New Books.

Harper & Brothers have just published a revised edition of Greene's "History of Greece," with supplementary chapters on Greek literature and art. The works of Gillies, Mitford, and other historians who treated the subject prior to Grote, are written from such an English and purely aristocratic point of view, that they present in a distorted and false light the leading characteristics of Greek polity and civilization. The last named writer, however, brought to his task not only a mind of sound philosophical stamp and vast erudition, but sincere republican convictions, and he has consequently given to the world a work unequalled for the breadth and justness of its views, its patient and accurate research, and its logical deductions. As, however, Grote's work is, from its extent and voluminousness, adapted rather to the use of the advanced student than to that of the beginner, Mr. Greene has properly stepped in to supply the want so generally felt of a more condensed history, which, whilst it preserved the leading features of Grote's enlightened and philosophical mode of treatment, would present the subject in somewhat more of an American light. The author, who has earned a well merited reputation by his previous publications, has discharged his task in a pleasing, graceful and scholastic manner. His work will, we have no doubt, take a high rank amongst the classical compendiums of our colleges and schools.

Appleton & Co. have republished Parkyn's "Life in Abyssinia," one of the most amusing and graphic works of travel that have of late years issued from the English Press. The frankness and *naïveté* of manner in which the author makes confession to the most fastidious of publics of the relish with which he entered into, and enjoyed some of, the disgusting and revolting habits of the barbarous people amongst whom he voluntarily settled down for so long a period, will excite a smile at the strange incongruities of taste and plasticity of mind, which transformed an aristocratic lounger of the London clubs into a contented denizen amongst tribes of dirty savages, but little removed in their tastes from the condition of cannibals. Although he never himself witnessed the fact stated by Bruce "about their eating stakes cut from the live one," he expresses his conviction that such a habit prevails amongst the Gallas, and he wonders that any surprise should be manifested on the subject in a country where salmon are crimped and eels skinned alive. The retort has some justice in it, and we have no doubt that those who carry their epicurean tastes to this inhuman extreme would appreciate with the same relish as Mr. Parkyns, the juiciness and tenderness of raw beef steaks, smoking hot from the slaughter-house. It will be seen from the subjoined extract that even in this remote part of the world "the fashions" exercise as despotic a sway as in more civilized countries, and that our author curiously enough succeeded in setting himself up as a leader of *ton*.

For dress, the male Abyssinians wear a pair of tight cotton inexpressibles, a large belt, and a "quarry," or mantle of the same material. As I have before remarked, the dress of the soldiers and peasantry is nearly alike, that of the former being only of a rather more stylish cut. Much in the same way as in England, and everywhere in Europe, the "citadini" are distinguishable from the "contadini" by the cut of their cloth. Now as this inferiority of the countryman in the style of his clothes, whether in Abyssinia or elsewhere, depends not so much on his taste as on the ignorance of his tailor, I shall in my description allude to the costume of those who lead the fashion—not of those who make ineffectual attempts at following it. If a stranger were to attempt to describe the dress of an Englishman, he ought surely to choose his model at a good tailor's.

The trousers are of a soft-textured but rather coarse cotton stuff, made in the country, and are of two sorts; one called "câllias," the other "coumta." The former reaches half way down the calf of the leg, the latter to about three or four inches above the knee. Both, if the wearer be a dandy, are made skin tight. I might enter into a long account of the peculiar fashions to which these trousers are subject, parts being doubled, parts single. One year it may be the fashion to have the seam at the side of the "câllias," below the knee, of about two inches long only, before it branches off on the thigh; while another year it will be lengthened to six or eight inches. The last was the measure at which I left it. This, however, was considered so very ultra fashionable, that, except Dejatch Shêtou, myself, and one or two others, few dared to attempt it. It was I and my friend Shêtou who first introduced the habit of allowing the sword to swing perpendicularly from the side, instead of sticking out horizontally, like a dog's tail; as well as of wearing the belt over the hips, instead of round the waist and up to the armpits, as it was worn when I first arrived. These, with the increased length of trousers, reaching as we wore them to nearly the ancle, and so tight below that it took an hour to draw them over the heel, gave a very fast look, and were much patronized by "Young Abyssinia," though invariably decried by respectable elderly gentlemen. I have before mentioned how poor Shêtou got turned out of his father's tent for a little too much of this exaggeration in costume.

The belts vary in length from fifteen to sixty yards, and are about one yard in width. In quantity of cotton they are nearly all of the same weight, as the very long ones are in proportion finer than the shorter. An ordinary soldier's belt will measure from thirty to forty cubits (fifteen to twenty yards). The one I usually wore was seventy cubits long (thirty-five yards); while a few great chiefs—among them Dejatch Welda Yessous, Oubié's uncle, who like giving themselves the trouble of turning round for a few minutes every time they put on their belts or take them off—have them as long as one hundred and twenty cubits (sixty yards). The belt is worn as a sort of defensive armor. I have heard men assert that it will protect its wearer not only from a club blow or sword cut, but even from the lance of an enemy; while others, who deny that it would resist a fair stroke of a lance, approve of it as a protection against blows which may glance off the shield, or which, having pierced the shield, (as they often do, if from carelessness or clumsiness the lance point be allowed to fall perpendicularly on it,) would otherwise wound, or perhaps kill, its owner.

