DECEMBER 4, 1886.

NO. 11,081.

THE WEEK.

THE York City Council, after a full and fair discussion of the subject, on Monday agreed, by a majority of 14, to accept the resignation of the LOWE CLERE, and in view of his long services and of the inadequate remuneration which he had received for so many years voted him, by a majority of 18, a returing allowance of £150 per annum for the remainder of his life. It is satisfactory to observe that even those members the Council who objected, on principle, to the grant of a pension, vied with each other in regretting the resignation of Mr. WILKINSON. and in expressing their high appreciation of the valuable services he had rendered as the legal adviser of the Corporation during the last care to take advantage of them. twenty-two years.

A DECISION given by the JUDGE of the Bow County Court on Monday will attract attention and evoke some comment. An action was brought to recover £3 for damage done to some pigeons by the defendant s cat. His Honour said that the plaintiff could not recover for the dam age done by defendant's cat. It was perfectly lawful to keep a cat, and it was impossible to restrain them from going on other people's premises. He was of opinion that he could not recover, and should give judgment for the defendant without costs. It is not for us to condecision be upheld, it will doubtless enforce greater vigilance on the part of neighbours the safe guarding of their feathered pets.

A BRIGHT gleau, of sunshine has appeared on the otherwise dark horizon of divided Christendom. Farnest, religious men are getting sick of sectarianism and striving after unity, and the latest development of the movement is seen in the efforts which are now being actively made to promote the re-union of the Wesleyan and New Connexton bodies in this country. The escenteen, which was promulgated in the first instance by four Ex-Presidents of the former denomination, has been warmly received by the most influential leaders of the smaller society. and it is deemed probable that at the next Wesleyan Conference a committee will be appointed to settle with a committee representing the other branch of Methodism the basis of an ami cable arrangement.

A NOTEWORTHY incident occurred on Tuesday night at Glasgow. Taking advantage of the presence in the city of the Earl and Countess of ARERDEEN, the irishmen (of whom there are over 100,000 in Glasgow) convened a mass loyalty to the Queen as Sovereign of Great danger. We commend this Britain and Ireland. exhibition of Irish loyalty to general attention.

M. DE FREYCINET expounded the foreign policy of France in the Chamber of Deputies on haturday, and it is satisfactory to record that the FRENCH PREMIER'S explanations regarding the external policy of his Government were marked or a great deal of tact and prudence. An idea widely prevailed that the speech, which has been eagerly anticipated by all those who take a serious interest in the "eternal Eastern Question, would lack the requisite moderation and firmness of language, and it is an agreeable, surprise to know that France is prepared to tread the same path as the rest of the Great Powers. M. DE PREYCINET'S remarks on the subject of Egypt were hailed with great applause, and it is sufficiently evident now, if evidence had been wanting, that our neighbour does not intend to relinquish her "rights" in the settlement of the difficulties which he eso long disturbed the Land of the Pharaohs.

COME interesting statistics have just been assued relating to the progress of Australasia in the ten years ending 1885. The increase of population in New Zealand in the decade was 55 per cent.; in New South Wales, 62; in Queensland, 80. The increase of land under cultivation. in the same period, was 92 per cent, in South Australia, 109 per cent, in New Zealand, 113 per cent, in Victoria, and no less than 183 per cent, in Queensland. The increase of mileage of railways in New Zealand is two hundred and eighty-eight per cent, in Western Australia three hundred and eighty-four per cent., and in Queensland four hundred and forty-one per cent. This is progress indeed, but there is the dismal hard ffact behind it all, that the public burdens have correspondingly increased, the public debt in New Zealand, for instance, already amounting to fig: 4s, 9d, per head.

THE appointment of General Sir REDVERS BULLER as Under-Secretary for Ireland is not the least startling of the numerous surprises which the present Government, in a very short period, have evolved from their secret conterences in Downing-street. The explanation offered by the Ministerial apologists in the Press. that the arrangement is only a temporary one, limited to six months, pending the final determinstion of the Government with respect to the constitution of the office, is hardly calculated to disarm public criticism. It may be perfectly true that General Buller's services at Dublin Castle will only be required during the transactions incidental to hir Hobert Hamilton's departure and the re-organisation of the secretarial department, but, at a crisis like the present in Irish affairs, the wisdom of combining, even for a brief period, the duties of a Military Commissioner and the civil office of the Under-Secretary may reasonably be doubted.

THE cloud of depression still overhangs British agriculture, and the long-expected era of prosperity shows no signs of speedy arrival. A new cause of discouragement to many farmers is mentioned in Monday's Bell's Messenger. is averred that the London greengrocers have great difficulty in procuring half a supply of sound potatoes at the present time, and fears are entertained that the tubers will all be attacked before Christmas. The potato disease, it is stated, is already prevalent in the Marshland district of Yorkshire. It has not only made its appearance, but has already developed itself to a fearful extent. Crops taken up apparently quite sound have by the time they have been in the pits about a week from one-third to one-half of them become unfit for market, and potatoes sent off to market apparently sound will on arrival be found to contain additional signs o the epidemic. It is with much regret we hear o' this latest addition to farmers' grievances, and would fain hope that the sequel may not be quite so bad as the forecast.

FRANCE is getting a little weary of the conquest in Tonquin and its financial drain signed a week ago, and it came into operation upon her resources. The fighting has ceased for | the same day. It is a distinct advance on the a time, but glory and the grave have never been | previous treaty, and in favour of this country. so near together in any Colonial war of recent | with which the Roumanians do more trade than years. The actual estimate of French losses with any other country in Europe, except cannot be given, because the French War Office | Austria. Roumania has now a commercia' is in no hurry to publish damaging statistics, and there is not the same method of notifying | have had some influence in procuring for us individual deaths as in this country. The belief pretty general, however, that the campaign principal exports to Roumania are cotton goods, has cost the French Government as many men as and iron, wrought and unwrought. In cotton the Allies lost in the Crimean war, and from | goods we send six-tenths of a million pounds twenty-five to thirty millions sterling. Thirty worth annually, whilst our iron shipments are millions more francs, or £1,200,000, were voted a third of a million. The remaining on Monday, though not without some strong exports, amounting to two criticisms and misgivings, and a near shave in miscellaneous articles. for the Ministry, as the majority was only exports remain twenty-nine. M. DE FREECINET was wholly Treaty, except in certain threads, and the new unable to admit that any withdrawal could be duties are not upon articles that we usually trade contemplated. France was bound to persist, in | in. The important feature of the Treaty is, howorder to uphold her prestige, and preserve un- ever, that so many metals are now entirely impaired "the French reputation for perseve- exempt from duty, including iron and steel rails, rance." This is the fatal characteristic of all such enterprises. They are begun in a fit of | wheels. Brass, bronze, copper, pewter, tin, and military fever, or colonial expansion, and they all kinds of wire, are now duty free. The best lives are lost or what money is spent. Probably, reports from our officials in the country as to Here under like circumstances. Great Britain would | the articles most in request, in order to guide have persevered also, and with Burmah giving | commercial firms in their business. We may much the same trouble we cannot cast stones fairly anticipate an improved trade with sight, and we shall be that in another quarter of an at France. But the moral of all such matters is Roumania, as the new tariff is framed upon | hour," the very simple one that a cautious foreign | liberal lines, and with a sincere desire to benefit "Thank'ee, Tom," replied the hero shaking his policy, untouched by sensationalism and adven- | the contracting parties A new commercial | head, "but I won't taste till the fight's over. When ture, is wiser than plunges that begin perhaps | treaty with Greece will be the next arrangement | I've tasted I shoot careless, and that won't do towith fascinating gleanse, only to lead to disaster, made, and the negotiations are in a promising day."

