

BAYARD TAYLOR.

American literature suffers a serious loss in the death of Mr. Bayard Taylor, which occurred at Berlin, on the 10th instant. While not positively great, Mr. Taylor possessed qualities which made him a representative of what is best and purest in our culture and life. Versatile, conscientious, industrious, painstaking, fearless, he did well and thoroughly whatever he undertook, and, dying, has left behind him a name, both as author and traveller, which his countrymen will cherish with peculiar affection. His career as a publicist was brief; and the post he occupied as Minister to Germany was not of his own seeking; but he had met its requirements to the entire satisfaction of the Government, while to the Court to which he was accredited his presence was from the first exceptionally welcome. The Administration will be fortunate, indeed, if it shall succeed in naming for the place now vacant a Minister who shall be in every way as acceptable, both at home and abroad, as was the appointment of Mr. Taylor.

VARIETIES.

AN OLD THEATRICAL VOLUME.—There is a manuscript volume extant in England, comprising several hundred memoranda, with the autographs of Booth, Cibber and Wilks, including manuscripts relating to the old stage scenery (Drury Lane, 1714-16), Mrs. Oldfield and her costume; tradesmen's accounts illustrating the stage costume of the period; bills for dresses for Mrs. Porter, Mrs. Santlow, Cibber and others; laundress' curious bill, particularizing dresses; tailor's bill for Scaramouch; barber's bill for Mrs. Porter, for a wig borrowed by Cibber in "The Orphan;" numerous bills for stage dresses and for articles used in popular plays; property bills for blood, flowers, wands, lanterns, raisins and almonds, "a chany orange," toothpicks, cups and saucers, pistols, couple of hounds, spaniel dog, basket of oranges, vermilion, seden, winding-sheet, and numerous other curious requisites; bill for printing play-bills, one with memorandum, "Stop five shillings out of this bill for false spelling;" undertaker's bill for the burial of Mr. Powell, &c.

COPPER IN THEIR OYSTERS.—There is no accounting for tastes. An American who, for the first time, eats a small oyster in England, and then for a week afterward is under the impression that he has an old-fashioned copper cent in his mouth, will be convinced that it will only be



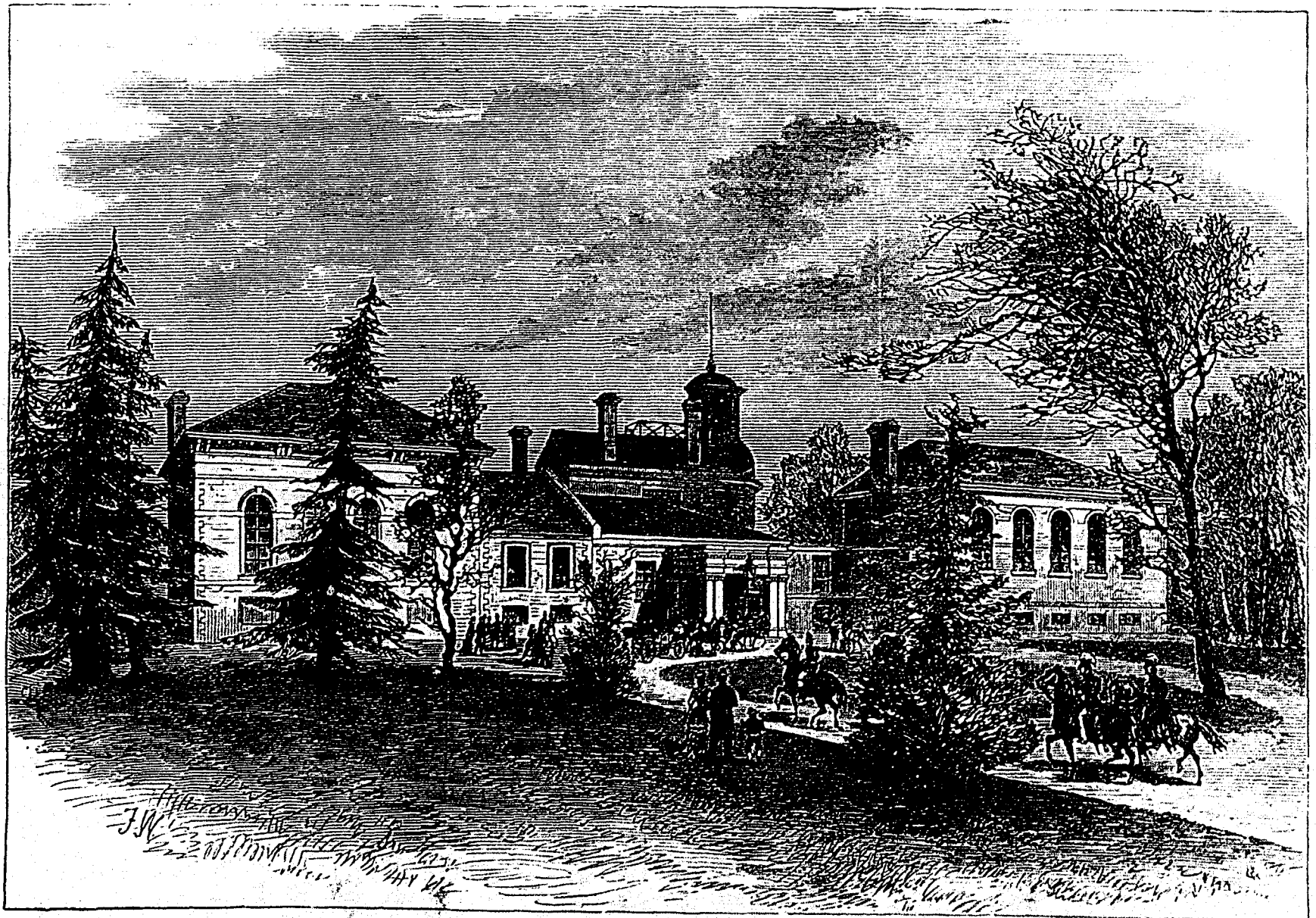
THE LATE HON. BAYARD TAYLOR, U.S. MINISTER TO BERLIN.