The "quarry" is the principal article of Abyssinian dress. It is of cotton, and very fine and soft—those of the richer being finer but probably not so serviceable as those of the poorer class. It is made in three pieces; each piece is about three feet broad by fifteen feet long. Near both ends of each piece is a red stripe, five or six inches broad. To sew the three pieces together, one is first taken and doubled carefully, so that the red stripes of each end come exactly together. A second piece is then taken, and also folded, but inside out, and one half of it laid under and the other half over the first piece, so that the four red borders now come together. One edge of this quadruple cloth is then sewed from top to bottom, and the last mentioned piece is turned back, so that the two together form one double cloth of two breadths. The third piece is now added in a similar manner, and the whole forms a "quarry," which, lest my reader should have got confused in the above description, is a white double cloth, with a red border near the bottom only; the breadth of the "quarry" is nine feet by seven and a half long. An inferior quality of this cloth is made of much coarser material, and without a stripe. This passes current in the markets of Tigré, and is in fact their money; as salt, the Amhára coin, and even dollars, are here counted as articles of commerce. The lower class of servants and working people wear these inferior cloths stitched together on common occasions, and perhaps have for Sunday beat a "welda Gâber" or cheap "quarry" with a blue stripe. But above all is the "mergeff," a sort of cloth made after the fashion of the first mentioned one, but of such fineness that it requires to be of six pieces instead of three to give it sufficient body, and is worn quadruple instead of double. Its stripe or border is of red, yellow, and blue silk, neatly worked together, instead of plain red cotton. Such an article of finery is, of course, worn only by ladies and some few great men. It might cost about 30s., while the price of a good "quarry" would be about 12s., or less, according to its quality and the value of cotton in the market. The methods of putting on the cloth are as various as the modes of wearing a Highland plaid. One of the most ordinary ways is first to place it like a cloak over the shoulders; the right end, which is purposely left longest, is then thrown over the left shoulder; and the bottom border, which would otherwise, from its length, trail on the ground, is gathered over the right shoulder. Thus the right arm is at liberty,* but the left covered. This, however, may be easily remedied by lifting up the left side of the cloth and placing it over the left shoulder in a moment, when both hands are required for any exercise.

The sleeping arrangements of an Abyssinian family are also somewhat peculiar, and suggest rather uncomfortable ideas, according to our notions of such things.

Before sleeping, the men take off their belts and trousers without disarranging their cloth, which is of itself sufficient to keep them perfectly covered; and the women likewise divest themselves of their shirts. A bachelor rolls himself up in his cloth—head, feet, face, and all completely covered up. This I found at first a rather disagreeable mode of sleeping, but soon got accustomed to it, and ultimately even preferred it to any other. Married couples sleep in the same manner—that is, quite naked, but rolled up close together in a sort of hydropathic dry pack, or double mummy fashion. They manage this, however, very cleverly, and I have often, when sleeping in a room with two or three married couples, been astonished at the graceful manner in which they prepared their bed without in the least degree exposing their bodies. They are seated either on the floor or "arat," the man at the woman's right hand; and when it is proposed to retire to rest, they place the short side of their "quarries" under each other, and the long ones over, so that they remain in the middle half of each of their cloths under them and half over, without any danger of their getting untucked. I have seen as many as five couple packed up in this manner, all huddled together on one skin; and often, when wishing to leave a room during the night, from the heat or closeness, have been unable to pass without waking up some of the sleepers on the floor, so closely were they packed—men, women, and children.

THE KNOUT AND THE RUSSIANS is the title of another of that shoal of publications—half political and half descriptive—which is now issuing from the press, and for which the magnitude of the interests involved in the present contest has created a demand. Most of the information which it conveys is already familiar to us through the medium of other sources, but at the same time the reader will find collected in a condensed and convenient form, a variety of interesting and curious facts bearing upon the internal institutions and policy of Russia, which were previously only to be met with scattered through different publications. The work was originally published in French, and, as might be expected, is somewhat prejudiced in its general tone against Russia. Apart from this obvious bias on the part of the author, the book will be found useful in the consideration of the questions which are now agitating the world.

Fanny Fern's second series of "Fern leaves" fully sustains the distinctive character which her previous works won for the writer. It is a pity, however, that the great talents displayed by her should not be concentrated on some more sustained and elaborate effort—in the higher walks of literature.

Crosby and Nicholls, of Boston, have published the biography of Pierre Toussaint, the faithful and warm-hearted negro, who died in June last, in this city, after devoting the greater part of his life to the sustentation and support of a beloved mistress, when deprived, by a cruel combination of misfortunes, of her family and estate. The virtues displayed by this remarkable man in the humble sphere in which he moved, and which won for him the esteem and regard of all who came in contact with him, justify this touching memorial of his worth.

