

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

PARIS, Feb. 22.—If the new Bill on the Press be what it is described, and if it pass into law without any modification, it must certainly tranquillize those timid Conservatives who have thought the Emperor too generous, and who apprehend an inundation of dangerous liberties. Yet the outcry against it is so strong and so general that the Government can hardly accept or present it in its present shape. Nearly the whole independent Press of every shade of political opinions, and even the semi-official journals have not ventured to say a word in its favor nor against it; but this silence is its condemnation. This condemnation is not dictated by any want of opposition. Fines varying from 4,000 to 40,000, suppression of extending circumstances, augmentation of caution deposits, electoral incapacity, suspension and oppression by the Courts, the execution of judgments, without regard to right of appeal which is maintained, and extension of the stamp duty, which is lowered for those that paid it before, to the journals that were hitherto exempt from it—these are sufficient to dissipate the fears of the most nervous reactionist, but they also justify the dismay of the public.

The 10th clause, moreover, enacts that—'The publication of an article signed by a person deprived of his civil and political rights, or by one to whom the French territory is prohibited, incurs a fine of 1,000 to 5,000.'

On this clause the *Siècle* observes—'Some of our contemporaries interpret it as applicable not only to exiles, whose position is thus uselessly aggravated, but also to writers who have incurred the forfeiture of political rights for five years. Thus not only is the journalist ruined by crushing fines, not only is he disqualified from voting for a candidate to the Legislative Body, and from being himself elected, but he is also deprived of the faculty of writing, and is shut out from the profession by which he gains his living. Such iniquity is too revolting not to be an error either in the text of the Bill or in the mode of interpreting it. We refuse to believe that such a clause could have passed in deliberations where a Minister of Justice presided.'

La Liberté ironically proposes that the new law should be passed in these terms—

'Whereas political inequality is the basis of our institutions; whereas, after 15 years of calm and prosperity, the moment is come to enlarge these institutions; whereas the Constitution guarantees and confirms the principles of 1789; whereas those principles are the glory of France, &c.'

Article 1. Whoever desires to start a journal must previously make a deposit of a million of francs as a caution money.

Article 2. No one can write in a newspaper unless he is in possession of his civil and political rights.

Article 3. Whoever writes in a newspaper shall be deprived of his civil, political, and all other rights.'

The *Opinion Nationale* asks:—

'Do you wish to give us the liberty of the Press? We shall be grateful if you give it. Do you mean, on the contrary, to multiply obstacles, to tighten the bonds, to suspend over our heads extraordinary penalties? Be it so; you are the masters. But if you do so, do not give to the act the name of liberty. We cannot believe you, and it would be too hard for us to think that you meant to mock at us, and insult our misery.'

Perhaps it is proper that the measures relating both to the Press and to the right of meeting should be described as 'liberties,' but if so, they are liberties which, like certain others, are so awfully regulated as to leave them without the power of movement.

With reference to the Postmaster-General's circular, which has attracted so much attention, a Belgian paper *L'Escaut*, mentions that Prince Louis Napoleon, now Emperor of the French, after his escape from Elam, wrote to the Belgian Government asking whether his correspondence passing through Belgium would be respected; and that the Brussels Cabinet merely sent him for answer a copy of the 23d clause of the Code, which specifies that in Belgium the secrecy of letters is inviolable, and that the law specified who were the agents responsible for any tampering with the correspondence intrusted to the Post-office.

M. Vandal's circular has brought back vividly to the minds of the public the famous 'Cabinet Noir,' where the operations he recommended were systematically carried on by a regular staff of employees, and at considerable expense. In an article of the *Revue des Deux Mondes*, headed 'Administration des Postes,' M. Maxime du Camp gives an interesting account of that disreputable institution.

It would appear that the Cabinet Noir—the Dark Closet, for what was done there could not bear the light of day—originated with the postal service itself, for Louis XI. ordered that the Royal couriers should not carry letters that had not been previously read, or those that contained anything prejudicial to his Government. The practice was in all probability, continued under successive Governments, and one may feel sure that Richelieu, Mazarin, Louis XIV., the Regent, Dubois, were not people to hesitate at breaking, or rather melting, a seal, thought it appears there are no official documents proving the fact. But there is no doubt about Louis XV., who first organized what was called 'the Secret Closet of the Post.' His predecessors contented themselves with taking copies of despatches which, for political objects, they had an interest in knowing; but to Louis XV. attaches the infamy of violating private correspondence for the gratification of a morbid desire to become acquainted with the most secret acts of private life. Besides this, there was what was called the 'political agency,' the object of which was to get at the mysteries of diplomacy; and this was under the direction of the Prince of Carli and the Duke de Broglie, Madame de Housset, waiting-woman to Madame de Pompadour, the King's mistress, mentions in her memoirs what she herself was an eyewitness of.

