**Notabilia.** Examiner; Sep 10, 1864; 2954; British Periodicals pg. 590



India that when persons are recommended beyond the regular rules of the service for pensions or increased amount of pensions, no hopes shall be held out to the expectants until the Secretary of State has written to the subject. The Government gun-foundry at Cossipore is about to be closed, it having been determined that in future no more guns shall be manufactured in India, but that the supply shall be drawn from Woolwich. From all parts of the Presidency accounts of heavy rains continue to be received, and the prospects of the season are considered favourable. In Guzerat the fall of rain had been unusually heavy, and in some parts this had interfered with agricultural operations. The cotton sowings were late, and it was expected that owing to the inundations a large breadth of this cultivation would have to be resown. Two spans of the railway bridge over the Nerbudda, at Broach, have been carried away by the heavy floods, and another bridge on the same line, near Unklesur, has been destroyed. All traffic between Surat and Broach had, in consequence, been stopped. The Mahi river had risen forty-seven feet. The river Chenab has been obstructed in its course either by a glacier or a landslip; and the river Ravee, both of which rivers are in the Panjaub, has given indications of changing its course. The Bhootanese are now quarrelling among themselves, in consequence of Toungsoo Penlow having sent a spy into Sikkim to seek out Chebooo Lama, and to learn where he was, without the knowledge of the durbar. The quarrel which occurred in open durbar, and which it is difficult to make plain to even a German's meaning, ended in a regular battle; the durbar broke up in great confusion, and two new parties have been formed. The internal state of Bhootan is wretched, and there is every prospect of a serious civil war, or rather series of wars, for each chief will fight for his own aggrandisement. The internal troubles are increasing daily, and it is rumoured that Toungsoo Penlow has even gone so far as to usurp the authority of the Dhurm and Deb Rajahs. A very tragical event has occurred at Broach by the upsetting of a boat containing forty persons of both sexes in the River Nerbudda, when all except six were drowned. A number of similar accidents are reported to have occurred during the past fortnight in the Nerbudda, Taptee, and Mahee rivers, which have in many places overflowed their banks in consequence of the recent heavy rains, and by which numerous lives have been lost.

## SLAVERY IN THE SOUTH OF BRAZIL.

The following we take from the *Daily News:*

Sir,—The mail which has just arrived has brought a story illustrating the moral influences of slavery in the south of Brazil. The scandal related in the subjoined letter, which appeared in the *Jornal do Commercio* of Rio of July 30, occurred in the civilized town of Juiz da Fora, the terminus of a splendid road which has lately been constructed at a great expense from Petropolis, from which it is about ten hours distant. It is in the province of Minas Geraes, not far from the bordering province of Rio de Janeiro. In that province a large quantity of English capital is embarked in mines, and there are English mining companies employing a considerable number of slaves. Minas receives a number of the slaves systematically transported from north to south, by what Senator Silveira da Motta has only this year declared in the Brazilian Senate is in reality a "disguised slave trade." The aged lady who has been brutally whipped in broad day in the chief street of a thriving town in the civilized south of Brazil by a slave, doing the bidding of his master, is well known to me. She is by birth English, of a good English family. Her maiden name was Chambre. She married a Brazilian diplomatist, M. Cerqueira de Lima, who was chargé d'affaires at Bogota when he died, in 1848. She will be well remembered in Jamaica, where she was well known to a large circle, including the then governor, Sir Charles Grey; when staying with whom I made her acquaintance, in 1849. She returned to Brazil a widow, with a numerous young family, and, being in reduced circumstances, has honourably maintained herself and brought up many sons and daughters by keeping a girls' school. Latterly she has moved from Rio to Juiz da Fora, where she has met with this scandalous treatment. My information is not derived solely from the newspapers. I am told in a private letter that Madame Cerqueira de Lima has suffered not only from the brutal assault, but also by the loss of all her pupils, who have been withdrawn, "in consequence (my correspondent says) of the degradation which she has sustained, and which the parents consider unfit her to be a teacher." This is hardly credible. In England the lady will be compassionated, but it is not she who will be thought degraded. Accounts from the other side may perhaps modify some circumstances of this story. But the main fact of the public whipping of an aged lady, mother of a large family, by a Brazilian gentleman's slave in a town of some pretensions, in broad daylight, and in the presence of several men, none of whom laid hands upon the miscreant, is, I believe, indisputable.—I am, &c., C.