Morton and Griswold, of Louisville, have issued in pamphlet form the report of two sermons delivered by the Rev. John H. Heywood, of that city, on the occasion of the death of Mr. William H. Butler, the victim of the late melancholy tragedy which was enacted in that city.

We have received the twelfth annual report of the Board of Education, and will take an early opportunity of analyzing its contents.

We also have to acknowledge the receipt of the Rules and Regulations of the Cemetery of the Evergreens, together with a copy of the act of the Legislature incorporating the association.

PERIODICALS.—"Graham's Magazine" for June is an excellent number. Under the head of "Art and Artists of America," it contains a well-written biography and portrait of Charles Loring Elliott. The paper on Schamyl and the Caucasus possesses the attraction of present interest, in which by the by the articles in this magazine cannot be always said to excel. The "United States Review" for June comes down heavily upon N. P. Willis, in an article more remarkable for critical judgment than we expected to find in its pages. The public taste, although for a time led away by the eccentricities of this writer, has at last vindicated itself by consigning him to that literary bourne from whence but few return. The "Art Journal" for May is a superb number. The principal engravings, consisting of copies of Landseer's fine painting of war and Sir Joshua Reynold's portrait of himself, are admirably executed. The "Practical Mechanic's Journal" for June contains in addition to its ordinary matter, a variety of interesting notices relating to American inventions. This new feature will we have no doubt have the effect of widely extending its already large circulation.

Professor Loomis has published a new and revised edition of this valuable work on the elements of the anatomy, physiology and hygiene of the human system. It is profusely illustrated with wood cuts. The publishers are Messrs. Sheldon, Lamport & Blakeman.

Sadlier & Co. have issued a neat little pocket edition of the Poor Scholar and other tales of Irish life by William Carleton. With the exception of Banim and Gerald Griffin, no writer has succeeded in depicting so faithfully all the virtues and failings of the Irish character.

Under the title of "Christian Greatness," the Rev. Dr. Hague has given to the world his discourse delivered on the occasion of the funeral solemnities of the Hon. Friend Humphrey.

Superior Court—General Term.

Present—Chief Justice Oakley and Hon. Judges Duer, Bosworth and Slosson.

MAY 27.—*Samuel Talmadge against Richard Upjohn.*—Appeal dismissed with costs.

Herman Watson against Jerolemo Donadi.—Appeal sustained, without costs to either party.

George F. Talman vs. Henry L. Franklin.—This case came up to test the decision in the Court below, where the plaintiff's complaint was dismissed. The defendant purchased lots at a sale, and afterwards refused to take them, as they were resold at a lower price, and the action was brought to recover the difference. On the part of the defendant it was set up and contended that the memorandum describing the lots, which was exhibited at the time of sale, was too uncertain in its description of the location of the lots, and it was on this argument that the Court below was guarded in its decision. The Court above, in its judgment maintained the decision of the Court below, and gave judgment for the defendant.

Francis B. O'Conor vs. Charles Sandford.—This case came up on appeal. The plaintiff owned a house in Hamilton street, and had contracted with the defendant, who is a mason, to build, and the suit was brought for a breach of the contract. By its terms the builder bound himself to lay the base of the wall a certain number of feet below the surface of the earth. The amount of the contract was paid but two years. When the owner of the adjoining lot began to build and to excavate for a foundation, it was found that the contract had not been completed. In the Court below a verdict was given for the plaintiff, and this Court gave a judgment affirming that verdict.

OBTAINING GOODS UNDER FALSE PRETENCES.

John H. Keyser against William H. Harbeck, John H. Harbeck, Saml. Ward, Rodman M. Price, and Louis Deitz.—This was an action to recover $8,000, the value of goods purchased from the plaintiff under alleged false pretences. It appears that in April, 1850, a person named Peas applied to purchase from Keyser a quantity of hardware for California, and said that he wanted it for a wealthy house in Wall street, who did not wish to be known as trading with California, and that he would pay for it in cash as soon as the goods were put on board the vessel. He said that Ward and Price were his principals. On this representation some of the goods were put on board a vessel for California; but before all the goods were shipped, Keyser applied to Peas for the money, and he said that his principals (Ward and Price) would not pay for them until they received the ship's receipt for all the goods. Keyser continued to deliver the goods, and Peas took receipts for them from the captain of the vessel, but did not pay the money to plaintiff, who then made application to Ward and Price, who, it appeared, had also been deceived. Peas had asked them to advance money on goods for California, and they agreed to advance fifty per cent, and took the receipts he got for the goods, supposing that he was the owner of them, and on those receipts they got the bill of lading from the master of the ship. The plaintiff then applied to them for the goods, and they offered to assign the bill of lading to him on being paid their advances. A demand was then made for the goods by the plaintiff, but the master of the vessel would not give them without getting back the bills of lading.

