Russia. At that period the Swedish nobles expelled their first King of German race, Albert of Mecklenburg. Eric the Pomeranian, successor to Margaret, was crowned with the title of King of the North, but he was of German race; and thus an early blow was given to the purely Scandinavian element, which ever since has produced fatal results. In course of time the family of Oldenburg succeeded to the throne of Denmark and Norway, Sweden having been previously detached from them, when it regained its national independence by the courage of Gustavus Vasa, though at the expense of Scandinavian unity. It was the Oldenburg family who brought to Denmark its rights over Schleswig and Holstein, of which they were the chief possessors; and, in reference to the latter Duchy, implicated Denmark in the Germanic Confederation. Now the Czars of Russia descend from the Gottorp line of the ducal house of Holstein, and belong to the younger branches of the house of Oldenburg; and thus put forward a claim to intervene in the future succession to the throne of Denmark; but that claim is really extinct. However, the subtlety of the Muscovite, now pretty well understood, and the tenacity with which the Czars cling even to shadowy pretensions, warn us to be on our guard against all eventualities. The extinction of Russian claims is thus shown by M. Lallerstedt:—

"After the negotiations commenced by Catharine II. with Christian VII., and terminated by the Grand Duke Paul at his majority, the latter ceded Holstein-Gottorp, with his share and rights in the Duchy, to the King of Denmark, and further renounced, by the same act, all pretensions on Schleswig. As the price of this concession and renunciation Christian VII., ceded to the Grand Duke the counties of Oldenburg and Delmenhorst, the present Grand Duchy of Oldenburg. The agreement was signed at the Castle of Kiel, the 16th November, 1773. Nothing was wanting to make this contract valid; there was a reciprocal concession, and an exchange established by long after-possession. Each was so entirely master, from that time, of the territories mutually exchanged that the Grand Duke Paul immediately ceded the Duchy of Oldenburg, which he had just received to his relative, Bishop Frederick Augustus, of Lubeck; thereby proving similar rights for the other contracting party in the territory of Holstein. It is well to insist on the nature and terms of this contract, because in the new regulation of the Danish succession certain reservations made by the Czar are founded upon eventual rights which he would have as Duke of Holstein—rights which no longer belong to him. One of the constant habits of Russian diplomacy is to slip a clause into treaties, which, though apparently unimportant, is intended to serve as the basis of great pretensions. This was the case in the Treaty of London of the 8th May, 1852, for the regulation of the Danish succession, signed by the five great Powers and the King of Sweden."

Scandinavian unity is essential to the maintenance of the balance of power, and the more so since Russia has annexed Finland to her empire; nor are we to overlook or underrate the designs of Prussia on the naval harbor of Kiel and Flensberg. Denmark, Sweden, and Norway united under one sceptre would form a strong outwork for the defence of Western Europe; and the dominion of the Czars over the Sound and belts would prove scarcely less formidable than their occupation of the Dardanelles. England and France, prompted by the instinct of self-preservation, forgot their ancient quarrels and hatreds, and wisely united together to prevent Russia seizing the eastern key of the Mediterranean, and her armed vessels can no longer float on the Euxine, if the faith of treaties be respected. But treaties may be evaded, and the new steam navigation companies organised and organising, all whose ships are to be so constructed as to carry guns (certainly not for defence against pirates) convey a hint that prudence will not disregard. Russia, curbed in the East, will intrigue more stealthily in the north, and the Danish succession gives her the opportunity. It has been well observed that the Straits of the Sound, leading from the German Ocean to the Baltic, give Denmark a position parallel to that of the Ottoman empire on the Sea of Marmora. If the Bosphorus and the Dardanelles have hindered the Russians from penetrating from the Black Sea into the Mediterranean, the Sound and the Belts offer no less an obstacle in the North. The Sound is a key no less valuable to Europe, shutting the Russian fleets out of the German Ocean.

In this article we have not spoken of Sweden, intending to offer some remarks on that country on a subsequent and early occasion. We shall then speak of Finland, how basely it was betrayed, and how cruelly its inhabitants have been treated by the Czars, who have violated all the contracts and engagements to which they solemnly have pledged their honor. We shall avail ourselves of the same opportunity to disclose the intrigues of Russia to gain a maritime footing in Finmark, by constructing a deep-water harbor at Alten-Ford, where impregnable forts might easily be constructed; and offer some reflections on the policy of uniting the whole of Scandinavia under one monarchy.

