

stratagems of Charles Albert, than any we have previously met with : and this portion of the work may be recommended to those who sympathised with Italy in her efforts for freedom, and mourned with her over their ineffectual result.

But this, to some, may be the heaviest chapter in the volume ; and to those who think so, the light sketchy style of " Our own Correspondent," displayed in the remainder, will be most entertaining. He has met with a great number of droll characters and laughable adventures, and he describes and tells them all with the inimitable humour of an Irishman, who enjoys a joke even at the expense of his country and his creed.

We have not space for extracts from this portion of Mr. Honan's book, but will leave the curious reader to gather its honey for himself. We will only transfer to our pages a few paragraphs relating to the vast amount of labour and responsibility concentrated in the production of a London journal, whose leaders influence the public mind, and whose consistency and accuracy must be above the breath of calumny. A reviewer in one of the London journals thinks the picture overdrawn, but we should imagine it to be tolerably correct.

' I know no state of slavery upon earth like that attendant upon a newspaper life, whether it be as director or subordinate. Your task never ended, your responsibility never secured, the last day's work is forgotten at the close of the day on which it appeared, and the dragon of to-morrow waits open-mouthed to devour your thoughts and snap up one morsel more of your vexed existence. Be as successful as it is in the nature of things to be ; write with the least possible degree of exertion ; be indifferent to praise, and lion-hearted against blame ; still will the human frame wear out before its time, and your body, if not your mind, exhibit every symptom of dry rot.

' The managing director of the " Times " commences his nightly task at nine, and never leaves the office until five in the morning. He re-appears at one in the afternoon, and is occupied until six either in arranging matter for the following day, or seeing the persons from whom that information, which is to guide the world, is derived. During that period, everything must be organized, and everything examined, the business of the week arranged, parliamentary law court reports discussed, libels ferreted out and expunged from police reports, and the general duties of the gravest responsibility fulfilled.

' He has numerous assistants at command, sub-editors and subordinates to manage details ; but as he is accountable before the world, he cannot take anything for granted ; and all that they have done must be revised by him. Manuscripts from secret contributors must be read, and every sentence weighed, so that no heterodox opinions are allowed to pass, and the consistency of the paper be maintained. One leading article must be measured by another, and those profound discussions which make ministers tremble, and all Europe respond, must be noted word by word.

' In addition to these wonderful demands on his time and intelligence, the parliamentary debates must be looked after, and short leaders be written in the space of a moment, for matters that admit of no delay. To sustain all this exertion and produce a journal such as the " Times " is, six days in the week, a man must have a head conversant with all human learning, and a body on which fatigue makes no impression. How long, think you, can such a machine last, and where is the frame that can sustain the labour for many years ?