Judge Bosworth delivered an elaborate opinion in this case, of which the following is a brief abstract:—"The question argued at the general term by the counsel of all the parties, as being the principal one arising in the cause, is this: Can a party who has been fraudulently induced to sell and deliver goods by means of false pretences, indictable under the Revised Statutes, reclaim them from one who has *bona fide* bought and obtained possession of them from the fraudulent vendee? The plaintiff's counsel insists that when a party is deprived of his goods by acts amounting to a felony at common law, his title cannot be divested by a sale to a *bona fide* purchaser. This is not denied. But he also insists that the Revised Statutes have made the obtaining of goods by false pretences a felony, and that it follows that the general rules of law applicable to the rights of an owner of property feloniously taken, are applicable with equal force to property taken from him by false pretences, indictable by the Revised Statutes. The defendants concede that a party who has been deprived of his property by acts amounting to a felony at common law may reclaim them from one who has *bona fide* bought them from the felon. But they insist, that when the owner has delivered them to a third person, intending at the time of the delivery to part with his title to such person, though he may have been induced to deliver them with such intent, by fraud or false pretences, he cannot reclaim them from one who may have *bona fide* bought them from the person to whom they were so delivered. * * * * I think the definition of the term "felony," found in the statute, was enacted for the mere purpose of giving it a definite meaning when found in statutory law, and without any design of affecting by it the rights or liabilities of third persons, resulting from ordinary and *bona fide* transactions between them and any one who may have obtained the property to which the transactions relate, by acts which were not a felony at common law, but which, by the Revised Statutes, may probably be an offence coming within the definition of a felony. * * * * From the manner in which the cause was submitted to the jury, it is quite evident that the counsel for the plaintiff did not suppose that there was any evidence on which he could anticipate a verdict, that the defendants, Ward and Price, did not advance in good faith, or that there was any use to have the question submitted. We do not think that the evidence discloses a knowledge on their part of any facts or circumstances which make it proper to grant a new trial for the purpose of having that question submitted. The verdict being subject to the opinion of the court upon the questions of law arising upon the evidence, and that being of a character to justify specific instructions to the jury upon all the questions of fact, except the one specially found, and the liberty being reserved to the court to order a nonsuit, and that deposition, being a just one, according to the case presented to us, a judgment of non-suit must be entered. The verdict was therefore set aside, and judgment entered for the defendants.

Michael Lacour against The Mayor, &c., of New York.—Judgment for plaintiff on verdict.

David Dows against James Perrin.—Judgment for plaintiff on verdict.

The Temperance Movement.

TO THE INHABITANTS OF THE NINTH WARD.

FELLOW-CITIZENS:—The undersigned, Commissioners of Excise for this ward, would respectfully state the reasons for the course we have pursued in relation to licenses for the sale of intoxicating liquors. We were elected with the express understanding, by all parties, that we would not grant any licenses for the sale of such liquors, to be used as a beverage; and in refusing to grant such licenses we have only met the expectations of the friends as well as the opponents of the liquor traffic, and have acted in accordance with the principles we held before our elections.

It is conceded that spirituous liquors are sometimes required for medicinal, mechanical, and sacramental purposes; but there are so many facilities for obtaining wine for sacramental purposes, that there can be no necessity for licensing any one in this ward, to sell wine merely for this purpose.

We have been willing to give every facility for obtaining this article to those who require it for medicinal purposes; but being well convinced that most of those who would say that they wanted a license to sell for medicinal purposes would abuse such license, and sell to those who would drink to excess, and thus perpetuate all the evils of intemperance, we determined to confine the sale for medicinal purposes to reliable men, who keep other drugs and medicines for sale, and who would give sufficient assurance that they would sell the article only for strictly medicinal purposes.

Very strong inducements have been urged upon us to license a few respectable grocers to sell liquor by retail. But the resolution passed by a vote of three to one in both Boards of the Common Council, and approved by the Mayor, designed to conform the action of the Excise Commissioners to the provisions of the statute, forbids the sale of liquor to be drank in the same place where liquor is sold by retail. We could not, then, for this important reason, license any men to retail liquor, unless we could have satisfactory evidence that they would entirely refrain from the sale to be used as a beverage.

We are also in principle particularly opposed to the sale of liquor in places where provisions are sold. This we believe to be the origin of a large part of the worst evils of intemperance in our ward and city. Under no circumstances, in our opinion, should intoxicating liquors be kept for sale in the same place where groceries and family provisions are sold.

As to licensing porter-houses and tippling-shops, where idle and vicious men and boys are accustomed to congregate, we have had no doubt respecting our duty. We could not have the shadow of an excuse, or feel for one moment justified in authorizing the men who keep such places to continue their disreputable business, alike injurious to individuals and to the whole community.

There remained but one other class of places that had any claim for license to sell intoxicating drinks; that was taverns, where suitable provision was made for lodgers and travellers. The laws of the State provide that any such place may be duly licensed, with all the rights, privileges, and responsibilities of a house of public entertainment, without the liberty of selling intoxicating drinks. Such houses of public entertainment we offered to license, but no applicant was willing to take a license for a tavern to furnish rest and refreshment to weary travellers, unless he could have the liberty of supplying them and all others with any quantity and all varieties of intoxicating drinks.