EXPORT OF BRITISH CATTLE TO THE UNITED STATES.—In several instances during the last few years we have had occasion to place on record facts illustrative of the growing importance abroad which is being attached to the possession of the best and choicest breeds of cattle of which the united kingdom can boast. This feeling augurs well not only for farmers and breeders of neat stock, but for the country at large; and it is therefore a source of national satisfaction to see how highly such are prized. During the past week there were shipped from Liverpool for New York, on board the Antarctic, Captain Stouffer, a most valuable cargo of horses, cattle, sheep, and pigs. Prominent among the cattle were a young cow called Darlington Sixth, by a son of Grand Duke, bought at Mr. Sainsbury's sale in August for 300 guineas; and a very fine heifer, Marie Louise, by Mr. Booth's Hopewell, purchased at a recent sale in Ireland. There were also three first-class heifers from the unrivalled herd of Colonel Towneley, of Towneley-hall, in Lancashire—Buttercup Second, by Horatio, from Rosette; Miss Butterfly, by Master Butterfly, from Rosa; and Pearlette, by Falcon, from Ringlet. The price given for these three heifers was 1,000 guineas, although only just turned one year old. Two of them are descended on the dam's side from the same family as the famous bull Master Butterfly, which animal was sold for Australia, in July, at 1,200 guineas. Miss Butterfly was the first heifer-calf by him. Pearlette is descended from Mr. Booth's Bracelet, one of the most celebrated prize cows of her day; and for the dam of this heifer Mr. Douglas recently gave Mr. Towneley 500 guineas. These animals have been purchased by Mr. Stafford, of London, for Mr. Thorne, of New York, one of the most enterprising breeders of that country. There were also consigned for this gentleman some very fine Southdown sheep, purchased at the Hengrave sale, as well as some of the best Berkshire and Essex pigs that we ever saw leave the port of Liverpool. The Berkshires were from the famed stocks of Mr. Hewer and Mr. Overman; the Essex pigs were bred by Mr. Crisp, and included the prize boar at Chelmsford, as well as some young sows, also shown there. With the above there were also shipped some splendid Southdown sheep from Mr. Lugar's flock, as well as the shearling ram bought at his sale for 80 guineas. These are for Mr. R. A. Alexander, of Kentucky, a gentleman whose name stands high as a great purchaser of our best animals, and who, in a recent visit to this country, bought the celebrated horse Scythian, by Orlando, winner of the Derby (by Touchstone,) one of the best stallions this country ever produced, whose pedigree and performances are well known in the sporting world. He was winner of the following prizes:—Newmarket stakes, 350*l.*; Dee Stakes, Chester, 750*l.*; Goodwood Stakes, 950*l.*; the Newmarket Royal Stakes, 1,240*l.*; the Chester Cup, 2,775*l.*; Stockton, 530*l.*; Goodwood, 530*l.* This valuable horse, for which Mr. Alexander gave 1,500 guineas, accompanies the above cattle, under the charge of Mr. Beck, and is consigned through the Messrs. Tattersall. Some cattle and sheep were also sent by Mr. Wythes for a house in New York. The entire arrangements for the shipment were made by Mr. Bell, of the Adelphi Stables, and were of the most complete character, being such as to reflect the greatest credit upon the care and attention of this gentleman.

THE POLYNESIAN.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1856.

☞ Before the meeting of the Legislature in 1858 it will be impossible to establish any rule to have the stringency of a law, and involve a fine in case of its non-observance, in the matter of wheeled carriages, declaring which side of the road they shall keep, to which side they shall turn on meeting other vehicles, and on which side the fast shall pass the slow on overtaking them. At present it is all a matter of choice. Englishmen have their prepossessions and Americans have theirs. These generally from habit turn to the right, those to the left. That more accidents have not hitherto occurred in consequence of this want of method, is a matter both of congratutation and surprise. A Bill was introduced to establish a rule, but the Houses said it was too cumbersome, although we are strongly of opinion that a dislike on the part of the foreign members to give up the side to which they were prejudiced since childhood had something to do with its rejection. In the meantime the number of carriages, in Honolulu we mean, has steadily increased, and the danger to travellers has augmented in proportion, or perhaps in more than proportion; for many open places once available in case of an impending collision have been built upon, the roads thus becoming narrower while the traffic grew greater. Besides which, it is observable that people at present affect an accelerated pace, and although no horse here, that we know of, is down in the "thirties," the steady rate of a missionary wagon, once the preponderating style of vehicle, is now looked upon as decidedly slow. When an accident does happen it is very hard to say which party, if either, ought to be responsible, for Phaëthon has as good a claim to the right as Jehu has to the left side of the road. When their horses' heads are about to meet, the more timid driver will perhaps pull out of the way, as indeed the more polite one might, but where life and limb are concerned we want to trust to something more certain than timidity and good breeding. The ladies, however, are interested in this matter, for they are much given to driving and riding; and for the present we see no better suggestion to make than that a Synod of female "whips" decide this knotty point, and gallantry we hope will do the rest. Should any disobey the ruling of such a court, the judges would always have the means of punishment in their own hands, for are they not prepared to "whip the rascal naked round the world"!

☞ On the 6th instant, as we learn from the *Hae Hawaii*, a son of the late Rev. Mr. Hitchcock and two natives, had a narrow escape from drowning in the channel between Molokai and Maui. It seems that the three started for Lahaina from Molokai, and when opposite the point of Lanai, about three miles from the shore, and six miles from Lahaina, a sudden puff of wind capsized the boat. This was about 9 o'clock in the forenoon. The three held a consultation together, when it was decided that two, young Hitchcock and a native should endeavor to reach the shipping at Lahaina, as the current was too strong for them to reach Lanai. With the aid of the oars and the boat bucket, they swam for six hours, until near enough to be heard from the ships, when assistance was promptly rendered. The boat was picked up, and the whole party were returned in safety to their anxious friends at Molokai.

