By Authority.

Published pursuant to Section 9, page 116, and Section 1, page 169 of Vol. 1, Statutes.

Names of persons in the Household of Her Britannic Majesty's Consul General:

Mr. Francis Sturgess, Secretary.

John Ernstbargen, Watchman and Messenger.

John Achin, Butler.

Alen, Cook.

Sam Li, Groom.

Names of persons in the Household of His French Imperial Majesty's Consul, Commissioner and Plenipotentiary:

Mons. C. de Varigny, attaché to the Mission and French Consulate.

DOMESTICS.

Eugene Bontems.

Philogene Bardin.

Names of persons in the Household of the Honorable Commissioner of the United States.

Susan Pratt, an orphan, and *de facto*, Ward, and general household Assistant.

Agnes Poor, general household Assistant and Nurse.

Charles de Luys, Cook, &c.

Ah Keah Siah, Steward, &c.

Ah Hu, general Laborer.

R. C. WYLLIE.

FOREIGN OFFICE, Jan. 21st, 1856.

THE POLYNESIAN.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 26, 1856.

☞ At present we Hawaiians are not a little like certain "genteel" families who wish to make an appearance altogether beyond their means. The inconveniences attendant upon such a course are obvious. To the outward world is given a promise which an intimate acquaintance does not justify. What consternation has been marked upon the countenance of many an aspiring lady of the house, who having had cakes and wine handed round to her evening guests and seeing that the decanter would not hold out, has been obliged, with chagrin, to confess that the key of the cellar was lost, or—to strip conventional phraseology of its feathers—that she had been trusting to a single bottle. If we change domestic for political relations, such is to some extent the position of this country. Let those who think they can make political capital of our assertion do so.

With those who would exalt Hawaii to be greater, worthier, more advanced, or less undeserving than she is, we have no sympathy. But we have a little ambition connected with this matter: we could wish to hear it said hereafter that we, at all events, did not throw dust into men's eyes; that we aimed at no mystifications, and projected no magnificent structures to be raised upon honeycombed foundations.

If there is any meaning left in the word simple; if simplicity is not taken for the results of an elaborate attempt to be artificial without appearing so; if a straight line between two points is shorter than a curved one; if yea and nay are the two extremes of asseveration; if it is better to be than to appear to be, *esse quam videri esse*—(the motto of certain family); then let us of Hawaii disgorge some part of the name we have acquired, and, discarding a great deal that is superfluous, let us humble ourselves down in appearance to what we are in fact.

"To apply—to apply." These are the last days of January. February, even in leap year, is a short month. March is soon run over, and then comes April. April, though a sobbing time in some parts of the world, is a smiling period here, for in it meets the Hawaiian Legislature. The KING makes his address; the Houses respond; the former points out the way, the latter avoid it. The Houses sanction monopolies and the KING refuses his concurrence. This is all right—the KING and the Houses check each other; in so doing they only realise the hopes that attended the establishment of a constitutional monarchy.

When the Legislature does meet, we hope it will not, something like the ladies who depended on their single bottle, rely solely upon the remnant of its one little bin—the stock upon which it has been drawing ever since it existed. Temperance is a virtue—GOD help the man who denies the assertion. But let us not pretend to the world to have too large a stock of it on hand lest the world find out our deficiency to our shame. It is a great thing to have encouraged production, but let us beware how we claim to ourselves too much credit for what we have already done in that way. Above all it is no small matter to have fostered religion, but mind how you boast of the super-abundance of fruit upon the tree you have planted, lest the world ask you for many specimens where few are forthcoming. Who, if he could, would not vaunt of our morality, as a consequence of our legislation? But in the matter of morality as well as that of the progress we have made and the resources at our command, it is not well to take the very highest ground.

If we have hitherto lived beyond our income, let us retrench; if our establishment has been on too large a scale, let us reduce it; if we have claimed credit for talents and virtues that do not belong to us, let us at last declare ourselves as we are. A nation without pretence is like a family without assumption: each may be unappreciated for a while and fail to the last of attaining a conspicuous position, but neither can have anything to fear from a discovery of its intrinsic merits.

Spoken,

By the sch. *Keoni Ana*, off Hawaii, January 13, clipper ship *Jamestown*, Candage, master, 16 days from San Francisco, bound to Hong Kong, with 130 Chinamen, passengers. The *Jamestown* endeavored to make Honolulu, but was unable on account of westerly winds.

☞ The Torbert Plantation on East Maui was sold during the week, at a price that we are inclined to call unprecedentedly low. It is a beautiful property, and no doubt, will pay the purchasers well.

Correspondence

To the Editor of the Polynesian:

SIR:—Our Estray Statute as it now stands is uncalled for, and it is an unmitigated evil. All laws of this kind rank amongst those peculiar statutes which have grown out of the experience of centuries, in adapting themselves to the wants of man. They have arrived at a more or less satisfactory state in those countries where civilization and the science of law has become comparatively perfect. Their principles are every where the same; their features only are varied to accommodate different circumstances.