The subscribers could see no valid reason why intoxicating drinks should be sold in houses of public entertainment, if that traffic is everywhere else forbidden on account of its inherent evil and immoral tendencies. Nor could we see why tavern keepers should be legally provided with the means of making strangers and travellers drunk, and fitting them to commit crimes, cause disturbances, riots, and taxation, when, both by law and by the universal sentiment of the people, they are positively forbidden, under heavy penalties, from pursuing such a course in relation to our own citizens.

While, therefore, we have been willing to make ample provision for the sale of spirituous liquors for medical and other lawful and proper purposes, we have been compelled to refuse all the applications that have been made for license to sell intoxicating drinks in this ward, from a deep conviction of the responsibilities of our official station, as guardians of the public welfare, and conservators of the public peace, solemnly bound by our oath of office to protect both the public and private interests of the people against the cupidity and recklessness of selfish men, who would enrich themselves by fostering and aggravating the depraved appetites of drunkards, multiplying inebriates, paupers, and criminals, from our sober and virtuous young men, and imposing upon community the continuance and increase of all the burdens of taxation, suffering, degradation, and crime, engendered by intemperance.

With entire confidence in the justice and expediency of the course we have adopted, we throw ourselves upon this moral, religious, and patriotic community, to be encouraged and sustained in the efforts we shall most assuredly make to have all the laws and ordinances promptly and energetically enforced, which are designed to restrain the ravages of intemperance, and to suppress the illegal sale of intoxicating drinks.

PETER P. VOORHIS, Alderman Ninth ward.
HENRY P. SEE, Councilman, 21st district.
CHARLES J. HOLDER, " 22d "
C. S. COOPER, " 23d "
ALFRED BRUSH, " 24th "

New York, May 26th, 1854.

Religious Intelligence.

The anniversary sermon of the City Missionary Society of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church will be preached by the Rev. T. L. Cuyler, this evening, in the Lafayette Place Dutch Church.

Rev. H. Mattison, late pastor of John street Methodist Episcopal Church, in this city, will enter upon his labors as pastor of the Trinity Methodist Episcopal Society, this day. Till the new church edifice is erected, the public services will be held in Continental Hall, corner of Thirty-fourth street and Eighth avenue.

There will be preaching every Sunday in the Irish Evangelical Mission Church, 187 Bowery.

St. George's Chapel.—All strangers in New York are respectfully informed that the Protestant Episcopal Church corner of Cliff and Beekman streets, is open for divine service every Sunday.

INSTALLATIONS.

Rev. Thomas Dawes, late of Fairhaven, was installed over the Hawes Place Society, South Boston, on the 21st inst.

Rev. Charles Dame on the 17th inst. was installed pastor over the Congregational Church and Society in Brentwood, N. H.

INVITATIONS.

The Rev. J. Brash, of Annondale, Scotland, has been unanimously called by the Fifth Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, of this city, to become their pastor.

Rev. L. G. Ware, of Boston, has received and accepted a call to become the pastor of the Unitarian Society in Augusta, Maine, of which the late Rev. Mr. Judd was the pastor.

Rev. Mr. Schuyler, rector of St. John's Church, in Buffalo, has received a unanimous call to the rectorship of Christ Church, St. Louis—the oldest and largest Episcopal church in that city.

Rev. E. Smalley, D. D., late of Worcester, Mass., has accepted the call from the congregation of the Sixth street Presbyterian Church of Troy, N. Y.

Rev. J. J. Porter, of Buffalo, has received a call from the Washington street Presbyterian Church of Rochester.

NEW CHURCHES.

The corner stone for the new Methodist Episcopal Church in Shepherdstown, Jefferson county, Va., is to be laid on the 5th of June, with Masonic honors.

A new Episcopal Church is about to be formed in Columbia, S. C.

On the 23d inst. the corner stone of a new Baptist chapel was laid, with appropriate ceremonies, at the corner of Charles and Spring streets, Baltimore.

There are to be two new churches in Athens, Ga. The Cobbham and down town members of the Presbyterian Church not being able to agree upon a suitable location for the new church, they have for some time contemplated erecting, each division having concluded to build one.

The corner stone of a new Episcopal church in Staunton, Va., will be laid on Saturday, the 3d day of June next, with imposing ceremonies. The Right Rev. Bishop Johns will deliver an address on the occasion.

The new Methodist church in North Bridgewater, Mass., (Rev. Mr. McKeown's) will be dedicated on Thursday next, June 1. Sermon by Rev. Minor Raymond.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Rev. Mr. Shrigley has been compelled, by continued ill health, to resign the charge of the Universalist Society of Reading, Pa., and to return to his residence near Baltimore.

Mr. James M. Palmer was ordained as a minister of the gospel on the 21st inst., at Kendall's Mills, Maine.

Eighteen persons were admitted on the 7th inst. to the Presbyterian Church in Wilson, Niagara county, N. Y., on the profession of their faith, making one hundred and twenty-two received in four years.

