

ME OF NEWS.

THE Liverpool Courier... The Liverpool Courier...

THOMAS DIXON... Thomas Dixon, of the...

POLICE... A member of the...

THE BOARD OF TRADE... The Board of Trade...

NEWSPAPER... The Teesdale Mercury...

WAGERS... It is stated that...

WHILE... The cattle fair at...

AT LEEDS... A butcher named...

PROPOSAL... The company, which...

IN PARIS... The construction...

OF A BAPTIST MINISTER... A Baptist minister...

A FIRE... A fire broke out...

DEATH OF A CONVICT... A young man...

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS... The House of Commons...

CROSSING BY ROYALTY... The Earl of Northesk...

A MARRIED MAN... A married man...

ADMIRAL... The Admiral...

LONG ENOUGH... A young man...

CONTINENTAL ON DITS.

The oldest inhabitant of Vienna, Anna Suda, born on the 25th of March, 1767, has just died.

The King of Holland's second son, Prince Alexander, according to a Middelburg paper, has resented the coming marriage by withdrawing to Stuttgart.

The German Government, as the Times is informed, has prohibited the sale in Alsace of the Paris Exhibition lottery tickets.

Two hundred and seventy-three sacks of flour, supplied to the Castellul garrison, have been thrown into the sea, having been found adulterated as to be unfit for food.

The overflow of the Italian river Bormida has been fatal to eleven persons at Ortemiglia, and six at Millemo, and has caused much damage to property.

General Estero, lately Master of Ordnance, has died at Obaldiscio, in his 79th year.

The news of the assassination of a Spanish functionary at Tetuan is officially confirmed, and the Madrid newspapers demand immediate reparation.

The Spanish Government has addressed vigorous representations on the subject to the Sultan of Morocco, and expects to receive a satisfactory reply.

Three French Custom-house officers have been dangerously wounded at Mentz, near Espira, in a collision with smugglers, one of whom, an Italian, was killed.

The "Conseil Fédéral" has transmitted to the "Conseil des Etats" the result of the conclusions arrived at in the Congress of September 19th for the preservation of phylloxera.

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EXTINCTION OF FIRES.

A French chemist, M. Queyret, has devised a method of rapidly extinguishing fires in chimneys.

The sulphuric acid is introduced into the chimney, the sulphur being first turned into one or two broad plates, in order that the combustion may be produced on a relatively large surface.

Chimney fires, so numerous in Paris as well as London, have usually been extinguished, in Paris at least, by the means of sulphur burnt on the hearth of the chimney; but it is almost always necessary to mount to the roof to close the orifice at the top.

On the other hand, if the temperature of the hearth be very moderate, the sulphur burns with difficulty and melts, being transformed into brown sulphur, and its combination with oxygen is so slow that there often remains sufficient oxygen in the air which the vent contains to enable the soot to continue to burn.

M. Queyret's idea is to employ for the extinction of fires in chimneys a body which in burning gives, like sulphur, sulphurous acid, but in conditions much more advantageous than powdered sulphur.

In fact, the sulphuret of carbon, a liquid combination of sulphur and carbon, vaporizes and inflames very easily, burns very quickly, and yields, by absorbing the oxygen of the air, a gas composed of two-thirds of sulphurous acid and one-third of carbonic acid, both equally unfavourable to combustion.

As to any danger connected with the method, this can be avoided by very simple precautions. The liquid should be divided into quantities of 100 grammes, in flasks large enough to preserve a vacuum, to allow for the great expansion of sulphuret of carbon at the top.

Paris has witnessed, in January of this year, 32 out of 51 fires, in February, 81 out of 103; in March, 138 out of 165; or in all 261 out of 319 fires.

These 251 extinctions have been effected instantaneously, without the necessity of mounting the roof or in any way disarranging the apartments.

THE CAT'S TITILE.

In an article on the cat, in connection with the Crystal Palace Show, the Daily News says: One of the most singular proofs of the foreign importation and perhaps of the late arrival in Europe of the cat is to be found in its various names.

It is said that none of these came from the old Aryan source, from which most of our language is derived. Most of them, like the familiar chat, are connected with the late Latin catas, which took the place of the earlier felis, when cats drove out the former feline race and mice.