VERY little interest, and even this is confined to medical scientists, is being taken in the prolonged fasts of the two Italians-MERLATTI and Eucci-in Paris. In another fortnight the former will have completed his fifty days' fast, and his fellow-countryman will have accomplished the half of that he has just commenced. These exhibitions of abnormal ability to live without food for a lengthened period, do not serve any useful purpose as far as can be seen, and it is a pity that foolish men should be encouraged, even by a few people, to attempt to defy the laws of Nature in this extraordinary manner. After all, these experiments are but a slow species of suicide, and there are much easier and quicker methods of self-destruction open to those was

RICHARD MELLING, a farmer and milksell-r. living at Fallowfield, is certainly incorrigible. He disregards the terrors of the law, and cares nothing for the Adulteration Act. On Wednesday he was fined by the Manchester City Justices £10 and costs for selling milk which, according to the evidence of the city analyst, had been adulterated with water to the extent of 15 per cent. The defendant is an old offender, and it is no novelty for him to be fined, for from a statement laid before the Bench it appeared that | deepening into dangerous caverus, spanned by dizzy since 1875 he and members of his family together had paid in penalties no less a sum than £130 for test the legal acumen of the Judge, but if the selling adulterated milk. The profits must have been very large, or the game would not be worth the candle. Seeing the serious consequences poor milk a more drastic punishment is surel needed in such a case.

Some strange statements are circulated now and then as to the yearly earnings of the most brilliant barristers of the British Bar. The public are asked to believe that some of our lawyers-whether devoting themselves criminal or nust prius cases does not enter into the question-are accumulating magnificent fortunes by their forensic eloquence and ability. Whatever may be the case in England, it is stated, with some authority, that Colonel WARD LAMON (ABRAHAM LINCOLN'S biographer), who appeared as counsel in the case of "The Choctaw Nation v. the United States," which was decided knees, ten days ago in the Supreme Court at Washington, is to receive a fee of no less than £50,000 for his services. This lucky lawyer was on the side of the Chocktaws who were awarded a sum of

THE Monmouthshire Court (Raglan) of the Ancient Order of Foresters has just taken an meeting to recognise the distinguished services | important step which is likely to be made the rendered to the Irish cause by the popular er- subject of vehement debate amongst football Vicerof and his estimable consort. "God save players who belong to sick clubs. It has passed the UTERN" and "Rule Britannia" were a rule, formulated by themselves, not to allow any rendered standing by the vast audience consisting | sick pay to any member who receives injury whilst exclusively, he it understood, of Irish, and all of playing football. The Monmouthshire Foresters them probably belonging to the National League. | are evidently of the opinion expressed by an old The passage in Lord ABERDEEN's speech where writer, that "footeballe is nothing but beastlie he repudiated the charge that they were furie and extreme violence, whereof proceedeth Separatists met with vociferous obsering, and | hurte." No doubt the game, especially the pledging it to do all in its power to obtain Home | view of the number of accidents which have Rule for Ireland, and declaring its conviction recently been recorded, it is becoming necessary again. that "such policy is entirely consistent with for those in authority to take means to lessen the

> A CIRCULAR has been issued by the Warden of Trinity College, London, suggesting the formation of local musical bands consisting of wind and stringed instrument players. It is admitted that the extensive introduction of the organ into places of worship has gradually swept away the generation of players on orchestral instruments. This result is to be deplored, for, with due respect to the organ, which is justly called the the musical genius of must mevitably ensue, by the neglect to oultivate to the fullest extent the capabilities of wind and don't know? string bands. It would be a decided advantage, in many cases, to have a few well-trained instrumentalists of this kind in the chancels of our churches, in preference to the wretched per- line?" formances by which worshippers are too often made miserable by ambitious but ill-instructed organists. It is, therefore, to be hoped that the advice of the Warden of Trinity College will be taken, and meet with the encouragement which

MANY visitors who have admired the splendid pile of buildings forming Owens College at Manchester-now the centre of the Victoria Town University-must have been curious to know the history of the institution. It seems the founder was John Owens, who came to Cottonopolis in early life, and amassed a great forture as a bat-lining manufacturer and His first idea was to make a will leaving his money to a life-long friend, GRORGE clean dead-and never draw'd on a man without FAULKNER, and the conversation is thus recorded in a book which has just been pub- white men, not counting niggers or Injins. I can lished. One day Owens called on FAULENER, show you the record." and said "I have made my will. I have left thee all I have." "Then," said FAULKNER, "thou may make another; I won't have it, I have quite as much of my own as I can answer for and won't have anybody else's on my account." Mr. FAULKNER subsequently urged Owens leave his wealth to found a college, and the advice was taken. The net sum realised from the bequest of OWEN, who died in 1846, for educational purposes, amounted to £96,645 to which £10,000 was afterwards added as the result of public subscriptions.

THE Bulgarian Mission to the European Courts has ceased to be of any use. Had it been despatched some weeks ago, it might have corrected many wrong impressions and assisted in the formation of a healthy European opinion. There was an opening for diplomatic action of But the delay in despatching it has made it wholly unnecessary, and perhaps prejudicial. The selection of Prince WALDEMAR was evidently meant to be a great stroke of policy, and everything else was subordinated to It failed, however, in a most remarkable manner, in spite of Bulgarian enthusiasm, and we judge from the surprise of the Bulgarians at this result that they are not kept well-informed as to the movements European opinion. Consequent upon the refusal of Prince WALDEMAR, the Mission has been delayed, and now the Porte has signified its disapproval, and is accordingly suspected of Eussian sympathies, Apart from any Turkish view, however, we should regard a Bulgarian Mission just now as likely to be irritating rather than helpful. The Powers have so far insisted upon the settlement of Bulgarian affairs under the Berlin Treaty. They maintain that position, and they also wish to promote the candidature of a Prince who will be unobjectionable to the parties most interested. We do not see how a Mission can improve upon these facts. It will displease Russia, and it may hamper the action of the Powers. We shall regard it as a step in the wrong direction, made in ignorance, and persisted in despite the advice of the Suzeram

A NEW Commercial Treaty has been arranged between Roumania and this country. It was quarrel with Austro-Hungary, and this fact will better terms than in the former treaty. Our unsffected metal fixtures and machinery, and ribands for

A HERO IN BPITE OF HIMSELF.

BY ROBERT BUCHANAN. AUTHOR OF " SHADOW OF THE EWORD," "A CRILD OF

MATURE," AND " GOD AND THE MAN.