The reading of these letters was a favourite pastime with Louis XV. In the beginning of his reign Louis XVI. tried to put an end to the scandalous practices which were a mystery to no one, and strongly repudiated such a means of government.

The public conscience revolted against it; the outcry was general, and in the official instructions of the electors to the deputies at the States-General, in the commencement of the Revolution the demand was general for the secrecy of private letters, the suppression of the Cabinet at the General Post-office where the correspondence was opened, the responsibility of the employees, and their severe punishment when they tampered with letters. The deputies to the States-General echoed the complaints of their constituents. At the sitting of the 8th of July, 1790, after a report from Armand Gontand (*cic-devant* Biron), the National Assembly ordered the suppression of the funds appropriated to the Cabinet Noir. On the 22d of August it decreed that the Directors and clerks of the Post-office should take an oath, in presence of the Judges, to respect and cause to be respected, by all the means in their power, the secrecy of all the correspondence in the Kingdom. It was believed after this that the Cabinet Noir was shut up for ever and that the means made use of by 'tyrants' could not be adopted by a free people. It was an error. It was seen, even then, that if Robespierre ever arrived at power he would not hesitate to resort to the same practices for which he had denounced the absolute monarchy.

In answer to some observations of Mirabeau, in 1790, he said, 'No doubt, private correspondence is inviolable; but when a nation is in danger, when there are persons conspiring against

liberty, that which is criminal towards the people becomes a praiseworthy act.' 'Policy towards the conspirators is treason against the people.' He seemed afterwards to have changed his opinion. On the 28th of January, 1791, he accepted the Tribunal, and touching the question of a certain number of letters that had been laid before the Assembly because they attacked the representatives of the people, he said, 'How do we know that these effusions are directed against the National Assembly? The secrecy of correspondence has then been violated. It is an outrage on public faith? These words implied an engagement which the Committee of Public Safety soon disregarded. It was, however, the Girondins who, when they had the upper hand, set the bad example. They made no scruple whatever about opening the private correspondence of the Fenillants, and the Fayetteils, and the Mountain, when their turn came, paid them back in kind. These last, however, had the merit of acting openly. They proclaimed it a measure of public security; and two members of the Convention were named to inspect the correspondence which in their judgment endangered the safety of the country. An attempt was made after the 9th Thermidor to restore the Post-office department to its normal state. In the sitting of the 9th Frimaire (9th of December, 1794) the Convention decreed that 'the secrecy of letters should no longer be violated in the interior of the Republic. The Thermidorians, who were not famed for probity, took little account of this decree, for the secret police had never been more prying than at that period. Under the Consulate and the empire there was no hesitation about the matter.

The Cabinet Noir did not disappear with the Empire. It flourished under the Bourbons. It cost, as under the preceding Government, 64,000,000, paid out of the secret service money of the Foreign-office and there were employed in it 22 persons, several of whom were high personages. When M. de Villele fell, the new Ministry declared officially that the Cabinet Noir no longer existed in the General Post-office. This was, however, a deceit; it was merely transferred to another locality; and after the Revolution of July it was discovered that it had continued to work to the last moment. A curious trial occupied public attention a few months after the accessions of the House of Orleans. A young lady of excellent family had married in 1821 a superior employe of the Post-office—an important personage, who was in direct communication with the Tuilleries, and was in receipt of a large salary. His function about which he never would give any explanations, required his attendance every evening in his office, and he often spent the whole night in it. It was only after the Revolution of July that the whole became known. The husband had been one of the principle members of the Cabinet Noir. His wife, on receiving this information, which she was far from expecting, sued at once for a separation. In spite of the talent of her lawyer, she lost her suit; but public opinion was for her, and she never would consent to again live with the man who had deceived her as to his position, and made her share in the infamy of which she had no suspicion.