In no country save this, that I know of, is an estray law a *fundamental law*, (if I may so express it,) but simply a piece of legislation corrective of another law which is its basis, and its office is to rectify the defects of that law from which it springs. In England and the United States a fence-law is its basis, and as it is found that a fence-law by itself is unequal to protect man in all his rights under it, a law respecting estrays steps in to supply the defect.

That fact being allowed, let us go on and see how an estray statute operates when trying to stand upon a bottom of its own. In this country we have tried it, and we see it in all its tangled loveliness.

For brevity's sake let us employ suppositions, (which, nevertheless, shall be literally true,) and make our deductions therefrom. M. and K. own tracts of land adjoining, which are adapted only for grazing. M. uses his land to a large extent for grazing; K. has a plan of his own for turning his land to good account. M. *knows* that K. is in the habit of driving said M.'s cattle on to his, said K.'s land, hoping thereby to make it appear that the cattle do violate an express statute, the penalty for which is so great as to induce him to do it, notwithstanding his being aware, at the same time, that he is committing a crime for which he may severely suffer. This I reckon to be as good ground for quarrel as any between neighbors; and how ought *such* a quarrel to be settled except in a court of justice? If K. is capable of such an act towards his neighbor, what act would he not be capable of in clearing himself from the vengeance of justice! The endless train of villainies that follow the footsteps of the first act, are easily conceived. But from whence does K. receive his cue to act thus? Certainly from the statute itself—no one will deny that. On the other hand, suppose K. to be a good neighbor, and incapable of driving or decoying M.'s cattle on to his land for an evil purpose, still, does not the statute hold out constantly a tempting reward to him to act in an unneighborly manner? Among a people of frail virtue, the consequences of such a statute can be easily surmised.

Now, suppose the existence of a *fence-law*, would it hold out any inducement to M. and K. to quarrel on account of trespass? Certainly not. On the contrary it would *coerce* them to live neighborly; for, I fancy, they would resort to many mutually kind shifts before subjecting each other to heavy expense in fencing. Yet, after all, if they *would quarrel* on account of trespass, then A provision of the law steps in to oblige them to vent their bile in making a fence between them, thereby settling the hash in a very manly and sensible manner, by improving their respective properties and adding, very agreeably, to their wealth and to the wealth of the country at large. Certainly a very benignant law, however severe it may be deemed. This manner of settling difficulties, I conceive to be immensely better than wrangling at the courts on account of suits brought under our present statute, which can produce no result but impoverishment, ill-will, illness, bribery, perjury, and a thousand other evils, all growing out of the statute itself.

Again, suppose A. owns a large tract, within which is located B. and his *kuleana*. B., seduced by and following the beckonings of the trespass law, plants his pumpkin and melon traps; A.'s cattle get entrapped, and he pays trespass once, twice and thrice, and then they quarrel, (and who would'nt?) Having become involved in law-suits, A., through bribery and perjury, is probably worsted. He then offers to buy out B. No. Lease? No. Nothing can induce B. to dispose of property which a statute has rendered so valuable. As a last insane attempt to enjoy his own land, A. encloses B.'s land with a fence: he could not have done an act, under the law, more injurious to himself and more beneficial to B.; for, he has simply at great expense, built a *pen* in which B. can catch A.'s cattle with the most provoking ease. Besides that, without the least labor or outlay on the part of B., he has increased the value of B.'s property a hundred fold. Our laws (which are good) will not permit A. to prevent B.'s egress from his *kuleana;* hence B. has a gate in the fence which is generally open, unless A. employs a person *night and day* to keep it shut and prevent gaps, (which always lead towards the pumpkin traps,) being made in the fence. So the expense of fencing had better have been saved at the outset.

I would simply ask here, does our estray statute encourage fencing? If fences are a nuisance and a detriment to the prosperity of the country, then a more ingenious contrivance than our trespass law could not have been invented to prevent the evil.

Now let us suppose that a proper fence-law steps in between A. and B.—then they must live neighborly or suffer the benignant penalty of that law, *i. e.*, they must vent their wrath in improving their properties by building each one-half of the fence enclosing B.'s land. A very philanthrophic friend on my left, who is desirous of currying favor with the small landholders, suggests that such a law might be *kaumaha* (burdensome) on B. My reply is, that the interests of A. and B. respectively, depends upon the success of each other; and that the interest of the country at large depends upon the equal protection granted to both. Besides, B. is just as able to fence half of his small *kuleana* as A. is to fence the other half, together with the half of the remainder of his large land. And I would ask, what could be more just than that B. should be obliged to improve his own property, or live neighborly? A fence-law, I admit, tends to coerce all whom it may concern into habits of industry—whether that be a curse in *this country* or not, I will not take it upon myself to say.

Large planters object to a fence-law—that it would be unduly burdensome upon them. And here, in my opinion, arises the only question for argument in the whole matter. I am not going into the question here as applicable to large planters. That covers too broad a ground, and would require too much room. With a few passing remarks, I leave it to be discussed at some future day.

