

Carriers, or other Persons employed in the Post-Office.—The complaints on the subject of missing newspapers, stated to have been committed to the post, continue to be so numerous, that, although the Postmaster-General is satisfied that much of the irregularity complained of arises from causes beyond the controul of the Post-Office, his lordship thinks it expedient that every one engaged in the Post-Office service should be made acquainted with the 32nd section of the Act 1st Victoria, cap. 36, by which it is provided, 'That every person employed in the Post-Office, who shall steal, or shall for any purpose embezzle, secrete, or destroy, or shall wilfully detain or delay in course of conveyance or delivery thereof by the post, any printed votes or proceedings in parliament, or any printed newspaper, or any other printed paper whatever, sent by the post, without covers, or in covers open at the sides, shall in England and Ireland, be guilty of a misdemeanor, and in Scotland of a crime and offence, and being convicted thereof shall suffer such punishment by fine or imprisonment, or by both, as to the Court shall seem meet.' And his lordship desires it to be distinctly understood that every individual acting in any capacity in the service of the Post-Office, who shall be guilty of such offence, will be prosecuted with the utmost rigour of the law. By Command, "W. L. MABERLY, Secretary."

SONG.

Tune—Sair, sair was my heart when I parted fra my Jean.

SAIR, sair was my heart when I slaughtered a' my sheep;
I sat beside the boiling pots, and bitterly did weep;
For the taxes were sae high, and the profits were sae sma',
That they gar'd me melt 'em down into candles a'.

When I think on the days when sae happy I have been,
A shepherding my flocks through Australia's forests green,
I'm wae to leave my station—my little hut awa—
And my jimbucks melted down into candles a'.

But wherever I go, still remembered shall he be,
Who by close legislation has completely done for me.
Should ills on ills befa' him, content I'll hear them a',
For he gar'd me boil my sheep down into candles a'.

But should fortune prove unkind in the land to which I'm boune,
And Gipsy be there as Governor, and once more on me come down,
Again I'll leave my station, again I'll wander far,
But I'll never boil my jimbucks into candles a'.

J. L. T.

THE EXPEDITION TO THE NIGER.

THE circumstances attendant on the last expedition to the Niger, with which so many philanthropic and truly national objects were associated, have given to the people inhabiting its banks a degree of interest in the eyes of the British public that cannot be readily abated; and however unfortunate that expedition may have been in its results, there are many who still regard it as but the precursor of further enterprise in the same quarter, not only with a view of extending our commercial relations and the influences of Christianity, but of repressing that infamous traffic in human flesh, so long a disgrace to those Nations under whose flag it has been recognized. With this preface we feel that we owe no apology to our readers for introducing the following interesting episode in the diary of an officer engaged in the Niger Expedition.

EXTENSION OF FELLATAH INFLUENCE IN THE INTERIOR OF AFRICA.

Zumo Zariki, the Fellatah chief at Rabbah, is one of the most powerful and enterprising of the monarchs of Central Africa. Although subject to the Sultan of Sokatu, the latter is quite contented to receive a merely nominal annual tribute from him. Within the last twelve years he has subjugated the Nufi, Kakundah, and other extensive kingdoms; and now not only threatens the haughty and despotic Attah of Iddah, but bids fair to carry his conquests throughout the whole of the Lower Niger. His horsemen are constantly scouring the country, burning and pillaging towns and villages in their way. The inhabitants of the larger towns are subjected to the most cruel and oppressive imposts, "Give us cowries;" say they, "if you have not cowries enough we will take children; and if there are not children enough we will take yourselves." So terribly are the Fellatahs dreaded, that many of the inland towns in the Eggarra country are wholly deserted, the inhabitants betaking themselves to the river-side, and rushing into the canoes on the news of their approach.

While we were at Kinami, a small village in the Nufi country, a poor woman, weeping bitterly, told us that her only son, a fine lad of about twelve years of age, was then in the market-place at Egga, to be sold as a slave. Poor creature; she said, that being unable to satisfy the Fellatah officer employed to collect the yearly tribute, he at once took away her boy. By disposing of every thing she had, she succeeded in procuring the required amount of cowries, (*Cypræa moneta*—small shells, the current coin of the country), and hastened to Egga to ransom her child.

Alas! she was doomed to a heavy disappointment, for the unfeeling wretch, the slave-dealer, only laughed at her, and said—"I shall not sell him to you, or to any one in Nufi; he must go far away to another country. If you do not go away, I will sell you."

