for "determined energies" in a linendraper's assistant, for his duty seems to consist in enabling people with what they do not want; preventing them from getting what they do; and tempting them to the purchase dozens or half-dozens of an article of which only one is required. We have often been victimised by the determined energies of an individual who has emptied our pockets of cash, in exchange for bits of ribbon, pieces of sheeting, or rolls of jaconet, merely because they happened to be "remnants" that we might have for a series of mere nothings, amounting in the aggregate to something rather inconvenient. The "high moral attainments" needed for this sort of thing, remain to us a mystery.

Cui Bono?—Everybody is asking what on earth took Lord John Russell to Ireland? for, beyond a visit to the Castle and a few other complimentary calls, he might as well have been out of Erin, for he does not seem to have lent an ear to anything that the Irish people might have had to say to him. He, however, had much communication with the Lord Lieutenant; and the probability is, that the Premier, who is extremely fond of Constitutional inquiry, went to Ireland for the purpose of studying Clarendon's *History of the Rebellion*.

WHAT MAY BE BOUGHT FOR FIVE POUNDS!

If you are a married man, you may buy these luxuries for the sum of £5!—

You may, with your clenched fists, beat your wife until her eyes shall be "dreadfully bruised and swollen."—For £5.

You may "take the bellows from her head" and with them "strike her several blows upon the head until she falls "senseless on the floor."—For £5.

You may further kick and beat her "while she is down."—For £5.

These things—free and enlightened Englishmen, blessed with laws that make you the envy of surrounding nations—these things you may do if you have £5.

"But how"—you ask—"If I have not £5!"

Why, then, inhuman pauper—hard-hearted outcast—penniless miscreant—why, then, in default of payment of £5, you shall taste the bitterness of captivity and oakum-picking for two statute months!

For an illustration of this ennobling truth, see Marylebone Police report, in the case of Michael Gore, late of 25, Orchard place, now on a two months' visit to Colonel Chesterton, at the House of Correction.

Michael Gore is punished—not in very truth, for beating his wife—but for not having £5 to pay for it. Is this not the highest triumph of property?

A STATESMAN'S LAST "RESOURCE."

Either Prince Joinville, pen in hand, has drawn at once a very sharp and very delicate likeness of his father, or the name of the Prince has been subscribed to the pen-and-ink sketch of another artist. Certainly the production reaches the French newspapers a little curiously, being first despatched from the Tuilleries (where the letter was found on February 24th!") to Algiers, to be printed in the *Akbar*. True or spurious, the letter is very good: indeed, as an evidence of its astonishing ability, the *Post* assures the world that the missive might have been written for its own columns!

There is, however one little sentence that makes us suspect the imputed authorship of the letter. The writer touches upon the self-destruction of Bresson:—

"People will not fail to repeat, and will enlarge upon what I consider as dangerous—viz., the action which he (*le pere*) exercises over everything. This inflexible action, when a statesman compromised with us cannot vanquish it, leaves *no other resource* than suicide!"

So when a statesman is snubbed by a King, he has "no other resource" than rope, poison, steel, or lead. A monarch is pig-headed, and in the self-devotion of his sorrow, his Minister must cease to be! Let this be received of a political axiom, and an appointment to place may be thus guaranteed. To-day, Monsieur —— received the portfolio for Foreign Affairs and—Prussic Acid;" in order that when His Gracious Majesty is "inflexible in his" notion," the victim Minister may at any moment have his "resource" at hand.

THE VEGETARIANS.

We see by the papers that there is a society existing in Manchester, that devotes its entire energies to the eating of vegetables, and the members meet occasionally for the purpose of masticating cooked and mashed potatoes, and munching cabbage leaves—"Sweets to the sweet" is a popular maxim, and "Greens to the green" may fairly be applied to the Vegetarians. At one of their recent banquets, a party of 232 sat down to a couple of courses, in which sage and onions, beetroot, mushrooms, and parsley were the principal luxuries. Joseph Brotherton, Esq., M. P., the gentleman who is always wanting to get the House of Commons to bed by 12 o'clock, was in the chair, and proposed a series of toasts, which were drunk in plain water, and as several oha fish were present, they no doubt felt themselves quite in their element. We do not quite understand the principal upon which these gentlemen object to animal food; but if health is their object, we do not think that will be promoted by the mixture of messes they sat down to the other day at Manchester.

In addition to their sage and onions, they disposed of several dishes of plum-pudding—in itself as heavy as plumbago—almonds and raisins, cheesecakes, custards, grapes, gooseberries, sago, figs, and flummery. There is something very infantine in the pretended simplicity of this fare, for none but a parcel of overgrown children would sit down seriously to make a meal upon sweetstuff. We look upon the vegetarian humbug as a mere pretext for indulging a juvenile appetite for something nice, and we are really ashamed of these old boys who continue, at their time of life, to display a puerile partiality for pies and puddings.