Some two hundred years ago, in common-sense England, the grazing interest was a large one, and in order to protect that interest it was necessary for the *cultivator* to first obtain the privilege, by special act of Parliament, to enclose his premises against cattle. Those acts of Parliament are counted by thousands. Was not the cultivating interest of England at that day equal, relatively speaking, to that of these Islands to day? If so, why are the tables so completely reversed here that the cultivating interest only finds protection by law? Are these Islands adapted only to cultivation? One glance at the surface of the country will convince any man that nine-tenths of the soil is adapted only for grazing. I do not cite the former custom of England for the purpose of holding it up as a guide to us, but simply to show how differently people think upon the same subject, and to warn us that we may possibly be wrong in our opinion. At all events, we have England's judgment under the same circumstances against us. In fact, England has tried one extreme and found by long and severe experience that it would not do. We are trying the other extreme, and I, for one, know that it also will not do.

It will be conceded that our grazing interest is a large and rapidly growing one. It is very desirable that our cultivating interest should, if possible, keep pace with it. But is it policy for the legislator to enact laws discriminating in favor of one interest to the detriment of another? I conceive it to be the duty of the legistator to take the high ground of offering equal protection to all interests. A contrary course will always result, as it has under our Estray Statute, most disastrously to the interests of the country at large.

I fancy that the success of the cultivating or grazing interests of this country, as well as of every other, depends in a great measure upon their mutual success. Here I might steal the trick of the statisticians and dwell at great length and to little use, upon production, consumption, exports and imports as much to the favor of one side as the other, but I will come down to matters a little nearer the practical understanding of the cultivator himself. In most instances the planter requires a large number of cattle for labor and food. He must therefore necessarily make fences of considerable extent in order to protect his crops from the depredations of his own cattle and also to prevent them from trespassing upon his neighbor. And now I would ask, how much *additional* fencing would he need to surround half of his plantation, as it would be required of him to do by law. In England and America it would never be thought of as a hardship, on the contrary it would be resorted to with alacrity and deemed a blessing and convenience. The planter may object, that his herdsman can take care of his cattle without the necessity of fences. I would ask every planter on the Islands to just count his cost for herdsman and losses through him and others' negligence, for the term of one year, and see if it will not exceed the interest on the cost of a fence.

The fence and trespass laws of England and America have, as I observed before, grown out of the experience of centuries, and become adapted in their present state of perfection to the wants of those countries. But how have we, similarly situated, availed ourselves of that experience? we have clipped out the statute that was *last* with them, and made it, in a garbled state, *first* with us. We have commenced at the top of the house to build down. The consequences we too well know.

There is a vehement clamor throughout the length and breadth of the land against this wretched statute of Estrays—its repeal is inevitable—let it be repealed, quickly, and if no fence-law be substituted in its place, then we will go along without any law on the subject—trusting to the decisions of the courts as our guide, which I dare say will be infinitely preferable to the present statute.

That Penal arrangement, styled in law lingo a 'Pound,' I will show up at another time. I will merely testify here that, as at present administered, it is a very appropriate adjunct to the law. Yours, etc.,

AB INITIO.

To the Editor of the Polynesian:

SIR:—I am a house keeper that is to say I superintend my husband's domestic arrangements. Now Mr. S. never was a man who could enjoy a solitary meal; and as ever since we married I have been prevented once every year for a month or two from sitting down to dinner without the fear of being called away, we have made it a rule to regularly take in two or three bachelors. I have given you our only reason for so doing, for my husband is conducting as good a business as any one in this place, and I am sure he did not lose last year more than just what his household expenses came to. But we shall have to give up the boarders if fresh butter remains so scarce. No sooner does one of the young gentlemen take off the lid of the butter-dish, than another one exclaims, Did you hear that? What? asks boarder No. 1, Why that cart wheel creaking in the street, replies No. 2. You should see Mr. S's look. The inuendo Mr. Editor, is mean, but it is galling; as if we would put cart grease upon the table and pass it off for butter—if we could help it.

Everybody says this is a grazing country; if so why don't people go into the Dairy business? They may pretend that the cows yield so little milk that the thing won't pay. Let them improve the breed. My life is being made miserable for the want of fresh butter. Cheese, I suppose is out of the question, but I am quite sure that where there's a will there's a whey.

Yours, respectfully, JEMIMA S.

SUPREME COURT—January Term.

Associate Justices ROBERTSON and Ii on the Bench.

