

OUR TABLE.

MARTIN CHUZZLEWIT—THE NEW WORK BY DOZ.

THE interdiction recently placed upon the importation of cheap American reprints of English books has had the effect of depriving many who read the introductory chapters of Martin Chuzzlewit from following the hero through the succeeding portions of his career. Although this book promises to be tedious from its length, and the necessity, sometimes apparent, of filling up the monthly part, it will not fall behind either *Nickelby* or *Barnaby Rudge* in interest. The visit of Doz to America has been made to contribute to it in no insignificant degree, and by his peculiar strain of quiet humour he can scarcely fail in drawing attention to their foibles, and perhaps assist in correcting them, where correction is necessary or advisable.

The interdiction to which we have alluded has formed the subject of much discussion and has created great regret. Indeed, seeing that the author and original publisher are not benefited to any considerable extent, while a serious and almost insurmountable obstruction is opposed by it to the growing taste for literature in the colonies, we would fain hope that it may be modified, at least until the English publishers fall upon some means of supplying cheap editions for colonial circulation, which we are of opinion they might profitably do, as they would be supported by an extensive reading public in their own country, who cannot afford the high prices at which books are generally published. The example afforded by the "People's Edition" of the *Waverley Novels* should not be thrown away, and we trust the hint may be taken up with spirit, and acted upon with the enterprise which distinguishes not a few of the publishers of Britain.

TRAVELS IN EGYPT AND PALESTINE—BY W. D. STENT.

A BOOK of considerable interest has lately been issued from the English press, under the above title. The ground over which the author travelled is that which now forms the "grand tour" of those who have means, leisure and inclination to amuse themselves with the rare pictures which the world presents. Mr. Stent visited Athens, Cairo, Alexandria, and made a pilgrimage, in company with other travellers, to Jerusalem, Jerich, the *Dead Sea*, and many places celebrated in Religious History. Out of the ample materials which were furnished him, he has made an interesting book, and one which will be eagerly read, by many who design to follow in his steps, as well as by those who are content with what

others have recorded, as being sufficient to satisfy their thirst after the knowledge of other lands. We make room for a short extract, descriptive of the opening of the new church at Jerusalem, at which Mr. Stent was present:

A small upper room, within the city, on the lower slopes of Sion, appropriately fitted up, and ascended by a staircase from without, is as yet the only place for the administration of our holy worship; and that was too spacious for the little flock that assembled there, including, besides ourselves, only the architect, the Bishop's family, with a portion of his household, and two Missionaries.

Adjoining the temporary chapel, are laid the foundations of the new Protestant Church; for which the ground is excavated to the depth of fifty feet, through accumulated rubbish. Assuredly it will now stand, for it is not only founded on a rock, but "her foundations are upon the holy hill, and the Lord loveth the gates of Sion more than all the dwellings of Jacob;" once more, "out of Sion hath God appeared in perfect beauty."

This sacred edifice is intended to contain five hundred persons. Where so many are to be found remains yet to be seen. God will, if it be so decreed, prosper the work. As yet, the only Protestants in the "City of God" are the Consul, a very trifling number of Hebrew converts, and the Missionaries. The prayers of our liturgy are read daily at seven o'clock in the morning in Hebrew, and in the evening in the English language: on a Sabbath afternoon, and on other occasions, the German is used in addition.

Having received an invitation to attend evening service in the confined, though comfortable, well-furnished residence of the Bishop, in a narrow street, I gladly availed myself of the privilege; and subsequently enjoyed much conversation with him. His family consists of a wife, daughters, a governess, chaplain, two or three English servants, and a medical man,—a most requisite addition, the climate at certain seasons being decidedly unhealthy, the rain falling in spring causing fevers and ague: so severely was the architect suffering, that on the occasion of our dining at his residence he was compelled to keep his bed.

The Greek Church, which is not opposed so strongly as its sister of Rome to the tenets of Protestantism, gives its countenance, in some degree, to this new mission, which, though undoubtedly detested by the Turks, and not strengthened by a guarantee to be depended on from the Sultan, was yet, as regards appearance, received with due marks of respect; the Governor of Jerusalem, accompanied by a guard of honour, having gone out to meet it on arriving from Jaffa, and escorting it into the scene of its future labours.

The prospect, it must be confessed, is at this moment bright but cheering; the continuation of the building of the church being, by the last report forbidden by authority.

THE FALSE HEIR—BY G. P. R. JAMES.

BEFORE the ink of "Forest Days," had dried, the prolific pen of its author has produced a new book to share with or supersede it in the affection of the public. We have not yet, however, had an opportunity of seeing it, and we merely announce its appearance, to apprise our readers of the feast which has been prepared for them.