THE GLASGOW SENTINEL, JANUARY 15, 1859.

Literary and Scientific Notes.

Mr Tennyson's new poem of King Arthur is said to abound in lines and passages of one solemn beauty. It will shortly be published by the executors of the late Edward Moxon.

Professor Owen will read a paper at the meeting of the Zoological Society, on Tuesday next, "On the External Characters of the Gorilla," which will be illustrated by a mounted specimen of the animal, recently arrived from the Gaboon.

Miss Amelie Fowler, the favourite and talented Lambeth lady, the Grecian Theatre, died yesterday (Friday) morning. We are not yet in full possession of the sad particulars, but we learn that her death was sudden, and that it was caused through her clothes accidentally catching fire.—*Era.*

PENSION TO THE WIDOW OF A JOURNALIST.—With reference to the *Jubilee* which, though, it is first in circulation, is by far the oldest and most influential of Sunday papers, I have a pleasure in noticing a fact which transpires in a Hayes paper, highly creditable to the proprietors of that organ—the fact, that a Jubilee subscription, for Mrs Gordon, has been conferred in the light of life by the public field, and his widow has been awarded a pension of £100 francs charged on the journal's exchequer.—*Paris Correspondent of the Globe.*

SUCCESSFUL SURGICAL OPERATION.—A rare and difficult operation has been performed by Dr P. H. Watson, F.R.C.S. The child of Peter Low, engineman, Granton, had swallowed a common dress button, unknown to its mother, on Thursday last. The parents were recommended to apply to Dr Watson, in the hope of saving the child's life; and, trusting to his skill, they left the case in his hands. On Saturday last he made an incision in the cricoid cartilage and removed the button. The child is doing well, and shows every symptom of steady recovery.—*Courant.*

NEW WORKS OF FICTION. The list of forthcoming books for the month of January, so far as the announcements are yet made, comprises chiefly works of fiction. Among the most notable of these are the concluding two volumes, by Chas. Reade, to be entitled "Maiden, Wife, and Widow;" one from Mrs Gaskell, in two volumes, to be called "Around the Sofa;" one other (titleless as yet) from Miss Mulock, in three volumes; one from an old friend, Jerrold, Miss Jewsbury, who we are glad to meet again, with the somewhat didactic name of "Right and Wrong;" and one, finally, from Captain Marryat, in three volumes, to be entitled "Dookie."—*The Book World.*

EXPLORATION OF AUSTRALIA.—From a recent report of Mr Gregory, in command of an expedition from Swan River, it seems probable that a large tract of sandy desert exists from the great Australian bight, west of Spencer's Gulf, towards the Gulf of Carpentaria, uniting into one great insular continent what was once two islands, the more large portion lying to the eastward of this sandy belt. A party was despatched from Port Denison, which has name differs L1000 towards further explorations, and a subscription is now in course of collection for the purpose, which, if successful, be supplemented by the Assembly, and it is now thought quite practicable to traverse the interior from east to west.—*Morning Post.*

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Cronstadt or Cherbourg. It is nothing less than a submarine boat made only for working under water, in form much resembling the shape of a porpoise, but capable of being made large enough to contain eight, ten, or even fifteen men, if necessary, and yet a proportionate quantity of explosives. In a kind of specification which has now been laid before this and the French Government, the inventor says he has invented and constructed a submarine boat, working about eight tons, in which he has, with others, sailed in Lake Michigan, and remained under water for four hours, without any air tubes or other communication leading from his boat above the surface of the water, and propelled the boat in and near the bottom of the lake for several miles at the rate of about three miles an hour. He can sink his boat to the surface or just sufficiently, either to a few inches or feet from the surface of the water, or to a hundred or more feet, and again rise to the surface, or say to or near the surface; go forward, back, or sideways, or come up bows first or otherwise, as may be required. He can anchor his boat, proceed to the bottom of the lake, in its dock or sides, and proceed under water out to sea, in any weather, to an enemy's ship in sight, or anchored in harbour, and, when in sight, at an motion clockwork to fire the torp-does simultaneously or at intervals, and retire, still under water, at a distance from the explosion and out of reach of an enemy's guns. He can enter an enemy's harbour under water, and make surveys, only showing above the surface a slight knob or tower, not more than half inch in diameter, and retire, still under water, and proceed out to sea and make his report to the commander of a fleet or ship. He can go out to sea, meet a hostile fleet, go under their bottoms, fix torpedoes to go off by clockwork, or otherwise, and return to his base of supplies unseen. When the invention was brought, a few days since, under the notice of the Emperor, he ordered it to be tested, and proceed prompt attention; and Sir Baldwin Walker has already had interviews with the gentlemen to whose care the disposal of the patent is intrusted.—*Times.*

A WORD OR TWO ABOUT ROBERT HERRICK.—II.

By ROBERT W. BUCHANAN.

It was the remark of one of the Athenian poets of the fifth century before Christ, that the true test of success of his fancy, that he was forced to cut his way through a crowd of thoughts, as through a wood. One sees the force of this at a glance. The mark applies to all of the more original and powerful minds, and to Herrick as much as on one side, and of Republicans on the other, all need little more for that repose which can alone produce good poetry, yet English verse had at that time to contend with an excess rather than a lack of thought. Perhaps, if he had lived, that school appealed not to the heart, but to the understanding; and metaphysical conceits, always very tasteful, marred the tone and strength of their productions. One of two of the poets of the time, Herrick and Vaughan, were of poetic genius and poetic sensibility; but their visions of fame were confined to St James's, and their ambition soared no greater height than the a position of a bishop or a dean. Herrick, indeed, was a Royalist, and a man of pleasure; but they wrote—the gentlemen of the king's bedchamber. The common lessons of poetic excellence was regarded of consisting of the most fantastic and far-fetched conceits, and the most of sphlendid epithet and your courtier were these men. Their poetry was not so much that of imagination, one may, and of conceit, and of fancy. Herrick is fanciful in a high degree, yet he was a man of the people, and men with popular feeds on their thoughts, not they thoughts, or of the people, and men with popular feeds on their thoughts, not they thoughts, or of the people, and men with popular feeds on their thoughts, not they thoughts, or