OUR SATURDAY NIGHT SUPPER TABLE SERIES

NUMBER CCIII.

A DIET FOR MENTAL DYSPEPTICS, AND A CURE FOR HY-POCHONDRIA, HY-POCRISY, OR ANY COMPLAINT OF A HY ORDER.

PUNS AND PRANKS WHICH HAVE BEEN EXTRICATED FROM CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE BY OUR SERIES EDITOR.

From "Punch."

A VOTIVE URN.—A Ballot Box.

BEST STONE FOR THE CONSTITUTIONAL FABRIC.—Glad-stone.

MOCKERY AND MUMMERY.—What a Purchas naturally demands—a Cell.

ACTS OF COURTESY.—Disappointment teaches useful lessons—politeness, for instance. How many rejected candidates during the last fortnight have been bowing to the decision of the Electors!

ELECTION FACT.—All the waiters at the Trafalgar voted for Mr. Gladstone, in the hope that if he sat for Greenwich he would lighten their labors at the Ministerial dinner by reducing it to Three Courses.

FRANK.—At the first meeting of the Reform League after the fatal election day, Mr. Beales stated that he should have been elected if it had not been for the police, who hindered his friends. This is not unlikely.

MORE MARTYRS.—The fires of Smithfield appear to be lighted again. In the midst of the festivity which prevailed at the opening of the Metropolitan Market in that historical quarter, poor Mr. Horace Jones, the architect, and Messrs. Brown and Robinson, the builders, all of whom deserved a better fate, were—toasted.

HEALTH FOR ANGLO-INDIANS.—The capabilities of the Himalayas, in a sanitary point of view, are undeniably pointed out by the *Times*. No doubt when roads and railways are extended to the hills, Englishmen and English troops will find health as much within their reach in India as in Europe. Still the recovery of health will be uphill work.

NOTHING LIKE BOUNCE.—"It is calculated that 1,000,000 copies of the Address (of the Protestant Association to the Electors of the United Kingdom), have been circulated and read by between 5,000,000 and 10,000,000 people." Is not this wonderful calculation rather an abuse of round numbers? To be sure, 5,000,001 may be said to be between five and ten millions.

"HAUSSEZ LES MAINS, MESSIEURS!"—We read in the papers the announcement that "the House of Commons and its approaches have been thoroughly cleansed." *Punch* hopes this is true—particularly the approaches—as, from some stories he has heard of the elections, he finds a difficulty in believing it. He can only hope that honorable members will all show clean hands on meeting in their clean house.

ANOTHER CLERICAL CAPER.—The unlucky parson who wants to be set up as an Opposition prelate to Dr. Colenso, Lord Bishop of Natal, has been induced, it is said, by a recent promotion, to believe that he has no chance of getting [illegible] to the Cape. A voyage that way improves certain wine, but we never heard that it would do any good to small beer. The Natalians will decline to have anything to do with him—they are merry colonists, and cut Capers.

RITUALISM UNMASKED.—The Rev. Orby Shipley (ritualist parson) advertises an "ascetic" work on "Preparation for Death," as "translated from the Italian of Alfonso, Bishop of St. Agatha." The *Pall Mall Gazette* points out that this Alfonso is no other than the notorious Alfonso Liguori, neo-Catholic Saint, and casuist of a certain unpleasant stamp. May we be allowed to observe that the Rev. Orby Shipley has evidently a Liguorish tooth?

LEVIATHAN.—"What admirable reasoners," said the meditative Brown, "our dishonest railway porters and other officials must be."

"Why do you say this?" said the inquisitive Jones.

"Have you read 'Hobbes?'"

"Yes, but I fail to recall a passage illustrative of your proposition."

"He says that Reason is the Subtraction of Parcels."

HOW SOLD BREAD.—Mr. Arnold gave his decision the other day that "Cottage loaves" were "Fancy Bread," and were not amenable to the laws which regulate the sale of the ordinary "staff of life."

"Oh tell me what is 'Fancy Bread?'"
The public unto Arnold said.
"Should it be weighed like tea or lead?"
"No," worthy Arnold deci-ded.
"If you get cottage loaves instead
Of that on which you should be fed,
And will new-fangled food-paths tread,
Not those your fathers follow-ed,
You must put up with being bled,
If you will fancy Fancy Bread."

EXPLANATION.—A lady of Stepney requests us to say that she has read a cock-and-bull story about a pillar letter-box in that district suddenly exploding, a gas-pipe being accused of having leaked into it. She wishes justice to be done, even to gasmen (though they do cheat, and she doesn't believe in the meter a bit), and she thinks it right to say that, having good cause and occasion to rebuke her husband very severely, she did so in a letter which she posted in the box in question. What exploded she has no doubt was her Blowing-Up letter, as her husband has never apologized.

From "Fun."

THE ELEVENTH HOUR.—The Cricketing season.

WHAT QUEEN OF OLD TALKED MOST?—Cleopatterer.

NAUTÆ.—Why must the Council of the Astronomical Society be invariably in the right?—Because it is always a Star-Board.