It seems to follow that cats came into the West with the Romans, but whence did the Romans get the name and the animal? M. Perrot traces the name to the Syrian qato, and the Arabic qit, out of which by an easy and natural process we make kitten. Qit and qato, however, are not the primitive native forms of the cat's long-descended title, and we must go from Syria to Africa to find qata, kaddika, and kaddiska.

As for the ancient Egyptian "mau," that is merely the "meow" cat, and the "pussey" word of English nursery. Here, then, in Egypt is a native onomatopoeic name of the cat, such as any human being might give it when he first heard the peevish, prolonged note of its voice.

The Indian names of the cat are not very old, and they are easily explained. The cat is "the house-wolf," the "rat-eater" (though snakes are the ratters in some districts), and the "foe of mice." The most enduring title of the cat comes from the land whence the most pleasing specimens of the race are also derived. The Persian cat, wild or tame, is "puschak," which the Afghans pronounce "peshk," and the Lithuanians, as old Aryan-speaking races, call it "pus." The English "pus" is clearly of the same family of words. If "pus" in the long run is derived from a Sanskrit word for a "tail," there is a curious coincidence between the word used by Herodotus for the Egyptian cat, "the creature with waving tail," and the term found in Persian, Lithuanian, and English. Many primitive peoples must have noticed that the cat, like that Oshibee one which met Alice in Wonderland, wags its tail when it is angry.

On the whole, the history of the cat as a domestic creature rather bears out the theory that its strange, secretive, and capricious nature is a survival from a wild condition not very remote in time, not so remote as the wild condition of the horse, dog, and ox.

A FEVER-SCARING TREE.

The great value of the eucalyptus grows as a preventive of malaria is well known that no one can doubt the wisdom of introducing it into Cyprus. It of course remains to be seen whether the planting of this tree will produce in Cyprus the beneficial effects which have resulted from it in Australia and other countries, but the experiment is well worthy of being tried.

Uniform experience shows that wherever the eucalyptus is planted malarial fever ceases to exist, while the rapidity of its growth is an additional reason for promptitude in the trial of its power to modify the pestilent climate of Cyprus. To be of general use, the young trees or cuttings must be planted by thousands and even ten of thousands, and we are therefore glad to learn that the Civil Commissioner at Limassol, with a view to give the undertaking every chance in his district, has ordered a large quantity to be sent out from this country.

The French Government has already tested the sanitary benefits of the tree in Algeria; and we are informed that at the present time the Italians are planting it, with equally satisfactory results, in the Campagna and on the borders of the Lago Maggiore. The aromatic exhalations from the bark and leaves of the eucalyptus, it appears, exercise a very purifying influence upon the atmosphere; and certainly we know of no place at the present time which stands in greater need of a remedial agency of this kind than the fever-stricken island of Cyprus.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRES AT OLDHAM AND WISBEACH.

A very destructive fire has occurred at the Alma Mill, Oldham. The origin of the fire was friction in the machinery. In half an hour the building was destroyed. The work-people had to leave the premises in great haste, some of them without their clothes. The mill contained 36,000 spindles, the machinery being principally of modern construction. The damage is estimated at £30,000, and is covered by insurance. An alarming fire broke out in the clothing manufactory of Messrs. J. Y. Skinner and Co., of Wisbeach. The inmates—Mr. and Mrs. Skinner, six children, and the servant—were in bed, and were with difficulty rescued. The only water supply was from an adjoining cistern. The property was insured.

TOLLS FOR SEEING NIAGARA.

A correspondent of the Times, signing himself "Victor," has the following: In justice to the "proprietors" of the Whirlpool Rapids at Niagara, allow me to correct an error in your admirable leader on Lord Dufferin's suggestion, and to say that the "ricketty staircase" by which access was formerly obtained to the Rapids had long since disappeared, and that its place is supplied by an admirable "lift," by which the tourist who is willing to pay is lowered in a few minutes to the brink of the Rapids. The toll, however, like all the other tolls for seeing Niagara from certain favoured points of view, is excessive, and the whole system, like that of our own metropolitan or Imperial control, I have myself seen respectable-looking visitors to the Falls turn sorrowfully away from the toll-gate on the bridge leading to Goat Island when they learnt what they would have to pay for crossing it. It is a crying shame that the power of obtaining the choicest views of the grandest of Nature's "ancient monuments" should be dependent on the tender mercies of Canadian and American speculators; and, however successful those gentlemen may have been in entering to the wants of the wealthier class of tourists, it is time their monopoly should be put an end to, and the enjoyment of one of Nature's best feasts made accessible, at a moderate cost, to all classes alike.