☞ On the night of the 10th instant, a schooner belonging to Mr. J. Piikoi, of about 15 tons burthen, in attempting to cross the channel from Maui to Hawaii, was capsized in a sudden squall of wind, the sea at the time running mountains high. There were seven natives on board, two of whom were on deck, while the others were below asleep. Those on deck with the captain, also a native, succeeded in reaching the boat, in which they drifted about until the following Saturday morning, at three o'clock when they were picked up by Capt. Burrill, of the schooner *Mary*, about eight miles to leeward of Lanai. The sails were close reefed, and there is no proof of "fool-hardy carelessness" as has been stated. Three men and a girl went down in the vessel.

☞ On Tuesday morning last, a native belonging to Capt. Howland's pilot-boat was severely injured by the propeller of the *Pele*. He was engaged in clearing a hawser which was foul of the rudder, the engine was put in motion at the moment when it was thought he was in the boat. His skull was fractured, and his body severely bruised. The injuries were of such a nature, that Dr. Ford despaired of his life at the time, but we learn to-day that he is likely to recover.

☞ We understand that it is intended by the officers of the *Havannah* to blow up the wreck of the *Nauticon* at the mouth of the harbor. The southerly gale now blowing may save them the trouble. This morning the wreck lies to leeward of her former position, on the west side of the channel.

☞ Thanksgiving Day, having by a happy forethought of His Majesty, been appointed for Christmas day, was very generally observed as a holiday in Honolulu. The stores and public offices were generally closed and business suspended. At 11 o'clock a numerous and highly respectable audience listened to an eloquent and appropriate discourse from the Rev. Mr. Turner, at the Methodist Episcopal Church. During the day, good cheer and merry meetings were the rule, not the exception.

☞ The first part of this week we in Honolulu were treated to real old fashioned trade winds, which caused the mosquitos to hide their diminished heads, and, in accordance with the prognostications of old residents, we are now in the midst of a southerly gale, per contra. Yesterday morning a squall came up from the southward, which for a few moments caused the ships in harbor to reel and stagger in a manner that must have made the sailors dizzy. The *South Boston*, being light, nearly capsized, and ran her jib boom into the fore-rigging of the former ship's foretopmast: the *California* ran into the *Havannah*, without however doing any damage. At sundown, another squall was experienced, which in point of severity, while it lasted, we have never seen equalled in Honolulu. It very irreverently laid violent hands on the stone church at Kawaiahao, tearing off part of the roof and letting in the floods. Numbers of valuable trees were uprooted, and we expect to hear of other damage.

☞ We learn that the Bremen ship *Post* which returned from sea on Wednesday last, on account of a leak, will have to be hove down, the leak proving more serious than was anticipated.

☞ We understand that the Benefit of the German Brothers at the Pioneer Circus, takes place on Monday Evening next. We bespeak for them, as they deserve, a full house.

☞ The alarm of fire last evening was caused by the burning of a straw house in the rear of Beretania st.

NOTICE.

Agricultural Society's Rooms.

The Board of Managers of the R. H. Agricultural Society hereby give notice to the members, and to the public generally, that the Room over Dr. G. P. Judd's office, corner of Merchant and Fort streets, has been engaged for the use of the Society, where may be found the Library of Agricultural and other works belonging to the Society, in charge of J. E. Chamberlain, Esq.

It is the desire of the Society to form a collection of specimens of the various productions of the Islands, and of their geology, mineralogy, conchology, entomology, &c. For this purpose they solicit the co-operation of all persons interested in these objects. Donations of Books will be gladly received.

Masters and officers of whaleships are respectfully invited to aid the objects of the Society. Seeds, plants, trees, useful animals, and especially insectivorous birds, will be gratefully received, and valuable additions to the varieties now existing on the Islands may in this way be made.

It is thought that Deer will thrive and increase rapidly, if once introduced here. Whaleships visiting the California coast might readily procure them, at a trifling expense, which would be paid by the Society. Mr. Chamberlain will take charge of all articles that may be forwarded.

J. F. B. MARSHALL, President.

Correspondence.

[For the Polynesian.]

INTER-ISLAND NAVIGATION IN 1856.

A SKETCH.