Some little good will generally be found to arise from the greatest of human evils: so war, with its concomitant horrors, not unfrequently sows the seeds of civilization among barbarous nations. Zumo Zariki, and his Fellatahs, being followers of the prophet, have converted many of those they have conquered to the Mahomedan faith, and have thus diminished, if not removed altogether, many of the atrocities of Paganism. They have in a great measure abolished sacrifices. The Fellatah and Nufi people lived in amicable intercourse with each other for many years before the late war. The form of the head, and the superior general physical development of the inhabitants of Egga, the Nufi capital, show plainly an admixture of the Caucasian with the Negro race.

NOTICE OF SOME NEW ZEALAND AND ANTARCTIC MINERALS.

(From the Philosophical Magazine, December, 1844.)

The recent voyages and travels in the southern portions of the globe, although they have not revealed any mineral wealth, have still contributed some facts with reference to the physical condition of these regions, which appear to deserve a passing notice. The following are the results of the analyses of some mineral specimens, conducted by the pupils

of Dr. R. D. Thomson in the Glasgow College Laboratory. The specimens were presented by Dr. Dieffenbach and Dr. Joseph D. Hooker.

1. *Phosphate of Iron, or Native Prussian Blue*.—For this mineral from New Zealand Dr. Thomson was indebted to Dr. Dieffenbach. The locality of the phosphate is thus described by that naturalist:—"Near the Sugar Loaf Islands, by the river Urenui, the cliffs on the shore were about 100 feet high. The lowest formation was a marly clay; twenty feet above the sea was a formation of wood, very little altered or carbonized and ten feet in thickness, but irregular; above that was a loamy soil. From the lowest formation was dug out the phosphate, found in small pieces or balls. The natives call it *puke poto*. It is highly esteemed, when washed, as a paint." Its composition was found by Mr. Robert Pattison to be—

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------|
| Water | 28.40 |
| Organic matter | 2.80 |
| Silica | 5.20 |
| Phosphate of iron | 62.80 |
| 99.20 | |

2. *Siliceous incrustation from New Zealand*.—Dr. Dieffenbach describes the interior of this island as being filled with hot volcanic springs, which deposit siliceous matter abundantly. A specimen of this kind, having some affinities to chalcedony, was found by Mr. Pattison to have a specific gravity of 1.968, and to consist of—

| | |
|----------------------------|-------|
| Silica | 77.35 |
| Alumina | 9.70 |
| Peroxide of iron | 3.72 |
| Lime | 1.54 |
| Water | 7.66 |
| 99.98 | |

3. *New Zealand Ochre*.—Dr. Dieffenbach informs us, that "at 2699 feet above the sea, on Mount Egmont, the natives obtain the best sort of *kokowai* in the bed of the river, which was for some distance quite yellow from a solution in its waters of this ochreous substance, which glazed the rocks with a metallic coating. This muddy ochre was dug out of swamps formed by the Waiwakaio; it was slowly dried at the fire, and by further burning and preparing a fine vermilion was obtained: when mixed with shark's oil it forms a durable paint for the native's houses, canoes and burying-places, and is also used to rub on their faces and bodies in battle, and for mourning. It is also considered a defence against the muskitoes and sandflies." It has been analysed by Mr. George Aitken, and found to consist of—

| | | | |
|----------------------------|---------|-------|-----|
| | | I. | II. |
| Peroxide of iron | 59.56 | 64.36 | |
| Silica | 14.56 | 13.92 | |
| Water | 20.20 | | |
| Vegetable matter | 4.72 | | |
| Alumina | a trace | | |
| Lime | a trace | | |
| | | 99.04 | |

When digested in muriatic acid it partially gelatinises. It is a rich iron ore, as it contains upwards of 40 per cent. of metallic iron. Specific gravity 2.24.

4. *Obsidian from New Zealand and Ascension*.—These specimens were analysed by Mr. James Murdoch.

| | | | |
|----------------------------|-------|--------------|------------|
| | | New Zealand. | Ascension. |
| | | I. | II. |
| Silica | 75.20 | 6.29 | 70.97 |
| Alumina | 6.86 | 8.06 | 6.77 |
| Peroxide of iron | 6.54 | | 6.24 |
| Lime | | | 2.84 |
| Magnesia | 3.83 | | 1.77 |
| Soda and Potash | 7.57 | | 11.41 |

The New Zealand specimen was brought from the Bay of Islands; its specific gravity was 2.386. These analyses approximate closely to the results obtained by Berthier in his examination of obsidian from Pasco in Columbia.