WILLS AND BEQUESTS.

The will (dated April 3, 1873) with three codicils (dated January 23, 1874, December 6, 1877, and February 1, 1878) of the Right Hon. Herbert, Earl of Ashburnham, late of Ashburnham-place, near Battle, Sussex, who died on June 22 last, was proved on the 8th inst. by the Right Hon. Katherine Charlotte, Countess of Ashburnham, the widow, and his eldest son, Lord Ashburnham, Earl of Ashburnham, the executor, the personal estate being sworn under £93,000.

The testator left a large family, including the vicarage and parish church of Ashburnham, and the rectory and parish church of Ponsbury, Sussex, and the rectory and parish church of Barkingcum-Darnsted, Suffolk; all the rest of his ecclesiastical patronage is to be sold, and the net proceeds divided between his sons John, William, Thomas, and George, and his daughters Margaret and Mary; he also leaves to his younger sons £15,000 each, and to his two daughters £10,000 each, a further sum of £5000 each on their respective marriages, and until then annuities. In addition to other bequests, the testator gives to his wife his town house in Dover-street, with the furniture, pictures, and effects, certain carriages and horses, the "St. Asaph" plate and all his jewels, except the Ashburnham family diamonds, and he makes up her income to £1500 per annum; to his land steward, Robert Hodgson, he bequeaths £1000, free of duty; to his butler and house steward, James Forster, an annuity of £100; to his son, Thomas Fraser, an annuity of £50; to his footman, John Quistell, an annuity of £20; to his gamekeeper, R. P. an annuity of £20; a conditional annuity to Mrs. Williamson, and two years' wages to each of his other domestics who have been ten years in his service at his decease. His unvested real estate in the counties of Suffolk and Sussex and the Principality of Wales are devised to the use of his eldest son, the Countess of Ashburnham, and the residue of his property is given to his eldest son.

The will (dated Nov. 12, 1875) of the Hon. Mrs. Mary Eliza Heneker, late of Brighton, who died on Aug. 4, last, at 48, Upper Grosvenor-street, was proved on the 3rd inst. by Philip Witham and Richard Ward, the executors, the personal estate being sworn under £40,000. The testatrix bequeaths £1000 each, free of legacy duty, to the Convent of the Little Sisters of the Poor, Forto-tillo road, St. Elizabeth's Hospital, Great Ormond-street, and the Poor Society; and £25 to the clergyman of the parish church of Quorndon, Leicestershire, to distribute, at his discretion, among the poor of that place; she also bequeaths, out of such part of her personal estate as she may by law bequeath for charitable purposes, to his Eminence Cardinal Manning or other the person who for the time being shall fill the office or represent the Archbishop of Westminster in the Roman Catholic Church, the sum of £4000, upon trust, for the disposal thereof for such lawful charitable uses as she may by law bequeath, and with absolute discretion, think fit. These are legacies to relatives and others, including a bequest of £900, which is settled upon her niece, Louisa Augusta Manning, and the residue of her property the testatrix leaves to her said niece absolutely.

The will (dated July 13, 1870) with three codicils (dated October 11, 1872, January 17, 1873, and March 29, 1878) of Mr. Andrew Uthell, late of 61, Warwick-square, Finsbury, who died on August 17 last at Shrubb-hill, Dorking, was proved on the 22nd ult. by the executors, Messrs. Andrew Uthell, the widow, the Rev. William Middleton South, and George Uthell, the executors, the personal estate being sworn under £15,000. The testator gives to his wife all his furniture, plate, household effects, horses, and carriages; the remainder of his property is left upon trust for his wife for life, giving her a general power of appointment at her death over the sum of £9000; and subject thereto the residue is to be held for his sons, Thomas George, Charles Edward, and William Andrew, and his daughter, Mrs. Mary Sybil King.