EOOK II-CHAPTER VII. A CURIOUS BAILWAY JOURNEY.

On a dark afternoon in the month of September 18-, the so-called express train from Canaan City consisting of a weather-beates engine and and a few almost empty cars, approached the station of Abiabam's Town, on the borders of feras and Bilverado. I may remark, en passant, that the Canaan and Abraham's Town Grand Junction line was only seventy miles long, and, being a strict monopoly, charged the general public at the rate of fivepence a mile for passenger transit.

As Abraham's Town drew near, the prospect from the cars, which had hitherto consisted almost entirely of open grass and prairie, grew wilder and rougher, bridges, and rising in the distance to ranges of low russet-coloured mountains.

Now, curiously enough, in the entire train there were only two human beings besides the engine-driver and the conductor. One was no other than our old friend Jack Kelso, dressed in a rough shooting suit with wide-awake hat and high boots, and having by him, along with his other light traps, a doublebarrelled gun, a sleeping-rug covered with indiarubber, and a fishing-rod. His companion, or rather the ir dividual who sat silent at some distance from him, was a tall, powerfully-buit, portly man of about forty, with a sunburni, open face, light blue eyes, longish hair, and a red teard which swept his breast. His attire was simple, consisting of a sombrero, a red secollen shirt, buckskin trousers, and high boots. casual observer, looking at his face, would have thought its chief characteristic to be genial good rature, that of a man at peace with all the world; yet, strange to say, this burly, smiling fellow carried, in addition to three large pistuls and a long knife in his beit, a Winchester repeating rule across his

From time to time the conductor, a sly and wiry person of familiar manners, appeared in the car and looked at the armed man with obvious admiration; but, although they were obviously acquainted, little or no conversation took place between them. The journey had already occupied some hours, and not a word had been spoken, Kelso, for his part, being too much interested in the prospect, and too little attracted by his solitary fellowpassenger, to break the ice; but, at last, as the train began to toil slowly up the steep incline towards the mountains, he left his rest and took another near to

The stout man looked at him gently, smiled as if at his own sweet thoughts, but said nothing. "Not much traffic on this line, sir," said Jack. "Shouldn't care to be one of the shareholders, if it's The man smiled again, opened his month as if to

speak, and then, thinking better of it, closed his the meeting carried unanimously a resolution Rugby form of it, is a rough pastime, and in mouth once more. This was not encouraging; but the man looked so amiable that Jack resolved to try "Going far, sir? Excuse my curiosity, but as we're the only two passengers---" Here, to Jack's great astonishment, the man suddenly

smacked his thigh with his powerful hand, and gave "Why, look yer, that's what it is, stranger," he cried, beaming. "Only two passengers, you and me, and both a-going on to Abraham's Town. Darn me it ain't as good as a play." Jack failed to perceive any particular humour in

the ides, but answered the other's smile with the view of been sociable. "It is singular," he remarked, "that there is so little traffic, for the district seems populous enough." A sudden thought seemed to strike the other, and he cried, leaning towards Kelsc-"Look yer, stranger, d'ye mean to tell me that you

" Know what, sir?" "Why, that it's an off day for the public on the Canaan and Abraham's Town Grand' Junction

Jack shook his head. "Wal, now, it warn't square of the booking-clerk to Canaan City not to inform yer. You're a Britisher, I callkilate?

"Yee, an Englishman." "Give us your fist," cried the stranger, reaching out a flat of iron and giving a hearty hand shake. I'm a Britisher myself, the' I left the old country when I was a boy. Perhaps you've heard o' me?

No? What, never heard of Dunn Smith, of Speranza "I'm quite a stranger, you see," returned Jack. seeing that Mr. Dunn Smith looked a little dis-

"Wal. Dunn Smith's my name, and I'm sheriff of Speranza Town. I sin't one to boast, but I'm well know'd in these parts as a civil, God-fearing chap that has killed his seventy-sixth men-each man giving him first chance. It's true! Jack stared. Was it possible that the goodtempered looking man was a innatic afflicted with

homicidal mania? He was amused, but a little concerned, as he glanced at the formidable weapons Mr. Smith was displaying. "But, as I was saying, it warn't square to start you from Canaan City without giving you the wink; and

you unarmed, too; for so far as I see, you don't carry Jack smiled, and drew from his breast a small revolver, Tranter's patent, which he had brought all

the way from London. Mr. Dunn Smith took the weapon and placed it in his large palm, smilingly. "This yer little toy," he remarked, "is the style o shooter we give childer to play with and gals to carry in their peckets down Speranza way. It might suit s Lillipcotian colony, where the people sin't grow'd up.

but I reckon it won't do for Bilverado." And he handed it back contemptuously enough for Jack to put back in his pocket. It's the custom, then, to go armed in this district?" Jack asked, after a slight pause. "Some does and some don't. Women don't nor

"At any rate," cried Jack, laughing," you are telerably well protected." Mr Dunn Smith's face darkened a little.

"Don't you make no mistake young man. There's twelve on 'em waiting for me at Abraham's Station, and if I come out o' this day's work, it won't be without scoring 'eighty' on my record. But just you take my advice. Directly we run in saide the office, you get under the seat till it's all over, for it'll be bailing hell before you can count 'one, two, three, and as it ain't a free fight, and no consarn of yours, what you'll want is cover." Jack began, though rather dimly, to understand.

Do you mean that there is going to be a fight of some sort?" he inquired. "That's what I do mean, just. I got wind of it in Car san. 'Dunn, they sez, 'they're on the war-path. Jim Bearle and his brother and ten more are to wait for you at Abraham's Station and finish you off." You see, they was three brothers-Jim, Bill, and Ned-and they was the curse o' my district, 'specially d and Bill. Property warn't safe, and ladies couldn't go about respected when Ned Searle was about. At last things grew so bad that I had to do something; for Ned sent me a message telling me to move up town, and went about threatening to have my life. Wal, you see, Ned was game enough, but he could no more shoot than a fly. At last we went up to Sampson's bar, end he drew on me like greased lightning; but, bless yer life, his bullets went foolin'

then, when he'd amoosed himself in that way, I added " Killed him, do you mean?" asked Jack. "Wal, something of that sort," returned Mr. Smith, with a thoughtful nod. "It had to be done. d'ye see. Naterally, Ned's brothers-one o' them a first-rate shot and a God-fearing man like myselfwas annoyed. So they went on the war-path, and this very moment they're waiting for me, I guess, at Abraham's Station, with ten more that they've paid to do my business, every one o' them armed with Winchesters and long shooters."

about somewhar and killed a poor Injin woman, and

The subject was growing really interesting. Jack surveyed his new acqueintance once more, critically. He was certainly a fine fellow, not at all bloodthirs'y in appearance. His blue eye was clear as a child's. but steady as a hawk's also, for that matter. "And I callkulate," continued Mr Smith, "that the yer is the reason why the traffic to-day is temporary suspended. The public know it's no constru of their's, and stope at home."