5. Mr. Murdoch analysed a zeolite from Kerguelen's Land, which proved to be a white stilbite.

* We think that this appellation ought to be discarded by mineralogists, as the mineral is really not analogous to the artificial pigment called Prussian blue.

EUROPE.

STATISTICS OF THE POPULATION.

In each of the fourteen English counties there are upwards of 2,000 inhabited houses to every 10,000 inhabitants—that is, each house on an average contains five persons or something less. In Middlesex, the average is upwards of seven in a house. Norfolk, which is the best accommodated county in this respect, and the North Riding of Yorkshire, are the only districts of England that come up to Wales (north as well as south) in abundance of houses in proportion to the population. It would be a curious employment to ascertain the degree of connexion between the frequency of crime and the close packing of the people in their abodes. We had expected (*Times*) to discover that the mortality followed the deficiency of house accommodation; but, upon examination, although in case of a few counties something of this sort may be traced, we find the evidence is not sufficiently strong upon the whole to enable us to state it as a law. There are no returns respecting house accommodation for Scotland, and, indeed, the returns from that country generally are much less valuable than those for England and Wales, owing to the absence of comparative tables of results.

The question of immigration has become a serious question, and one which solicits the attention of all who take an interest in the condition of the English labourer, affecting as it already does, and that materially, in many parts of the country, his wages and habits of living. In Cumberland, in 1841, for every 10,000 inhabitants there were 356 persons born in Scotland, and 274 born in Ireland. In Lancashire there were 130 Scotch, and 635 Irish, for the same number of inhabitants—that is to say, one-thirteenth part of the actual population of Lancashire is made up of Irish and Scotch; and nearly one-sixteenth of that of Cumberland. Many other counties exhibit large proportions of immigrants from the sister kingdoms, though none as large as these. No county is free from a considerable proportion; Suffolk and Norfolk, which have fewest, show 33 for every 10,000 inhabitants. Throughout England and Wales, the average is 248 for every 10,000, or 31 for every 1,250—that is, something more than one-fortieth part of the

whole population is composed of strangers. In fact, there seems good ground for thinking that the amount of this immigration into England considerably exceeds the amount of emigration from England to the Colonies, so that it forms a steady permanent addition to the already superabundant population of this country.

The number of persons returned as having signed the marriage register with marks, is further worthy of notice, that in every county without an exception the proportion of females so signing is far greater than that of the males out of every 100 marriages celebrated. Judging in this way, the men are best educated in Middlesex and Cambridgeshire. The proportions of the markswomen are greater in the West Riding of Yorkshire and in Bedfordshire of any districts in England. In Wales, taking men and women together, they are worse educated than in any part of England. From Scotland there are no returns on this point. We conceive it is a warrantable deduction from this portion of the tables that a very large proportion, almost half, of the marriages annually taking place in this country, are celebrated between persons belonging to nearly the humblest classes of the community.

The counties in which the greatest proportion of the population is engaged in pursuits purely agricultural are Lincolnshire and Rutland, in each of which it is upwards of 15 per cent., or about one-sixth. The counties having the next greatest proportion are Essex, Huntingdon, and Wilts. The least agricultural county is Middlesex, where little more than one per cent. of the population are so engaged; on the other hand, it is not by any means the most commercial county, (Lancaster the most commercial county), Chester, Nottingham, and Warwick, together with the West Riding of Yorkshire, being, before it. With respect to the commercial class, it is observable, that of tradesmen and handicraftsmen, by far the largest number are included under the head of "boot and shoemaker," amounting in the whole to 214,780, or nearly one-third more than the butchers, bakers, buttermen, milkmen, grocers, and greengrocers, put together. In the metropolis, however, there are considerably more tailors and breeches-makers than boot and shoemakers.

The diminished numbers of young persons employed in manufactures has been already stated upon the authority of the Commissioners. A remark of theirs in further illustration of this will not be out of place here:—"In 1835 the number of persons under 13 years of age employed in factories upon the four staple of cotton, wool, silk, and flax, amounted to 55,455, and were reduced in 1839 to 33,566, being a reduction of 21,889, although the numbers employed of all ages had increased from 355,373 to 423,626, showing a transfer of employment from the young to the old, and that this could be done with a considerable extension instead of entailing a diminution of the business carried on." 153,172 is the number of females under 20 years of age engaged in manufactures of Great Britain. The increase in the number of capitalists, bankers, professional, and other educated men, 20 years of age and upwards, in the ten years ending 1841, is 61,912; the increase in the same time of the whole male population of 20 years and upwards (exclusive of the army and navy, and merchant seamen), is 738,476.