Auue; auue! Would that some philanthropic individual might take pity on our misery and send us a steamer. Why, oh, why, should any quiet, respectable father of a family be doomed to this wretchedness? Here we are, off Kaunakakai, on the deck of the good schooner "M——a." The moon is just dipping her lower edge in the far western wave. A towering mass of black clouds hang around the lofty shoulders of *Haleakala*, illumined at intervals by the lightning's fitful glare, accompanied by the heavy roll of the rumbling thunder. Adown the back of Molokai lies a dense array of thick clouds, surcharged with the electric fluid. Flash upon flash flies the bayonet-shaped lightning in rapid succession, mingled with an occasional broad glare of light. Not a ripple on the waves. A death-like stillness has succeeded to the rustling, rattling trade breeze which bore us hither. Silence reigns, unbroken, save by the loud snore of the skipper, who is enjoying a brief respite from his toil. Hark! from below comes the husky shout of a drunken mate of a whaler, "On deck there; eleven o'clock." There is no response, and again all is quiet. Jim, the mate, leans with his back against the foremast and his chin on his bosom. The kanaka who took the helm half an hour ago, with a cigar in his mouth, has smoked it out, and nods at his post, all unconscious of the light breath of air which is forging us through the smooth water, while he brings Lanai on our larboard weather quarter. Your humble servant ventures to address that ubiquitous character, the officer of the deck, "Jim, Jim, hadn't you better go about? we'll never fetch Lahaina at this rate; we're heading for Botany Bay." "*Pela paha*," says Jim, "ready about there!" And round we go slowly.

Once more all is still; Jim has become invisible; anon the man at the helm blinks and nods—he slumbers—he is fast asleep—while the schooner heads for the lower end of Molokai, bringing Lanai on the starboard weather quarter. Alas! "What's the use of sighing?" I give it up in despair. Let me lay my weary head over the taffrail and muse on the comforts of home. Slowly we glide through the water, and the slower the better, while we are steered in this direction. Heavily drop mine eyelids. Visions of the past rise up in uninterrupted succession. Droop, droop, ye curtains of the night. How gently we rise and fall o'er the easy swell. Hist! There she blows! Onward comes Leviathan up behind us and glides under our counter. Crick! crack! Christopher Columbus! she has got us on her back. There she blows! and the spray from her spout rises over the jib, as she holds on her gay career up channel. I'm dreaming. "Jim, hoist up that staysail," shouts the clarion voice of the skipper. Day is breaking, and we head for Honauula, jogging along at the rate of a couple of knots, waited o'er the deep by the earliest breath of the morning trades.

FELIX.

To the Editor of the Polynesian:

SIR: Although I know your personal and professional honor to be unimpeachable, nevertheless it is with a little trepidation I venture confidentially to furnish you with the name of him who, through your columns, wishes to allude to the approaching close of bisextile or leap year. After Wednesday next three long years must elapse before the ladies will again be in the position which they now occupy. I grant you that according to the way they count, three years will not add many months to their age, but in the mean while what eligible young men may have taken the initiative upon themselves or removed to parts unknown. I think it very unlikely that I shall be here myself in '60. I was with a set of young fellows last night keeping Christmas, and six out of ten declared, 'pon honor, that during anywhere from ten to fifteen consecutive leap years they had waited in vain for a challenge. If the women will not use those rights they have, how can they expect *us* to vote them any more? For my own part, I do not regret not being chosen, for I can ask for myself, as I have done some twenty-five times already, although I ought to add without success. Sunday being a *dies non*, and no contract made during its continuance binding, there only remain Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday for active operations. I assure you, sir, that Miss Graves' last benefit put me $12 out of pocket (tickets for three brothers being included), and it was just so much money thrown away. My scarlet waistcoat cost me a trifle (though it's paid for now), but it didn't produce so much effect as I expected. One young lady asked me during the first evening of its appearance, if I knew whether there had lately been received here a consignment from Moses & Sons of the Minories? That showed, at all events, that it had attracted her attention—but she never renewed the conversation. One of our party of last night is coming out on Monday with a new eye-tooth, having swallowed his last one at a dance; another talks of a bran-span wig, a *leetle* more florid than the last, while a third declares he will leave off his walking stick and tumble into chairs just as he finds them. But they are under a delusion, sir; they are under a delusion; the women won't do it, sir; the women won't do it. Yours, apologetically,

AN ADMIRER OF OLD CUSTOMS.

26th Dec., 1856.

"Dulce est desipere in loco."

To the Editor of the Polynesian:

Sir,—Thursday being a national holyday and a thanksgiving, I went in for amusement, pancakes, sherry wine, and the usual demonstrations of a New Englander, when he knows his country's safe, and has been blessed with the accustomed yearly gifts of Divine Providence.

In the evening I visited the Circus, and at night attended a Mechanics' Subscription Ball. I had often heard of what Honolulu could produce to satisfy the leisure hours of the hard working mariner and laborer, but never did I for one moment imagine that among the native population of this country, in the humbler orders, was there so much grace and elegance.

The most intricate quadrilles, foreign waltzes, polkas, mazurkas, redowas, etc., were danced to time and measure, which reminded me of the reunions of the same class in England, France, Germany and "Fair Bingen on the Rhine." An elegant yet substantial supper followed, at the usual refined hour of 12, where the customary national toasts were drank, His Majesty and the rest of the Royal Family, the President of the United States, the health of the reigning monarchs of Europe and the rest of the world, and the supper then broke up with a democratic kindness to all mankind.