Republican Magnanimity.—A *fine* instance of magnanimity has recently been given by the French Republican Government. From the statute of *Joan of Arc* in the palace of Versailles the name of the sculptor has been erased, because the artist happened to be *Marie*, a princess of the fallen house of Orleans. We had flattered ourselves that there was already a republic of art as well as of letters, and that the late Princess Marie, as a member of the former republic, would have had her genius recognised and her memory respected by the present fraternal rulers of her country. If no other restoration should take place in France, we do at least hope to see a restoration of the name of the royal artist to her work, as well as a restoration of their original beauty to the public places in Paris, now so grievously disfigured by the lanky skeletons of dead Trees of Liberty.

Dr. Dill.—It will be remembered that, some time since, considerable excitement was occasioned by the sudden disappearance of a man named James Thompson, a resident of Dundas, of whom no trace has yet been found. For some reason or other, Dr. Dill, a respectable medical gentleman, was suspected by the man's wife of having made away with him, which caused an investigation of the matter by the magistrates. Upwards of forty witnesses were examined, and the testimony covered 250 pages of foolscap, all of which occupied eight days. The result was, that the doctor was committed for trial; but when the Hamilton assizes came on, three weeks after, the Solicitor General did not attempt to frame a bill of indictment. It is really too bad that persons are liable to be incarcerated, and their characters more or less injured, by individuals acting in brief authority, when, as appears in this case, there is no evidence to authorise or support such a procedure.

From statements of Father Mathew, received by the last steamer, and corroborated by his distinguished patron, Col. J. H. Sheridan, bearer of despatches to the American Government, it appears that he is deterred from visiting this country at present, chiefly by heavy pecuniary embarrassments,—the result of members in the Temperance cause, and especially of drafts upon his philanthropy from the late famine.

Extracts from late English Papers.

Rotatory Parliaments.

From the Times.

The society for promoting the political sittings of the Imperial Parliament in Dublin in their last sitting opened a not unpromising vein of discussion. They tell us that they feel it necessary to admit, "as an almost universally recognised fact, that the Irish representation, as an aggregate, does not adequately fulfil the duties of its mission, or do credit to its popular selection."—The remedy proposed is an annual session of the Imperial Parliament in Dublin. Without bearing such a remedy has upon such a defect, it is difficult to perceive. With Lord William Fitzgerald and his men of Gotham, we too are prepared to acknowledge that the Irish representation is in a not unsatisfactory state. There can be no doubt that a very considerable proportion of the number should never have been elected to Parliament at all, and, being there, neither by ability, eloquence, or character, neither by moral or intellectual weight, do a their presence aid in debate or confer sanction upon law. What is the remedy for this? Why, says the society, take over these incapable legislators, these dregs of O'Connell, from London to Dublin, and you convert them at once into political purists,—you confer upon them senatorial capacity,—you enable men (we admit, of course, of one or two exceptions) who at present never offer a useful suggestion, and who are incapable of explaining even the difficulties of a case, to conceive and enact laws which shall give satisfaction to the empire at large. In the days of St Patrick, or any other person endowed with the gift of miracles, such things might have been, but in the middle of the nineteenth century we must confess to feeling a little dubious as to the result. It is acknowledged that there is little prospect of any but Irish members attending these transcendental sittings, and how far is one among so the many inconsistencies of this society. If the Irish representation of 105 members in its present vault or be bad enough, even when it forces with the five hundred and fifty members from other parts of the empire, what would it be when sitting alone in Dublin? We would go even further than this, for of the 105 the few men of substance and consideration would naturally absent themselves from time to time, upon their private affairs, and leave the adventurers, the idlers, the debtors, and the Catalinas companions of various kinds, to legislate for the British Empire. Conceive living under the dominion of a Rump Parliament, and that an Irish Rump!

Oh! no, says Lord William Fitzgerald, the representation would become purified by this change in its *habitat*. How purified? Why purified? When purified? Why should a mere change, the loss of the particular demagogues who may happen, for the time, to be turning the excitable brains of our poor Irish fellow-subjects, be returned to Parliament because that Parliament sits in Dublin instead of London? Would one not say, *a priori*, that the very reverse of this would take place? In the old French revolutionary annals was it not an object with the clubs and the populace, with the Dantonists and Hebertists, with the Furies and Tricateuses, that the sittings of the Assembly should take place at Paris, and not at Versailles? Is there not a chance that the ribaldry of the galleries in the Dublin Theatre should be transferred to the senate hall where men enact rules of conduct for the guidance of millions of their fellow men? We can understand that in a country with not political conduct, but with almost every political vice, the position of a popular assembly must be aggravated a thousand times if it be brought into contact with the passions of the moment and be, by its locality, made subservient to every evil passion from without.—We can comprehend that. It requires no great effort of imagination to call up before the mind's eye a picture of an Irish—not of an Imperial—Parliament, consisting of 40 or 50 of the least reputable members "of a representation which, as an aggregate, does not adequately fulfil the duties of its mission, or do credit to its popular selection," which should have held high sitting at Dublin during the last eight months. The spirit ingenuity of the Clubbists, Confederatists, Music Hallists, Conciliation Hallists, would soon have converted the floor of the Imperial Parliament into their sanctuary. Smith O'Brien would have voted Mr. John O'Connell a pension, and Mr. John O'Connell would have voted Smith O'Brien a civic crown. A jaunting car would have been kept going between the Parliament House and the castle with hourly votes of confidence in the Lord Lieutenant, until at last—we know not how the farce would have ended. Lord Clarendon, perhaps, like a man of sense and resolution, would have summoned a batch of constables, and with their help cleared the Imperial Parliament into the Liffey.