"Wouldn't it have been wise," said Jack, " seeing the odds so much against you, to remain for the time being in Cansan?" Mr Dunn Smith flushed and seemed astonished. "What! stay foolin' in Cansan when they was

weiting for me down at home? Guess you don't know what you're talking about. If I had to tramp it all the way, I wouldn't miss the fight for a thousand Here the conductor appeared, carrying a bottle and a glass.

" Idiomatic, for quit the district,

Bo mying, he quietly examined his pistols, and saw that they were in working order, opened his repeating rifle, and saw that, too, was ready. "Twelve to one," said Jack, " is not fair odds." Mr Dunn Smith laughed. The conductor joined in,

SATURDAY,

full of admiration. "Tom, the gentleman is a stranger hereabouts, and thinks I can't shoot straight." The joke so tackled the conductor that he was fairly convulsed with laughter.

Grog Harris's theayter at Sante Fe."

"Tell him," continued the warrior, " how I cleared

Thus prompted, Tom launched out into an excited description of how, about a year before, Mr Dunn tm th bad spent his bolidays at he city named, and bow, having got into disgrace with the gambling fraternity be was marked out for punishment by e-stain desperadoes of the place. There was a rude theatrical performance in a place which was half drinking and gaming saloon, half temple of the drame, at d as it was known that Smith was going to attend. belf a dezen men, armed with rifles, were posted d fiere t parts of the house. At a given signal be ween the acts, the audience cleared out, leaving | Baireh? mith, armed only with pistole, in the pit, or parterre. The place was lit by a couple of oil lamps swung over the stage, and others placed round the anditorium. Buddenly those in the auditorium were extinguished. and the enemy opened fire. In a moment Smith fired a double shot at the stage lamps, and extinguished both, leaving the place in total darkness. Bullets rained around him, but, crouching down, he watched the flashes of the rifles from circle and gallery, and by those momentary gleams saw his enemies. In a few minutes four were killed or desperately wounded, while the others crept away, and Dunn Smith was left master of the field. A whistle from the sugine showed that the station was rear. Glancing out, Kelso saw that they were passing through a narrow monotain guleb, by the side of a shallow and brawling river. The sun was egit bing to set, lighting up the scene with savage

Mr Smith rose to his feet, rifle in hand. "New for it," he said. " Take my advice, young man, and keep under cover." As he speke, the train went slower and slower, and inally drew up in front of a wooden bouse, behind which rose a steep crag, or bluff, covered with trees. Without a moment's heeft stion Mr. Smith opened he carriage coor, and leaped out.

> BOOK II .- CHAPTER VIII. THE BATTLE OF ABRAHAMS TOWN.

There was a mementary pause, then a shrill whistle, then barg! barg! went half a dezen guns simultaneously. A bullet whizzed through the carriage window, and flattened itself on the wood work on the opposite side. The conductor threw himself open his face. Jack Kelso, thinking discretion the cetter part of valour, crouched down in the shelter of

Then ensued such a fusillade as is seldom hear! save on the field of battle. From the windows of the wooden house, from the adjoining heights, bullets came like hail, manny of them pattering on the carriage and on the wooden platform. With oaths and execuations, three or four men rushed out ambush, firing as they came. Bang! bang! bang! bang! went Dunn Smith's rifle in reply. Presently the sounds of firing ceased, and Jack

ventured to peep out. Then he saw a horrible sight -a number of men in red shirts and top boots lying dead on the platform, and Dunn Smith standi g bareheaded under shelter of the shed, wrapping a bandkerchief round his right hand, which had been riddled by a ball. The moment after Smith sprang away and rushed up into the woods. Bang! bang! bang! came from that direction. Then there was an ominous silence, lasting for several minutes. Grasping his revolver, Kelso leapt out of the carriage, and looked round him. Then he saw the 'sead of the engine-driver slowly raised from und it the engine, grimy and grinning. Finally, the conductor stepped down, looking scared and

"Guess it's all over now," said Tom glancing at the dead bodies. As he spoke, Mr. Dunn Smith resppeared, bleedirg from the band, but otherwise uninjured. seraphic smile irradiated his features. But just then, Kelso, looking towards the end of the shed, saw what the other could not see—the head and arms of a bearded man, armed with a rifle, and pointing the weapon with the view of sending Mr. Smith to the great majority.

Almost instinctively, and entirely without reflection, Kelso raised his pistol and fired. There was a yell, and the ruffian, winged in the arm, dropped his rifle and took to his heels. Mr. Smith looked round coolly. He saw the same as last year. retreating figure, raised his left arm, and covered

the figure; then, with a smile he lowered his weapon and did not fire. "Tant quite square, he said, "to take a man in the rear, anyhow. Young man," he added, turning to Jack, "give us your fist again. It was Ned Searle himself, and he can shoot—so I should have got pepper if it hadn't been for that little toy of your'n."

He walked over to the dead men, and looked down upon them composedly. "Test's Ned's brother, Jim," he said, pointing to a powerful figure extended on his back, shot through the heart. "Poor Jim! We've had many a drink together. And this is Charley Harris; and that Long Bill from Kansas; and t'other, a stranger, opiniate. "Tom, if you're agreeable, I'll have a drink

The conductor ran into the carriage and re-appeared, carrying the bottle and glass. Mr Smith took a glass of spirits, then another; and Kelso, on the | who has charge of her little granddaughter. The conductor's invitation, followed suit, "How many do you make it, Mr Duan?" asked

Tom obsequiously. "Six-four yer, and two more up among the trees. That totals eighty-two, I reckon. And I never draw'd fust on any one of 'om."

The battle being now entirely over, a number people-men, women, and children-who had been biding in the vicinity, now crowded on the platform and warmly congratulated the victor. It was clear that he was a favourite. It was a surprise, indeed, to Kelso, who was quite; unsophisticated in such matters, to see Smith stoop down to a little gir (whom he addressed by name) kiss her quit

paternally, and pulling out a package of sweetmests from his pocket, place it in her hands, Followed by the crowd, they walked out of the station and entered the town, a long, rambling street of wooden bouses, extending right along the ravine. At last, Dunn Smith halted before a door over which was the rudely painted inscription "Sherman's Hotel." Inside there was a bar, nearly deserted, with a thin, white-bearded elderly man, the hotel-keeper. in attendance. Dunn walked in and shook this worthy by the hand. Kelso and Tom followed, and

the population swarmed at the door. "Welcome back, sheriff," said the hotel-keeper. You sin't home too soon, neither. Jim Searle and his gang have been having a high time ever since you went to Canaan," "Wal," returned Smith, smiling, "they won't have high times no more. Has Mrs Smith sent over the

trap and the mare to meet me?" "Yes, sheriff; and more'n that, the missus druy if over herself, and is waiting yer to see you." As he spoke, there sailed from the interior of the hoten a little woman attired in the height of some bygone fashion —a showy mantle, a silk dress, and a hat with a red feather. She had black ringlets, and a sharp, rather pretty face, a little faded. It was clear at a glance that she was Smith's senior by several years; but in her manner there was an affectation juvenility, combined with no little pride in her personal attractions.