Rex. *vs.* Robert Harris. The prisoner was indicted for an attempt to commit burglary. It appeared from the testimony adduced at the trial that, two sons of Robert Love, a baker, residing in Nuuanu Street, together with a boy named Peat, whose father occupies the premises adjoining those of Mr. Love, were in Love's bake house, about 3 o'clock on the morning of Sunday the 13th instant. Love's oldest son, a youth apparently about 13 years of age, going into the yard lying between the bake house and the dwelling house, heard some persons conversing in a low tone of voice, in an alley which runs up along one side of Love's premises. After listening for a few minutes he observed the gate on the alley being opened by some one, and a large dog let into the yard. Shortly after this, he heard footsteps in the alley, and then he observed a man coming over the fence, close to one corner of Love's dwelling house, over the top of a water cask, and down into the yard at the back of the house. Master Love lay down under the fence on the opposite side of the yard to watch the intruder, who first went to the window and looked in. There was no light inside, and he left the window and went to the back door, which he tried to open, but it was locked. He then returned to the window and endeavored to force up the lower sash, which presented next morning marks as of a large chisel. Master Love, in giving his testimony on the stand, said, that at this juncture he thought it was time to see what could be done, and he therefore crept back to the bake house and informed the other boys of what was going forward. He found an old whaling lance or spade with which he armed himself, and followed by the other two boys, sallied out again. When re-entering the back yard, Master Love heard some one in the alley calling to the burglar to "get over again," whereupon he left the window and ran towards the fence, pursued by Master Love who called to him to stop or he would cut him down. The burglar paid no attention to the call, but climbed over the fence as quickly as possible, narrowly escaping as he did so, a thrust from the weapon of Master Love who said he thought he almost grazed the party's head. After getting into the alley he ran into Nuuanu Street and on reaching the middle of the street he turned towards the harbor and walked along slowly as if nothing had happened. This was all observed by Master Peat who on leaving the bake house went out to Nuuanu Street by another root and got to the mouth of the alley in time to see another man, supposed to have been an accomplice, running away from the spot, before the prisoner got over the fence pursued by Master Love and his brother. When they got into Nuuanu Street the boys gave the alarm and some native policemen coming up took Harris into custody. The prisoner, after he was arrested, was observed to take something from his pocket and throw it away, which on examination was found to be a cotton handkerchief with a round stone tied into one corner, commonly called "a slung shot."

It appears that previous to this occurrence Harris had lived on intimate terms with Mr. Love, and had had opportunities for observing where the latter kept money in a bureau near the back window.

The evidence for the prosecution was very clear and the jury found the prisoner guilty after a few minutes consultation.

When the prisoner was subsequently brought up for sentence, Judge Robertson, after reading the law under which the prisoner had been indicted and convicted, addressed him to the following effect. "Robert Harris: you have been arraigned before this court and a jury of the country, and after a fair and impartial trial, you have been convicted, upon the clearest evidence, of an attempt to commit burglary. It appears that in the dead of night, during those hours when all good citizens are supposed to be reposing on their beds, and have a right to repose in peace and quiet under the protection of the laws of the land, you attempted to force your way into the domicil of one of your neighbors, for a felonious purpose, armed with a weapon which in the hand of a powerful man, is emphatically a dangerous weapon. In doing this you committed a great crime against the laws of this Kingdom. And the fact that the person whose rights you thus invaded was your intimate friend, between whom and you there had previously been an amicable interchange of hospitality, seems to add to your guilt. The community has a right to expect that in your case we will, as ministers of justice, award the highest penalty which the law has provided for the offence of which you have been found guilty. But from certain facts which came to light during your trial, we see reason to believe that you, perhaps, were not the originator of the scheme for the carrying out of which, however, you at least became the voluntary instrument; and on account of the good character you are said to have sustained hitherto, the court has been induced to mitigate in your favor the punishment provided in the statute I have just read. The sentence of the court is that you be imprisoned at hard labor for five years and pay a fine of one hundred dollars."

Mr. Bates, Dist. Att'y, for the Crown.
Mr. Montgomery, for the Prisoner.

Rex. *vs.* Daniel Montgomery. *Receiving Stolen Goods. A nolle prosequi* was entered in this case by the District Attorney.

Rex. *vs.* A. G. Francis. *Murder.* This case was continued over to the April term, on motion of prisoner's counsel, assented to by the District Attorney.

Rex. *vs.* Waukaha, alias, Bob. The prisoner, a South Sea Islander, was accused of having committed an assault, with a knife, upon a native. He plead guilty to the charge, and there appearing mitigating circumstances in the case was sentenced by the court to eighteen months imprisonment at hard labor, and a fine of one dollar.

Rex. *vs.* Hakuole. *Burglary.* The prisoner, a native boy, being arraigned on the indictment, plead guilty, and was sentenced by the court to 4 years imprisonment at hard labor.

Rex. *vs.* Amana. The prisoner, a Chinese Coolie, was accused of having committed an assault and battery with a dangerous weapon, upon his employer Mr. Deputy Sheriff Wood. The evidence for the prosecution was to the effect that, on the 13th Nov. last, the prisoner having got angry about something was about to leave the premises without permission when he was stopped by Mr. Wood, who marched him back to the cook house. Being prevented from leaving the kitchen by Mr. Wood, he picked up a piece of wood with which he aimed a blow at his employer, saying at the same time in Hawaiian "hana make." Mr. Wood took the stick away from him, upon which he picked up a large knife from the dresser with which he rushed at Mr. Wood, saying as he did so, "hana make you." Mr. Wood and the prisoner then had a severe struggle, in which the former got one of his hands cut, but with the assistance of his brother in law, Mr. Whitcomb, finally succeeded in disarming the prisoner and tying his hands. After he was overpowered the prisoner attempted to cut his own throat.