So much, then, we comprehend; but how the representation is to be purified by altering its place of sitting, how the power of the demagogue clubs is to be beaten down, how the political influence of the priesthood over an ignorant peasantry is to be neutralised by such a step, is what we cannot perceive. We see no connexion between cause and effect. Lord W. Fitzgerald *cum suis* suggests, that one of the directly favorable ways in which the removal would act upon the representation is, that it would give the Irish members an opportunity of perusing the Irish journals more frequently and attentively. Now, was there ever such an argument as this? Are the Dublin journals (many of them, no doubt, conducted with discretion and ability) such trifling ware that they will not bear a sea voyage from Dublin to Holyhead, and thence by rail to London? Need the rugged sternness of the *Tipperary Howl* or the softer beauties of the *Mayo Mourner* be lost on the representatives of these counties respectively? Surely, as it is, Irish members are sufficiently under the thumbs of the editors of the local prints of the demagogues and of the priesthood. If Irish gentlemen hang back, and refuse to contest the seats, even when during the whole period of the session, or, in other words, during six months of the year, they are freed from the intolerable presence of the fanatics who pull the strings of the constituent puppet show, what would be the case if they were condemned to the *pine forte et dure* of their perpetual presence and control? The fate of Sinbad with the malignant Old Man of the Sea on his shoulders, compared with such an existence, would have been peace, happiness, and contentment.

No! Lord William Fitzgerald. No! Mr. Henry Pierce Pigott, J. P. and D. L. No! Mr. George Buttersby, Q. C., and all you others of this new born society, leave your idle talk, and resolve to do "poor old Ireland" a good turn at last, if only to act the fashion of the thing. You are all of, you, we believe, gentlemen and men of education. Now, let each of you fix his eye upon a borough which at present returns a Repeal or priest no minor, and make up his mind, that of that borough he will be the representative at the very next vacancy. We wish for Irish gentlemen; we wish to respect your country and yourselves; we wish to see the natural leaders of Ireland the political leaders in Ireland; we wish, in fact, for a good many changes in Irish affairs. But, what we certainly do not wish, is to see a Rump of Irish demagogues raving under the influences of a Dublin mob, and calling itself the Imperial Parliament.

Singular Occurrence.—A working-man at Merthyr, named Longfellow, last week sent a letter to his wife then staying at Newport (we quote the *Merlin*,) saying that he was very much distressed in mind, as he had had a dream for two or three nights, in which he saw himself surrounded by some great trouble, which was occasioned either by injury to her or their only child, a very interesting boy, five years old. He therefore begged her to come to Merthyr, that she might be relieved from his forebodings; and he particularly cautioned her to avoid all danger on the way. Anxious to free her husband's mind from its distress, and to show him that herself and his child were well and happy, she on Wednesday morning settled her affairs in Newport, packed up her goods, and placed them all ready for her departure; but before she went she bade her neighbors good bye. While at the house of ease, taking some refreshment, accompanied by her little boy, she was talking of her journey, and did not perceive the absence of the child for a few minutes. In the interim he had stolen out, and, with his bread and cheese in his hand, was talking to a woman, saying he was going away presently, for his mother had washed and dressed him for the journey; and then the little fellow ran off, saying he was "going to say good bye to Johnny," who had been his playmate. Nothing more was heard or seen of him alive. He was afterwards taken quite dead out of the canal, into which, in his haste he had fallen. The anguish of the mother, and the grief of the father, on receiving the mournful intelligence, may be faintly imagined. An inquest was held at the Dock Tavern on the body of the boy, and a verdict of "Accidental death" was returned.—*Globe.*

A horrible and revolting matricide was lately committed in Lisbon, by a young girl of 20 who murdered her mother, decapitated her, and cut the arms and legs from the body. The various parts were found in different streets, but the head could not be discovered till the house was searched, when it was found concealed near the girl who was cooking some provisions.

REVOLT AT THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

The following intelligence of the fresh outbreak of the Boers at Natal was brought by the Dædalus, which arrived at Plymouth yesterday morning. It is satisfactory to learn that prompt measures had been taken to suppress the revolt. The Governor had started overland. The Arab brig had gone up, and the Dee was employed in conveying the 73d Regiment from Waterloo Bay to that place. The Admiral was still absent, with the President, Brilliant, and Geyser, at Madagascar. The Rosamond was at Mauritius; the Nimrod on the West Coast. Lieutenant Colonel Erskine died suddenly a few days before the Dædalus left at Fort Hare.

From the South African Commercial Advertiser of July 26.