"So you've come home at last," she said, in a high shrill voice and with a toss of the head, i " I admire that you didn't stop altogether, and look arter another wife, up at Canaan." Mr Smith winked at Kelso, and replied, good-"All right, Saireh!"

"But it ain't all right," was the retort. "You'd tire out the patience of a saint, you would, fooling about with them shooters like a big babby, instead of stopping quite at home with your lawful wife. Have you brought me them things, I want to know?" They're coming on by the cars to-morrow, Sairel This yer is a partickler friend of mine-let me intro duce him. Mr--, Mr---"Kelso," suggested Jack.

" Mr Kelso, thus is Mrs Dunn Smith." Jack bowed, and Mrs Smith saluted him with an air of genteel patronage. "Guess you've come to a God-forgotten place," she said. "Have you come to settle?" Jack explained that he was a gentleman travelling partly for amusement, partly for the purpose

looking at the gold and silver mines in the vicinity This clearly raised him in the lady's estimation. "Recken you re the first man," she cried, with a giggle, "who ever came down her for pleasure. Much o' that, you bet. It's heart-breaking to a weman 'customed to good society and hops twice week in her own city."

It was quite clear that, in her owndomestic sphere Mrs Dunn Smith was the master. In her presence her husband was gentle as a lamb. It will obvious too, that he held her physical charms in no little Presently the company were shown into a large room adjoining the bar, and here the found repast ready. It was plain, but ameptable.

consisting of cold capons, ham, bread, and biscuits

with spirits and water to wash them down. For Mrs

hotel-keeper joined the circle, too, The conversation was peculiar, consisting entirely George's Chapel. of sanguinary reminiscences, in most of which the

Canaan, where, if her own report could be trusted. perhaps, she felt that, in uniting her lot to that of her husband, she had thrown herself away. Presently, the sheriff turned to Kelso, and said, with a peculiar twinkle in his blue eye-"Guess I heard you say you wanted to look at

them mines? them. Are they far from here?" "Not very far-close along o' my house. I've | stantial piece of furniture. heard tell they're to be worked again, by a New York Company?"

"That is so," said Jack; and the other, as if greatly tickled, laughed loudly. Larring and fooling about is all you're fit for, I Duchess of Connaught are to return from Bombay for Iwould make a cat laugh, Saireh, to think of the

Shall we take a few shares in that that company, All laughed, now, as at an excellent joke. Mrs. Dunn Smith tossed her carls contemptuously.

any of your dollars in that consarn? "Suppose, for argument's sake, that I had?" "Suppose, for argyment's sake, that your're a-going to blow out your brains, or go into a sylum for lu atice? I ve known poor critters do that along

serious, and again addressing Jack, " you haven t put

"Wal," said the hotel-keeper, philosophically, "there's mines and mines, d'ye see; but, taking the rough with the smooth, darn'd if I wouldn't rather put my dollars in a bag and sink 'em down to the bottom of the sea." The sheriff greeted this sally with an approving

"You're right, Dan'l," he cried. "As for Mr Kelso, here (and here's his health, for one of the right sort !) he's a young man, I reckon, with a good deal to larn. However, I don't forget he could shoot straight enough with his leetle toy to nick Ned Searle just as he was a-goirg to settle me, and I hope, therefore, be'll take advice from them as knows." "Tell me about these mines," said Kelso, eagerly,

"I am really anxious about them." "I'll tell you what I'll do," replied the sheriff, "Arter you've rested yer to-night, I'll drive you over with me in the trap, and you can see and judge for yourself. I can't say fairer nor that-and you can make my house your home as long as you're inclined to stay; that is, if the missus has no objection." Mrs Dunn Smith was good enough to say that the had no particular objection, if the stranger cared for such poor entertairment as her house could afford and it was forthwith settled that Kelso should be driven over to Speranza in the morning. (To be continued.)

TOUTON GOODIE.

PROM THE " WORLD." Colonel G. W. Knoz, who commanded the 1st Ba talion Scots Guards in the Egyptian campaign of 18: bas been offered the command of a regimental district, which he has accepted. He doubtless will go to Berwick-on-Tweed, which becomes vacant to-

the Bishop of Ripon and Mrs. Boyd Carpenter have been making a short stay at Hastings. The eloquent Bishop will be one of the "appointed " Leut preachers at the Chapel Royal, St. James's, next year and he is to be one of the special Sunday-evening preachers at St. Paul's Cathedral, probably

Lady Londonderry's health has recently been causing much anxiety, and she has sought advice i London. Her Excellency's spirits have been as goo as ever, and she has joined in nearly all the social functions at the Lodge; but she has been very weak, and has had to be carried up and down stairs. The Lord-Lieutenant left Dublin on Sunday to join Lady Londonderry in London.

The Queen now intends to pass Christmas in the Isle of Wight. Princess Beatrice's accouchement no having been expected quite so early. The Court will remove to Osborne as soon after the 16th as the Princess is able to travel, and Windsor Castle will be deserted till the third week in February. It is extremely probable that the Queen will go to the Riviera for Easter, accompanied by Princess Beatrice and Prince Henry of Battenberg, but nothing will be definitely settled for some weeks to com?. Her Majesty intends to open Parliament in person, but not in state. The arrangements will be exactly the

The fact of Brigadier-General C. B. Knowles, formerly of the 67th, and more recently Assistant-Adjutant and Quartermaster-General at York, being Adjutant-General of the Bombay Army just now, i one upon which the Duke of Connaught certainly has reason to congratulate himself. A good Adjutant-General can do so much to relieve a "chief" and make things run smoothly, and General Knowles is essentially the right man in the right place, and succeeded another good soldier in Major-General Lyttelton-Annealey. The Bombay ought not to be

difficult command for his Boyal Highness. Last week I recorded a sympathetic visit of the Prince of Wales to poor Archer's burial-place in the Newmarket Cemetery, and a further touching incident of bis Royal Highness's kindly nature has since come to my knowledge. On the same day the Prince expressed a desire to see the child of his favourite jockey, and a message to that effect was sent to Mrs. John Dawson, latter happened to be out with her nurse at the time : but on their return Mrs. Dawson, accompanied b Miss Annie Dawson and the child, drove over to Kennett, where his Royal Highness was shooting, and explained the object of her visit. On being informed thereof, the Prince instantly requested an interview and after shaking hands most cordially with Mrs. and Miss Dawson, he took the child on his lap, kissed her, and gave her sweets, before handing "baby back to her grandmother.

The marriage of Sir George Sitwell to the Hon. Ida Denison caused much rejoicing and ringing of bells on Tuesday at Londesborough, Selby, Scarborough Lyndhurst, and Renishaw. In consequence of the dense fog which prevailed in London, Lord Londosborough's many friends apperienced considerable difficulty in finding their way to St. George's, where, in spite of the gas, a gray mist completely filled the building, and greatly marred the picturesque effect of the ivory-white velours Alexandre and exquisite point de gaze in which the bride looked so charming, and the pretty pale blue cachemire and pink carnations of the bridesmaids.