On adjourning to the ball room, I heard to my astonishment, Lux in tenebra, Non nobis, Domine, sed etc., and other sublime airs of the state churches of Europe. Amazed, I asked myself, can this be Polynesia, where but fifty or sixty years ago, men eat each other; and do *mechanics* spend their money for the employment of such musical talent as renders the Sistine Chapel, Westminster Abbey, and Trinity Church, opposite the head of Wall street, famous? No; I must be asleep! The world, somehow or other has grown older. I rubbed my eyes; but before I could finish my contemplation, the music struck up a polka mazurka; two or three other dances followed—the company broke up—I retired with the crowd to my virtuous home—thought mechanics were *nierly—sum*—went to sleep, and woke up again in the morning.

A WORKING MAN.

☞ At a meeting of the Fort Street Church and Society, held Dec. 23d, the following resolution was adopted unanimously.

Whereas, The Hawaiian Government has kindly extended to this Church and Society the use of the Court House as a place of worship for so long a time, and feeling truly grateful for the important service they have rendered us and our cause;

Therefore, Resolved, That we tender to the Government our sincere thanks for its generosity in having afforded us a place of public worship for so long a time gratuitously.

The following resolutions were also adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of the Society be presented to its Trustees for the acceptable and efficient manner in which they have discharged the duties devolved upon them in the erection of its house of worship; especially to the building committee of that body upon whom the responsibility and labor of the work has more directly fallen; to Mr. R. A. S. Wood, for the plans which he has gratuitously furnished; to Mr. C. H. Lewers, for the satisfactory manner in which he has fulfilled his contract; and to all those members of this community, who by their contributions have so promptly responded to the call for aid in the erection of this building.

Resolved, That the Secretary be requested to forward a copy of the first resolution to His Highness the Minister of the Interior, and also a copy of the whole to each of the periodicals published in this city.

From the minutes of the meeting.

W. GOODALE, Sec'ry.

[Having on many occasions, editorially and in the green-room, protested against the production of five-act tragedies—to perform which we seldom have here at the same time a first lady and gentleman tragedian of sufficient calibre, to say nothing of the average strength of the company—we have a purpose in inserting the following humorous report from the columns of the *Alta California*. It was not till we had attended some few performances of the heavy and slow-moving kind alluded to, that we began to appreciate the feelings of some three or four hundred persons shut up in a state of siege, with every prospect of being starved out at last.]

American Theatre—"Complimentary Benefit to Mr. Hugh F. McDermott."

A grand complimentary benefit was given last evening, at the American Theatre, to Mr. Hugh F. McDermott, an aspiring youth, "with a soul above buttons," or types, and with an apparent restless, towering ambition to become a second Kean or Booth. Mr. McDermott is a gentleman evidently of Milesian origin, and possesses to a high degree that "rich brogue" which fell so sweetly musical on the ears of Gen. Scott, during his celebrated electioneering tour. His figure is one, to the development of which we should judge he had not paid any great degree of attention, and his dress was a sort of a cross between that of a circus clown and the man who does the immense "aerial flights" on the tight rope. His voice was deep, remarkably deep; indeed, of such a depth was it, that it seemed to find great difficulty in climbing up to the orifice, whence it was intended to issue and charm the audience with its musical sweetness and pathos. When it did manage to get up to his mouth, it seemed to have a severe struggle in obtaining a hearing, and in the conflict with his lips and teeth, made a sound very much resembling that which a quantity of potatoes make bubbling and thumping against the lid when they are crying to be let out and peeled. "Richard the Third" was selected by our ambitious histrion as the part which "fell within the grasp of his comprehension more than any other;" and although we might be perfectly willing to acknowledge this, we should feel inclined to judge that his grasp must be a "powerful small one." There was a good audience, although it was a wet night, and after a melancholy overture, a fitting prelude to the horrors to come, the curtain rose for the

FIRST ACT.

Short dialogue between a man in red cape and yellow boots, and another with a dilapidated hat—all about a terrible battle—express messenger arrived from Tewksbury—wanted to see King Henry or Henry King—King came on, looking intensely blue—had a big star on his breast like a policeman—heard the expressman's story—bid the world in general and particular good night, and went off to die—scene changed and McDermott made his appearance—beautiful appearance—beautiful gait—grace and dignity most beautifully combined—came to the middle of the stage and folded his arms—shut one eye—shut the other—gazed intensely through his closed lids on the footlights—then addressed the first fiddler in the orchestra—"Now is the winter"—(Louder)—"of our discontent"—(Go in, Mac.)—"deep bosom"—(Give it to 'em)—"barbed steeds"—"monuments"—(Get!)—"Henry's head"—boots evidently too loose—very heavy, also—lifted them with apparent great exertion—made exit amid roars, groans, catcalls and hisses. Scene changed—Henry King lying on sofa—McDermott sneaked on—looked round as though trying to discover some spoons to "pick up"—pitched into King—had an interesting conversation with him—very animated conversation—quite as much so as a man would have bargaining with another for a bag of coal—yells, laughter and applause—agricultural amateur, in third tier, manifested his intense appreciation by shying a potate at Richard's head—Richard got intensely mad—drew his sword, and made a stab at Henry King—struck about a yard away from him—out of respect to Shakspeare, King considered himself killed—Richard put up his sword, after sundry ineffectual attempts, and "dug out"—curtain fell—loud cries for Mac.—Mac. came in front—bad cold—(Take some whiskey)—wanted forbearance—would go on if they wished him—(Go on)—exit—audience retired to drink.