M. Ducamp does not believe that the Cabinet Noir now exists. The Bill for the reorganization of the French Army has been prepared. It is a stupendous measure. The Emperor cannot be frightened from the idea that all France should be armed, and has only consented to reduce the term of regular service. For the rest, 160,000 youths of twenty, are to be drafted every year, a number which is within a few hundreds of all the fit conscripts who present themselves for the ballot. Half of them will serve for five years in the regular Army, and four years more in the Reserve; the other half will serve five years in the Reserve and four years in the mobile National Guard. Under this arrangement France will next year have 160,000 men in addition to her present 600,000, and in nine years will have an army of 1,450,000, while by 1900 every man in France will have been drilled, have borne arms and have learnt to understand practical soldiering.

The Paris correspondent of the *London Times* observes that the quality which particularly strikes the readers of the French 'Yellow Book,' and indeed, of most of the documents emanating from official sources in Paris, is their optimism. This 'Yellow Book' is the diplomatic record of the year, and it never admits that anything is out of order. It is very diplomatic indeed. Thus, in 1851 it opens thus:—'In the interior the population have continued to live in profound tranquillity.'

In 1862, 'The profoundest tranquillity has not ceased to prevail in the interior.'

In 1863 the phrase was, 'The general situation of the country is satisfactory.'

In 1864, it began, 'The internal situation is satisfactory.'

In 1865, 'The internal situation continues to be satisfactory.'

In 1866, 'The general situation of the country is satisfactory.'

And in the present year it announces that 'the general situation of the country presents itself under a favourable aspect.'

Yet this year the working classes in France are plunged into misery. The silk trade of Lyons is nearly ruined, and the operatives are nearly starving. Terrible inundations have destroyed the crops, and agricultural interests are suffering. The favorable aspect of the country is illustrated by these internal disorders, and the snubbing from Prussia and the failure in Mexico are the exterior evidences of national power.

On the 1st January, 1866, the number of political journals was 330, of which 63 were printed in Paris and 267 in the departments. On the 1st of January, 1867, the numbers were respectively, 336, 64, and 272. On the 1st of January, 1866, the number of non-political publications was 1,807, of which 703 appeared in Paris and 604 in the departments. On the 1st of January, 1867, the numbers were, respectively, 1,436 and 710,725. In the course of the year 1866 the government authorized six new political journals—one at Paris, and five in the provinces. From the 1st of January to the 31st of December, 1866, 16 warnings were given (seven in Paris and nine in the departments). In addition, the suppression of a weekly journal published in the capital (*Le Courrier du Dimanche*) was pronounced. No provincial journal has been suppressed or suspended. During the same period the number of communicated notes was 144 for Paris and 201 in the departments—a total of 345. During the year 32 judicial condemnations were given—13 in Paris and 19 for the rest of France. In the course of the same year 1,578 works were presented for authorisation for banking; in 1,423 cases it was granted, and refused in 165.

Protestantism is making considerable progress in France. A society has been established called 'Solidaires,' the members of which take a pledge to be buried without the prayers of the Church, and it has been 'working' some time, to the great annoyance of the clergy, and of religious people generally. A further step has now been taken, namely, the omission of all rites at marriage.

In another month the Great Exhibition, designed to eclipse all former Exhibitions, and to be a standard for all Exhibitions to come, will be presented to a curious, candid, and criticizing public. As it grows upon our senses, we can read the descriptions of the spectacle with increasing interest, and some amount of consolation. The building itself, of course, the ugliest thing ever seen. The French themselves admit that nothing could possibly be uglier. It resembles an enormous gasometer, enclosing a series of smaller gasometers, with a circular garden in the common centre. From this centre roads or avenues diverge to the circumference, like the spokes of a wheel, or the cross-breads of a spider's web. In each of the circular compartments thus formed and

intersected compartments of industry will find their place; and this principle of arrangement, excellent in its way, has determined the form of the building. The architect alleges that it will answer its main purposes better than any other structure could do, and with that success he is content. But the peculiar characteristics of the great distinction of the French Palace of Industry lies in its surroundings, or, as we might say, its suburbs. It is situated in an artificial park such as in old times would have been termed 'a pleasure-ground,' and their ground will be laid out with extraordinary art. It will be studded, too, with little detached edifices for supplementary Exhibitions, erected and decorated in all the styles of architecture known to man. Temples, mosques, pagodas, wigwags, joshouses, villas, tombs, and huts will vie with each other in novelty, picturesqueness, and beauty. Already, though the park is half under water and everything in dreadful disarray, the Parisians are satisfied with this part of the spectacle, and are willing to believe that it will redeem the inevitable ugliness of the central fabric.