September 3.

(From the *Jornal do Commercio* of July 30.)

A most indescribable fact has lately occurred in the town of Juiz da Fora. There resides there Major Luiz Pinto Coetho da Cunha, whose son Julio, from 14 to 16 years old, made it his constant practice to insult with the most opprobrious names a young man, Emilio de Cerqueira Lima, and his mother Senora Dona Henriqueta Cerqueira de Lima, to whom was entrusted the education of the daughters of the principal persons of the place. Emilio complained to the father, Major Cunha, in the presence of several persons. But this was of no use, for the next day the son repeated his insults. Emilio Cerqueira de Lima, enraged, gave Julio Cunha two or three taps with a thin cane, which did not hurt him in the least, as several witnesses assert.

Julio went immediately to his father's house and came out with a whip, and at the door, in the presence of his mother and sisters, told Emilio that the next day he would have him punished, with that whip. Francisco Alves da Cunha Horta, married to the boy's sister, declared that if he were the father, he would send two slaves to horsewhip Emilio. Two days after Emilio was barbarously flogged by the black man Romao, a slave of Francisco Horta, between one and two in the afternoon, in the principal street; and not only this, but the slave acted in the same way with Emilio's mother, who came out on hearing her son's cries. This proceeding was witnessed by some of the chief persons of the place, who did not, however, interfere, fearing that they might also be victims, as was indeed Dr Nunes Lima, who cried out to the black to let his victims go. It is sad to have to record a fact which should have been possible only in a savage land.

THE RECENT RIOTS AT BELFAST.—It has been resolved by the Executive, in consequence of the recent disturbances, to again make Belfast the head-quarters of a military district, of which Brigadier-General Haines will take command. The depôts now quartered there are to be removed, and the barracks will be immediately occupied by a full regiment, said to be the 74th. The General is to reside in the town. Lord Donegall's censure of the Belfast magistrates at the Masonic banquet, given in that town to signalize his installation as Provincial Grand Master, has drawn upon him the animadversion of the Grand Lodge of Ireland, who took cognizance of the matter at their last meeting. The feeling of the meeting is reported to have been that his Lordship's remark were altogether at variance with the fundamental rules of the order, which strictly prohibit the discussion of any matter of a political or sectarian character at masonic meetings. It was resolved that Lord Donegall should be called upon to admit or deny the accuracy of the newspapers. His Lordship's reply will, probably, be read at the meeting on the first Thursday in October, and the matter will then be discussed. The sum claimed as presentments for injuries sustained by wrecking in the late riots amounts to between 9,000*l.* and 10,000*l.* According to the custom of the grand jury in such cases, the amounts granted will be levied off the barony of Lower Belfast, and, as the grand jurors have the power of defining the district, this large sum may be assessed on the parish of Shankhill, in which the town of Belfast is situate. The *Belfast Newsletter* announces, "on excellent authority," that a Government Commission will shortly issue to inquire into the origin and character of the recent riots in that town; and that Lord Palmerston has declared that he could not face the House of Commons next Session without the report of the Commission on the Belfast riots to lay on the table.