Dean Davidson, who performed the principal part of the ceremony, is a cousin of Lady Sitwell, and Lord Londesborough's two chaplains (who have both known the bride from her infancy) assisted him. The choral service in the mist had a somewhat weird effect, but as soon as it was over the fog lifted sufficiently to enable the guests to reach Berkeleysquare in safety, where the good old-fashione wedding-breakfast, at which the Duke of Beaufort briefly proposed the health of Sir George and Lady Sitwell, came to an end in time to allow of their early departure for Renishaw Hall. In the evening Lord Londesborough took all his friends to hear The Mikado, and the festivities ended with a pleasant supper-party in Berkeley-square.

Notwithstanding the weather and the shooting, the wedding-party was an unusually brilliant one. His Grace of Beaufort came up expressly from Bournemouth, where the Duchess is nursing her son, Lord Henry Somerset, through an attack of typhoid fever. Lady Bood and Lord Wrottesley had every reason to be proud of the appearance of their daughters in the picturesque group of bridesmaids. Lady Wrettesley was, I am sorry to hear, too ill to come ; but amongs; those who braved the elements were Lady Edward Somerset, Lady Waterford, Lady Howe, Lady Edith Curzon, the Downger Lady Donoughmore, Lad Margaret Hamilton, Lady Geraldine Somerset, Lad Ormathwaite, Mr. and Lady Isabel Thomas, Lad Bitwell and her daughter, Bir G. Codrington, and Mr. Anderson Critchett.

"MARY HAPPY RETURNS OF THE DAY!"-Og Wednesday, December 1st, to Rev. Robert W. Dale (Birmingham), born 1829; on Thursday, December 2nd, to Miss Hilds Montalba; on Friday, Decem ber 3rd, to Dr. Mackarness, Bishop of Oxford, born 1820; on Saturday, December 4th, to Viscount Sherbrooke, P.C., G.C.B., born 1804; on Sunday, December 5th, to Charles Du Cane, K.C.M.G., born 1825 on Monday, December 6th, to Professor Max Muller, D.C.L., F.R.S., born 1823; on Tuesday, December 7th, to Major-General Sir Baker C. Russell, K.C.B., born 1837.

FROM "TRUTH. There was an offertory in Winchester Cathedra' last week for the Church Temperance Society, when the congregation in the nave, numbering five hundred persons, contributed the very temperate sum of twenty

The Dowager-Duchess of Montrose, who was a Manchester races last week, is supposed to have recovered all her " back end " losses by the success of Stourhead. She goes to Cannes next week for three Considering the rush newadays to Courts of Justice

interest Peers to know that they are deemed, as members of the highest Court of Appeal, to have a quasi right to a seat on the Bench. There is to be a general assembly of the Royal Dunn Smith there was hot coffee, of which, on her be held in the Mauroleum, at Frogmore, at twelve invitation, Kelso partock. The conductor sat down o'clock. The Dean of Windsor will officiate, and the with the party, and, after everything was served, the hamns and anthem, which are to be selected by the Queen, will be sung by the boys of the choir of St.

whenever a sensational case is before them, it may

The Court will now leave Windsor for Osborne on good-humonred sheriff figured as a hero. The Tuesday, the 21st, and the Queen intends to may secordingly, with costs. incidents of the day had almost exhausted Jack the Isle of Wight till the end of Pebruary. Her Kelso's especity for astonishment, but he listened | Majesty will come up to Buckingham Palace for two with no little interest. When he was tired of listed. | nights on January 12, to open Parliament.

short time, and got over it exceedingly well, which is ART AND LITERATURE. she had been a conspicuous belle. Naturally, the more satisfactory, incomuch as the Princess has been rather low and monish and negrous lately. The dulness of the Balmoral autumn seemed to have settled on her spirits like a pall. I hear that the Sir George's object to make his work a complete view child is to be called Albert Alexander Victor Henry. of the dependencies of the Crown.

> The child's cradle was bought by the Queen in Edinburgh. It is of polished oak and is lined with published. It is intended particularly for railway pink. It was exhibited in the artisans' section of the travellers and others, among whom the "Shilling Edinburgh Exhibition, and is a very nest and sub- | dreadful" had for a time so great a run. be in England during the Jubilee celebration next

year, so the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh and Prince George of Wales are coming home from Malta "Don't you be a fool, Dunn!" cried his partner. | at the end of May for a few weeks, and the Duke and

a couple of months. Lord Blackburn, I bear, has privately intimated last chaps as worked that claim. Why, when they his intention of resigning his place in the Court of the Argentine Republic. struck are they couldn't get water, and when they | Appeal, and it is probable that he will be succeeded It und water, they were fur away from the gold. by Mr. Justice Stephen, which would be a very good appointment. Lord Blackburn was raised to the | Christianity," will be published next week. The first Beach by Lord Campbell in 1859, and his elevation excited a loud clamour because he wore only a stuff gown, but he turned out one of the best judges of "I hope, though, continued Smith, locking more our time.

On the approaching resignation of the Lord Chief successor. The appointment would be approved of by all parties, from a professional point of view, five years. Lord Justice Fitzgibbon being, without question, the n ines, I have. Ask Mr Sherman, here. He can tell | greatest lawyer on the Irish Bench.

(FROM "PUNCH.") Sublime Person: Will you not come with me to hear the lecture on the Utter?-Frivolous and Unasthetic Person: Depends on who's the utterer. THE POWER OF IMAGINATION. - Street Arab, in hospital (to Doctor, who has just been taking his temperature): "Ah, sir! that done me a lot o good,

A HAFFY THOUGHT .- Ullo, Count! Why you're writing a love-lester in English! - Yes, I write to ze charmeeng vidow, Mistress Wilkeensonne.-But you're copying it out of Frank Fairleigh! - Ma, foi, yes! I always use myself on zis book-not for ze sentiments, vich are not mine, but for ze construc-

"THE OLD ADAM."- The Minister (coming on them unawares): " E-e-h! Sandy Macdougal, ah m sorry to see this! and you, too, Wully! Fishin' o' the Sawbath! Ab thorht sh'd enstellet better prenciples -- " (a rise) "E-e-h! Wully, man! ye hae 'm! it's entil em! Haud up yer rod, man, or ve'il lose'm -take car-r-re!--" | Recollects himself, and walks FROM " JUDY."

WELL IN AT THE FISISH. -" But, see here, gren't you the man that told me the hounds passed thus way?"-" I am that man."-" But when?"-" Since I told you an' before,"-But when did they pass?"-" Last Monday week." PROSE .- Little Wifey: Then there were two great

painters, and two great authors, and an eminent tragedian, and - you! What a gathering together o congenial souls! - He: Yes, rather too many of us, I thought, when there was only dinner enough for four. POOR MCTHER!-Giles: Ab. lor! mother! How she did cry, to be sewer .- Hodge:

When? Giles: When I was a bit of a boy .- Hodge:

What for? - Giles: 'Cause I was so pretty; she thought I ought to have been a girl! THEY WENT FOR FUNNINAN! - Hostess: How d'ye do, Mr. Binks? How d'ye do, Mr. Spinks? I am sorry you are both so late. I'm afraid the girls have given away all their dances. - Spinks: Awfully sorry. Fact is, we got lost in the fog.—Binks: Yes; had to find our way from the station with torches, - Hostess: Ah! then that was what Mr. Funniman meant,

suppose, when he spoke of you both as "missing

STRAIGHT TO THE POINT, - Erudite Professor (expatisting): Women, my boy, are insanely nervous, Suppose, for instance, that I went up in a balloon, and my young wife did not happen to hear of me 48 hours. Well--. Senseless Masher (interrupting): Well, professor, I-aw!-think she would quite justified in marrying me straight off. professor, much upset, goes out for a dose of Koosh

DAMAGES FOR BREACH OF PROMISE.