The jury returned a verdict of guilty, against the prisoner, without leaving the box, but recommended him to the mercy of the court.

Sentenced to three years imprisonment at hard labor, and a fine of one dollar.

Mr. Bates, Dist. Att'y, for the Crown.
Mr. Harris, for Prisoner.

Rex. *vs.* Kali. *Perverting Justice.* A *nolle prosequi* was entered in this case by the District Attorney.

Rex. *vs.* John Welsh, Geo. Prescott and John Murphy. The prisoners were charged with having set fire to the American whale ship "Oscar," while she lay in the Port of Hilo, last November. The prisoners were seamen on board said vessel. It appeared on the trial that several of the crew had, previous to the time the ship was fired, expressed a determination to get clear of the vessel in some way or other, and there is no doubt she was set fire to, but the evidence to connect the prisoners with the deed, was but slight. Verdict not guilty.

Mr. Bates, Dist. Att'y, for the Crown.
Mr. Marsh and Mr. Ducorron, for the Prisoner.

Rex. *vs.* Ihi. *Burglary.* Verdict, not guilty.

Mr. Bates, Dist. Att'y, for the Crown.
Mr. Kaauwai, for the Prisoner.

Rex *vs.* John Mitchell. The prisoner was indicted for having committed an assault, with a deadly weapon upon a native woman named Mikiholo. It appeared by the evidence that the accused had become enamoured of Mikiholo, who was at the time an inmate of the house of another foreigner, and that a few days previous to the 16th Dec., when he committed the assault, he had made use of threatning language to her, to induce her to go and live with him. On the afternoon of Sunday the 16th Dec., the prisoner approached the house where Mikiholo then was, through a premises adjoining, occupied by some natives. Mikiholo was seated at an open window eating a water-melon, when the prisoner having approached within about twenty paces of her, fired a pistol in the direction of where she was sitting. He was followed and arrested as he was about to enter a grog shop called the Mazeppa House, where he was bar-keeper. The police subsequently discovered a blue bead lodged in the back verandah of the house, nearly in range with the position occupied by Mikiholo when the shot was fired. The bead appeared to have been quite recently lodged when it was found, and there is no doubt it was used by the prisoner instead of a bullet.

The jury found the prisoner guilty, a portion of them recommending to mercy.

Sentenced to one years' imprisonment at hard labor and a fine of one hundred dollars.

Mr. Bates Dist. Att'y, for the Crown.
Mr. Blair, for the Prisoner.

Rex *vs.* Chin. The prisoner was indicted for having broken into the dwelling house of Mr. George Clark, in Hotel Street, on the evening of the 21st of Dec. last. Verdict, guilty.

Sentenced to four years imprisonment at hard labor.

Mr. Bates, Dist. Att'y, for the Crown.
Mr. Harris, for the Prisoner.

Rex *vs.* Kalua.—*Polygamy.* The prisoner plead guilty, and was sentenced to one year's imprisonment at hard labor and a fine of ten dollars.

Rex *vs.* Anatoria and Kahau. *Adultery.* This was an appeal from the lower courts. The jury found a verdict of not guilty.

Mr. Bates, Dist. Att'y, for the Crown.
Messrs. Montgomery and Kaauwai for the accused.

Rex *vs.* Henry Chamberlain. The prisoner was indicted for perjury, in having sworn falsely to certain statements contained in a bill in Chancery, filed by him in September last, against Isaac and Daniel Montgomery. Verdict, not guilty.

Mr. Bates, Dist. Att'y, for the Crown.
Mr. Montgomery, for the Prisoner.

Rex *vs.* Uahung, Aiyao, Angao and Achung. The prisoners, who are Chinese Coolies, were indicted for Burglary, committed at the store of Melchers & Co., on the night of the 5th instant. The testimony on behalf of the prosecution, showed great vigilance and skill on the part of the Marshal, Mr. Parke, in having found out the guilty parties, and in discovering the property stolen by them.

Verdict of guilty against, Aiyao, Angao and Achung, who were severally sentenced by the court to, ten, three and six years imprisonment at hard labor.

Rex *vs* F. G. Fouche. Accused was charged with selling intoxicating liquor to natives. This case came up on appeal from the Police Court of Honolulu, where the accused had been fined $200. The jury returned a verdict of guilty. The court mitigated the fine to $150, as it was the first time defendant had been charged with this offence.

Mr. Bates, Dist. Att'y, for the Crown.
Mr. Hinton, for the Defendant.

We will give a summary of the civil cases next week.

The Food Question in France.

The Minister of the Interior has addressed the following circular to the prefects:—

"Monsieur le Prefet,—In placing this day at your disposal a part in the credit of ten millions opened by the imperial decree of Sept. 22, I at the same time must rouse you of the thought which should guide you in the employment of it.

