent "Treatise on Food and Diet," lately published. The Doctor appears to have penetrated one of the "bait kitchens," and there to have been informed that the fish should be cooked within an hour after being caught, or they are apt to cling together; they are kept in water in a pan, from which they are taken, as required, by a skimmer. They are then thrown upon a layer of flour, contained in a large napkin, in which they are shaken until completely enveloped in flour; they are then put into a colander, and all the superfluous flour is removed by sifting; the fish are next thrown into hot lard contained in a copper cauldron or stew-pan placed over a charcoal fire; in about two minutes they are removed by a tin skimmer, thrown into a colander to drain, and served up instantly, by placing them on a fish-drainer in a dish. The rapidity of the cooking process is of the utmost importance; and if it be not attended to, the fish will lose their crispness, and be worthless. To temper their richness, (for rich they are, despite the instantaneous cookery,) lemon-juice is squeezed over them, and they are seasoned with cayenne pepper; brown bread and butter are substituted for plain bread; whilst they are "washed down" with punch, if iced, the better; and this combination of savoury, sweet, and acid, is one of the most delectable treats in the gormandise of our days. It is scarcely a whit less refined than the epicurism of old Rome: since, our flocking to the banks of the Thames to insure the freshness of Whitebait is almost as studious an affair as the Roman mullet steers beneath the table, the killing of the beautiful fish in transparent vases, or suffocating them in the exquisite Carthaginian pickle. This latter freak of Apicius entitles him to rank in our mind as the Lovegrove of his day.

To order dinner, "difficile est propter." A "whitebait dinner" is often the very climax of this position; and the "public" tables of twos, threes, and fours, present many disagreeable illustrations of this difficulty: above all things, the superabundance of fried dishes in such repasts is loudly to be protested against, and we, unquestionably, have the diet-doctors on our side; for a less digestible meal than a succession of fried dishes can scarcely be devised, even with the advantage of the acid accompaniments. Mr. Walker ("Tom Walker," as he has been irreverently called), has a page upon the subject, in his "Original," which is somewhat to the purpose. In his lively paper for August 26, 1835, he says:—"I will give you, dear reader, an account of a dinner I have ordered, this very day, at Lovegrove's, at Blackwall, where if you never dined, so much the worse for you. The party will consist of seven men besides myself, and every guest is asked for some reason—upon which good fellowship mainly depends; for people brought together unconnectedly had, in my opinion, better be kept separately. Eight I hold the golden number, never to be exceeded without weakening the efficacy of concentration. The dinner is to consist of turtle, followed by no other fish but Whitebait, which is to be followed by no other meat but grouse, which are to be succeeded simply by apple fritters and jelly, pastry on such occasions being quite out of place. With the turtle, of course, there will be punch; with the Whitebait, champagne; and with the grouse, claret; the two former I have ordered to be particularly well iced, and they will all be placed in succession upon the table, so that we can help ourselves as we please. I shall permit no other wines, unless, perchance, a bottle or two of port, if particularly wanted, as I hold variety of wines a great mistake. With respect to the adjuncts, I shall take care that there is cayenne, with lemons cut in halves, and in quarters, within reach of every one, for the turtle; and that brown bread-and-butter in abundance is set upon the table for the Whitebait. It is no trouble to think of these little matters beforehand, but they make a vast difference in convivial contentment. The dinner will be followed by ices, and a good dessert, after which coffee and one glass of liquor each, and no more; so that the present may be enjoyed without inducing retrospective regrets. If the master of a feast wish his party to succeed, he must know how to command; and not let his guests run riot, each according to his own wild fancy. Such, reader, is my idea of a dinner, of which I hope you approve; and I cannot help thinking that, if Parliament were to grant me £10,000 a year, in trust, to entertain a series of worthy persons, it would promote trade, and increase the revenue more than any higger-mugger measure ever devised."



WHITEBAIT FISHING.

We have heard Mr. Walker's carte objected to, and, we think, consistently; since, such of the party as were not attached to grouse, must have been at a loss for their third course, unless they were most piscivorously set. However, the passage involves some excellent advice, and the sooner the reader follows it, the better for his mundane enjoyment.

A ROYAL GODMOTHER.—Extract of a letter from Venice, of the 15th of April:—"Her Royal Highness the Duchess de Berri, on going yesterday afternoon to visit the church of Santa Maria Formosa, noticed at its entrance a poor woman in tears, beside whom was another with a child in her arms. Affected by the appearance of the poor creatures, her Royal Highness approached the latter, and said, 'What is the matter with you, good woman?' Not knowing the rank of the lady who addressed her, she replied, 'Madam, this child is a week old, and I cannot find any one who will hold it at the font. The priests will not make it a Christian, because I have no money to give them, and I am obliged to keep it without baptism from this cruelty.' Her Royal Highness, moved to tears at the recital, said, 'I will hold your child, and be its godmother.' The priests were quickly called, and the infant was christened. On the book being presented for the sponsor to enter her name, to the astonishment of the priests, her Royal Highness wrote with her own hand 'La Duchesse de Berri.' You may imagine the bows and apologies that ensued. Her Royal Highness gave the poor woman 100*l.*, and paid the priests, who were in ecstacy. Such a trait does honour to the heart of the Duchess, of whose character every one speaks with enthusiasm."

Smoking is become an almost universal practice, and is used more as an amusement, or an assistant for guzzling, than for any good expected from it. However, it cannot be denied that smoking is beneficial to persons subject to defluxions on the lungs; it is a constant and strong revulsion; and phlegmatic coughs and hoarseness may be greatly relieved by it, when other remedies fail. But are healthy persons to be pinned down to rules which are only to be followed by subjects who breed too much phlegm? Persons should not tamper with tobacco during the summer, which is a season that dries humors. In short, the healthy, and they who are of warm constitution, should avoid it.—Dr. STROTHER.

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