The will (dated May 18, 1878) of Mr. Lutwidge Dunbar Baynard-Cookson, late of Whitehill-park, Chester-le-Street, Durham, and of Scarborough, Yorkshire, who died on August 5 last, has been proved at the York district registry by John Woodall Woodall and Walter James Guy, the executors, the personal estate being sworn under £30,000. The testator charges the settled real estate under the will of his grandfather, John Cookson, with £400 per annum in favour of his wife, Elizabeth, and he gives her all his furniture, plate, and household effects, and to his friend Walter James Guy, an annuity of £100; to his friend, John Freeman, 100 guineas; to his housekeeper, Margaret, an annuity of £25; and the residue of his property upon trust for his wife for life if she shall so long continue his widow, and then for his children.

The will of Mr. Benjamin Colls, late of 53, Moor-gate-street, and of Sutton-common, who died on August 15 last, at 22, Wychwood-place, was proved on the 3rd inst. by Mr. Wm. Abraham Colls and Mr. John Howard Colls, the sons, the executors, the personal estate being sworn under £18,000. The testator leaves to his wife, Mrs. Elizabeth Colls, such of his household goods and effects as she shall select, £100, and £400 per annum for life; to his niece Elizabeth Richardson, and his friend Jimima Davis, £100 each; to his sister, Mrs. Martha Shaw, an annuity of £50 for life; and the residue of his real and personal estate to his said two sons.

The will of Mr. Samuel Tomkins, late of 76, Lombard-street, and of 77, Avenue-road, Regent's-park, who died on July 21st last, has been proved by Mr. Samuel Leith Tomkins, the son, the acting executor, the personal estate being sworn under £2000. The only persons interested under the will are testator's widow and son.

The will of Mr. Peter Edward, late of 30, Cornhill, who died on June 19 last, at New House, Northfleet, Kent, was proved on the 18th inst. by Mr. George Butcher and Mr. Alfred Mason, the executors, the personal estate being sworn under £12,000. The testator bequeaths £50 each to his executors, an annuity of £20 to his sister Catherine, and the residue of his property upon trust for his wife, Mrs. Harriett Edward, for life or widowhood, and then for his eight children by his said wife in equal shares as tenants in common.—City Press.

MARRIAGE WITH A DECEASED WIFE'S SISTER.

An important decision has been given in the Jersey Royal Court, in an action for dower, brought by the widow of a man who had married his deceased wife's sister. The deceased was Mr. George Gallichan, who, on the death of his second wife, in 1876, married her sister, who had for a length of time kept house for him during the illness of his wife. A fortnight afterwards he died suddenly in a fit of apoplexy. She now sued the guardian of the principal heir of her late husband for her dower. Her claim was refused on the ground that the marriage was null and void in law, the relationship of the husband and wife being within the prescribed degree of consanguinity. The plaintiff's case was that, according to the Jersey law, the marriage, though voidable, was not null ab initio. It was pointed out that when the English law on marriage of this nature was passed, the Act of Parliament was not registered in the Royal Court of Jersey, and therefore could not have the force of law on that island. The evidence given before the Royal Court in Jersey was cited in support of this view. It was further argued that the validity of the marriage could be questioned only during the lifetime of the contracting parties, and that no one had a legal right to step in now and make an objection to it. The marriage had been contracted with the knowledge of all the relatives, and after the opinion of the Crown officers had been obtained that it would not be contrary to law. The case was heard on the appeal before the Full Court (seven judges), of whom five confirmed the judgment of the inferior number (two judges), maintaining the validity of the marriage and requiring the defendant to pay the dower. An appeal to her Majesty in Council was entered.

THE PRICE OF LABOUR IN RUSSIA.

Some interesting statistics have been published at St. Petersburg showing the price of labour in Russia this summer. At Sanbrik the pay of a peasant has been from 7d. to 1s. a day by himself, or from 1s. 4d. to 2s. 6d. with his horse. The services of his wife and daughter have been estimated at from 3d. to 7d. 1d. a week, but the famine has raged, it has been possible to obtain a man and his beast at 1s. 8d. a day, and himself for 7d., while 2d. had been the average wage for his wife.