The English colonial display will be one of the best in the building—indeed, in the matter of colonial products none think of competing with Great Britain. The display sent in has been most carefully weeded, but still there is no more which ought to be shown than space can well be given to.—*Times*.

ITALY.

PISANO.—Baron Ricasoli has formed his new Ministry, taking Depretis, one of the ablest and most moderate of the Reds, as his Chancellor of the Exchequer. He has also made a very able appeal to the country. In a well written circular to the Prefects, he orders them to inform the electors that he never intended to leave the reins at the mercy of the Bishops; that he will introduce a new Ecclesiastical Bill based on the verdict of public opinion; that he will give the provinces roads and that he will seek a revenue in economy and the reorganization of existing taxes rather than in new imposts. In spite of the distress caused by high prices, Ricasoli will obtain a majority, the more so, as the Church will not be able to fight him very hard.

The Italian Ministry, defeated in the chamber of Deputies on a motion which implied a vote of censure on them for interfering in Venetia to prevent popular meetings to protest against the Government measure for the liquidation of the property of the Church, has dissolved Parliament and resolved to take the chance of a new election. The dissolved Chamber was a worthless body, and it is very unlikely that even Italy will send worse men than they were to help in governing the country. The new elections will of course revise the question whether it is right and expedient that Catholics should take part in choosing deputies and should seek election. It is stated in the press that the ecclesiastical authorities to whom the question has been referred have decided affirmatively, but we see that the *Unita* questions this interpretation of the answer. Our own belief, however, is, that the course to be pursued has been left to be decided by each man according to his conscience and that the advice given to the Faithful does not exclude their participation in the elections. If that be so, and if it be true—as we are assured it is—that the great majority of Italians heartily disapprove of the anti-Christian policy which successive Governments and Parliaments have pursued of late years, we confess our belief that the time has come when should exert themselves to obtain the control of public affairs, and set up their convictions. If the majority of Italians are of the other way of thinking and choose to make war upon the Church, there is no help for it—they must have their own way, and must suffer for it hereafter. If they are bent on doing wrong, there is no human power that can prevent them.—*Tablet*.

We are entering upon an electioneering period which will have but little interest for foreigners. For the next fortnight there will be a decentralization of political interest, which will be temporarily localized. Indeed, even after the elections have taken place, it will be difficult to foresee and to class the coming Chamber of Deputies. If real patriotism could prevail over personal objects, there ought to be no difficulty in establishing a strong majority for any Government of moderate doctrines and average ability. With the exception of a few men on the extreme right and left, and of here and there some cottey politicians whom no banner could long rally, everybody is agreed as to what is wanted, and there need really be no serious conflict as to the manner in which the work is to be done. Unfortunately this is not a country of great parties, but of petty coteries, where it is too much the fashion to cry down valuable men from personal motives.—*Times* Cor.

No one has any right to call the Italians to account if they choose to wear out all the sympathy which was lavished upon them during the long period of their national contest. Their country is now their own to do with it as they please. They may make it a bankrupt, or a nest of brigands, or another Spain, with a ruthless Narvaez as its ruler. This is by no means the first time that the world has been scandalized at their lack of Parliamentary thrift and moderation, and at their want of administrative ability. But all lately people were inclined to judge them with leniency. They were 'making Italy.' All their energies, well or ill applied, had but one object—preparation for a death struggle with their foreign rulers. Even of that task, indeed, they acquitted themselves but indifferently; and it was becoming clear to the world that no effort of theirs could ever oust the Austrians from the Quadrilateral. But to their incapacity on that score large indulgence was shown. They failed in their organization of an army; they blundered in their training of a fleet. All that might be forgiven and forgotten if they could now only discipline a Parliament, if they could build up a durable Cabinet. It would be melancholy to think that the Italians could never learn to fight for their country, but far more sad to perceive that they might soon be again fighting one another. It matters little to know whether it was the French or the Prussians who 'made Italy,' if the Italians themselves do not unmake it. From such Parliamentary animosity as is now raging to popular disturbance and downright civil dissension there is but one step; and the Italians are aware how invariably their domestic feuds have paved the way for foreign invasion.

We do not in the least exaggerate the dangers of the present crisis.