We now proceed to state some of the miscellaneous heads which appear interesting. Clergymen (we presume of the Church of England) are returned for England at 13,574; commercial clerks (one of the largest descriptions) for Great Britain, 56,830; chiropodists, 58; dressmakers and milliners, 106,821, of whom 22,174 are females, and 127 males, respectively under 20 years of age; East India Company's Service, 521; farmers and graziers, 300,123; Government civil service, 16,750; agricultural labourers, 1,127,108, of whom 14,295 are females under 20; army, 33,057, of whom 6,976 are soldiers under 20. There are only 7 persons returning themselves as oculists in all Great Britain. The physicians amount to 1,476; printers 11,313, of whom 183 are females; surgeons, apothecaries, and medical students together, 18,658; so that the whole body of the medical profession in Great Britain, including students, comprises only 20,134 persons. The teachers of music and singing are 3,235, being more than double the number of all the other teachers enumerated put together.

In the metropolis over 2 per cent. of the whole population are domestic servants, and over 4 per cent. persons of independent means. Somewhat more than 1 per cent. is the proportion of the class "alms people, pensioners, paupers, lunatics, and prisoners;" about the same is the proportion of those returned under the heads of "army and navy" taken together.

With respect to the comparative numbers of the population engaged in manufactures (properly so called) and agriculture respectively, it will be found that the former constitute something more than one-sixteenth, the latter something more than one-twelfth, of the whole population of Great Britain. Of the whole number of paupers (100,529) within the walls of workhouses on the night of the 6th of June, 1841, the agricultural labourers (3,555) form something more than 1-28th part. The largest class of paupers in workhouses was "servants (domestic)" 5,401, of whom the principal part were women. The whole number under the head "servant (domestic)" in Great Britain is 1,143,007. We have noticed the imperfection of the returns in some points; as for instance, the return of seven oculists and four aurists for all Great Britain. In some points of arrangement they are equally deficient. Thus there is no head of cook nor of confectioner, nor of drover; then we have "copper and dentist," "corn cutter," and "scrivener," under the general division of "professional persons." By the way, some people will scarcely believe that there are only 279 matchmakers in Great Britain. Again, under the general division of "educated persons," we have "aeronaut" and "ventriloquist." If you want to find the head "postboy," you discover it clubbed with "coachman" and "coach-guard." There are no fewer than 1,097 persons employed in the destruction of vermin in Great Britain. The subject is too ticklish to admit of remark.

It is manifest, we think, from the tables, that there are sundry occupations enumerated in which people have an inclination to shirk returning themselves as engaged, their return being made under some more eligible or high-sounding denomination, but this ambition does not appear to go the length of disclaiming all occupation. The head of persons returned as of independent means is only 511,440, or somewhat over two per cent. of the whole population—a strikingly small proportion in so rich a country as this, and showing conclusively that industry is the rule of English society, and idleness the exception. The fact stands out still more clearly, on observing that of the above number 373,633 are females.

JOSEPH BONAPARTE.

Died, on the 28th July, at Florence, aged seventy-eight years, Joseph Bonaparte, Count de Surveilliers, *ci-devant* King of Naples and King of Spain, and the immediate elder brother of the late Emperor Napoleon. "The life of the former King of Naples and Spain is well known; we shall, therefore, merely give a sketch of it in a few words. Joseph Bonaparte was born in 1768, at Corte, in the island of Corsica; he attended his brother in his first campaign of Italy in 1796. Having been appointed a member of the