In South Russia labour has been dearer. The peasants of Ekaterinodar have demanded 1s. 3d. to 1s. 6d. a day, without the use of their horses, and at Odessa the price of labour has reached as much as two shillings. The average rate throughout Russia has been about a shilling for a man, sixpence for a woman, and eighteen pence for a man and his horse and physical labour. This seems a wretched remuneration for physical labour, especially as no allowance is made for food for man or horse; but, on the other hand, living in Russia is exceedingly cheap, and in most cases there are sundry concessions in the shape of cheap pasturage and the right to gather fuel in the forests, which make up, in a measure, the deficiency. At the same time the Russian moujik is not, like the English labourer, dependent on the farmer for his bread. Every moujik in the Empire owns from five to fifty acres of ground, he is invariably the possessor of several cows and horses, and, altogether, his position compares favourably with that of many needy farmers in England. Except in certain out of the way provinces like Viatka, he has always sufficient rye in his barns to "keep the wolf from the door," and this, with buckwheat and millet, forms the staple of his food. Luxuries in the shape of chickens may be had in the villages in Central Russia, Tambov, Toula, &c., at threepence each, he can buy a hundred eggs for sixpence, water-melons will be dear if they cost him more than a farthing each, and a sheep can be often had for six shillings. If his cow dies from the cattle disease, he can buy fresh ones at fifteen shillings a piece, and he can replace his horse with the best in the market for a pound. His living is decidedly not luxurious, but he has plenty of food, coarse though it be, and is never reduced to the pauper condition of the thousands who live on their wits in the midst of our rich metropolises.

TWO MEN KILLED AT PADDINGTON.—Two men in the employ of Messrs. Barclay and Perkins, brewers, whilst playing a large signboard on the top of the Old England public-house, Delamere-crescent, Paddington, fell on to the pavement beneath. They were dead when taken to St. Mary's Hospital.

SKIN GRAFTING.—The Birmingham Post says: "We gave an account a few days ago of a case of accidental scalding successfully treated in America by skin grafting; and we suggested that Birmingham surgeons might profit by the hint. We have since heard with pleasure that the operation has lately been practised in Birmingham, in a case of peculiar difficulty, and with complete and most gratifying success."

TO OWNERS OF DOGS.—At the Lancaster Quarter Sessions, the following motion was unanimously adopted: "That, owing to the frequent occurrence of cases of rabies, it is the opinion of this Court that an enactment should be passed rendering it incumbent upon the owners of all dogs to keep them at all times under safe and efficient control; and that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Secretary of State."

LANDLORD'S ADVICE TO HIS TENANTS.—The East Anglian Daily Times prints a circular just advanced by Lord Tollerbach to his tenants in Suffolk, recommending that more barley and less wheat be sown, and suggesting a rotation of crops by means of which a farmer will get three crops of barley during a period of eight years from one field, and a crop of wheat every eight years instead of every four years as has hitherto been the custom.

COMPENSATION.—The disputes between the Liverpool Gas Company and the Dock Board on the question of damage by the explosion of gas, which led to the destruction of the great landing stage in August, 1874, has been finally adjusted. The Gas Company had paid £70,000, and an arbitration was to have been held as to further payments; but the Mersey Board has agreed to accept the sum of £17,500, in addition to the amount already paid, as a final settlement.

THE NEW PRISONS ACT.—At Warwick Quarter Sessions, Lord Norton, speaking upon the Prisons Act, said that if the uniformity which it was the purpose of the Act to secure in any way diminished the interest taken by the justices in the prisons, or crippled the aid given to discharged prisoners it would prove to have been very dearly purchased. No Act passed within his recollection had done so much towards the diminution of crime as that which provided for aid to be given to discharged prisoners. A number of the judges praying that every facility should be given for aiding discharged prisoners.

NEWSPAPERS FOR FOREIGN PARTS.—A very large number of newspapers, posted for foreign parts, are daily kept back and sent to the Returned Letter Office, in consequence of one or more of the regulations not being complied with. In the great majority of cases, these newspapers cannot be returned to the senders, so that not only do they fail to reach the persons for whom they were intended, but the senders themselves are unaware of their having been detained. The most common fault in these cases is an insufficient prepayment of the postage. Some of the newspapers are prepaid a half-penny only, which is the postage for an inland newspaper, and some, although exceeding four ounces in weight, are prepaid only a penny, the right postage in most cases being a penny for every four ounces, or fraction of that weight, in the case of each separate newspaper. A large proportion of the newspapers are found to be written upon, or to have enclosures, sometimes letters, inserted in them, and not a few are posted beyond eight days from the date of publication. The public are requested, in order to prevent disappointment to themselves, to be careful not only to prepay sufficient postage on the newspapers which they post for foreign parts, but also to comply strictly with all the regulations affecting such newspapers, as laid down in the British Postal Guide.