"As soon as the small yield of the harvest became known, the Emperor instantly ordained all the measures which might alleviate the calamity. By his orders the prohibition on the export of corn, buckwheat, maize, potatoes, and chestnuts was removed, and not one of these products of our soil can at this moment, even in the smallest quantity, be withdrawn from French consumption. The distillation of grains had been prohibited. The cereals of our Algeria are exclusively reserved for us; the most complete security has been guaranteed to commerce, which demands of the foreign markets their corn and flour for distribution amongst ours. Every possible favor has been granted to these importations, and to the navigation which releases them. The railway tariff for the conveyance of corn to the interior has been reduced. Severe measures are prescribed against any stock-jobbers attempting to create a fraudulent rise in the rural districts. In a word, whatever was possible has been done, and the complement necessary for our consumption of a year will assuredly be found in the corn arriving daily from abroad, and also in the abundance of our accessory crop of potatoes, buckwheat, maize, &c.

"But while thus engaged in securing the general provisioning of the country, the Emperor specially remembered that numerous part of the population which only lives on the toil of each day; he has wished to multiply the works in their behalf; and where the wages were not in proportion to the temporary dearness of the necessaries of life, to elicit the beneficent organization of a helping fund. It is with this twofold object that the credit of ten millions has been opened, the distribution of which forms the subject of this circular. In order to obtain a fruitful employment of the portion accruing to your department, Monsieur le Prefet all your zeal will be requisite, all your influence, all your activity. You will not fix in an absolute manner the contingent of each commune in proportion to the sacrifices that it might itself be able to make; that would be to deprive of succour the poor or exhausted communes—that is to say, those who stand in most need of it; yet you will actively rouse the municipal councils, and you will keep an account of their efforts. You will also make an urgent appeal to private charity; it forms in France an inexhaustible treasure. You will visit in person the communes; you will place yourself in communication with every person whose devotion may be willing to second your own; you will give an impulse to every work capable of being usefully organized; you will aid and give rise to, in case of need, every combination (bread doles, cards of differences, economical ovens, societies for the distribution of food, &c), which can lighten for the laboring classes the transitory dearness of provisions.

"In seeing you thus employed, and with you all worthy men, the people at large will perceive how actively and efficaciously the Emperor is occupied with their wants. They will comprehend that if the abundance of the harvests depends solely on God, those who suffer from their inadequacy are at least sustained and assisted by a government animated by a really paternal anxiety in their behalf. If, notwithstanding your efforts, a few agitators should endeavor, for the sake of their own passions or folly, to work on the sufferings of the people, repeat to the working classes that agitation and disorder would not add one single grain of corn to the harvest, but would strike a quick and serious blow at confidence, and merely aggravate their misery; then, while lavishing on them both help and good advice, make them understand they have an evident interest in repelling the fomentors of disorder, and strike these last-named with immediate and severe repression. They must not forget that the Emperor, who is doing for France so many great and glorious things, will know well at the same time how to maintain that calm and tranquillity which his energetic will restored to us.

"In the performance of the various duties which the situation imposes on you, I ask of you, Monsieur le Prefet, sustained zeal, resolution, and a vigorous initiative. Give me frequently an account of your efforts, of their results, and point out to my notice the individuals who shall have best seconded you.

"Receive, Monsieur le Prefet, the assurance of my most distinguished consideration.

"The Minister of the Interior,

"BILLAULT."

Education of Naval Officers.

A subject of such vital importance to the well-being of the navy as the education of its officers demands some notice at our hands. An announcement was recently made in the public papers that Mr. De Lille had been appointed French Master of the Greenwich School. A short time previously it was stated that two young men, who had received their education in those schools, had been appointed naval instructors; and now that the French language is introduced into that establishment, we may expect that the poor boys of Greenwich School will, ere long, be the best educated persons serving in the Royal Navy. Through an imperious and ill-judged order, lads are to be sent into the Navy for "continuous service," the consequence of which regulation will be that enlightened understandings will prevail before the mast, and comparative ignorance on the quarter-deck. It is unquestionable that at this period not one officer in twenty in the British Navy knows anything of the French language, and not one in fifty German or other continental languages. It is a rare thing to find a midshipman who, having served his time for passing will venture to undergo an examination until he has been put through his facings by a tutor; and it is still more unusual to meet with one who even with the very low standard of knowledge now established, passes through the ordeal with many numbers to spare.