Intelligence reached town on Saturday by express from Bloem Fontein, that certain of the emigrant Boers beyond the Orange River, under the command of Andreas Pretorius, are again in a state of insurrection, and are endeavoring to form a combination with the native chiefs against British authority generally, and more especially with the view of crushing the rising settlement at Natal. The resident magistrate at Weinberg has only saved himself by a hasty flight, leaving some of his family and his clerk in the hands of the insurgents; and the British resident at Bloem Fontein, Major Warden, narrowly escaped being taken prisoner and carried to the rebel camp by a party of armed Boers, who waylaid him when engaged in the duties of his office.

In his letter to Sir Andries Stockenstroem, which that gentleman immediately forwarded to Government, Pretorius speaks confidently of Banda, the Zoola Chief, as his ally; of Moshesh and Moroko, as wavering, but likely to join him, willingly or unwillingly, with whose assistance, and that of the lesser chiefs, who could not stand aloof by themselves, he seems confident of being able to make root and branch work with the British in this part of the world, and also to punish the waverers and traitors amongst his own countrymen. He describes, in short, a deep-laid and extensive conspiracy, which would be alarming were it not relieved by the most incredible ignorance and folly of the blind leader of the blind, evinced by his addressing Sir Andries as colleague and brother in revolt, giving him due notice of his proceedings, requesting from him supplies of gunpowder and lead, and expressing his gratification at hearing that he (Sir Andries) is on the move!

Beneath this ignorance, however, there may lurk a considerable portion of cunning. Stockenstroem's name is known and respected throughout the whole of Southern Africa; and if Pretorius could, by any means, convince his isolated countrymen, or the native chiefs and people, that a great chief in the colony itself, honored with hereditary rank, possessing large estates, and receiving a well-merited pension of £700 a year, thought so lightly of British power as to set it at defiance, and to cast in his lot with the rising Republic, at the risk of honors, wealth, fame, and life, he might well hope to fix the waverers, and even to convert the traitors to accept the winning cause.

The following is a brief recital of the occurrences referred to above:—Major Warden's express, conveying intelligence of the revolt, left Bloem Fontein on the night of the 13th or morning of the 14th of July, and reached Beaufort at 2 o'clock p. m. on the 18th. It was immediately forwarded, and reached his Excellency, in Cape Town, at half-past 8 o'clock a. m. on the 22d. Immediately afterwards a proclamation was issued, offering "a reward of £1,000 to any person or persons who shall apprehend the said Andreas Wilhelmus Jacobus Pretorius, and lodge him in any of Her Majesty's prisons; and further, a reward of £1,000 to any person or persons who shall give such information as shall lead to the apprehension of the said Andreas Wilhelmus Jacobus Pretorius."

Another proclamation offers "£500 for the apprehension of Willem Jacobs, of the district of Weinberg," who is stated to have taken part in the rebellion, and to have spread false and terrifying the timid, in order to induce them to join in the present most wanton and wicked insurrection." And, further, "a reward of £500 to any person or persons who shall give such information as shall lead to the apprehension of the said Willem Jacobs."

On the same day expresses left for Graham's Town to order troops to Colesberg; and also to Colesberg and Bloem Fontein to prepare relays of horses for his Excellency's waggons. His Excellency leaves town on Saturday next and will will proceed by Worcester, Beaufort, and Richmond, and will reach Colesberg in 10 days.

Colonel Somerset having on the 17th, received intelligence direct from Major Warden, despatched on the same day two companies of the Cape Mounted Rifles, and one six pounder, for Colesberg, which place they will reach on the 29th.

A man of war left Simon's Bay for Natal yesterday, to make the Lieutenant Governor acquainted with what Pretorius is doing, and conveying copies of the proclamation.

The proprietors of the Phœnix steamer have handsomely offered to place that vessel at the disposal of Government.

From the same of July 29.

The latest intelligence from Bloem Fontein is to the 16th inst. Major Warden was strengthening his post with all the means at his command, expecting to be attacked by a large force under Pretorius in a short time from that date. He has been joined by a considerable number of English deserters, who had from time to time taken refuge among the Boers, but not being prepared for the crime of open rebellion, or foreseeing its consequences, they have availed themselves of a free pardon offered by his Excellency, and presented their persons and services, not much to be relied on, both to Major Warden and to Mr. O'Reilly, in the Caledon district. From these men, and by other means, it is ascertained that Pretorius had then under his immediate command, at Weinbeig, about 500 men, and that he, with Jacobs and other active commandants, by falsehood, threats, and violence, were daily adding to their numbers, and might be able on the whole to bring into the field about 1,200 combatants. There is no native power in that quarter that can for a moment resist such a force as this. If assailed they must disperse and flee, or submit, for a time, to swell the ranks of the insurgents. The whole country beyond the Orange River must therefore, by this time, be in a state of disorder and misery. The force with which Major Warden will have to hold such a fort as he can construct in haste, till relieved, is very small; probably not more than 100 or 150 men, of all sorts. With these he has taken such precautionary measures as will very much astonish the Boers if they attempt an assault; and he may confidently defy a regular seige for 30 days, within which time he will certainly be relieved, unless some unforeseen occurrences obstruct Sir Harry Smith's arrangement.