A SPIRITUALIST DENTIST.—A miraculous case of dentistry in the history of Dr. Slade is recorded in Spiritualist circles. Some time ago the worthy member was tormented with that "hell of all diseases," toothache; and one day, sitting close to a fire-stove, exclaimed, "I've got sharp pains through that tooth again. I feel Oswasso." Whether Oswasso is the name of a Spiritualist clairvoyant in the art of dentistry, or whether it is merely the name of the extracting instrument, is not recorded. But in less than half a minute after feeling Oswasso the doctor spat out the tooth, and, applying his tongue to his gum, discovered that a cavity as might have been formed there after an operation in dentistry. A similar marvel has been long current in Spiritualist circles in Newcastle-on-Tyne, where an old woman suffering from excruciating toothache, had the offending member pulled out either by Oswasso or some other member of the Spiritualist family of dentists. Talking of Spiritualism, we (Eko) understand that a "community" is being formed on the outskirts of London, on the basis of that of M. Pierart, at St. Maur. The establishment will be a kind of boarding-house, with a rules, systematic but not ascetic, as to diet, nightly exercises, and daily worship of a strictly untheistic character. Intending boarders would do well to make inquiries as to the eligibility, or otherwise, of the systematic rules as to diet. It may be found in a community of hydropaths, an ample allowance of imperfect tacca for breakfast, and an imperfect allowance of boiled pease meal for supper.

CLEANINGS.

NAPOLEON'S COAT OF MAIL.—The following paragraph has not yet appeared in "Notes and Queries": "Just before setting out for Belgium Napoleon sent for the cleverest artisan of his class in Paris, and demanded of him whether he would engage to make a coat of mail to be worn under the ordinary dress, which should be absolutely bullet-proof; and that, if so, he might name his own price for such a work. The man engaged to make the desired object, if allowed proper time, and he named 18,000 francs (£720) as the price of it. The bargain was concluded, and in due time the work was produced, and the artisan was honoured with a second audience of the Emperor. "Now," said his Imperial Majesty, "put it on." The man did so. "As I am to state my life on its efficacy, you will, I suppose, have no objection to do the same?" and he took a brace of pistols, and prepared to discharge one at the breast of the astonished artist. There was no retreating, however, and half dead with fear, he stood the fire; and to the infinite grief of his work, with perfect impunity. But the Emperor was not content with this trial. He fired the second pistol at the back of the artist, and afterwards discharged a fowling-piece at another part of him with similar effect. "Well," said the Emperor, "you have produced a capital work, undoubtedly. What is the price of it?" Eighteen thousand francs were named as the agreed sum. "There is an order for them," said the Emperor; "and there is another for an equal sum for the frigate I have given you to."—Necessity Chronicle.

GREAT MEN'S WIVES.—"Rare Ben" Johnson married a wife who was a shrew, yet honest. The sentence which he uttered in his hour of adversity diminishes before an simple statement. William Lilly, the famous astrologer, esteemed marvellously wise in his generation, married, for a second wife, a woman who turned out a furious shrew. "She was," he owns, "of the temper of Mars." It is true he got £500 by her, but he swears that she and her relations cost him £1000. Who, for a period of his married life, was ever more miserable than Milton? It is true that few men were ever less adapted to the married state than the poet; but his wife must have been desperately trying. In summer he was out four, in winter at five, and he was in bed every night by nine. At his first rising he had a chapter read to him from a Hebrew Bible, and studied all the morning till twelve. He then walked, dined, and after dinner made his wife sing to him at the organ. After this he went to study again until six, when his friends visited him and sat till eight. After a light supper of olives, a pipe, and a glass of water, he went to bed. A man of this sort of thing disgraced Mrs. Milton, who loved dancing and cards. She returned to go on a visit to her family, promising to return by Michaelmas. But Michaelmas came without Mrs. Milton. Dryden was said not to be happy in his marriage with a daughter of the Earl of Berkshire. Yet Dryden was not more unhappy than Addison, who married, in 1716, the Countess Dowager of Warwick. "He had thought," says old Jacob Tonson, the bookseller, "of his getting that lady from his first being room-mate into the family; but he declared that Addison accepted the post of Secretary of State only to oblige her ladyship and to qualify himself to be owned as her husband. 'The marriage,' Johnson says, 'made no addition to his happiness. It is certain that Addison has left behind him no encouragement for ambitious love.'"