The salaries of the "ministers at large," in the service of the Benevolent Fraternity of Churches, (Unitarian,) in Boston, have been increased by a recent vote of the officers of the organization.

Rev. Messrs. A. D. Wilson and William Nesbitt, of Pennsylvania, late missionaries at Liberia, arrived at Salem on the 25th inst., in the brig Louisa.

Our Paris Correspondance.

PARIS, 9 Mai, 1854.

Le Plan de Campagne du Maréchal Paskiewitch—Nouvelle Défaite des Turcs dans le Dobrutscha—Embarras Financiers du Gouvernement—Attitude de l'Autriche et de la Prusse—Inquiétude sur les Mouvements du Parti Révolutionaire en Italie—La Loi sur l'Instruction Publique—Moralité de l'Epoque—Rappel du Général Baraguay d'Hilliers, &c.

La guerre d'Orient prend des proportions gigantesques; le Maréchal Paskiewitch veut frapper un grand coup, et c'est pour cela qu'il a rappelé à son centre de bataille les troupes qui bloquaient Kalafat, et qu'il veut pousser vigoureusement une pointe sur Andranople. D'après une lettre reçue confidentiellement par une personne haut placee, les Turcs auraient éprouvé un terrible échec du côté de la Dobrutcsha en bataille rangée; il y avait eu en ligne environ cent-vingt mille hommes de part et d'autre, et les troupes du Sultan seraient en pleine fuite; mais je n'ai pas encore la confirmation de cette importante nouvelle.

D'autre part on sait qu'on vient d'organiser en France deux camps, dont l'un de cent mille hommes destinés à être embarqués dans la Baltique et jetés sur la Finland; mais le tout n'est pas de faire des décrets et de lever des hommes, il faut de l'argent. La commission du budget s'alarme au corpas législatif et ne se dissimule pas que la dernière décision de l'Empereur, c'est le budget modifié par décret. On parle d'nu blanc-seing, qui serait demandé par le gouvernement au corps législatif avant sa dissolution et par lequel l'Empereur aurait la faculté d'emprunter, et de lever des hommes dans une large limite fixée d'avance.

Les illusions qu'on se faisait de nouveau, ou qu'on semblait se faire sur l'Autriche et la Prusse, doivent tout-à-fait se dissiper; sans doute ces deux gouvernements dans la controverse donnent pleinement raison à la France et à l'Angleterre, et il leur serait difficile en effet de sympathiser avec les appétits ambitieux des Czar; mais il n'y a rien de plus à obtenir que cet assentiment stérile; le remplacement de M. de Ronin par M. de Waldersée à Berlin, a de plus été interprété comme tout-à-fait Russe, et il serait difficile qu'il en fut autrement. En résumé, des gens bien informés croient que la Prusse et l'Autriche se borneront à une médiation armée, qu'ils propageront autant qu'ils le pourront et qu'ils imposeront. Quant à se déclarer d'un côté ou de l'autre—en cela sans doute, ils suivront la fortune et iront au secours du vainqueur, s'il y en a un, et ce ne'est pas une suite pénible d'avantages disputés et de manœuvres épuisantes sans résultats.

On doit, du reste, remarquer que dans cette guerre les lois de l'humanité, les intérêts du commerce et de la civilisation sont respectés à un degré qui fait honneur aux progrès de l'humanité à notre époque.

Les affaires se brouillent de plus en plus avec la Grèce, il est évident que sous peu les puissances occidentales mettront la main sur le roi Othon sans plus de cérémonie; mais on est toujours inquiet de l'Italie ou l'on sait que règne une sourde agitation et ou ont été faites des arrestations qui sont un indice assez grave. Autre fait plus singulier, l'Angleterre est en ce moment dépourvue complètement de soldats et serait livrée sans défense aucune à une révolution si on en tentait une; on organise en grande hâte des milices pour obvier à cette situation.

En France l'agitation révolutionnaire parait momentanement endormie; il y a seulement à la surface toujours cette misérable parodie de l'ancienne opposition parlementaire. Les gens religieux du corps législatif se sont émus (vous le savez déjà) des effets probables de la nouvelle loi sur l'instruction publique que le gouvernement a fait faire, parce qu'il a vu qu'en laissant fonctionner l'ancienne loi de 1850 il était complètement débordé par le parti prêtre ou jésuitique. Monsieur Fortoul, Ministre de l'Instruction Publique, ne dissimule aucunement ses craintes à cet égard, et il a engagé fortement sur ce rapport le Préfet de la Seine à ne pas laisser tomber le Collége Stanislas, (qui périclitait dans ses affaires,) aux mains des jésuites qui en convoitaient déjà la possession. Le gouvernement s'inquiète d'autant plus de ce réveil de l'influence cléricale, que le parti légitimiste exploite contre lui avec beaucoup de vivacité, ces persécutions qu'on lui attribue, et la palme du martyr qu'on réclame pour le parti bigot réprimé; c'est ce qui fait que le docteur Carrière, médecin du Comte de Chambord, a été arrêté; ses papiers ont été visités, et lui, (bien qu'on ait dit le contraire,) est parti pour Frohsdore. Ces soupçons de l'autorité ont contribué depuis à l'arrestation du Comte Lazareu, Russe accusé d'espionnage—(quel est le Russe qui n'espionne pas?) et depuis expulsé.