Sarah J. Thompson, described as a lady's maid, on Wednesday in the Queen's Bench obtained a verdict for £140 camages against Moore Bush, a carpenter and builder at Saffron Walden, for breach of promise. The promise and breach were not denied, the only question being as to damages. The parties | act by act, at the Princess's. became attached in 1884, and defendant wrote in affectionate terms. In January, 1886, however, s young whom he had fallen "madly in love," begging alterations, corrections, additions, and suppressions, the plaintiff to release him from his engagement with | written on 187 pages of foolscap, folio, olive moroeco her, and adding, "Should you give me my release I shall be compelled to own that you are most gene- one of the principal booksellers, where it first aprous, and worthy of a better man's love than perfidious me." The plaintiff refused to release him, and after she brought this action he insulted her in the street by shouting: "There's the girl that wants the £300. When do you think she will get it? I will lav it on the door step for you."

ANOTHER BREACH OF

PROMISE CASE. On Thursday last, at the Preston Sheriff's Court, Elizabeth F. Irving, of Ambleside, brought an action against Jonathan Taylor, a clerk in the Liverpool Post-office, for breach of promise to marry. Counsel for the plaintiff stated that the defendant and plaintiff were engaged for eighteen months, and a large number of letters passed between them, some them of a poetic and effusive character. All went well until the defendant went to lodge with a widow, and he appeared soon to have transferred his affections from his old sweetheart to the widow, who dispensed creature comforts to him at his lodgings. broke off the engagement with the plaintiff, who was of good appearance, and the daughter of a widow. Counsel asked for good damages. The jury awarded the plaintiff £75 damages.

DARLINGTON BREACH OF

PROMISE CASE. In the Queen's Bench Division of the High Court of Justice, London, on Tuesday, the case of Parker v. Stephens came before Mr. Justice Day and a common jury. This was an action brought by the plaintiff, Miss Emma Parker, daughter of a jeweller at Bow. London, against Mr. Alexander Stephens, now wrapped in a pocket-handkerchief." manager of one of Lockhart's coces rooms in London. and formerly of Darlington, to recover damages for | recretary to the United States Legation in London, is breach of promise of marriage. The defendant about to sell his extensive collection of autographs. admitted the promise, but pleaded that a reasonable State papers, and other manuscripts. Among other time had not elapsed for its performance, items, the collection contains letters by Humbolidt, Mr. Grubbe appeared for the plaintiff, while Mr. Pchiller, Frederick the Great, Béranger, Mdme, de Cock, Q.C., represented the defendant. It appeared Stael, Lafagette, and Victor Hugo. The most unique that the defendant, who resided with his parents at | portion of the collection, however, consists of explos Darlington, came up to London and met the plaintiff at a Sunday School festival at the Crystal Palace, the plaintiff at the time being 17 years of age and the defendant over 20. They fell in love at once.

soon afterwards became

the wedding quently the date was postponed until March, 1884, | those in London-have been altered past all recogniowing to the death of a brother of the defendant. Up tion. Many of the allusions, familiar enough once that time matters went on smoothly. The banes | bare become to the new generation obscure and were put up in the beginning of that month, but the | doubtful. It was with the idea that a series of illustrawedding was again put off owing to the death of a | tions of the former and a few brief notes explanatory sister of the defendant at Darlington, where his of the latter might prove of more than passing presence was required. His parents there being in interest, that the preparation of the Jubilee Edition reduced circumstances the defendant had them of "Pickwick" was undertaken. Messre, Macmillan brought up to London with two young brothers, and | and Co, are the publishers, took a house for them, placing in it some furniture he had from time to time bought at sales in view of thing of a shock to those who so loudly yount the his marriage with the plaintiff. Difficulties now arose. | quick intelligence of our Post-office authorities. The plaintiff declined the defendant's invitation to go | few months ago the council of the Boyal Institute of and see his mother so long as the furniture he had | Painters in Water Colours elected a foreign ladybought for the plaintiff remained in the house, and | the flower-painter to the Queen-as an honorary the defendant in consequence refused to go and see | member, and the secretary duly sent her notification the plaintiff at her father's house.-Plaintiff was of the fact. About six weeks ago the lady, who lived called, and stated that the defendant was induced to | abroad, wrote to accept the honour, addressing ber break off the engagement through the interference of letter to "M. Everill, Secrétaire de la Secié: é Royal his brothers, who had just arrived from Darlington, | des Aquarellistes." Only the other day it reached its and who objected to her on religious grounds—they | destination, being covered back and front with post being Wesleyans and being of opinion that she was | marks and endorsed " Not known at the Royal Aquanot a good enough Christian. That, at least, was the rium!" opinion of one brother, who wanted the defendant to marry a certain woman who was described as being religious. Another brother advised him to marry a end of last year the number of building societies pawsbroker's daughter at Derlington, who had a incorporated was 2052, and the number dissolved 89 fortune. Speaking of this situation, the defendant | The membership of 1675 societies which furnished said to the plaintiff that he was "fixed between God returns was 548,453, or an average of 327. The and mammun." (Laughter.) She made prepare- receipts of 1858 societies were £20,280,229, or an tions for the marriage in March, 1884, having got average of £10,904. The liabilities of 1865 societies her dress and invited her friends, expending on the | to the holders of shares were £32,789,768, and to preparations between £15 and £20. The defendant | depositors and other creditors £14,834,541; while attributed the failure of the engagement to the inter- the assets were-for balance due on mortgage ference of the plaintiff's father, who assumed towards securities (not including prospective interest). him a dictatorial and offensive tone, and sought to prevent him from having any communication to urities and cash £3,510,818, with the plaintiff, with whom he was desirous of putting matters right. On one occasion the plaintiff's sister attempted to scratch be face, and it was a good a verdiet for plaintiff for £100 damagee, Judgmait

Mr. Alfred Cheseman, a West Suffolk coroner. ing he conversed genteelly with the lady of the Princess Bentrice's confinement came souther than Before an inquest can be held another coroner must on Thursday committed suicide by shooting himself. party, whose talk was chiefly of the gaieties of | it had been expected, and one was ill for only a very | be appointed,

WITH PAPER, 2D.