legislative body, he was distinguished for his moderation and good sense, and gave proofs of generous firmness, when he undertook to defend General Bonaparte, then in Egypt, against the accusations of the Directory. Under the Consulate, he was a member of the Council of State, and one of the witnesses to the treaty of Lunéville. On the accession of Napoleon to the empire, the crown of Lombardy was offered and refused by him. A few days after the battle of Austerlitz he assumed the command of the army destined to invade the kingdom of Naples, penetrated, without striking a blow, to Capua, and, on the 18th of February, 1806, he made his entrance into Naples, of which kingdom the Emperor appointed him sovereign. The government of Joseph as King of Naples, though short, was not sterile. In the space of less than two years he drove the English from the kingdom, re-organised the army and navy, and completed many public works. In 1808 he proceeded to occupy the throne of Spain. We shall not enter into a recital of the circumstances which produced the fall of his throne, but we must say that King Joseph courageously contended against the elements of dissolution with which he was surrounded, and abandoned Spain only at the last extremity. On his return to France, he took the command of Paris, and, faithful to the orders of the Emperor, he accompanied the Empress Regent to Chartres, and subsequently to Blois, after the invasion of the allies, and assembled around her all the disposable troops. After the abdication of Fontainebleau, Prince Joseph Napoleon was obliged to withdraw to Switzerland. He returned to France in 1815, the same day the Emperor arrived at Paris. After the battle of Waterloo, he embarked for America, where his brother, whom he was never more to see, appointed to meet him. In 1817, the State of Jersey, and in 1825, the Legislature of the State of New York, authorised him to possess lands without becoming an American citizen. The Count de Surveilliers did not return to Europe until 1832. After the Reform Bill was passed he determined to quit the United States and proceed to England, where he resided several years. A painful malady, which required a milder climate, obliged him to demand permission of the Foreign Powers to fix his residence at Florence, where he breathed his last. He was attended on his dying bed by his brothers Louis and Jerome. There remain of the Emperor's brothers but the two latter princes, Louis, formerly King of Holland; and Jerome, formerly King of Westphalia. Prince Louis is now head of the family.—*Journal de Debats.*

JAMAICA.—DREADFUL DEVASTATION AT MONTEGO BAY.—Since the year 1818 there has not occurred such a dreadful visitation at this place, as what was witnessed on the 5th instant. On the night of the 4th the weather, which had been for some days past rather threatening, assumed an unusually lowering and portentous appearance. Between nine and ten o'clock, P.M., it commenced to blow very hard from the south, a strong ground swell heaved into the bay from about three, P.M., and at about a quarter to two, A.M., on Saturday it acquired a terrific force. The situation of several vessels in the outer harbour, Green's Hole, and Close Harbour, became now very critical. At Green's Hole, one man, called George Young, on board the sloop *Isabella*, was placed in a most perilous situation; the sea made a complete breach over the vessel, and in utter despair he clung to the mast, uttering the most piteous cries, which were heard from above the remorseless dash of the wild ocean. He remained in this dreadful state of anxiety and alarm until half-past twelve, P.M., when fortunately a line was conveyed on board from Gun Point Wharf, on which he swung himself on shore. In the very act, however, of touching the Wharf it broke, but we are happy to say he was seized in time, and safely landed, though considerably worn out by fatigue. There was during the day comparatively little wind, but the sea raged in the most dreadful manner. Between six and seven, A.M., the fine schooner *Africanus* was driven ashore at Meagre Bay, and very shortly after became a complete wreck. It is impossible to describe the havoc that has been occasioned. The whole line of coast from Christie's Rock to Kathren's Beach has been ploughed up, and bears more or less the marks of the extraordinary violence of the sea. Every wharf has suffered, and the loss of lumber and other property has been immense. The crane at Gun Point Wharf (Jump's) was carried away. The front part of the Wharf (Jump's) occupied by the Messrs. Melhadoes, was considerably undermined. I cannot depict the scene of distress which prevailed in our town yesterday, from four P.M., up to dark. Persons of all classes and sexes were to be seen hurrying about in the greatest possible state of agitation and alarm. The sea rose higher than it has ever yet been known to do, and the waves dashed into the bay with a noise equal to the loudest thunder. The following is a list of the vessels and other property destroyed:—The schooner *Africanus*, and the *Rachael*, the property of Capt. Bates, completely wrecked. Four boats, the property of Capt. Bates. The schooner *Exertion* and the sloop *Isabella*, the property of Joseph G. Jump, Esq. The sloop *Cissia*, the *Wave*, and the *Mary*, the property of Capt. Selly. The sloop *Magna Charta*, the property of Capt. Brown and Son. The sloops *Hunter* and *Tom Smith*, the property of Messrs. Watson and Mowat. The sloop *Glassina*, the property of Mr. Peter Watson. A sloop boat the property of James C. Hart and Co. A schooner boat, Daniel Levy, Esq. A lighter, Mr. Garth. A ditto, Mr. Manderson. A ditto, Capt. Heslop. A ditto, Mr. Thompson. A ditto, Messrs. Watson and Mowat. A large number of small boats and canoes, and Mr. Lindo's bathing house, a considerable quantity of lumber, staves, heading boards, and scantlings, the property of J. G. Jump, Esq., washed off from Green Point Wharf. The following wharfs are considerably injured, flooring torn up, mason work, &c., broken and washed away:—Watson and Mowat's, Ruthven's, Shaw's Melhadoe's, Levy's, Jump's (Green Point). The out offices of Mr. Hallam's house, at the lower end of Harbour-street, considerably injured. At every spot some vestige of the wreck of property thus ruthlessly destroyed meets our gaze, and the depression of the spirits and gloom which this dreadful calamity has thrown over the inhabitants of this town is melancholy to contemplate.