Quoiqu'il en soit, l'opposition du corps législatif a abouti à nommer un rapporteur favorable à la loi, qui excitait chez lui tant de scrupules. Ce rapporteur est M. Langlais, qui dans l'affaire Montalem a tourné complètement, quand il a vu l'insistance du gouvernement pour poursuivre le député catholique, c'est assez dire s'il se prêtera aux vues du pouvoir.

Le corps législatif s'est aussi beaucoup offusqué de ce qu'on ait défendu aux journaux de reproduire les rapports sur les projets de loi avant le *Moniteur*; mais à quoi ont servi ces serviles récriminations contre cette nouvelle confiscation de son droit de publicité?

Comme moralité de l'époque, on parle du mariage du Prince Montléar, ancien mari de la veuve de Charles Albert, roi de Sardaigne, avec Miss Howard, maitresse de l'Empereur, qui a acquis quatre millions de fortune.

DERNIERES NOUVELLES.

Les informations d'aujourd'hui sont des plus optimistes; on veut que la Russie ait manifesté à la Prusse ses desseins de faire expliquer l'Autriche sur son attitude équivoque; et que la Prusse l'ait prévenue de ne pas insister si elle ne voulait pas s'exposer à un échec. On parle aussi de l'adhésion armée de ce pays à la cause Occidentale; je doute que les choses soient aussi favorables aux puissances maritimes. Je n'ai pas la confirmation des désastres des Turcs, mais je ne crois pas aux défaites des Russes dont on parle, défaites qui, en tous cas, ne les empêcheront pas d'avancer.

Une dépêche de Constantinople annonce, (avec d'autres nouvelles que les journaux vous porteront,) que les difficultés élevées entre la Porte et Baraguay d'Hilliers pour les catholiques Hellènes, (que le ministre français voulait maintenir à tout prix) sont aplanies; mais le général Baraguay d'Hilliers n'en vaut pas mieux—on le disait rappelé—et voici un fait positif qui prouve que ce bruit a de grandes chances de réalisation.

Ce matin, le *Moniteur* avait paru avec une note où on parlait de ces bruits de dessentiments survenus entre le général Baraguay d'Hilliers et la Porte, et l'on ajoutait que dans tous les cas, la Porte aurait du être juge seul de ce qui convenait à son intérêt. La note a été supprimée dans une édition subséquente du *Moniteur*; mais le soufflet n'en reste pas moins sur la joue du général Baraguay d'Hilliers.

Il n'y a rien dans le domaine des arts, de la littérature et dans les bruits des salons qui vaille d'être mentionné ici.

The Trial of Mrs. Robinson for Murder.

[From the Troy Whig, May 25.]

In some respects this is a most remarkable case, and in some of its features paralleled by no other that we now remember. We allude more particularly to the most extraordinary, and almost fatal determination, persisted in by the prisoner, Mrs. Robinson, against the advice and earnest wishes of her very able counsel, to keep herself so closely veiled as to defy all attempts to identify her. For two days neither court nor jury knew whether it was a man or a woman at the bar as the prisoner. When required by the Court to remove her veil and disclose her face to a witness, she refused to do so, and she was identified only by being permitted to rise from her seat and go to the witness's stand, and there allow him, and him only, to behold her features. Her counsel felt called upon to state that this extraordinary determination of the prisoner was not within their control; that it had been taken by her in view of considerations above and beyond this trial or its results; and that they were not answerable for it. And so she sat, the veiled prisoner, no less secluded from the gaze of man, than was the "Veiled Prophet."

Yesterday morning the Court commanded the veil to be laid aside, as the mode of seclusion adopted and persisted in was but little less than a mockery of the forms of justice. The prisoner rose to speak for herself, which she did in a self-possessed manner, and said that she was there to undergo an important and painful trial, and did not wish to be gazed at. Her counsel said they had urged a compliance with the wishes of the Court, but that they were powerless. She continued to sit veiled, and the Court proceeded. At another stage of the trial Judge Harris remarked that unless that which hid the prisoner from the Court and jury was removed by herself, he would direct the Sheriff to remove it; and then the veil was withdrawn, disclosing a face at once attractive and engaging, if not once beautiful—but not the reason why, in such a manner, it had been thus far secluded. It is this question that lends extraordinary interest to the trial, and has given rise to much speculation.

It may not be improper to say that the current belief is—not to use a stronger term—that Mrs. Robinson, the prisoner, formerly, some twenty years ago, resided in this city, as a pupil at the seminary; that her maiden name was Wood; that her family was one of wealth, standing, and respectability, and resided somewhere near Quebec; that while here she moved in the best social circles of our city, as did three sisters, who also attended the seminary at different times; that she subsequently married an army officer in Canada, who died; that she then married a surgeon in the army, in the Provinces, from whom she separated; and that she is now here, the veiled prisoner at the bar, charged with the crime of murder.