Sir Harry Smith is not likely to present to his enemies a plan of his operations beforehand for quashing this unprovoked rebellion. But his reputation, both civil and military, requires of him speedy and complete success; and from what has transpired, it seems probable that in a few weeks the rebels will be involved in a net of hostile bands on the north, east, and west, with from 1,000 to 1,500 picked men, horse, foot and artillery, under Sir Harry himself in their front.

All agree in reporting that the fullest reliance may be placed on the native chiefs; on Waterboer, and Kok of Philippolis, of course, whose existence is bound up with the prosperity of the colony, of which they have always been proud to consider themselves as a sort of outposts. Moshesh is also a man of intelligence, and perfectly aware of the destruction that awaits him if the Boers gain the ascendancy as an independent tribe in his vicinity. These, with Moroko, and some others, if they can remain still, or hold their own till the arrival of the troops, will at least distract the attention of the main body of the insurgents, and keep together till a decisive blow can be struck within a reasonable distance from the frontier.

On the side of Natal it is probable the preparations are already being made for or for moving towards Weinberg [illegible] in ten months.

THE CHOLERA.

From the London Times.

The established fact that cholera is not contagious, or, in other words, is not propagated by touch or proximity, is chiefly encouraging, as demonishing at once, all those inhuman and unnatural precautions which are dictated by the jealousy of fear. Of course if a disease is communicated by the atmosphere it runs its course just as surely and as fully as if it were communicated by contact from patient to patient, and influenza may be just as destructive as any modification of the plague. But then, when there is a dread of this personal infectiveness, human feelings and human science can retain their ordinary influence, and there is no chance of our fellow creatures being left to perish hopelessly when a prompt and sensible interference might have securely saved them. There is no necessity in case of cholera for any isolation of victims or any of the barbarous apparatus of *lazarettos* and pest houses. A man may be treated in his own bed and by his own family as quietly and safely if he was suffering from gout. No hazard whatever is incurred by a careful minister to the wants of the patient or by a steady observation of the disease, nor need any more alarm, as far as contagion goes, be created in any house by an attack of cholera than by an attack of lumbago.

In the next place, it is now pretty well ascertained that the suddenness of the seizure, which was so terrifying a feature in the disease, has been greatly misrepresented, and that in fact the cholera is often singularly mild in its commencement, presenting ample opportunities for timely antidotes. It is almost always preceded by disordered bowels, lasting frequently for some time, and this premonitory symptom is found to yield readily to mild and simple treatment, so that the more notorious features of the epidemic may be conceived to be characteristics merely of an aggravated and neglected malady. It must be remembered that against no known disease are positions more readily taken than against cholera. No provisions of diet or regimen will guard against the consumption of fever, but a simplest care taken of the stomach may prove something like a sure antidote to the dreadful epidemic. An amount of caution which would be scarcely effective against the contagency of common cold, has been proved by most an infallible preservative in the cases of cholera. Conditions can be laid down, which the safety of any individual may be confidently, or, if humanely speaking be, almost certainly insured; and what is more these conditions involve nothing beyond the most accessible and unpriving aids.

Lastly, we shall be probably saving as many of our readers by saying, that we are certained ravages of this complaint are readers less than those of more ordinary diseases. England The cholera has already attacked us, and it is notorious that it did not ravage nearly so many in the metropolis during the whole course of its visitation as the influenza last winter in London. A sickly, partial visdeficient harvest or any such accidental natuitation might aggravate any one of the scourge ralized diseases of our climate into a plague far more destructive of human life than the cholera has yet shown itself among us. For the peculiar name, character, and of the disease, twice as many victims have fallen in 1831 as did actually perish during out creating any general panic, which bulletthought to call for any extraordinary measures. It would surely be derogatory to our national character for plain sense and courage if we were to show ourselves behind our oriental neighbors in waiting with fatalitude and intelligence the visitations which it may please Providence to send, or if by the mere groundless panic, we were to invest which fatality with those destructive powers over our climate, our civilization, our [illegible]. Fear and folly furnish four-fifths of the fatality of the cholera.

An important notification has been issued by the Board of Health, which repeats the statement that the malady is not contagious nor communicable by touch from person to person, but epidemic communicable through a certain modification or state of the atmosphere, which becomes charged with deleterious elements of disease. The notification dwells on the fact, that in eight cases out of ten, cholera gives warning of its attack, and that none but the most neglectful will allow themselves to become its victims without applying the known and simple remedies on the first symptom of indisposition.