DETENTION OF MORALS IN ITALY.—The Criminal Court of Turin is trying a case which is likely to feed the scandalous chronicle for a long time. A young and beautiful lady, a native of Vercelli, and reported to have been in the good graces of the highest personage in the kingdom, is accused of having committed a forgery. Being in want of cash, she asked a Turin banker to discount a draft of the King Victor Emmanuel for £120. The banker discounted it. The draft having arrived at maturity it was discovered that it was forged.

VENICE, Feb. 26.—Garibaldi arrived here to-day. He received an enthusiastic welcome.

ROME.—At a secret consistory, held this morning, the Pope announced his intention to canonize Brother Leonardo, of Porto Maurizio. His Holiness then delivered a short allocution, in which he adverted to his letter to King Victor Emmanuel in 1865, written with the object of providing for the vacant bishoprics, and declared that the negotiations for that purpose, which have now been resumed, were not broken off through the fault of the Holy See. His Holiness lamented the fact that the bishops, whom he sends to empty churches, will find their property appropriated and their religious congregations expelled, &c. &c. 'They will find affliction and misery. Nevertheless, we send them for the salvation of souls. They will go in the name of Jesus Christ, confiding in the protection of the Mother of God.'

His Holiness concluded by stating that it was not expedient to say more in the present state of things.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE NORTHERN GERMAN PARLIAMENT was opened by the King of Prussia on Saturday the 23rd of Feb. His Majesty made a very long speech, saying that past events had procured him the opportunity of addressing an assembly such as had not been seen for centuries round a German Sovereign. He thanked heaven for having conducted Germany towards the long wished for end, by means which could not have been foreseen. The aim of the German people was strength in unity and to live in peace with the other powers of the earth. His Majesty concluded by saying that he hoped that all would pull together in carrying out the great work of unity.

His Majesty the King of Prussia has ordered that the war tax which was levied on the town of Frankfurt-on-the-Main should be returned. Baron Rothschild has been chosen by the citizens of the late free town to represent them in the Northern Parliament, which has been a source of much satisfaction to King William.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

There has been great commotion at Adelaide about a new Marriage Act which was introduced into the Assembly. It dispensed with the Sacrament of Marriage, and compels every priest or cleric to register himself as a Registrar of Marriage, the fee effecting which is to be ten shillings; any layman can apply for a license to be a Registrar, and every clergyman performing a marriage without the license will be liable to a heavy fine. Of course such a bill meets with every opposition, and our Bishop Shiel and Dr. Backhaus are foremost in the struggle.—*Cor of Weekly Register*.

UNITED STATES.

We take from a contemporary the following fact, which nicely illustrates the operation of the disfranchising principle in Tennessee. It would not be difficult, we believe, to find hundreds of similar anomalies under the working of the system in force in that State: 'A firm in Nashville, one of the largest and most respectable mercantile houses in the West, paying annually many thousand dollars of taxes, has, including clerks, six persons employed in the concern besides the porter, who is a negro. The latter is now the only one of the whole concern who is allowed a vote under the present Brownlow Constitution. The point of the joke is, that the negro was the bitterest rebel of all, and was an officer's servant in the late rebel army, and when fighting by his master's side, he was the third man over the ramparts of Fort Pillow, where he fell like an avenging thunderbolt upon the negroes—who so gallantly surrendered that stronghold.'

The Maine House of Representatives have put a veto on the attempt to repeal the law forbidding the intermarriage of whites with negroes and Indians, by a vote of 77 to 46.

SELLING A WIFE AT AUCTION IN MAINE.—The Machias Republican says a man by the name of Bryant, becoming dissatisfied with his wife, last week called upon an auctioneer, and the wife and furniture in the house were sold at public auction. The wife was sold for ten dollars. Some time before next morning the husband and wife made up their troubles, and Bryant refused to deliver to the purchaser the wife and furniture.

TEMPERANCE IN A NEW ENGLAND STATE.—The trouble has been in this country, however that honest legislation on the subject has always been too severe and has therefore failed of its effect. The very mention of the Maine Law will explain what we mean. If we remember rightly, it was George Augustus Sala that found bottles labelled *Medicine* in sundry drawers and cupboards, and in the stove (it was summer time) of a room of a New England hotel in which he passed a night. There was no 'bar' in that establishment, nor could *liquor* be obtained for love or money. But unavails could easily be accommodated with 'medicine,' liquid, in bottles. The Yankees are proverbially a 'smart' people. On the other hand, laws have been framed with a dishonest intention, to hoodwink the correct sentiment of the people. These, in reality, directly promote intemperance. Generally speaking, too much is left to the discretion of officials, who, as every one knows, are easily accessible to corrupt influences.—*Catholic Standard*.