necessary to import genuine Shrewsbury or blue points into that country to achieve millions and the blessings of an unfortunate people. This roseate view of circumstances, however, is a fallacy. The English have become so accustomed to the taste of copper that they like it, and oysters found at Great South Bay, Long Island, which have a like metallic taste, are in great demand, and are sent abroad in large quantities. They were worth only thirty cents per hundred last year, but now bring seventy-five to eighty cents. Many shipments are reported from Patchogue and other towns on the Great South Bay, direct to England, but the larger portion is exported through New York firms. The oysters are well preserved, arrive in good condition, and find a ready sale, so that the trade is rapidly increasing.

THE TWO DROMIOS.—The correspondent of the London *Daily News*, writing of the Vice-Regal reception at Halifax, says:—Among the gay group of staff officers, naval captains, bishops, judges, and cabinet ministers who awaited the coming of the new Governor-General and his wife, was one face and figure upon which the eye rested with startled surprise. Could it be possible that Lord Beaconsfield, disgusted with the little Honour accorded to his Peace, had come out to the new world determined to seek a new career? This was not likely. But I unhesitatingly affirm my belief that if this gentleman in the cocked hat and Windsor uniform, who gaily chats with all comers on the wharf at Halifax, were to ride down Parliament street on his way to the House of Commons, he would be pointed out as the English Premier. The mysterious personage is Sir John Macdonald, the newly-elected Premier of Canada, and there is little wonder that when, on being presented, he bows low before Princess Louise, with a courtly grace that would not have done discredit to the other Dromio, Her Royal Highness looks at him with an air of startled recognition, and, when he has withdrawn, whispers eagerly to her husband, who laughingly nods assent.

MR. GLADSTONE has a daughter who is familiar with the place of every work in his library and the run of its contents. When he desires a reference, she instantly fetches the book needed, and points to the passage required.

LORD CLANWILLIAM, though not the father of the House of Lords in point of age, has held his title for a longer period than any other member of the peerage. He succeeded to the earldom in 1805, the year before the death of Pitt and Fox, when he was a boy ten years old.



OTTAWA.—FRONT VIEW OF RIDEAU HALL, THE RESIDENCE OF THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.