Bir George Campbell is about to publish a compre-hensive work on "The British Empire." It has been

A magazine called the Hour Glass is about to be

Colonel Mapleson has signed a contract for a It is the Queen's desire that all her family should special season of Italian Opera at Convent Garden Theatre by Her Majesty's Opera Company, commencing early in May. His present company will be At the conclusion of Sarah Bernbardt's recent

> tragédienne, who was playing Dona Sol in " Hernani," was presented with title-deeds for tan square miles in "The Picture of Jesus," by the Rev. H. R. Hawels,

> benefit performance in Buenos Ayres, the great

being the second volume issued of "Christ and edition of 2,000 copies has been entirely taken by the trade before publication. Mr. Eric S. Robertson, author of "English Poetesses" and other works on literary subjects, has

been appointed to the Chair of English Literature at Justice of the Queen's Bench in Ireland, it is expected the University of Labore. His association with that Lord Justice Fitzgibbon will be appointed his | Mesers. Marcus Ward and Co. will terminate at the end of next month. He was their literary editor for Mesers, George Philip and Son are about to publish a "Queen's Jubilee Atlas of the British Empire, consisting of a series of full-coloured maps, with

descriptive, bistorical, and statistical notes of the United Kingdom and of every British colony and ispendency throughout the world, and a complete statistical abstract of the British Empire. Mr. John Sampson, of York, has in the press two indexes to the characters in Shakspeare's plays, which. it is hoped, may be acceptable to students of the post in general, as well as to members of the now fashionable "Shakspeare Beading Societies," for whose

benefit the work was more especially undertaken. To

these latter the bandbook aspires to play the part of The collected edition of the works of Dante Gabriel Rossetti will be published immediately by Messrs, Ellis and Scrutten, in two ample volumes. The main contents of it are the two poetic volumes (named "Poems" and "Ballads and Sonnets") which Rossetti issued during his lifetime along with the volume of translations named "Dante and his Circle," &c. The original poems are re-arranged, as

far as was practicable and convenient, in order of From the beginning of the new year Blackwood's Magazine is to be permanently enlarged to 144 double columned pages. The publishers may that the accession of new contributors, in addition to the wellknown writers whose names are most identified with Maga, as well as the extended range of topics which now fall within the province of magazine literature,

have rendered this step expedient. An interesting discovery was made last week by M. Quentin-Bauchart, of Chalons-sur-Marne, on a bookstail of that town. This is no less than the "Office de la Divine Providence," the sole comfort of the bapless Marie Antoinette in her weary captivity at the prisons of the Temple and Conciergerie. The book, the bindirg of which is much worn, contains on a fly leaf the following inscription, dated October 16, 4.30 a.m.: - "Lord have pity on me! I can no longer weep save in spirit for you, O my children! Farewell, farewell !- MARIE ANTOINETTS."

Mr. Robert Browning has fluished the prem on which he has been at work for some months. makes between four and five thousand lines, and in idea and construction it will appeal more widely to the general reader than many of Mr. Browning's later work. The story is divided into nine sections, ard is all in rhyme. It is expected that the volume will be ready at the printers' in about three weeks. Mr. John Moriey's well-known series of "English Men of Letters will now reach even a wider public. The price of each volume in the red-covered edition which is familiar wherever English books are read, i half a crown, or, at the usual rate of discount, ls. 104d. But it has been felt that even this comparatively small sum is probibitive to many purses. We are therefore glad to hear that Mesura, Macmillan and Co, contemplate the issue of a shilling (9d.) edition in paper curers. Good literature cannot be

Mr. Henry Arthur Jones's new play for the Vaudeville will be put in rehearsal as soon as "Sophia" shows any signs of flagging interest. It is a comedy of English country life, in three acts and three scenes, and the action passes in an English country house. The principal parts will be played by Mr. Thomas Thorne, Mr. Leonard Borne, Miss Kate Borke, and the regular members of the Vandeville company. Mr. Jones s other play, we may add, is in busy rehearsal,

The late Lord Besconsfield would appear to be at a discount in the west his community of original manuten script collectors, His " Rise of Ishander," the author's with original MS., contricte and uncut, with numerous extra, by Zaehnederf, is offered in the catalogue of peared more than twelve months ago, for the low price of £30. And yet it finds no purchaser ! At Botheby's on Friday was sold, among many other interesting autographs, the MS. of a poem by Daniel O'Connell, on the ills of Ireland. The follow-

> ing are the first four lines, words that may be applied with almost equal appropriatences to the present state of things:-Within that land was many a malcontent, Who cursed the tyranny to which he bent;

That soil full many a wringing despot saw,

Who worked his wantonness in form of law.

The December Century will contain a life-eige portrait of the right hand of Abraham Lincoln. Both of Lincoln's hands, as well as his face, were cast from life by Leonard W. Volk in the year 1860, a full account of which casting was given in the Century for December, 1881, accompanied by an engraving of the mask. The right hand has now been drawn by Mr. Alden Weir and engraved by Mr. R. C. Colling, Opposite the hand appear in facsimile four stanzag from Mr. Stedman's poem entitled "The Hand of Lincoln," originally published in the Independent. Mr. W. S. Gilbert has read his new opera to the Savoy company assembled on the stage. Mr. Gilbert is one of the few authors who read aloud well; and his delivery of humorous and satirical librettos invariably evokes laughter and applause, even from the members of the company who are about to perform his

piece. The costumes, which will, of course, be sun-

plied "regardless of expense," will belong to the

'short-wa'st and close-fitting pantaloon " period. I

was at the introduction of this fashion that a celebrated be auty declared that she felt " like a pair of scissors Mr. Deanis R. Alward, who was for some time a of the Lord's Prayer, written on the size of a sixpence. in sixty-seven languages, by different writers, mostly

noteworthy men of letters. Among the books of the week in the "Jubilea Edition" of Charles Dickens's " Pickwick Papers." should with notes by Charles Dickens the younger. Many off m September, 1883, but subse- of the places described in "Pickwick"—especially

The following amusing incident may give some-

A Blue Book just issued shows that up to the £45,767,154, and the amount invested in other A return just issued by the Board of Trade shows

that, during the nine months of the present year ending September 39, 11 persons were killed and 499 thing for him that her gloves were on. After he was injured from accidents to railway trains, &c., in the married the plaintiff, seeing him in the street with United Kingdom, as compared with 18 killed and 379 family at Windsor Castle on Tuesday week, when the bis wife, went up to the latter and said, "I don't injured in the corresponding period last year. Eight know, Miss, if you are aware that this young man of these killed and 442 of those injured were (the defendant) is in a breach of premise case," passengers, 3 of the killed and 57 of the injured were (Laughter.) He (defendant) told her that "Miss" the servants of the companies. Last year 6 of the was his wife, and she replied, "I only thought it killed were passengers, and 12 raitway servants. The right, Miss, in justice to my sex, to inform you."- deaths due to other causes than accidents to trains, The learned judge having summed up, the jury found &c., is, however, much larger. Sixty-three passengers were killed in this way, and 516 injured, and 295 railway servents killed and 1,350 injured. Sixty-six persons were killed passing level crossings, and 213 deaths are classified as "trespassers, including ruicider." The total deaths are 685, and injured 2,522; as compared with 673 and 2,508 in the first nine months of 1885,