Unless the people of the South will surrender every political right, and give their country up to the rule of the negroes, and at the same time prescribe all those who have therefore been their leaders in the forum and in the field, their property is to be taken from them and divided among the negroes and federal soldiers. We have always believed that this wholesale robbery was the objective point of the Radical policy. We have been unable to see any other object in the offensive measures which that party has enacted for the acceptance of the Southern people, except to find in the rejection of them a pretext for this universal spoliation. And we are now satisfied that no matter how much they may humiliate and degrade them by accepting these disgraceful terms the plundering attempt cannot be averted.—The South will be justified in looking for any iniquity which malice can invent, and the thirst for spoils can stimulate to be perpetrated upon them, and they not hope to conciliate their ungenerous and sordid oppressors by giving their sanction to their despotic and extra constitutional conditions and terms. Let them, therefore, stand firm, submitting to what they cannot help, but not aiding in any way in dishonoring themselves, or in bedaubing their fair escutcheon.

AN AMERICAN POLAND.—In an article upon the conditions of the Military Commission bill, the *New York Express* remarks: 'The South is ruined, and to be ruined more and more. No emigrants from the United States will go into our Poland or Ireland, while the Polish and Irish proscriptions of the South will emigrate here, or go West. No young American, if he can possibly earn his living elsewhere, will now settle down in a land of desolation and become a subject, when he can emigrate East and West and become a citizen. No Northern or Western man, of any foceast, will invest any capital in this Poland or Ireland. The South, therefore, is a place to be shunned by the world's emigration, as Ireland or Poland is shunned, or as Egypt or Turkey.

A DILEMMA.—A correspondent of the *World*, writing from Richmond, relates an incident as follows:—Talking of oaths reminds me of a local joke which my pen cannot resist recording. A modest young girl, upon applying for 'tithon' to one of our relief agents, a few days ago, was asked, if she had

ever taken the oath, 'No, indeed, sir,' was her terrified reply, 'I never swore in all my life.' 'But you must take the oath,' my good girl,' said the agent, 'or I cannot give you the tithon.' 'No, indeed, I can't sir,' said the girl, 'mother always taught me never to swear.' The agent mildly persisted, and the maiden as pertinaciously refused all attempts at persuasion, until—overcome at last by the dreadful conflict between necessity and her high sense of moral duty—she stammered out, with downcast lids, 'Well, sir, if you will make me do such a horrid wicked thing—d—n—the Yankees!'

New York, March 9.—The *Commercial's* special says the Mississippi Legislature has appropriated \$20,000 to be expended in defence of Jeff. Davis.

A GENTLEMAN TO THE LAST.—The moment the chief insurance offices found that Wainwright the prisoner was under sentence of transportation for forgery, they determined to open negotiations with the villain, and get from him certain confessions necessary to their interests: little doubting that he would make them 'for a consideration.' He made them readily enough when he had struck his bargain. At this time he was confined in Newgate (modern prison discipline had not then found its way into that goal) in a cell with a bricklayer and a sweep; in which polite company he was actually recognised, through a strange chance, by Mr. Procter and Mrs. Macready, visiting the prison with the conductor of this journal. When the agent of the insurance offices had extracted from the ruffian all that he wanted to know, that gentleman said in conclusion: 'It would be quite useless, Mr. Wainwright, to speak to you of humanity, or tenderness, laws human or divine; but does it not occur to you after all, that, merely regarded as a speculation, crime is a bad one? See where it ends. I talk to you in a shameful prison, and I talk to a degraded convict.' 'Sir, you City men enter on your speculations, and take the chances of them. Some of your speculations succeed, some fail. Mine happened to have failed; yours happened to have succeeded; that is the difference, sir, between my visitor and me. But I'll tell you one thing in which I have succeeded to the last. I have been determined through life to hold the position of a gentleman. I have always done so; and so still. It is the custom of this place that each of the inmates of a cell shall take his morning's turn of sweeping it out. I occupy a cell with a bricklayer and a sweep. But by G— you never offer me the broom.'—*Dickens's 211 the Year Round*.

