

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

INDIAN TROOPS ORDERED TO MALTA.—The first contingent of the native troops of the Queen's Indian army ordered to Malta, for service in the event of a European war, have arrived in Malta. It is satisfactory to learn that the Sepoys have responded with loyal, cheerful alacrity to this unwonted summons; and several regiments have even spontaneously volunteered their services. The best proof of the general good feeling of the troops is the alacrity with which native soldiers abruptly recalled from furlough are rejoining their regiments. The Malta Division is put under the very efficient command of General Ross, well known in 1857 as Ross, of Ross's Camel Corps. He is ably supported by Brigadier-General McPherson, V.C.; a very distinguished officer; Colonel Watson, V.C., commanding the Cavalry Brigade, who has already achieved a brilliant reputation as a cavalry leader; and Colonel Prendergast, V.C., commanding the Sappers and Miners. The first Bombay cavalry is commanded by Colonel Blair, V.C., the Goorkhas (Prince of Wales's Own) by Colonel McIntyre, V.C. The Goorkhas make splendid fighting men, and performed capital service during the mutiny. The 9th Bengal Cavalry was formed after the mutiny from remains of the famous regiment of Hodson's Horse. The 13th Bengal Light Infantry consists of Brahmans, Rajpoots, Hindoostanes, Mussulmans, and Jats. The 31st Bengal Native Infantry is the Punjab Regiment formed of Sikhs, Punjabis, Pathans, and a few Punjabi-Hindoos and Mohammedans—a fine body of men, of grand physique. The military enthusiasm prevailing among the English officers in India is indescribable. The authorities at Simla are stated to have been overwhelmed by telegraphic applications for foreign service. The proposed employment of the Native Army in Europe has given to the Indian military service a lustre in the eyes of the Hindoos, which may in future render it one of the finest military forces in the world and will doubtless prove of great benefit to India in various ways. The English military authorities will now find it necessary to set themselves in earnest to the task of carrying out a thorough reorganisation, so loudly clamoured for in years past. The English officers of the Indian army, spurred by the hope of gaining European distinction, will emulate each other in acquiring as perfect a scientific knowledge of their profession as possible, while the spectacle of English and native regiments fighting side by side in Europe will have a powerful effect in breaking down the barriers of race.

ECHOES FROM LONDON.

A MEMBER lately read a paper at the Academy of Sciences, wherein he stated that the character of the Norman people has become quite changed since the coasts of Normandy have been converted into fashionable seaside resorts, such as Deauville, Trouville, &c. The inhabitants have become duncards, gamblers, and sluggards; gross in their manners, insolent in the business relations, and the annual percentage of insanity has doubled.

AS E. R. has in one of his pictures a nicely-executed old washstand. It was copied from a piece of furniture concerning which the artist tells an amusing tale. He saw it in a broker's shop. It took his fancy, and he asked the shopkeeper the price of it. The man seemed very doubtful. It was not worth much, he said, hardly more than the cost of the carriage. Where was it to be sent? He gave his name and address. Thereupon the broker said, "I think I have heard tell of you before; if you will paint my portrait you shall have the stand for nothing." The man's estimate of the value of the artist's work can hardly be called high.

Mr. Bright's sneer at the Premier's Jewish descent is all the more remarkable, as Mr. Bright himself has Jewish blood in his veins. His great-grandfather, Abraham Bright, married Martha Jacobs, a pretty Jewish. In the year 1714, this couple removed from the parish of Lincham, in Wiltshire, and settled at Foleshill, in Warwickshire. Their son, William Bright, was baptised, and was therefore presumably a Christian. His son and grandson, the grandfather and father of John Bright, were both named Jacob. Other Jewish names occur more or less often in the family, as, for instance, Benjamin, Joseph, Samuel, Dinah, Esther, Hannah, Rebecca, Sarah, Susannah.

THE betrothal of the Duke of Connaught and the Princess Louise will take place on the 10th. His Royal Highness has just completed his twenty-ninth year. It is no flattery of a Royal Prince which gives him a high military record as an efficient and practical officer. The Princess he is about to marry is daughter of the famous warrior, the "Red Prince," and the Princess Marie of Anhalt, one of the leading favourites of the German Imperial Court. It is said the graces of the mother are reflected in the daughter, who is in her eighteenth year. The future Duchess of Connaught will receive £10,000 for her dowry—no small fortune for a German Princess.