SECOND ACT.

Funeral procession, headed by Lady Anne—Richard in the background—determined to stop the procession—man with a spear wouldn't stop, and Richard made him—commenced making love to Lady Anne—winked at her with one eye—winked at her with the other—winked at the audience—got on his knees—gave Lady Anne his sword—Lady Anne said, "What shall I do or say?—(Kill him; kill him)—"No, I will not be thy executioneer"—(Put him in the chain-gang)—Lady Anne went off—agricultural amateurs covered the stage with cabbages and carrots—frantic individual in the pit came up to the orchestra and told Richard he was "a Muggins"—advised him to "go home and put his head in soak"—Richard went off, evidently intent on following frantic individual's advice—curtain fell.

ACT THIRD.

Lord Mayor came to tender the crown to McDermott—Buckingham said he was saying his prayers—"Five churchmen with him"—McDermott came on—churchmen didn't come—none probably provided—expense too great—(Pitch in, old boy)—opened on Queen Anne—Queen Anne laughed at him—winked at the audience—beautiful attitude—sent Queen Anne away, so as to have room to "spread himself"—beautiful specimens of the agricultural esculents of California showering down in rich profusion—Richard looked up as if, like Oliver Twist, "asking for more"—large cabbage hit him on one side of the head—small cabbage hit him on the other—carrot struck him on top—potatoes showered about him—stage resembled floor of Washington Market—Richard became alarmed—"Why, now my golden dream is out"—did some tall walking—cabbages and carrots and potatoes walked after him—curtain fell—cries for "Mac."

After a time, "Mac." came out—Hadn't had a fair chance—all actors embarrassed on first appearance—men envious of his reputation came to annoy him—would play again some time, and show 'em that some things could be done as well as others—bade the audience good night, and got off the stage in a hurry—audience left, highly gratified—shade of Shakspeare seemed to be looking down, and we thought we heard a voice utter "Murder most foul."

CORRECTION—CABBAGES.—We are requested by Mr. McDermott to state that there was an inportant error in our report of his performance of Richard the Third, on Saturday night, and not wishing to do the distinguished histrion any injustice, we hasten to correct it. The error occurred in the criticism upon the performance of the third act, and was in relation to cabbages and carrots. Our critic stated that these esculents struck Mr. McDermott on the head. On *that* head, Mr. McDermott and our critic seem to differ; the former gentleman positively denying that he was struck on the head by any kind of vegetable. We make the correction with pleasure; but still must be allowed the remark, that if the cabbages didn't hit Mr. McDermott on the head, they came "awful close" to it. On that ground, we are willing to compromise.

[We extract the following from a very amusing, and no less instructive article in *Harper's Magazine* for November. Surely, this is the day of Science made easy for all classes and ages of people. Legislators and moralists may herein gather a hint; young mamas gain some interesting statistics with which to compare notes in their own nurseries; optimists see cause for reflection, and little boys who are in the habit of quizzing learn in the last sentence why it is their sisters whip the horse so funnily when they undertake to drive, and look, while running, as if one ligature contained in its circle both their stockings.]

From the army and navy diet-scales of France and England, which, of course, are based upon the recognized necessities of large numbers of men in active life, it is inferred that about 2.1-4 pounds avoirdupois of dry food, per day, are required for each individual; of this about three-fourths are vegetable, and the rest animal. At the close of an entire year the amount is upward of 800 pounds. Enumerating under the title of water all the various drinks—coffee, tea, alcohol, wine, etc.—its estimated quantity is about 1500 pounds per annum. That for the air received at breathing may be taken at 800 pounds.

With the figures before us, we are able to see how the case stands. The food, water, and air which a man receives, amount, in the aggregate, to more than 3000 pounds a year; that is, to about a ton and a half, or to more than twenty times his weight. This enormous quantity may well attract our attention to the expenditure of material required for supporting of life. A living being is the result and representation of change on a prodigious scale.

It cannot be questioned that the materials which are rendered back to the external world, after having subserved the purpose of the animal, and passed through the system, are compounds of those which were originally received as food, drink, and air; though they may have assumed in their course other, and in our estimation viler, forms. Recognizing as indisputable the physical fact, that not an atom can be created any more than it can be destroyed, we should expect to discover in the substances thus dismissed from the system every particle that had been taken in.