The Clearance System.—A circumstance which has just came under our knowledge will illustrate the extent to which the "clearance system" as it is called, is generally exaggerated. Last week we were told a tale of woe by a party who requested us to publish the conduct of a landed proprietor in this country, who according to our informant's statement was "clodding out the tenants." Knowing the noble personage to be a resident on his estate, and proverbial for leniency towards his dependents, who are generally speaking, in as easy circumstances as any in the north of Ireland, we thought it prudent to make further inquiries. We did so, and what is the fact? Why, there were two ejectments served. One of the parties owed upwards of three years' rent, amounting to some £140 odd; the other owed 7 years' rent or arrears; and both holdings were going to wreck. Now, in such cases, and we believe the greater number of ejectments will be found connected with circumstances no less aggravated, we should like to know what the landlord is to do—how is he to meet his own demands—or whom is he to look for payment? A few such tenants in arrear as the two we have mentioned would, in a short time, leave our Irish landlords deep in their creditor's books, and perhaps bring their properties to the hammer.—*Armagh Guardian.*

Astronomical Discovery.—An overseas correspondent of the *Roxburghshire Advertiser* of Friday writes as follows:—Within the last nine or ten months I and several others have frequently observed two large bright stars, which, so far as I know are found no as astronomical nomenclature. But for the superior brightness of one of them, and its peculiar sparkling light, it might be taken for Venus. The size and appearance of the other bears as close a resemblance to Mars. The relative position of the clear body is generally south by east of the other, and is above the centre of our Church Steeple. I have frequently observed it at all times of the evening up to midnight immediately over the wooden bridge, the relative position of the other being W.N.W., opposite the Cadonian Hotel. But these are not invariably the situations in the heavens during the last nine months. An instance occurred to me at half-past 6 o'clock on the evening of the 18th ult., I was in company with several individuals. We observed the clear star a little to the east of the Bank House, the residence of Mr. [illegible], of the Royal Academy, and its extraordinary expansion over the Holm mills, which was equal to an orbital distance of three degrees. There they shone with a bright and steady light till about ten o'clock, when the latter [illegible] making a slight curve westward, but [illegible] their course towards the north, till the latter body fixed itself over the citadel, the other over the wooden bridge. The distance with which they migrated was [illegible]. Thus suppose the mean distance of Venus from the earth (sun 7) to be 74,591,[illegible] which is equal to the semi-diameter of her orbit, this multiplied by 6 or 3 diameters of the orbit—447,518,022. The orbital distance traversed by these bodies may be estimated at 30 degrees, which reckoning the distance from the earth equal to [illegible] 35,668,[illegible] miles in accomplish a [illegible] of ten minutes. Probably [illegible] scientific reader may be able to explain the phenomenon, which [illegible] every evening, or at least night [illegible] been seen, as above stated, for the last nine or ten months.

The Cholera in Edinburgh.—On Monday the number of cases of Asiatic Cholera reported, amounted to 25, of which 20 proved fatal. All these have occurred within the last seven days, and the following statistics indicate the various localities in which the epidemic has discovered itself:—Tobago street, 2 cases; Calton street, 3; West port (two families) 6; Grassmarket, 1; Newhaven, 5; Canongate, 3; James street, 1. In most cases, we believe, the patient was removed to the Infirmary. The attack generally does not endure more than 10 or 12 hours, though, in some instances, it is prolonged beyond that time. It will be observed that the localities are the very same as those in which the typhus fever raged so fearfully of late. The victims of the epidemic which now brood over the city have hitherto been people who were previously much debilitated either by dissipation or destitution.

Edinburg Registrar.

Death of John M'Kenzie, Esq.—We are sorry to hear of the death of this celebrated scholar, whose name is so well known in connection with Celtic literature. Mr. M'Kenzie was born at Garelochead, in Rosshire, in 1819. The intrinsic excellency of the poetry which he was accustomed to hear in his younger days, made such an impression on his mind, that he devoted his whole life to the cultivation of the language, and especially of the poetry of his native country. His works are too numerous to be mentioned here.—Mr. M'Kenzie published, edited, or translated about thirty different works in the Gaelic language. Of these, the first are—"The Beauties of Gaelic Poetry, and lives of the Highland Bards;" "The history of Prince Charles, and of the Rebellion of 1745-6;" and the English-Gaelic Dictionary." The last was a work of great labor, and his close application to it for two years proved very injurious to his health. He was of delicate constitution, and returned from Glasgow (where he had resided for several years) to his native country, in a very feeble state, about the beginning of last summer. He lingered there for some months, and died at Portnaw, in the Parish of Garelochead, on the 19th of August, 1848.

Glasgow Herald.

Miscellaneous.

An English Farm.

Having had an opportunity the summer before last, of visiting some of the best cultivated farms in this country (probably in the world,) there was one, that of the Rev. Mr. Hustaole, near Shaftsbury, that had a remarkable feature—great heaps of dung lying about, which the respected proprietor said he hardly knew what to do with, as the land had already become so rich, that the wheat fell down in wet weather. Yet this farm grows wheat every other year, that is to say it is nearly one-half in Wheat, yielding about 5 quarters an acre; equal to 2½ quarters or 10 bags per acre per annum.