These, we believe, are the outlines of the narrative generally credited—we may say not doubted from the first—by very many. For what reason her identity has been attempted to be disguised we know not. Shortly after the prisoner was arrested a gentleman from Quebec or vicinity came here, and a statement was put forth to the effect that the prisoner was some other person; but it is now to be presumed that the representation is not sustained in the public belief. Whoever the prisoner is, she has from the first possessed the facilities for securing for herself the ablest counsel, and many comforts not possessed by all who inhabit a cell.

The defence is insanity. The counsel for the prisoner seem prepared to press this point with skill and force. During the examination of witnesses yesterday afternoon, although on the assembling of the Court after dinner Judge Harris again insisted upon the veil being withdrawn, the prisoner, either by drawing the veil down entirely, or by placing a handkerchief or fan before her face, to all intents and purposes successfully resisted the wishes and commands of the Court. She for the first time evinced emotion, and was frequently in tears, but whether from an apprehension of being recognized by a partial removal of the veil, or from a realization of her real position, we cannot, of course, say. The prisoner is between thirty-five and forty years of age, of genteel appearance, and is represented as having possessed personal charms of no ordinary character, some of which she still retains. Whether it is the extraordinary character in which she has chosen to appear, or her peculiar fitness to "act her part well," it is difficult to say; but true it is, the drama as cast excites a deep interest.

MRS. ROBINSON'S VEIL REMOVED.

During the progress of the trial of Mrs. Robinson, for murder, at Troy, on the 25th inst., after numerous ineffectual attempts to induce the prisoner to remove her veil, Judge Harris said:—Before proceeding with this case, we will make one more effort to go on with an unmasked face. I trust I feel all the delicacy consistent with my position; but I must do my duty, fearlessly and fairly. Notwithstanding all my efforts this morning, one veil was withdrawn and another substituted. As yet I have been unable to see the face of the prisoner, and I doubt if one of the jury could identify her out of doors. I know the sting is severe, but it can't be helped. The jurors and witnesses must confront the prisoner, and if she will not remove her mask it will be taken from her.

The prisoner then rose and said in a self-possessed manner, that she was there to undergo an important trial, and she did not wish to be gazed at.

The Judge remarked that unless the veil was removed by herself he would direct the Sheriff to remove it.

Mrs. Robinson, after some hesitation, then threw her veil partially over her bonnet, and, as if sobbing, bent forward her head, burying her face pretty much wholly in her handkerchief. She was much affected, apparently, throughout the afternoon, and succeeded effectually in conceiling her face from view.

Shocking Attempt at Murder.

LAWRENCEBURG, Ky., May 19, 1854.

One of the most brutal attempts at murder has been committed in this vicinity.

On the night of Wednesday, the 17th ult., between the hours of 11 and 12 o'clock, the residence of James McBrayer, Esq., some two and a half miles from this place, was entered by some person, and his wife was literally mangled. It seems she was awakened by this person passing his hand over her face. She then sprang up, and was struck on the shoulder with a knife. The assassin dropped the knife and proceeded to finish her with an axe. He then struck her across the legs, breaking one of them in two places, and cutting her in the side. Her screams awoke her husband, who, in endeavoring to save her, had one of his fingers cut off. He then rushed out of the room, shouting murder. Suspicion has attached to a near relative, and so strongly, that he has been arrested and held to bail in $5,000, at an examination of the case that was held this day. The woman is not expected to survive. The murderer, as he was leaving the room, made a blow with a knife at an infant asleep on a lounge on the other side of the room, and inflicted a terrible gash on its shoulder. It is supposed that the murderer is now on his way to California. The citizens of this place are highly excited.

FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

MONEY MARKET.

SATURDAY, May 27—6 P. M.

A very large amount of business was transacted at the Stock Exchange to-day, generally at better prices. At the first board, Illinois Central bonds advanced ¼ per cent, Canton Co. ¼, Stonington ¼, Nicaragua Transit ½, Cumberland Coal 1⅛, Erie Railroad ¼, Reading Railroad ⅝, Panama Railroad 1½. Cleveland and Toledo Railroad fell off 1 per cent, Parker Vein ½. Nearly six thousand shares of Cumberland were sold at prices ranging from 37½, seller sixty days, to 38½ cash. The upward movement appears to gain strength, instead of diminishing, as prices advance. A good deal of stock was bought to-day for cash, which is an indication that the bears are buying in for delivery. It is stated that some leading bears in the street are largely short, and are still putting out contracts freely. At present it looks very blue for the bear interest, and the losses must already have been enormous. In Erie Railroad the seller continues to have the advantage; but in Nicaragua Transit the tables are turned again. It is settled that a dividend of four per cent will be paid in July, and the company makes such a favorable exhibit of its finances that the present market value of the stock is considered a mere bagatelle