This is not what the navy of England has a right to demand. A vastly important arm of the country's defence is committed to officers who are confessedly unequal in the scale of education to those of most other nations. It is not, however, the fault, but the misfortune of naval officers, and which owes its rise to the antiquated but absurd system practised towards them. Everywhere but among the executive officers of the navy—among those to whom the country is to look for her future admirals—education is making rapid strides. The Board of Trade, with commendable spirit and well-directed zeal, is affording, under the advice of Rear Admiral Beeche, Captain Fitzroy, and the officers of the department of Science and Art uncommon facilities for the education of merchant seamen, mates and masters of ships. A school at nominal charges is now in much request at the Sailors' Home in Well-street, and the principle is to be extended to all the mercantile ports. The Admiralty has provided an instruction ship to train up landsmen for the navy, and tenders for their exclusive use and edification. Friendless boys are tutored in ragged schools, and strenuous exertions made to elevate them and make them respectable and useful members of society. Every effort is being used to reform the worst offenders. At the same time means are being employed to cultivate and improve the most shining talent elsewhere and everywhere but in the higher ranks of the Navy. There the helpless boy is taken, as in days of yore, from his mother's side, and launched at once upon the troubled ocean of a most arduous profession, for for good or evil. The natural bias is towards the latter. Temptation to evil courses beset his path, and it too often happens that those who should exert themselves to advise and reclaim the erring youth, treat the matter with perfect indifference. It is not their business. Neither is it. Captains, now that they have no voice in the appointment of their youngsters, can hardly be expected to take upon themselves the heavy responsibility of their training. The Naval Instructor's province does not require him to interfere except upon educational questions, and so the youngster has his own way. Captains and first lieutenants will not trouble themselves about the moral or intellectual qualifications of midshipmen—for those they are not responsible; but let only their boats be carelessly washed, or some service duty be neglected, and severe reprimands are sure to follow upon their heads.

The remedy for all this must be a radical one to be effectual. It must go down to the root of the evil. Not only should a young aspirant for naval rank possess the physical requirements of a sound constitution, hardy frame, and that national courage which is indigenous to Britons; but he should in other respects be unobjectionable. He should go through a trying noviciate before being permitted to don the uniform of an officer upon the quarter-deck of a British man-of-war. The requisitions of a polite and scientific education should be demanded of him. French and German should form an essential portion of his professional knowledge, and a sound mathematical substratum be laid whereon to build a goodly structure. Let "Commander" or "Captain" be pass words for scientific, well informed and superior men; those titles only now confer conventional rank, which may or may not be accompanied by corresponding talent. The scion of a noble stock need give himself very little trouble about professional acquisitions. His friends will take care to push him on, while others of meaner origin, who will condescend to act the sycophant, may also be advanced by similar undue influence. To the hard working, friendless officer, the Navy has, from time immemorial been a hopeless service. A stroke or two of luck has, perhaps, given them a rise, but for the most part they have been working for a bare subsistance. This should not be. The Royal Navy of England ought to be officered by none but men of talent, and promotion should invariably follow merit, without ever being governed by patronage. Until this is the case, and a preliminary training be instituted, officers of the British Navy will be compelled to own their inferiority, in many important particulars, to foreigners, yet without having themselves to blame for their deficiences.—*From the United Service Gazette.*

A Voyage on the Thames last Century.

Then a voyage up or down the Thames was an event to be well considered beforehand, and also to be held in memory for long after it took place; and so important were some of their voyages considered, that the daring travellers have, on certain occasions, by the advice of numerous friends, gone to the expense of printing and paper to place the particulars before the public.

In 1738 one Weddel, as we learn by a published account, accompanied by four or five friends, determined upon a voyage from London to Windsor. A large store of provisions, wine, brandy, &c., was laid in, and after grave discussion, it was determined that they should start from London at seven o'clock in the evening, in order that they might watch the break of the day in the pleasant country. Their vessel was a barge partly covered at the stern, in the same manner as those of the Lord Mayor and City companies. After running aground, and experiencing some other alarms, the travellers put into port at Chelsea for refreshment, when some of them are desirous to spend the night ashore: this, however, is overruled. In the neighborhood of Fulham they again land about midnight, and an account is given of this hostelry on the Thames' bank, thronged with persons of all descriptions, who were halting on their journeys of business or pleasure up and down the river. Here the travellers sup, and at the earnest entreaties of the sailors are prevailed upon once more to embark, in order that they may catch the remainder of the tide. The daylight discovers them near Richmond; and in course of time, and after calling at many ports, they arrive, nothing loath, at Eton, where they rest three days, the vessel in the meantime lying-up in the harbor, awaiting their pleasure.

Weddel employs the greatest portion of his time in writing a book of the voyage, and is anxious to proceed to London again by water, but is overruled by a majority of his companions, and they proceed to town by chaise conveyance, preferring the dangers of the heaths and highways rather than trusting to those of Father Thames.

EVILS OF THE WORLD.—The evils of the world will continue until philosophers become kings, or kings become philosophers.—*Plato.*

Dying words of Distinguished Personages.