What, then, is man? Is he not a form, as is the flame of a lamp, the temporary result and representative of myriads of atoms that are fast passing through states of change—a mechanism, the parts of which are unceasingly taken asunder, and as unceasingly replaced? The appearance of personal identity he presents, year after year, is only an illusion. He begins to die the moment he begins to breathe. One particle after another is removed away, even from the inmost recesses of the body.

But how is it about personal identity? It is related of a country youth, to whom a knife had been given, that in course of time the rivets got loose, and one side of the handle came off. He carried it to a cutler, and had the missing part replaced. After a time, the other side came off, and this he likewise renewed. The blade likewise fell out, and he had a new one put in. And so, by degrees, all the original parts were gone, and there were others in their stead. He had never any doubt that this was all along the same knife he had originally possessed; for it would have been impossible for him to tell, if it were not so, at what particular point the identity was lost. But a certain friend of his, having found all the separate parts as they had been successively missed, carried them to the cutler, and had them all joined together. Now, what knife was that?

If you can settle the question about the identity of the knives, you will find yourself not very far from settling the question about the identity of men.

What has thus been said respecting the waste and repair of the body, implies the provision of many complicated mechanisms. There must be means for effecting the introduction of the air; these, in man, depend on calling into operation its pressure. A system of tubes is necessary for its distribution to the points at which it is required, and in like manner a system for carrying away the wasted products of decay. The new material which is destined to replace the parts which are disappearing, and to keep the economy in repair, must be submitted to such processes of mechanical and chemical preparation, that it may be dissolved in the blood, and carried wherever it is wanted. It must, therefore, be cut and crushed by teeth, driven by powerful muscles, dissolved by acid and alkaline juices in digestive cavities set apart for that purpose. From these it must be taken by arrangements which absorb it and carry it into the torrent of circulation. Physical means must be resorted to, not only for the impulsion of these newly absorbed nutritive juices, but likewise to drive the blood in its proper career of circulation. It is needless here to dwell on the manner in which the most refined principles of hydraulics are brought into play: how there are valves which open only in one way to let the current pass; and how some of them, as in the like human contrivances, are tied down in their action by cords. Moreover, since it is necessary that the animal should go in search of its food, muscles of locomotion, which act upon purely mechanical principles on the skeleton, must be resorted to, and so the animal structure becomes a most elaborate and complicated machine.

In this regard, as is said by Dr. Draper, from whose recent work on Physiology most of the preceding facts are derived, the human body may be spoken of as a mere instrument, or engine, which acts in accordance with principles of mechanical and chemical philosophy, the bones being levers, the blood-vessels hydraulic tubes, the soft parts generally the seats of oxidation. But if we limit our view to such a description, it presents to us man in his most incomplete and unworthy aspect. There animates this machine a self-conscious and immortal principle—the soul.

Such being the nature of man in his mature condition, let us next look at his career. At birth he is the very representative of weakness and imbecility. Though, unlike many other animals, he opens his eyes at once, he exhibits no tokens of visual perceptions; though he may be subjected to sounds and noises of various kinds, he takes no notice of them. This condition of inertness is followed by a condition of confused sensation, which by degrees is succeeded by a capability of appreciating special ideas. It is said that an infant smiles soon after it is forty days old; though it can cry, it cannot shed tears. But before long it gives indications of its satisfactions and dislikes. The power of moving in an erect posture is gained by it in the course of a year, and by the close of that time it can masticate. Articulate speech is displayed within twelve or fifteen months; and henceforth the mind emerges with rapidity from the confusion of a multitude of impressions, and learns to concentrate itself at pleasure upon one. Throughout infancy and childhood the features, and even the gestures indicate the profound changes going on. The countenance, instead of expressing pleasure and pain in the aggregate by smiling or crying, as was the case at first, gains the faculty of representing every grade of feeling. Long before maturity is reached, we read without difficulty the thoughts which are passing in the mind from the movements of the lip or eye, and the painter can express every shade of feeling, and every emotion, by the mere configuration of the outward form.

With regard to the rate of growth, it is most rapid immediately after birth, and continually diminishes till about the fifth year. It then remains equable till about the sixteenth year, the average annual growth being a little over two inches. For the next two years it is an inch and a half, and for the following two one inch only. The greatest height correctly recorded was that of a Swedish body-guard of Frederick the Great—he was eight feet three inches; the least, that of an individual, thirty-seven years old, whose height was sixteen inches. New-born boys are heavier than new-born girls; 20,000 of them weighed in one of the hospitals of Paris gave as an average 6 1-4 pounds. For about a week after birth the weight diminishes, owing to respiration. In their twelfth year boys and girls are of an equal weight. Men are heaviest at about forty; women at about fifty.

Through the successive changes that thus attend his infancy, man at last reaches maturity. In some cases his stature increases even after the twenty-fifth year, and throughout the whole of the mature period, even after what is termed the meridian of life is gained, the weight becomes greater. This increase of weight, however, has not so much a relation to the muscular as the respiratory system. The mental powers are now advancing toward maturity, an advance which they continue to make until about the fiftieth year. Throughout this whole period, and even at the extreme date, we still notice how much intellectual capacity is connected with the perfection of corporeal development. It needs but a little experience for us to determine at a glance the intelligent from the obtuse, and to read even the minor shades of character in the aspect of the face. Without being aware of it, we are constantly putting into requisition the principles of phrenology and physiognomy, and drawing conclusions respecting character, to a certain degree correct, from the expression of the eyes, the lineaments of the countenance, or the configuration of the head.