Miscellaneous.

WE grieve to record the early and sudden death of the lovely and accomplished grand-daughter of the poet Goethe, Alma Ledina Henriette Cornelia Von Goethe, aged 17. The melancholy event occurred at Vienna, from typhus, of a few days' duration, at the residence of her mother, the distinguished Ottilie von Goethe. The two brothers of the deceased, Walther and Wolfgang Goethe, are now the only lineal descendants of the immortal bard, the Shakespeare of Germany.

ASSOCIATION FOR THE RELIEF OF THE WORKING CLASSES IN PRUSSIA.—The King of Prussia has addressed a cabinet order to the Minister of Finance, in which his Majesty expresses the warmest interest in the success of the association for the relief of the working classes which has been recently established in his kingdom, and orders the sum of 15,000 thalers to be made over to it in his name.

ADULTERATION OF GUANO.—Four vessels recently sailed hence for guano stations ballasted with gypsum, or plaster of Paris. This substance, we are informed, is intended for admixture with guano, and will enable the parties to deliver from the vessel a nice-looking, light-coloured article. Parties purchasing guano are very desirous of having it delivered from the vessel, as they believe they obtain it, pure. The favourite material for the adulteration of guano, at the present moment is umber, which is brought from Anglesea in large quantities. The rate of admixture, we are informed, is about 15 cwt. of umber to about 5 cwt. of Peruvian guano, from which an excellent looking article, called African guano, is manufactured.—*Liverpool Albion.*

RAILWAY BUSINESS FOR NEXT SESSION.—Railways, however well adapted to accelerate the progress of travellers, are not unlikely to retard the progress of legislation. The *Gazette* of last Wednesday extends to the monster bulk of seven sheets; and almost the whole of the extra space is occupied with "notices" for Railway Bills. Even with all the preliminary abridgements of the Board of Trade, here is a mass of business itself almost enough for one session. What time will be left for general legislation—home, colonial and foreign? Railway bills will be in parliament to all other kinds of bills what railways in *propriis personis* are to the old fashioned roads which cross them on a level. In the former case as in the latter, there will be closed gates to stop all passengers till the train whirls past. As the obsolete stage coach and forlorn post chaise are kept waiting at the barrier till the snorting engine with its Cyclopean solitary eye of fire and mane of steam clatters past, so the eloquence of Hume and the indignation of Ferrand will be arrested in mid volley till the railway bill has passed. Is it not possible to carry railway bills in viaducts over parliament; or in tunnels under it? In plain language, would not railway, road, and canal business be better disposed of by district boards than by the Imperial Legislature?—*Spectator.*

ROWLAND'S MACASSAR DISTANCED.—In some instances they looked upon us as gods, in some as devils, in all as a very extraordinary race. As an instance of this I will here relate a most absurd story which was told me by an officer at Nankin, and which will go far to show the fear with which we were looked upon by this superstitious race. After my friend had visited the Porcelain Tower, being somewhat fatigued, he stepped into a barber's shop, and, by way of employing his time, he desired the barber to shave his head. This gentleman wore a wig, but which for the sake of coolness, he had placed in his pocket; this operation of shaving, so common in China, was speedily executed, the barber seeming to be delighted with the honor of shaving one of the illustrious strangers. Previously to his leaving the shop, and while the man's attention was called in some other direction, my friend replaced his wig upon his head, little thinking of the result of this simple process; no sooner, however, had the barber turned round and observed him whom he so lately cleared of every vestige of hair suddenly covered with a most luxuriant growth, than, taking one steady gaze at him to make sure he was not deceived, he let fall the razor, cleared his counter at a bound, and running madly through the crowd, which was speedily collected, cried out that he was visited by the devil. No entreaties could induce him to return, until every Fanqui had left the neighbourhood: so palpable a miracle as this being, in his opinion, quite beyond the powers of all the gods or demons in the Bhuddist calendar.—*Cunningham's Recollections of Service.*