THE honour of the suggestion that Indian troops should be employed in Europe in case of war belongs to the new secretary for India. It instantly met with the hearty approval of Lord Salisbury, and was then mentioned to the Premier,

who suggested difficulties and dangers, but he was so impressed with the scheme that he forthwith ordered a special Cabinet Council to be held. Mr. Hardy, in anticipation of the meeting, had most careful returns, similar to those which he had been used to in connection with the English army, made out; and it is not going too far to say that the statement he was able to place before his colleagues removed all doubt. He was fully empowered to draw out a statement to be submitted to Her Majesty. This was laid before the Queen, having been first sanctioned by the Duke of Cambridge as Commander-in-Chief, and her Majesty graciously signified her approval.

A member of Parliament who appears to be tolerably fond of his wine, and who is also known to spend a considerable sum of money in the course of a week, found himself short the other day, and wrote a rather brief letter to his wife asking her to send a cheque for £60. Being rather a strong minded female, she got into a rage, as she knew well what the request indicated. Instead of sending a cheque she enclosed to her beloved husband a teetotal tract entitled "Tag Rag: What he was and what he is," published by the Scottish Temperance League. The M. P. was enjoying himself with his companions when the letter was put into his hands. On opening it he concluded at once that the cheque was there, and drove away to a bank. Walking up smartly to the counter he opened the tract before the clerk, turned pale-sherry colour, and left hurriedly.

MOURNING, says a Paris authority, admits of dinné parties where sparkling wine is not handed round. The flowers in the épergues should be white, the sweetmeats not coloured, and the dessert confined to biscuits, meringues, croquignoles, and the four *meublands*. Salmon is not, but surbit is, mourning. It is not mourning to have a band playing in the greenhouse during the dinner, unless selections from musical masses are performed. A concert is mourning if the female artists dress in black or white, and the vocal music is of a grave character. When invitations are issued for a ball, and all the preparations made, it is not necessary to defer the festivity should occasion arise to go into mourning. All the body of the house has to do is to order a cold supper and to suppress the champagne. If she has time it would show *severe taste* to eliminate the pink and red flowers from the decorations, and request the leader of the band whom she has engaged to limit his programme to quadrilles. She can give variety to her entertainment by hiring dramatic artists to recite pathetic verses before the dancing begins, but this amusement should not be prolonged far into the small hours of the morning.

THE Grosvenor Gallery has commenced its second year with great *éclat*, the works being all choice ones, and selected with judgment. The daring flights of a fancy that frees itself from rule and defies the critic's code, are mingled here with the productions of the strictly scholarly and the followers of severe method and patient industry. In the vestibule itself we have at once an exemplification of our statement, and a sample of the tone of the whole exhibition. The daring emancipation from art work as we know it is shown by Mr. E. Burne-Jones in his delineation of "Perseus and the Gorgon." We will not venture upon any speculation as to the mechanical means by which he has obtained the metallic aspect of the drapery; it is sufficient to say that it is an extraordinary flight of fancy, stamped with the daring of true genius. Here, too, is a specimen of the strictly scholastic work of Alphonse Legros—a portrait of Professor C. Cassell. The work of a disciple of the school of gay and brilliant colouring, Walter Field gives us "Henley Regatta," and we find a contrast of colour of the extremely opposite school in R. Lehmann's "Burning Love Letters," deep and powerful, here showing that the gallery supports the early efforts of the amateur; here, too, is a clever thought, richly painted by Miss Sarah Defries, an episode in the life of George Sand. The whole exhibition is of an advanced tone, and our best artists have shown themselves in their true colours.

ECHOES FROM PARIS.

The painting of "Paris by Night," covering 40,000 square feet of canvas, was sold at auction in Philadelphia for 250 dollars.

NO TURNSTILES will be found at the Paris Exhibition, and money is not to be received at the doors. Admission is by tickets, which may be purchased at the post and telegraph offices, at the tobacco shops, and other establishments.

It is intended to open a "Palace" at the Paris Exhibition for the benefit of the working classes of all the nations who will be thronging to the world's show. The president is Mr. Samuel Morley, M. P.

The Tuileries Commission has resolved to recommend the restoration of the ruined Palace at a cost of about 4,000,000*fr.*, and the appropriation of it to a museum of modern art. The Chambers will be asked to sanction this scheme.

FOR the decoration of the International Competition, the Municipality of the French capital

has decided to incur the extra costs of electric lights to be employed in those parts of the town where, owing to the surroundings, the greatest possible effect is to be obtained.