The actions of man are closely connected with the physical and moral circumstances under which he is placed. The greatest number of crimes against persons and property is among the inhabitants of river-banks. The period of the maximum of crimes against persons coincides with that which is the maximum against property, and is the summer season. As respects each individual, his tendency to crime is first against property, and this reaches its minimum at about twenty-five years of age, whereas the tendency to crime against persons commences later than that against property, and increases with the increase of strength. In crime, man, as he grows older, substitutes stratagem for force. If brought up in a liberal profession his tendency to crime is against persons, but that of the workman is against property. Elementary instruction, so far as reading and writing go, does not lead to the diminution, but rather to the increase of crime—a very important conclusion, more particularly in the United States, in many portions of which this kind of education is chiefly patronized by government, to the exclusion, to a certain extent, of that which is of a higher grade, and which serves to correct this important defect.

As regards women, their tendency to crime, when compared with that of men, is as 23 to 100; at least this is the case in France. Their tendency to the perpetration of crimes against persons is less than that for crimes against property, in the proportion of 16 to 26. It is interesting to observe that the physical force of woman as compared with that of man is also as 16 to 26. From such considerations it may, therefore, be concluded that the morality of women is about the same as that of men, their physical feebleness and modesty being taken into account. In woman the maximum tendency for crime occurs at about thirty years, but then she relinquishes that disposition sooner than man. Her tendency to theft begins early, and lasts through life. When she desires to commit murder, she employs, by preference, poison. In this may be discerned the influence of her constitutional element, physical feebleness. Timid at explosions and at the sight of blood, if driven to the extremity of self-destruction she instinctively resorts to drowning. Women, like men, who are the residents of towns, are much less moral than those who live in the country. However, the passions are gratified in a manner that seems to be independent of religious profession. The open dissoluteness of one country is counterpoised by the secret crime of another. Protestant England and Catholic France exhibit a striking illustration. In the former, in 1845, the number of illegitimates was 70 per 1000, of the whole number of children born; in France, it was about 71.

To the foregoing statements, in which contrasts have been drawn between man and woman, the following may be added. Not only is there a difference in the entire stature, but the different portions of the body have not the same relative size. The capacity of the skull in the female is less, the body is longer, the lower extremities are shorter, the chest more convex, its diameter at the shoulders smaller, and the hands and feet, fingers and toes, of less size. The surface presents a more elegantly rounded form, without angularities, the skin is thinner and more translucent, the hair of the head is longer and finer, the nails smaller and thinner. The muscles contract with less energy, and are more easily wearied. The peculiarities in the construction of the bones gives rise to peculiarities in the movements; hence the characteristic manner of walking, and the movement of the arm in attempting to throw a stone.

The United States' Steam Frigate "Merrimac."

This noble steam-frigate—the first of a class of six war vessels, considered by the Americans to be a match for the largest and most heavily armed ships afloat, and the capabilities of which have occasioned the greatest interest in this country in naval men and the public generally—has lately arrived in Southampton Water from the Gulf of Mexico, where she has been on her trial cruise, and is now lying at moorings off Netley Abbey.

The Merrimac is a first-class auxiliary screw steam-frigate, of 3987 tons measurement, with a load displacement of 4,500. She was designed at Washington by Mr. Lenthall, and built at Boston by Mr. Delano. Her frame is of live oak crossed on the inside with two sets of diagonal iron plates which are inclined in opposite directions. She is also strengthened by similar plates on the outside at bow and stern. Her plank is also of oak, and like our own ships of war, she is copper fastened up to a few feet above the load water-line. She has a long, sharp bow, is a beautiful model, and roomy ship, and the appearance of her main deck is unsurpassed. With all sail set she spreads 56,629 feet of canvass, and from the great length and massive appearance of her hull, seems capable of carrying much larger masts and spars than those she is at present fitted with.

The Merrimac is pierced for 60 guns, but if she were actually to carry that number they would have to be of a lighter character than those now on board. Her present armament is as follows: On her upper deck there are two large pivot guns, each weighing nearly five and a half tons, of 10 inches bore; and fourteen 8-inch guns, each weighing rather more than three tons, on her gun-deck there are 24 9-inch guns, each weighing nearly four and a half tons. The whole of these guns, forty in all, though strong enough to discharge solid shot if desired, are primarily intended to be served with hollow shot, or with shell—for it is now a practice with the Americans to supply their navy with a quantity of empty hollow shot, which may be either plugged and used as such, or charged, fitted with fuzes, and used as shells. The whole of the 9-inch guns, or main-deck guns, as well as the two 10-inch pivot guns, are formed upon Commander