The farm is about 95 acres; when he took it, it was a dairy farm with only 10 acres arable, carrying 14 dairy cows, growing 48 bushels of Wheat and 40 of beans, and employing three or four hands. It now produces 1,900 bushels of wheat yearly; fattens 40 head of cattle (including calves) 100 sheep, and 80 Pigs; and keeps 12 laborers at work the year round, and this change was quickly made. Five years since, when many husbandmen were out of work, he ploughed up the land for the purpose of giving them employment; drained it, levelled the hedges (all but the boundary,) and pared and burned the surface, and then tried how much stock he could keep, to raise the land to its highest fertility. After many contrivances, he found that by flooring his cattle and sheep houses with boards, set a little apart, to let the liquid drain between (into a tank,) they needed no litter; and being thus independent of straw, except for the stables, he might keep as many cattle and sheep as he could feed; in fact, the straw saved from litter helped to make out the food. And besides the green crops and straw, he bought linseed cake, which, while it quickened the fattening of his cattle, improved the quality of his dung. And by this means he bought his farm, in three years, into the high condition above stated. The liquid manure drained into the tank is pumped up to water the Rye-grass, and enable it to be cut four or five times a year, yielding altogether about 50 tons per acre, weighed green, equal to 10 or 12 tons of hay.

But there is an ingenious peculiarity in his management of the dung.

During the summer he turns a good deal of the clay sub soil, and burns it in heaps slowly, so as to be use charred quite throughout, and [illegible] possible. These spread out, when cut up, are placed under long rough sheds (run up by his own laborers,) and upon it a layer of the drained dung (free from straw as before said) then a second layer of burnt clay, and another of dung, and so on alternately. As there are several of these sheds there is time for the burnt clay to absorb the rich drainings of the dung, and for the mere moisture to evaporate, before the next layer comes on; so that, with proper turning over, it gradually becomes quite crumbly, and fit to spread out broadcast, and turn under like lime and ashes, and thus to mix so thoroughly with the soil, as in fact to become a part of it, and its effect is proportionately quick and productive. And the estate now produces, as above said, more manure than it consumes.

This is not mere scientific speculation. Here we have the actual produce of 95 acres, raised in three years from 48 bushels of Wheat at 40 ditto beans to 1,600 bushels of Wheat; and from 14 dairy cows with their calves, cheese and butter, to 40 head of fat cattle, 100 fat sheep, and 80 fat pigs; so that if even one quarter of our valuable land was brought into this condition, our Wheat produce would be doubled: we should be exporters instead of importers, and all our husbandmen would be in full employ.

But it will be objected that such a result requires not only skill and exertion, but a large capital and heavy expense of labor. This is true; but not really an objection. There is, in fact, no more objectionable practice than the too common one of taking more land than we have capital for. If the soil is half-starved and half-tilled, it will return only half-crops, and the farmer who enters worth little, will come out worth nothing, as hundreds can testify. And on the article of labor, Mr. Hustaole's object was not to see how much labor he could save, but how much he could save to advantage; that is, not only how much produce he could draw per acre, but how many hands his 95 acres would profitably employ; and gratefully do those acres repay his attention, while he is still better rewarded by the prosperity of the laborers in his parish.

The increase of his produce, and the management of his dung, are well worth our farmers' consideration. If they would be content to take no more land than they can afford to work properly, they would have less anxiety and more comfort; and the land and the country would advance in produce and prosperity.

J. Prideaux—Agricultural Gazette.

St Catharines is a town containing between four and five thousand inhabitants, beautifully situated on a rising bank which overhangs the Welland Canal. It is four miles from Lake Ontario and twelve from Niagara; and in the midst of a country unsurpassed for beauty and fertility by perhaps any part of Canada. In the vicinity splendid farms abound, where scarce a stump is seen, and most of them are enriched with orchards of peaches, Nectarines, Apricots, Quinces, &c., which fruits I am assured, grow there in greater profusion and more luxuriantly than they do in any other parts of the Province. The dwelling houses in the town and on the outskirts, are generally surrounded by shady trees, and have an air of comfort and respectability about them, which, Cobourg excepted, I have hardly seen surpassed in a Canadian town. The streets have a very cleanly appearance, as from the soil being of a gravelly nature, rain is absorbed by it almost as soon as it falls. The Church is a large substantial stone building, and its remarkably graceful tower and spire have been lately erected, and a considerable number of pews added to the original building by means of a bequest left by the late N. Merritt, Esq. These additions to the sacred edifice are in the Gothic style of architecture, and reflect much credit upon the Architect, J. H. Howard, Esq., who furnished the design.—The congregation have lately purchased a very fine toned organ, which I am told may justly be considered as the best and most powerful in Canada west. At one side of the Church of England stands the Romish place of worship, and on the other the American Presbyterian Chapel. The former is a massy stone building with a short spire. Outside and in a huge cross, which is about the richest specimen of the "ride cum dolcis," or ornament combined with utility, it has ever been my good fortune to witness—answering the double purpose of a chimney and a spire! This place of worship I am told was built from the proceeds of a tax levied on the laborers on the Canal—one day's wages in the week being "squeezed" out of their hard earnings for this purpose by that well known political priest Father Melbourgh, of similar and such like Toronto notoriety. His reverence, I learn, still enjoys his £200 a year from our miserably Government as "moral agent," though the "cassocks" have long since departed. The Presbyterian building cannot pretend to much taste as an edifice nor will truth allow me to pronounce the "Academy," which is near done to it as much better.