SECESSION OF MR. NEWMAN FROM THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND.—OXFORD, NOV. 2.—The Rev. Charles Penny, M.A., student of Christchurch, and curate of Ashendon, has resigned his studentship, in conforming to the Roman Catholic faith. A letter has also been received from the Rev. J. H. Newman, of Littlemore, addressed to the Rev. Isaac Williams, author of the famous tract "On Reserve, &c.," intimating that he can no longer continue a member of the English Church. The intelligence has created a great sensation, as it is supposed Mr. Newman's secession will be followed by that of several others.—*Chronicle.*

POPULAR EDUCATION.—Of all European countries, England is the worst educated. In all England, not more than one in eleven—in all Cambridgeshire (the seat of one of our national universities), not more than one in forty of the population receives any education whatever! We are glad to see that the county of Cambridge is about to exert itself to roll away this reproach from its character, and thus to relieve itself from its bad pre-eminence. At a meeting which took place last week at Cambridge, it was determined to erect and maintain twenty schools in different parts of the county in connexion with the British and Foreign School Society. Eleven hundred pounds were promised from the county; and Mr. Dunn, on the part of the Society, undertook to educate twenty teachers for the schools, and do something towards their maintenance while in *statu pupillari*. We give this instance—the last that has fallen under our notice—in proof that any assistance that the friends of education may think fit to afford to the funds of the British and Foreign School Society, will not fail in usefulness through any want of fidelity or energy in its application. Most catholic in its principle and working, the Society is, nevertheless, opposed to laxity of opinion respecting the spirit and practical duties of Christianity.—*Globe.*

CONTRIVANCES OF VILLAINS.—In the Arsenal at Venice is shewn a curious dressing-case, containing six small cannons, which are so adjusted as to explode on the opening of the case. This is said to have been sent as a present to the Contessa Sacraty by Francesco the last lord of Padua, famous, or rather infamous, for his cruelties. The unfortunate lady, little suspecting the nature of the *cadeau*, hastily touched the spring by which the box was opened, and immediately fell, shot through the heart.—In the armory are also preserved several pocket cross-bows and steel arrows, with which the same wretch was accustomed to amuse himself by killing or wounding all those against whom he bore a grudge, without their knowing from whence the blow came. He was strangled at Padua, in 1405, by a decree of the Venetian senate, as a fitting punishment for his abominable crimes.

A man expounding on his own authority, in a country village, remarked that "commentators did not agree with him." Next day he received a basket of kidney potatoes from one of his rustic disciples who remarked that "since common tatars don't agree with him, he had taken the liberty to present him with some best kidney tatars."

A new work has been published by Mr. Leigh Hunt entitled *Imagination and Fancy; or, Selections from the English Poets; with Markings of the best Passages, Critical Notices of the Writers, and an Essay in answer to the Question—"What is Poetry?"* It is described by the Reviewers as "a charming volume both internally and externally most attractive."

EDUCATION.—A rumour, says the *Dublin Statesman*, has been for some time gaining ground that a sum of £100,000 will be asked for and (as a matter of course) granted in next Parliament for the erection of a great university in Ireland, in which cheap education will be afforded in a system of secular instruction, in which also professors of all denominations (Roman Catholics and Unitarians) will be eligible, and where degrees of all kinds will be conferred.

THE JEWS IN HUNGARY.—The *Gazette des Postes* of Frankfort publishes the following account of a circumstance which occurred some days since in Hungary:—"An Israelite having been condemned to pay the amount of a bill of exchange which he had accepted in favour of a gentleman, the latter wished to seize his debtor's goods; but as he possessed none, the tribunal ordered that the Israelite should serve as a slave to his creditor fifteen days. The unfortunate man was then led to the estate of the gentleman, a crowd of ruffians pressing on his footsteps, while some hooted and others produced discordant noises with trumpets and other instruments.

STATISTICS OF EARTHQUAKES.—The *Courrier Français* states, that since the 16th century 161 earthquakes have been experienced in the West Indies—viz., in the 16th century, 1, 17th 9, 18th 43, 19th 108, of which 12 were in January, 9 in February, 11 in March, 11 in April, 10 in May, 10 in June, 7 in July, 15 in August, 17 in September, 26 in October, 14 in November, and 10 in December; 32 in winter, 31 in spring, 39 in summer, and 41 in autumn.

Port Phillip.