EDMUND BURKE.—In his personal appearance, there never was a minister less graceful. He was more than awkward—he was ridiculously ungainly. His tongue was too large for his mouth, which opened very slowly. His eyes were too big for his head, though these optical organs were constitutionally deficient in power. His body set all proportion at defiance. Every motion was a rail—every expression a caricature. He had not yet obtained the blue ribbon, which, in later years, so constantly adorned his corpulent and unwieldy person, slinging him out from his colleagues, and appearing to attract towards him all the thunderbolts of the opposition. Neither had he grown so short-sighted as when, some years later, he carried the wig of a stooping colleague down the House on the point of his sword, and saw not the feet of arms he had performed, until the laughter from all sides greeted this unprecedented ministerial achievement. But, always goggling, snoring and laughing, slovenly in dress, and abstracted in manner—enjoying the jokes against himself, and habitually joking at other people—it was scarcely possible to imagine a more ludicrous embodiment of the dignity which is supposed to belong to the first minister of a great empire, and the tried leader of an enduring ministry.

It was not, as Goldsmith depicted, the resistance of hungry senators as the dinner hour approached that Burke had most frequently to encounter when he addressed the house; but rather, as he generally spoke late in the debate, that of the drunken members, who, leaving table at the summons of the ministerial whipper-in, and hurrying down to the division, had neither sense nor imagination left to appreciate the most consummate wisdom, or the most brilliant rhetoric. This inglorious obstacle to an earnest orator was at that time more formidable than it is now easy to believe. The convivial habits of the century were so extreme, that it is no exaggeration to say a third of the members who divided after a long debate, at an advanced period of the night, were not quite sober, and that many of them were in that happy state of optical hallucination in which, on looking at the Chair, they beheld either only a sea of mist or two Speakers instead of one.'

FEMALE CONVERSATION.—Every woman and every young lady, whose heart and mind have been properly regulated, is capable of exerting a salutary influence over the gentleman with whom she associates—a fact which has been acknowledged by the best and wisest of men, and seldom disputed, except by those whose capacities of judging have been singularly perverted. A young lady should always seek to converse with gentlemen into whose society she may be introduced, with dignified delicacy and simplicity, which will effectually check, on their, any attempt at familiarity; but never should anything be said or done that may lead them to suppose that any attempt is being made to solicit their notice. An instance can scarcely be recalled of a lady, either by direct or indirect means, attempting to storm a man's heart into admiration, who did not thus effectually defeat her purpose.

If a gentleman approaches a lady with the words of flattery, and with profuse attentions, especially after a short acquaintance, no encouraging smiles or words should be extended—for a flatterer can never be otherwise than an unprofitable companion. It is better, by a becoming composure, to pass unnoticed than, with smiles and blushes, to disclaim flattery since these are frequently considered—as they are too often intended as encouragement for the further effusions of those 'painted words.' Such delicate attentions as well-bred and refined gentlemen are desirous of paying, may be accepted, but they should never be expected.

Why is a horse half way through a gate like a penny? Because it is head on one side and tail on the other.

The old man looks down and thinks of the past.—The young man looks up and thinks of the future.—The child looks every where and thinks of nothing.

A person being asked why he had given his daughter in marriage to a man with whom he was as evenly answered, 'I did it out of pure revenge.'

To an reason toto full blaze, always fan with a petticoat.

To the true teacher, time's hour-glass should still run gold dust.

Rouge is a darling little fib that sometimes lies like truth.

Reputation is to notoriety what real turtle is to mock.

They say love's like the measles—all the worse when it comes late in life.

Daylight's wasted upon a man who can see so much better in the dark.

Strange is the love of woman; it's like one's beard—the closer one cuts it the stronger it grows—and both a plague.

Whiskey is the key by which many gain an entrance into our prisons.

Small faults indulged, are little thieves that let in greater.

PREPARING TO COME.—Sheridan accustomed himself to strong tea and brandy before he delivered a speech.

Newton, Hobbs, and many others smoked.

ever taken the oath, 'No, indeed, sir,' was her terrified reply, 'I never swore in all my life.' 'But you must take the oath,' my good girl,' said the agent, 'or I cannot give you the tithon.' 'No, indeed, I can't sir,' said the girl, 'mother always taught me never to swear.' The agent mildly persisted, and the maiden as pertinaciously refused all attempts at persuasion, until—overcome at last by the dreadful conflict between necessity and her high sense of moral duty—she stammered out, with downcast lids, 'Well, sir, if you will make me do such a horrid wicked thing—d—n—the Yankees!'