A RANDOM SHOT.—When we read, as we too often do, that a sporting nobleman has mortgaged the ancestral acres, the thought at once suggests itself—Did be commence his career with hedge-*popping?*

DOWN ON THE DOCTOR.—Doctor:—"Is your Papa in, my little man? No! Well, tell him I called—you know me—Blimber, Dr. Blimber!"

Frank Boy:—"Oh, ah! I know, you're the gentleman that Pa says is such a stick in the pulpit!"

AFTER THE DAVENPORT BROTHERS.—If we are to believe Lord Clinton, the Liberals and Conservatives of Notts agreed that if the candidates of the latter were allowed to be elected without a contest for the southern division, those of the former were not to be disturbed in the northern. In spite of this agreement, however, the Liberals were opposed—and it rather served them right. They tied themselves in slip Notts, which, of course, turned out a noose-ance.

ACCORDING TO COCKER.—J. Diddler, Esq.:—"Not honest! I've always paid twenty shillings in the pound. What dy'e say? Been through the Bankruptcy Court eight times! Well, but I paid two-and-sixpence in the pound each time, and if eight half-crowns don't make a pound I'm out in my arithmetic!"

LITTLE OLIVER.

Earl Joyce he was a kind old party,
Whom nothing ever could put out;
Though eighty-two, he still was hearty,
Excepting as regarded gout.

He had one unexampled daughter,
The Lady Minnie-haha Joyce—
Fair Minnie-haha—"Laughing Water"—
So called from her melodious voice.

By nature planned for lover-capture;
Her beauty every heart assailed;
The good old nobleman with rapture
Observed how widely she prevailed.

Aloof from all the lordly flockings
Of titled swells who worshipped her,
There stood, in pumps and cotton stockings,
One humble lover—Oliver.

He was no peer by Fortune petted,
His name recalled no bygone age;
He was no lordling coronated—
Alas! he was a simple page!

With vain appeals he never bored her,
But stood in silent sorrow by—
He knew how fondly he adored her,
And knew, alas! how hopelessly!

Well grounded by a village tutor
In languages alive and past,
He'd say unto himself, "Knee-suitor,
Oh, do not go beyond your last!"

But though his name could boast no handle,
He could not every hope resign;
As moths will hover round a candle,
So hovered he about her shrine.

The brilliant candle dazed the moth well,
One day she sang to her papa
The air that Marie sings with Bothwell
In Neidermeyer's opera.

(Therein a stable boy, it's stated,
Devoutly loved a noble dame,
And that the dame reciprocated
His rather injudicious flame.)

And then, before the piano closing
(He listened coyly at the door),
She sang a song of her composing—
I give one verse from half a score:—

Ballad.

Why, pretty page, art ever sighing?
Is sorrow in thy heartlet lying?
Come, set a ringing,
Thy laugh entrancing,
And ever singing
And ever dancing.

Ever singing, Tra! la! la!
Ever dancing, Tra! la! la!
Ever singing, ever dancing,
Ever singing, Tra! la! la!

He skipped for joy like little muttons,
He danced like Esmeralda's kid
(She did not mean a boy in buttons
Although he fancied that she did).

Poor lad! convinced he thus would win her,
He wore out many pairs of soles;
He danced when taking down the dinner—
He danced when bringing up the coals.

He danced and sang (however laden)
With his incessant "Tra! la! la!"
Which much surprised the noble maid
And puzzled even her papa.

He nourished now his name and fanned it
He even danced at work below,
At length the servants wouldn't stand it,
And Bowles the Butler told him so.

At length on impulse acting blindly,
His love he laid completely bare;
The gentle Earl received him kindly,
And told the lad to take a chair.

"Oh, sir," the suitor uttered sadly,
"Don't give your indignation vent,
I fear you think I'm acting madly,
Perhaps you think me insolent!"

The kindly Earl repelled the notion,
His noble bosom heaved a sigh,
His fingers trembled with emotion,
A tear stood in his mild blue eye.

For, oh, the scene recalled too plainly
The half-forgotten time when he,
A boy of nine, had worshipped vainly
A governess of forty-three!

"My boy," he said, his hands still wringing,
"Give up this idle fancy—do—
The ballad that you heard her singing
Did not, indeed, refer to you.

"I feel for you, poor boy, acutely,
I would not wish to give you pain,
Your pangs I estimate minutely,
I, too, have loved, and loved in vain.

"But still your humble rank and station
For Minnie surely are not meet"—
He said much more in conversation
Which it were needless to repeat.

Now I'm prepared to bet a guinea,
Were this a mere dramatic case,
The page would have eloped with Minnie,
But, no—he only left his place.

The simple Truth is my detective,
With me Sensation can't abide,
The Likely beats the mere Effective,
And Nature is my only guide.

SOLDAT-GAIN.—Prize-money—when he can get it!

SOMETHING LIKE "A SHOW OF HANDS."—A Working Men's Industrial Exhibition.

ARGUING IN A RING.—We learn from a paragraph going the rounds at the late Presidential Election at New York—

"The Democrats sent round the city, before sunrise, huge bells mounted on wagons, to rouse their voters."