THE medals struck in honour of the ceremonial opening are numerous; perhaps the prettiest of these baguettes is a flower with red, white, and blue petals; on one of the latter is a morsel of crystal resembling a drop of dew, and, looking through it, there is a fairy view of the Exhibition buildings.

The words in the speech of the Prince of Wales which chiefly touched the hearts of the French deserve to be singled out for record; they were—"Tout mon cœur est avec la France. Vous tous qui êtes présents, comme tous ceux qui me connaissez, vous savez que tous les désirs de mon cœur sont pour la grandeur et la prospérité de la France."

It is reported that a lobster which had apparently fallen from a market cart was recently seen wandering about the Paris streets, seemingly on his way to the nearest coast. As he evidently belonged to somebody, the police authorities felt bound to pick him up for registration in the missing property department. One of them seized the fish and was in turn seized, the pair arriving attached at the station-house. The captor was severely wounded in the adventure, and the question is as to whether the proprietor is liable to damages for losing a ferocious lobster, his claws not being tied.

Victor Hugo has just issued another work, *Le Pape*. It is a poem of great merit, and is like a winter sky with stars of poetic fire. The headings of the poem are thus characterised:—Scene First—Sleep. Words in the Star-Spangled Heavens—Kings Appear—The Pope at the Porch of the Vatican—The Synod of the East—A Garret—The Pope to the People—Infallibility—On Seeing Some Sheep pass By—Thoughtful Before Destiny—A Church Built—Seeing a Nurse—A Field of Battle—Civil War—He Speaks before Him into Darkness—Malediction and Benediction—On Seeing a Little Child—A Scaffold—Thoughtful in Presence of Night—Entering Jerusalem.

THE Princesse de Sagon, who is to give a ball of marked sumptuousness in honour of the Prince of Wales, is the daughter of the celebrated Orleanist banker, Baron Seillier, who died from grief, it is said, of not being able to spend his rent-roll; a subject that Mr. Mackay ought to bear in mind. No king has an establishment equal to hers. By marriage and relations, her *salons* are next to neutral political ground, and so a kind of Holy Land in Paris. Formerly the Princesse de Metternich filled this useful rôle, till she encouraged smoking and café ballad singing. The Almack residents of the capital purpose giving a splendid ball to the Princess of Wales when she comes to visit the Exhibition. The Prince, by his popular manners, and sincere interest in the Big Bazaar, has contributed almost successfully to dissipate the coldness between the two countries consequent on the German war.

THE GLEANER.

THE Prince of Wales never forgets a face and never omits to shake hands with a man he has met before.

EVERY workman on the Paris Exposition building has received a present of a Bible in the French language.

THE rumour of a possible visit to Spain of Leo XIII. for the coronation of King Alfonso is the latest apparent *canard*.

WIDOWS above fifty cannot marry in Portugal; but there is some difficulty in discovering when they reach that age.

NO proposal for canonization can be entertained in the Roman Catholic Church until a person has been dead fifty years.

NAPOLÉON, the Prince Imperial, is said to be a little ashamed of his mamma, who walks with a cane and does lots of *outré* things.

THE girls of Tuscola, Ill., place a blue ribbon and a mitten on the table when their lovers come to see them, and say, "Choose."

THE royal family of England now receive \$2,700,000 a year in grants from parliament, of which about \$1,720,000 goes to the queen.

THE Sultan never leaves his palace, even on the shortest expedition, unless he is accompanied by a wagon laden with refreshments.

THE Pope is a hard worker: he rises at three or four in the morning, a fact which shows his health is not so delicate as some of the papers have implied.

As an illustration of the practical usefulness of the bicycle, it is said that the treasurer of one of the Boston clubs who lives at Quincy, seven miles and a half from town, rides in nearly every day on the machine, making the distance in about forty minutes.

THERE were 60,000 bicycles made in England last year by 100 makers, and the users are growing steadily more numerous. The new bicycle is a vastly better instrument than the old velocipede, and its use can be learned as readily. It is already quite "the thing" in Boston.