The business part of the town, pre eminently thriving appearance, and a stirring trade must, I should think, be carried on, as most of the shops appeared to be exceedingly well supplied with description of goods. But it is on the Canal—the manifold advantages of which, as a great Provincial highway from the "far west" to the ocean, it is needless I should enlarge upon—that the chief evidences of enterprise, and I trust attendant prosperity, are to be seen. There are five extensive mills within the precincts of the town, and two on the verge of it. The mills in the town alone are stated to be capable of grinding and packing 1200 barrels of flour per day, and in the season 200 coopers are kept constantly employed. The mill belonging to the Hon. W. H. Merritt (now President of the Provincial Executive Council) on itself grind 300 barrels per day! There are also in the town two large foundries, a shop for manufacturing machinery, an axe and other edge tool factory, an extensive woollen manufactory, a tannery, and a pail factory. Such are the unlimited water privileges of that place, and its other advantages, that the political economist is irresistibly led to look forward to its eventually becoming the Manchester and Birmingham of Canada.

Beneath the town, at a considerable depth, there is a salt spring which would seem to be inexhaustible. Great quantities of salt were made from it a short time since, and baths were erected, the use of the water, as an external application, having effected several extraordinary cures of rheumatic affections. But unfortunately the whole of the works, baths, &c., were lately burnt down, and the proprietor has, in consequence, been so reduced in his circumstances that he has been unable to erect them again since. I should fancy that a prudent speculator with a few hundred pounds to spare could scarcely invest his money more profitably than by rebuilding; at all events the baths for medical purposes, as, were they again in operation, many would no doubt resort to them, whose means or whose time would not permit them to go to the expensive or possibly a less advantageous immersion.

Having thus described the advantages of this pretty town, I regret that I cannot conclude my sketch of St. Catharines without finding some fault—but I have long since come to the conclusion, that the best way to lead to amendment of what needs correction is to point it out. In the first place a good hotel is required very much, there being no place at present where respectable people could put up comfortably for a few days. In the next place a good paper is very much required—the miserable sheet now in existence not being worthy the name of a Newspaper. These are two wants which have effected St. Catharines very seriously; for in the first place many people are deterred from visiting a town which enjoys an unenviable character on account of bad taxern accommodation and extortionate charges, particularly such as came under my own observation; and in the next a healthy will to a great extent, be generally judged of by its Newspaper—and our really it is to bad, that though so pretty a sheet as that published in St. Catharines, that flourishing town should be known, or rather unknown to people at a distance.

Look out for the Transit.

BY PROF. H. MATTISON.

Mr Editor,—Allow me to call the attention of your readers to an interesting celestial phenomenon that is to "come off" on the morning of the 9th of next month. I allude to the transit or passage of the planet Mercury over the disc of the Sun. About three weeks since this planet was seen just after sunset for several evenings, but he soon disappeared again, hiding himself from our view in the strong light of the sun.

At the time of his inferior conjunction on the 9th of November, he will be at his ascending node, and the earth on the line of the nodes; consequently Mercury will be directly between the Earth and the Sun, and will be seen like a small dark spot passing westward over his face. To those of your readers who may not be familiar with the subject, the following general remarks respecting the phenomenon, may not be uninteresting:—

1. The diameter of the Sun is 883,000 miles, and that of Mercury 3,140 miles. The apparent angular diameter of the Sun is 32 minutes, and that of mercury only about 7 seconds, or one 271th part of the Sun's diameter. Consequently Mercury will hide about one 200th part of the Sun's disc.

2. The mean distance of the Earth from the Sun being 95,000,000 of miles, and that of Mercury 37,000,000, the latter will be 58,000,000 miles nearer the Sun. The substantial appearance of the planet will be owing to his being seen in contrast with the Sun, and to his immense distance. Were an arrow to be launched towards Mercury at this time, at the rate of 1000 miles a minute, it would require more than 80 days to reach him; and small as Mercury may appear, if he were as near us as our Moon, he would throw his shadow upon our globe and totally eclipse the Sun.

The Earth and Mercury revolve around the Sun in the same direction, but with unequal velocities. The rate of the latter is 95,000 miles per hour, while the hourly motion of the Earth is only 68,000 miles an hour.—A cone, of which the diameter of the Sun was the base, and the centre of the Earth the apex, would be only 537,263 miles in diameter at the distance of Mercury; consequently if the Earth stood still, Mercury would pass through that diameter, and seem to pass over the Sun's face in five hours and thirty-seven minutes; that is if he passed centrally over the Sun's disc. Two circumstances, however, modify this time; the planet passes the northern limb of the sun, instead of his centre, which materially shortens the time of the transit, while the motion of the