We should like to have it explained why the bells should not also have roused the voters of the other party. Perhaps the other side was so wide awake that it did not go to bed at all, and did not require rousing.

ECHO-NOMICAL.—The announcement of the new evening paper contains a strange statement to the effect that the *Echo* will be independent. Fancy an independent echo! Surely, it must be the famous Irish echo, which always responded to the question, "What will you have?" with a hearty "Potheen, your honor!" Possibly, this statement that the *Echo* will be independent is an ill omen. An independent echo is not likely to answer, of course.

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THE
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AT PAR.

Nine Hundred and Sixty Miles

Of the line West from Omaha are now completed, and the work is going on through the Winter. As the distance between the finished portion of the Union and Central Pacific Railroads is now less than 400 miles, and both Companies are pushing forward the work with great energy, employing over 30,000 men, there can be no doubt that the whole

Grand Line to the Pacific

Will be Open for Business in the Summer of 1869.

The regular Government Commissioners have pronounced the Union Pacific Railroad to be FIRST-CLASS in every respect, and the Special Commission appointed by the President says:—

"Taken as a whole, THE UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD HAS BEEN WELL CONSTRUCTED, AND THE GENERAL ROUTE FOR THE LINE EXCEEDINGLY WELL SELECTED. The energy and perseverance with which the work has been urged forward and the rapidity with which it has been executed are without parallel in history, and in grandeur and magnitude of undertaking it has never been equalled." The Report states that any deficiencies that exist are only those incident to all new roads, and that could not have been avoided without materially retarding the progress of the great work. Such deficiencies are supplied by all railroad companies after the completion of the line, when and wherever experience shows them to be necessary. The report concludes by saying that "the country has reason to congratulate itself that this great work of national importance is so rapidly approaching completion under such favorable auspices." The Company now have in use 137 locomotives and nearly 2000 cars of all descriptions. A large additional equipment is ordered to be ready in the Spring. The grading is nearly completed, and ties distributed for 120 miles in advance of the western end of the track. Fully 120 miles of iron for new track are now delivered west of the Missouri River, and 90 miles more are *en route*. The total expenditures for construction purposes in advance of the completed portion of the road is not less than eight million dollars

Besides a donation from the Government of 2,560 acres of land per mile, the Company is entitled to a subsidy in U. S. Bonds on its line as completed and accepted, at the average rate of about $29,000 per mile, according to the difficulties encountered, for which the Government takes a second lien as security. The Company have already received $22,158,000 of this subsidy, of which $1,280,000 was paid Dec. 6, and $640,000 Dec. 14.

Government Aid—Security of the Bonds.

By its charter, the Company is permitted to issue its own FIRST MORTGAGE BONDS to the same amount as the Government Bonds, *and no more*. These Bonds are a First Mortgage upon the whole road and all its equipments. Such a mortgage upon what, for a long time, will be the only railroad connecting the Atlantic and Pacific States, takes the highest rank as a safe security. The earnings from the way or local business for the year ending June 30, 1868, on an average of 472 miles, were over FOUR MILLION DOLLARS, which, after paying all expenses, were much more than sufficient to cover all interest liability upon that distance, and the earnings for the last five months have been $2,386,870. They would have been greater if the road had not been taxed to its utmost capacity to transport its own material for construction. The income from the great passenger travel, the China freights, and the supplies for the new Rocky Mountain States and Territories, must be ample for all interest and other liabilities. No political action can reduce the rate of interest. It must remain for thirty years—*six per cent. per annum in gold*, now equal to between eight and nine per cent. in currency. *The principal is then payable in gold.* If a bond with such guarantees were issued by the Government, its market price would not be less than from 20 to 25 per cent. premium. As these bonds are issued under Government authority and supervision, upon what is very largely a Government work, they must ultimately approach Government prices. No other corporate bonds are made so secure.

The price for the present is PAR, and accrued interest at 6 per cent. from July 1, 1868, in currency.

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AND BY
JOHN J. CISCO & SON, BANKERS,
No. 59 WALL Street.

And by the Company's advertised Agents throughout the United States.

Bonds sent free, but parties subscribing through local agents will look to them for their safe delivery.

A NEW PAMPHLET AND MAP WAS ISSUED OCTOBER 1, containing a report of the progress of the work to that date, and a more complete statement in relation to the value of the bonds than can be given in an advertisement, which will be sent free on application at the Company's offices, or to any of the advertised agents.

The Coupons of the First Mortgage Bonds
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UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY,
DUE JANUARY 1, 1869,
Will be paid on and after that date,
IN GOLD COIN, free of Government Tax,
At the Company's office,
No. 20 NASSAU Street, New York.

Schedules with twenty or more coupons will now be received for examination, and gold checks for the same will be delivered December 30.

JOHN J. CISCO, TREASURER,
NEW YORK.
Dec. 15, 1868. 12 17 thstuim

FINANCIAL.

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The First Mortgage Gold Interest Bonds
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