DISPLACEMENT OF THE LONDON POOR.—At a meeting of the electors of the liberty of Hatton garden, Saffron hill, and Ely rents, Mr McCullagh Torrens, the Liberal candidate for Finsbury, said, "In the course of his speech, no man could traverse the district, and see the great changes that were taking place in property and population, without being painfully convinced that something must be wrong in this mode of transferring masses of industry and human beings from one portion of the town to another. He had never passed across that shameful waste, Holborn vale, without wondering how it was that nothing had been done in parliament to put an end to a state of things which was a disgrace to London. In 1840, parliament passed an act which empowered twenty-two gentlemen to make an opening from the foot of Holborn Hill to Clerkenwell green, but no proper means were provided for re-building what was destroyed. After spending about 50,000*l.* the commissioners came to a stand, and at the end of seven years their trust was handed over to the Corporation of London. It was the duty of parliament when they up-rooted a population of 6,000 persons inhabiting forty-nine streets, lanes, and courts, at least to take care that those persons were properly housed and had a chance of employment in the places to which they were driven, but nothing of the kind was done, and the Corporation of London, having considerable funds at their disposal, had failed to plant a single pile of buildings upon the spot. One effect of this was, that in Saffron hill, where four people used to live in a room there were now six or seven crowded together, to the injury both of the health and morals of the community. In 1851 another act was passed, in which a clause was inserted to the effect that whereas a large number of the former inhabitants of the place were mechanics and persons of the poorer classes, model lodging-houses ought to be built to provide them with homes for the future; but the act went on to declare that a further cut should be made beyond Clerkenwell green to Coppice row, by which a greater number of houses were to be destroyed, and the discretion which it left with the Corporation in providing for the displaced population was exercised by their doing nothing at all. Under these circumstances it was the duty of a representative of Finsbury anxiously and deliberately to set about compelling the Corporation to do its duty in the matter. Since these acts were passed, the London, Chatham, and Dover Railway and other public companies had contributed to the destruction of the dwellings of the working classes in the metropolis, without any reparation being made to the sufferers. The House of Commons, would, he was convinced, always be ready to remedy injustice if a practical suggestion for the purpose was brought before them; and his view was, that a railway company coming into the middle of a great town, or a corporation undertaking to make great thoroughfares, ought to compensate the parish as a parish as well as the owners of property. What was going on in the way of improved dwellings for the labouring classes, whether due to the benevolence of Miss Coutts, or Mr Peabody, or undertaken with a view to private gain, was of great benefit as far as it went, but it was a mistake to suppose that such efforts would ever overtake the demands of population. It was sometimes said that people whose dwellings were displaced in the metropolis should go to the suburbs, and that was good so far as it was practicable; but there were thousands of sempstresses, printers, and others who must live in the immediate neighbourhood of their employment. For such it was the duty of society to provide decent habitations when by law their old ones were destroyed; and whoever might be selected at the next election to represent the borough, he trusted the choice would fall upon those who would be ready earnestly to press that view upon the notice of the legislature.

THE ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION although closed at present for necessary repairs and decorative embelishments, will re-open on Monday, September 19th, when Professor Pepper will produce a Lecture on "Sound and Acoustic Wonders," such as the Talking Heads —The Telephonic Concerts—The Invisible Girl, &c., &c. The Ghost Scenes will be continued, and a new Musical Entertainment is to be provided by Mr Coote, illustrating the story of "Sindbad the Sailor."

REVISING THE LIST OF VOTERS.—The revision of the lists of voters for counties and boroughs will be commenced during the present month. The lists must be revised between the 13th September and the 30th of October. The expense of the revising barristers last year amounted to 17,850*l.* The revising of the lists of voters for the city of London, it is understood, will be commenced on the 5th of October. The contest is likely to be a severe one, from the fact that nearly 300 persons have been objected to as not entitled to have their names on the register. There are only four new claims.

CHIMNEY-SWEEPERS.—On the first of November an Act of parliament will take effect to amend the Act for the regulation of chimney-sweepers. From that day chimney-sweepers are restricted from employing children under ten years of age, and are not to be accompanied in their occupation by persons under sixteen years old.

THE RAILWAY THROUGH THE APENNINES.—The *Corriere dell' Emilia* of Bologna says: "On the evening of the 31st of August there only remained ten metres of the tunnel beneath the Apennines to be pierced. The passage will, therefore, be completed about the 10th of September; but from thirty to forty days more will be necessary to terminate the widening of the gallery and the masonry. The works on the southern slope of the mountain are so far terminated that the engineers of the company have been able to run down the incline in small waggons set in motion by their own weight. The line is expected to be ready for examination by the Governmental commission about the 15th of October, and to be opened about the 1st of November. Tuscany will then be united, not only to Bologna, but to Istria, Milan, &c.'