New York, March 9.—The *Commercial's* special says the Mississippi Legislature has appropriated \$20,000 to be expended in defence of Jeff. Davis.

A GENTLEMAN TO THE LAST.—The moment the chief insurance offices found that Wainwright the prisoner was under sentence of transportation for forgery, they determined to open negotiations with the villain, and get from him certain confessions necessary to their interests: little doubting that he would make them 'for a consideration.' He made them readily enough when he had struck his bargain. At this time he was confined in Newgate (modern prison discipline had not then found its way into that goal) in a cell with a bricklayer and a sweep; in which polite company he was actually recognised, through a strange chance, by Mr. Procter and Mrs. Macready, visiting the prison with the conductor of this journal. When the agent of the insurance offices had extracted from the ruffian all that he wanted to know, that gentleman said in conclusion: 'It would be quite useless, Mr. Wainwright, to speak to you of humanity, or tenderness, laws human or divine; but does it not occur to you after all, that, merely regarded as a speculation, crime is a bad one? See where it ends. I talk to you in a shameful prison, and I talk to a degraded convict.' 'Sir, you City men enter on your speculations, and take the chances of them. Some of your speculations succeed, some fail. Mine happened to have failed; yours happened to have succeeded; that is the difference, sir, between my visitor and me. But I'll tell you one thing in which I have succeeded to the last. I have been determined through life to hold the position of a gentleman. I have always done so; and so still. It is the custom of this place that each of the inmates of a cell shall take his morning's turn of sweeping it out. I occupy a cell with a bricklayer and a sweep. But by G— you never offer me the broom.'—*Dickens's 211 the Year Round*.

EDMUND BURKE.—In his personal appearance, there never was a minister less graceful. He was more than awkward—he was ridiculously ungainly. His tongue was too large for his mouth, which opened very slowly. His eyes were too big for his head, though these optical organs were constitutionally deficient in power. His body set all proportion at defiance. Every motion was a rail—every expression a caricature. He had not yet obtained the blue ribbon, which, in later years, so constantly adorned his corpulent and unwieldy person, slinging him out from his colleagues, and appearing to attract towards him all the thunderbolts of the opposition. Neither had he grown so short-sighted as when, some years later, he carried the wig of a stooping colleague down the House on the point of his sword, and saw not the feet of arms he had performed, until the laughter from all sides greeted this unprecedented ministerial achievement. But, always goggling, snoring and laughing, slovenly in dress, and abstracted in manner—enjoying the jokes against himself, and habitually joking at other people—it was scarcely possible to imagine a more ludicrous embodiment of the dignity which is supposed to belong to the first minister of a great empire, and the tried leader of an enduring ministry.

It was not, as Goldsmith depicted, the resistance of hungry senators as the dinner hour approached that Burke had most frequently to encounter when he addressed the house; but rather, as he generally spoke late in the debate, that of the drunken members, who, leaving table at the summons of the ministerial whipper-in, and hurrying down to the division, had neither sense nor imagination left to appreciate the most consummate wisdom, or the most brilliant rhetoric. This inglorious obstacle to an earnest orator was at that time more formidable than it is now easy to believe. The convivial habits of the century were so extreme, that it is no exaggeration to say a third of the members who divided after a long debate, at an advanced period of the night, were not quite sober, and that many of them were in that happy state of optical hallucination in which, on looking at the Chair, they beheld either only a sea of mist or two Speakers instead of one.'

FEMALE CONVERSATION.—Every woman and every young lady, whose heart and mind have been properly regulated, is capable of exerting a salutary influence over the gentleman with whom she associates—a fact which has been acknowledged by the best and wisest of men, and seldom disputed, except by those whose capacities of judging have been singularly perverted. A young lady should always seek to converse with gentlemen into whose society she may be introduced, with dignified delicacy and simplicity, which will effectually check, on their, any attempt at familiarity; but never should anything be said or done that may lead them to suppose that any attempt is being made to solicit their notice. An instance can scarcely be recalled of a lady, either by direct or indirect means, attempting to storm a man's heart into admiration, who did not thus effectually defeat her purpose.

If a gentleman approaches a lady with the words of flattery, and with profuse attentions, especially after a short acquaintance, no encouraging smiles or words should be extended—for a flatterer can never be otherwise than an unprofitable