When Malherbe was dying, he reprimanded his nurse for making use of a solecism in her language. And when his confessor represented to him the felicities of a future state, in low and trite expressions, the dying critic thus interrupted him: "Hold your tongue; your wretched style only makes me out of conceit with them!" The favorite studies and amusements of the learned La Moth le Vayer, consisted in accounts of the most distant countries. He gave a striking proof of the influence of this master-passion, when death hung upon his lips. Bernier, the celebrated traveller, entering, and drawing the curtains of his bed to take his eternal farewell, the dying man turned to him, and with a faint voice inquired, "Well, my friend, what news from the Great Mogul?" The virtuous Erasmus, when, dying, exclaimed, "Domine! Domine! finem!" Boyle having prepared his proof for the printer, pointed to where it lay when dying. The last words of Lord Chesterfield were, "Give Darroles a chair." The last words of Nelson were, "Tell Collingwood to bring the fleet to an anchor." Charles I., on the scaffold said, "I fear not death; death is not terrible to me." Sir Thomas More pleasantly said, when mounting the scaffold, "I pray you see me up safe; and for my coming down, let me shift for myself." Rousseau called his wife to the bedside, and told her to throw up the window, "that he might see once more the magnificent scene of nature." How noble the testimony of Frederick V., of Denmark, who in his last moments exclaimed, "It is a great consolation to me, in my last hour, that I have never wilfully wronged any one; and that there is not a drop of blood on my hands." Whether true or fabulous, Homer is said to have died of grief, at not being able to expound a riddle, propounded by a simple fisherman—"Leaving what's took, what we took not, we bring!"—a knotty point, it is true, but scarcely worth the expense of one's precious vitality.

The dying exclamation of the excellent Bishop Porteus is indicative of a mind in happy harmony with nature and nature's God. Sitting in his library, at Fulham, on a balmy eve of May, the countenance of the prelate beamed with a transient glow; and in the grateful gladness of his heart he exclaimed, as his delightful eye caught a glimpse of the setting sun, "Oh, that glorious sun!" "Soon after," adds his biographer, "he fell asleep, and a brighter sun broke upon him."

Napoleon's last words were, "*tete d'armee*," an unmisteakable evidence how his thoughts were occupied on the eve of his departure form his warlike career. What words could be supposed more in accordance with the tenor of his history! He died in his military garb, which he had ordered to be put on a short time previous to his dissolution.

Instances occur to us of terrible death-beds, such as that of the wretched atheist, Altamont, the sad story of whose mental anguish, at the moment of dissolution, is too harrowing for recital here.

Cardinal Beaufort, accused of having murdered the Duke of Gloucester, the faithful remembrance of which seemed to have filled his mind with indescribable terrors, for it is stated, his end was one of the most terrible ever witnessed. His last words were—"And must I then die!—will not all my riches save me! I could purchase a kingdom if that would save my life! What! is there no bribing death!" Shakspeare's description of the Cardinal's death is awfully, yet scrupulously true.

The death-bed of the Countess of Nottingham was one of remorse, from her faithless conduct towards the unfortunate Earl of Essex. 'Tis said Elizabeth shook her on her dying couch, with "God may forgive you, but I never will." This same queen, in her turn, endured the pangs of an unappeased conscience in her last moments; for she exclaimed, "All my possessions for a moment of time." On the other hand, how many have met death as a holy thing, rejoicing in the casting off the bondage of the earth; a calm and peace have pervaded their actions, and a smile has heightened their angelic looks as they fled from time to eternity. Anne Boleyn was perfectly resigned to her fate; her thoughts were on another world. She observed; clasping her neck, "It is but small—very small." The deaths of that hapless yet beautiful pair, Lord Dudley and the unfortunate Lady Jane Grey, were marked by pious and settled composure: of the latter 'tis truthfully said—

"Yet here she kneels in her unfolding years,
All yet unreached the height of womanhood,
Kneels face to face with death, and feels no fears,
Though the keen axe be soon to drink her blood:
Calm look she, as the seaman on the flood,
Which, though it loudly rage and wildly foam,
Shall bare him heavenly to his distant home."

The Force of Talent.

An anecdote of Junius Brutus Booth is related by a friend of the great tragedian, one who was intimate with him in the palmiest days of his fame, before the sparkle of his great black eye had been dimmed. "Booth and several friends had been invited to dine with an old gentleman of Baltimore, of distinguished kindness, urbanity and piety. The host, though disapproving of theatres and theatre-going, had heard so much of Booth's remarkable powers, that curiosity to see the man had, in this instance, overcome all scruples and prejudices. After the entertainment was over, lamps lighted, and the company re-seated in the drawing room, some one requested Booth, as a particular favor, and one which all present would, doubtless, appreciate, to read aloud the Lord's Prayer. Booth expressed his ready willingness to afford them this gratification, and all eyes were turned expectantly upon him. Booth rose slowly and reverently from his chair. It was wonderful to watch the play of emotions that convulsed his countenance. He became deathly pale, and his eyes, turned tremblingly upward, were wet with tears. As yet he had not spoken. The silence could be felt. It became absolutely painful, until at last the spell was broken as by an electric stroke, as his richtoned voice, from white lips, syllabled forth, "Our Father who art in Heaven," &c., with a pathos and fervid solemnity that thrilled all hearts. He had finished. The silence continued. Not a voice was heard or a muscle moved in the rapt audience, until from a remote corner of the room a sob was heard, and the old gentleman (their host) stepped forward with streaming eyes and tottering frame, and seized Booth by the hand. "Sir," said he, in