THE OLD TOWN PUMP.—Long may that venerable institution—the town pump—continue to wave! See the weary-eyed urchin, whose dusty face and bloody fingers testify too well of base ball atrocities, draw near with a sigh of relief to quaff the sparkling crystal that spouts from the generous nozzle before him. See the thirsty canine greedily lapping the life giving liquid that drizzles to the trough beneath, as though his ultimate hope of salvation depended on the quenching of the torment within. Behold the inebriate wending his way homeward at 2 a.m., stop at the fountain of purity to assuage his bibulous propensity, and as he grasps the dipper and pours the four-fold contents of it down his burning throat—on the outside—and in his four-eyed gratitude gurgles, "Wot 'ed er do 'thout our pown pump," ask thyself if thou canst, which is best, a five-cent glass of beer or a glass of pure, cold water, without money and without price.

HUMOROUS.

THE bride's dress was just too everlastingly awfully exerting for anything.

IT is a New York truckman who advertises to "move furniture so that it will show to the best advantage."

TWO twin brothers are said to be so much alike that they frequently borrow money of each other without knowing it.

A WISCONSIN editor illustrated the prevailing extravagance of people nowadays by calling attention to the costly baby carriages in use, while when he was a baby, they hauled him by the hair of his head.

"Paper, sir?" asked the newsboy. "No, I never read," was the blunt reply. "Hi boys, come here," called out the gamin. "here's a man as is practisin' for the jury!"

When James called up one Sunday night, Aglow with love's bright flames, He sought the sofa where she sat, "Sofa, so good," said James.

A year thrice told has come and gone, With joys and hopes, and bother; Now stands a crib where the sofa did, Says James, "A little father."

FASHION NOTES.

BEIGE-COLOURED light wooden dresses, trimmed with brown and beige fringes, are much worn.

THE deep collars and cuffs of the moment are the "Anne of Austria," "La Vallière," and "Richefeu."

THE fashionable novel at the moment in Paris is Mme. Angèle Hussard's "Jacques de Trevoines."

BLACK shirts with white dots in them are now sold in London; they will hardly supplant the white articles.

PRETTY manila hats for little girls are seen at Riddle's with a wreath of flowers painted on the brim.

ALL sorts of worsted, silk, embroidered, brocaded, and damassee gaiters are used for heading fringes.

THE fashionables of the Faubourg St. Germain, Paris, were mourning for Pope Pius IX. until Easter Sunday.

PLEATS down the front of princess dresses and kilt pleats in the back are seen daily on Fifth Avenue and Broadway.

SOLID coloured stockings, clogged on the sides, are worn by little girls and misses, in colours to match their dresses.

It is fashionable to put two fringes of different colours or two shades of the same colour on beige or mastic gray dresses.

THE cutaway jacket long waistcoat, and kilt skirt, with scarf drapery around the hips, is the costume of the moment.

THE fringes for coloured bourette dresses are of two or three colours in the same fringe, to match the colours of the bourette.

PLAIN princess polonaises are worn over fur trimmed skirts, the train being looped to escape the sidewalk when worn in the street.

HONITON lace returns with new favour to dress trimmings, and is exhibited in elaborate designs and profuse quantities on rich robes.

KNEE breeches, single breasted cutaway coats and skirts killed in the back, but scant in front, are worn by boys under six years of age.

PLAILED black lace, headed with rainbow jet passementeries, has appeared on black silk and black camel's-hair mantellets, dolmans and saques.

GRAY linen lawns, with white polka dots or small Japanese figures, or barred or striped with colour, are in demand for suits for young ladies and misses in their teens.

BEIGE coloured chip bonnets, trimmed entirely with beige ribbons and ostrich tips, and faced with black or dark coloured velvet, are affected by the most fashionable women.

PLEATINGS and flutings of black French lace, mingled with flat loops of narrow black grosgrain ribbon, are the most elegant trimmings for black mantillas, mantles and dolmans.

SOME very handsome princess polonaises are made with a band of beaded lace inserted down every seam, the trimmings at the bottom being of lace and beaded fringe to match.

THE most fashionable bonnets are of gray, ecrû, and mastic or beige coloured chip, with diadem fronts faced with black or dark velvet, edged with gold or rainbow tinsel braid, and have no face trimmings.

THE exposition costume, according to *Harper's Bazaar*, as determined by the Paris congress of fashion, is short, the skirt reaching only to the ankles, but otherwise it is not materially different to the prevailing styles of the season.

As a substitute for aprons, very small boys are given princess shaped coats or slips of brown linen or plain percale, made with kilt pleatings behind, and an ulster belt; this garment slips on easily over their white underclothing.

IN children's underclothing there is very little that is new. Sometimes the combination form of garment is adopted by them, and their little petticoats are gored; but they should always be made with bollees attached, drawers and flannel petticoats buttoning on to the corded stays.