## Notabilia.

THE LAST HOURS OF PRINCE ALBERT.—There has reached us from abroad a most interesting extract from a letter which was written by a member of the Queen's household shortly after the death of Prince Albert. The extremely confidential position which the writer held at the time not only gives the assurance of perfect reliability, but invests the following lines with a very special interest. After describing the grief and fears of the whole household for the Queen, the writer speaks of the personal loss sustained in the death of Prince Albert:—"How I shall miss his conversation about the children! He used often to come into the schoolroom to speak about the education of the children, and he never left me without my feeling that he had strengthened my hands and raised the standard I was aiming at. Nothing mean or frivolous could exist in the atmosphere that surrounded him; the conversation could not be trifling if he was in the room. I dread the return of spring for my dear lady. It was his favourite time of the year—the opening leaves, the early flowers, and fresh green were such a delight to him; and he so loved to point out their beauties to his children that it will be terrible to see them without him. The children kept his table supplied with primroses, which he especially loved. The last Sunday he passed on earth was a very blessed one for the Princess Alice to look back upon. He was very ill and very weak, and she spent the afternoon alone with him, while the others were in church. He begged to have his sofa drawn to the window, that he might see the sky and the clouds sailing past. He then asked her to play to him, and she went through several of his favourite hymns and chorals. After she had played some time she looked round and saw him lying back, his hands folded as if in prayer, and his eyes shut. He lay so long without moving that she thought he had fallen asleep. Presently he looked up and smiled. She said, 'Were you asleep, dear papa? 'Oh, no,' he answered; 'only I have such sweet thoughts.' During his illness his hands were often folded in prayer; and when he did not speak, his serene face showed that the 'happy thoughts' were with him to the end. The Princess Alice's fortitude has amazed us all. She saw from the first that both her father and mother's firmness depended on her firmness, and she set herself to the duty. He loved to speak openly of his condition, and had many wishes to express. He loved to hear hymns and prayers. He could not speak to the Queen of himself, for she could not bear to listen, and shut her eyes to the danger. His daughter saw that she must act differently, and she never let her voice falter or shed a single tear in his presence. She sat by him, listened to all he said, repeated hymns, and then when she could bear it no longer, would walk calmly to the door, and then rush away to her room, returning soon with the same calm and pale face without any appearance of the agitation she had gone through. I have had several interviews with the poor Queen since. The first time she said, 'You can feel for me, for you have gone through this trial.' Another time she said how strange it seemed, when she looked back, to see how much for the last six months the Prince's mind had dwelt upon death and the future state; their conversation had so often turned upon these subjects, and they had read together a book called 'Heaven our Home,' which had interested him very much. He once said to her, 'We don't know in what state we shall meet again; but that we shall recognize each other and be together in eternity I am perfectly certain.' It seemed as if it had been intended to prepare her mind and comfort her—though of course it did not strike her then. She said she was a wonder to herself, and she was sure it was in answer to the prayers of her people that she was so sustained. She feared it would not last, and that times of agony were before her. She said, 'There's not the bitterness in this trial that I felt when I lost my mother—I was so rebellious then; but now I can see the mercy and love that are mixed in my trial.' Her whole thought now is to walk worthy of him, and her greatest comfort to think that his spirit is always near her, and knows all that she is doing." —*Northern Whig.*