We have carefully gone over our files of Port Phillip papers up to the 18th inst. inclusive; but we cannot discover any novelty of interest. The *Patriot* reiterates the complaints that were made by the *Port Phillip Herald*, and to which we alluded briefly last week, respecting the "great danger both of *Property* and *LIFE*" which the state of Melbourne is exposed to, in consequence of "the acts of violence and plunder" that are carried on by *day and night* on a "Systematic and very extensive scale." The *Patriot* recommends that a meeting of the Burgesses be called by each Ward, and that every householder, every one of adult age be invited to enrol himself and be sworn in a special constable.

China.

By the *Sir John Byng*, we hear that the China sea is infested with Pirates, from the Canton River to the *Yang tsa Kiang*; a warm rencontre had taken place between several piratical crafts and one of Her Majesty's schooners, which was mistaken by the former for an opium trader,—the Chinese were, however, soon undeceived by a broadside and subsequent chase; during which, many of the Pirates were destroyed and one of their vessels with a crew of 16 captured and brought into Hong Kong. The *Petrel*, schooner, which sailed from hence some time ago had also been attacked, but being fortunately well armed beat off her opponents.

Simultaneously with this movement on the Chinese coast, the most audacious depredations were being carried on by the Malays, in the Soloo Sea, and these excesses had become so formidable, that two French frigates (one the *Cleopatra*), a French steamer, and a Spanish man-of-war were despatched with a view to their repression.

The want of an adequate British force on the Chinese and Malay coasts was loudly complained of, notwithstanding which, Her Majesty's ship *Vestal*, was about to be sent to England with the last portion of the Chinese Ransom.

Original Correspondence.

MR. ATLAS—As I believe, from the general tenor of the articles in your paper that you are an advocate for the equalization of taxes—as taxed we must be—and, consequently that you oppose one class of a community being taxed for the benefit of the whole, I beg to call your attention to the hardship under which I, as one of a class, labour.

The Judges of the Supreme Court, are authorised by Act of Parliament (9 Geo. 4, c. 83, and continued by 4 Vic. No. 22) to make such rules and orders as they may think fit—subject, of course, to her Majesty's approval—touching the fees, &c., to be demanded by any officer or Attorney of the Supreme Court, and to alter and revise the same, as they may see occasion. By the General Rules, dated 26th June, 1844, the following fees, amongst others, are authorised to be taken:—"On the admission of any Attorney not previously admitted, £10 10s.; on filing articles of clerkship, £5 5s.; ditto of assignment, £1 1s.;" thus making the expense of admission to a clerk articulated and assigned in this Colony amount to £16 16s. at the least.

Now, Sir, if this money was expended for the benefit of the Attorneys as a class, in the formation of a library for reference, for instance, I should not complain; but I do complain of its present application, viz., to the general revenue of the Colony, because it is unjust, on the ground that taxes to be just, should be equally levied on all classes of the community: the man who lives beyond the boundaries of the city would consider it unjust if his property were assessed to the city rates; so would the merchant, if he had to contribute to the establishment of a law library, and so on, through all classes of society.

I have been informed, that when the Judges first increased the fee on admission of Attorneys to its present high figure, it was upon the clear understanding with the Government that this money should form a fund for the purpose I have mentioned; namely, the formation of a law library. If this were so, I would put it to His Honor the Chief Justice, whether he is not bound in justice to see to such its application, and if he finds that the Government insist on its appropriation to the general revenue of the Colony, or to any other than its legitimate purpose, I would put it further to him whether he is not equally bound in justice to the Attorneys of his court to exercise the power of revision given him, as above mentioned, and abolish or reduce the fee.

It may perhaps be said that the Attorneys at home are subject to far greater imposts. This may be, but yet it argues nothing: surely a tax unjust in itself, because unequal, cannot be defended, merely because it is sanctioned in England; and, besides, the tax is loudly and bitterly complained of there, although they have not so good a ground of complaint as their brethren here, because with them no pledge is broken, which, if I am correct in my information, has been the case here.

I trust, Sir, you will be able to find space for this letter in your truly valuable journal; not that I expect it will of itself produce any good effect, further than that it may serve to call forth the advocacy of a far more able pen—if this should be the case, my end is answered.

AN ARTICLED CLERK.

THE CORPORATION LAUREATE.

With all his country's prudent care,—
While the sun shines to make his hay—
Who reads the servile verse may swear
The writer is no stinging-ray!

PETER PINDAR.