ENGLISH HEADS IN THE SEVENTEENTH, EIGHTEENTH, AND NINETEENTH CENTURIES.—In his preface to the "Fool of Quality," the Rev. Charles Kingsley asks: "Who, in looking round a family portrait gallery, has not remarked the difference between the heads of the seventeenth and those of the eighteenth century? The former are of the same type as our own, and with the same strong and varied personality; the latter painfully like both to each other, and to an oil flask; the jaw round, weak, and sensual; the forehead narrow, and the eyes small. Had the race really degenerated for a while, or was the lower type adopted intentionally out of compliment to some great personage?" We do not agree with Mr. Kingsley that the heads of the seventeenth century are the same type as our own; but they certainly contrast favourably with those of the first half of the eighteenth, and it would be strange if they did not, unless it be altogether vain and idle to look for character in countenance. It was not merely that the heroic type was wanting; that the age of Hampden and Cromwell, Milton, and Andrew Marvell, was a golden age had degenerated during the reigns of George I. and George II.; and a corresponding decline may be observed in the intellectual class, especially in the men of letters. Their social position was lowered, and their tone had sunk with it. They were no longer the favoured companions of statesmen and nobles. They no longer looked forward to becoming members of Parliament, or secretaries of state, or secretaries of embassies, or well-paid commissioners, or high dignitaries of the church, as the reward for services rendered, or distinctions earned by the pen. Compare the relative position in these respects of Pope, Addison, Prior, Steele, Gay, and Swift, with that of Fielding, Smollett, Johnson, and Goldsmith, prior to the accession of George III. There is a startling contrast between Johnson signing himself "Impranus," and Swift sending the Lord Treasurer (Harley) into the House of Commons to call out the Secretary of State (St. John), only to let him know that he (Swift) would not dine with him if he dined last.

"Yet think what ill the scholar's life assails, Toil, envy, want, the garret, and the jail." —Quarterly Review.

OUR COMING DEMOCRACY.—The democracy which is advancing upon us is not that of Athens, in which a multitude of quick-witted idlers supported by slave labour were amused and educated by attending theatres kept up at the public expense, and by taking part, with or without a fee, in the course of justice and sovereign assemblies of the people. It is not that of rural Switzerland, where all men are equal and acquaintances, and where political prizes are too poor to be a great object of illegitimate ambition. It is not the democratic bias of the medieval cities, which though capable of fierce outbreaks, was subject to class restrictions which held back the multitude from the conduct of affairs. Least of all is it the proprietary democracy of Louis Napoleon, which only roused itself to endorse a despot. It will be a democracy founded on the principle that one man is as good as another—a principle which liberal Europe is receiving with a strange absence of hesitation from America, and applying by the machinery of representation to the government of great Empires. That machinery consists of two parts—the constitution established by law, which provides the method by which the multitude shall select its governors, and the clubs, caucuses, or other combinations of active persons, created by individual will outside the law, which by manipulation, persuasion, or intimidation, direct, or control, or combine the wills of the electors. The second is in a great degree the complement of the first, and pre-supposes two or more antagonistic parties, devoted to the acquisition of power or the accomplishment of objects, and equipped with the usual contrivances for consulting, speaking, writing, registering, and all the other activities which, by causing coherency and increasing momentum, command success. This is the democracy which is partly present, partly nearing us; and it is liable to great dangers. One is suggested by the history of France, one by that of the United States. The first is that the dominant multitude may so legislate against wealth as to provoke civil dissension or to involve common ruin. The other is that class jealousy and the difficulty to obtaining political power without loss of self-respect may deter men of high spirit and cultivated mind from adopting a political career, and that the administration of affairs may become first coarse and then corrupt.—Edinburgh Review.