THE TWO FRENCH EMPERORS.—Alexandre Dumas addressed the following characteristic letter to the Emperor on the subject of his recent piece the *Mohicans of Paris*. The *Mohicans* had been stopped by the censorship, and Dumas wrote: Sire,—In 1830, and even to-day, there were three men at the head of French literature, Victor Hugo, Lamartine, and myself. Victor Hugo is proscribed. Lamartine is ruined. I cannot be exiled like Victor Hugo, as neither by word, writing, nor act, have I given the authorities any hold over me. But I can be ruined like Lamartine, and I am being ruined. I know not what has excited the censorship against me. I have written and published 1,200 volumes. It is not for me to appreciate their literary merits. Translated into all tongues they have gone as far as steam could carry them. Although the least worthy of the three, in the five parts of the world I have become the most popular, because one is a thinker, the other a dreamer, whilst I write for all (*Je suis, moi, un vulgarisateur*). Of these 1,200 volumes there is not one but could be given to any workman of the Faubourg St Antoine, the most republican, or to any young girl of the Faubourg St Germain, the most modest of our Faubourgs. Well, sire, in the eyes of the censure I am the most impure man alive. Within twelve years the censure has successively stopped *Isaac Laqueden*, sold 80,500 francs; the *Tour de Nesle* after 800 representations, stopped for seven years. *Angele* stopped after 300 representations for six years; *Antony* also for six years, after 350 representations. *La Jeunesse de Louis XIV.*, not played though received by the French Theatre. To-day the censure stops the *Mohicans of Paris*, which was to have been played on Saturday. It will probably, on some pretext or another, forbid *Olympia of Cleves* and *Balsamo*, which plays I am writing now. I do not complain any more for the *Mohicans* than for my other dramas. I would observe to your Majesty that during the three years of the Restoration of Charles X., during the eighteen years reign of Louis Philippe, I never had a piece either suspended or arrested, and I add, for your Majesty alone, that it appears to me unjust to make a single dramatic author lose more than half a million when so many men, who do not deserve the name, are encouraged and supported. I appeal then for the first, and probably for the last time, to the prince whose hand I had the honour to press at Arenenberg, at Ham, and at the Elysée, and who finding me a devoted proselyte when he was on the road to exile and the road to prison has never found me a solicitor when on that of empire.—A. DUMAS.

THE SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL AT STRATFORD-ON-AVON.—The accounts of the Committee of the Stratford Festival are now finally made up, and the result is a deficiency of 3,000*l.*, which the committee will have to make good. It appears from their accounts that the total subscriptions were 2,298*l.* 18s. 7d., of which 1,567*l.* 12s. was for the festival, 259*l.* 15s. for the school, and 471*l.* 11s. 7d. for the monument. After payment of preliminary expenses of management (1,839*l.* 18s. 7d.) there was left towards the festival 313*l.* 5s. 5d.; the school, 51*l.* 15s. and the monument 93*l.* 19s. 7d. The receipts for the festival (including the 313*l.* 5s. 5d.) for tickets of admission, &c., and proceeds of sale by auction of materials of pavilion, &c., amounted to 5,356*l.* 2s. 3d. The sale by auction only realized 375*l.* 15s. 10d. The contract for the pavilion was 1,300*l.*, but there was 2,052*l.* 19s. 11d. for extras. The dramatic and musical performances and scenery cost nearly 2,000*l.*; fireworks 56*l.* 19s.; balloon, 30*l.*; hire of bands of music, 65*l.* 19s.; police, 152*l.*; refreshments for performers, 747*l.* 6s. 5d.; the total payments being 8,664*l.* 10s. 7d., leaving a deficiency of 3,308*l.* 8s. 3d. This deficiency is attributed to the inexperience of the committee of management in the conducting of public festivities and too sanguine reliance upon distant help. The proceeds of the sale of tickets for the various performances and ball were 4,345*l.* 11s. 7d.

## Obituary.

THE DUKE OF CLEVELAND died at Raby Castle, in the county of Durham, on Tuesday, about five o'clock in the afternoon. The deceased (as Lord W. J. F. Powlett) succeeded to the dukedom little more than five months ago; he was in the seventy-third year of his age. The title descends to his brother, Lord Harry G. Vane, M.P. for Hastings, formerly Secretary of Legation at the Court of Sweden, and, by his elevation to the Upper House, a vacancy in the representation of Hastings occurs.

BIRTH.—On the 8th inst., at Oakfield, Streatham hill, Mrs Francis Hicks, of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.—On the 23th ult., at St Mark's Church, Albert road, Regent's park, Birket Foster, Esq., of Witley, to Frances, third daughter of Dawson Watson, Esq., Sedbergh.

DEATHS.—On the 2nd inst., Stephen Slade, Esq., of 8 Argyll street, aged 93—On the 4th inst., at Bath, Harriet, widow of the Rev. T. R. Malthus, 69—On the 3rd inst., at Haven Cliff, John Hothersall Hallett, Esq., 88—On the 4th inst., at Kensington, Mrs Catherine Major, 92.

Copyright © 2007 ProQuest LLC. All rights reserved.