

After this, how are you to judge of a person's politics by his journal, since a Radical may prefer even the *Figaro* and oranges to a revolutionary paper and apples. These prizes and all these anecdotes and bits of scandal prove how very few serious readers there are in that country. One may certainly say with Prince Bismarck, as far as the French press is concerned, that it has failed in its mission.

HONOUR TO OUR VETERANS

Some months ago, the Imperial Government promised pensions to all poor and infirm veterans. The Government at Ottawa, on learning this, immediately communicated with the Colonial Office to ascertain whether the royal order of the 21st February ult., extended to Canadian militiamen who, in the war of 1812, served conjointly with the regular troops. The Imperial Government replied that claims might be sent on and that the commissioners would decide on each particular case.

The Canadian Veterans of 1812—how few, alas! survive—may enter their claims to a pension by furnishing the following articles of information:

- I. Tell name.
- II. Name of regiment in which he served, as well as where and when he served.
- III. The regiment or corps whence he was discharged.
- IV. At what engagement he was present.
- V. When and wherefor he was discharged.
- VI. His medals, if he has any.
- VII. The amount and date of his pension, if he has any.
- VIII. If he is not a pensioner, the date of which he left the service.

If he has a certificate of discharge or pension, it must also be forwarded.

THE LITERARY WORLD.

The subscriptions to the Charles Knight testimonial now amount to £900.

The first volume of Mr. Blanchard Jerrold's "Life of Napoleon the III." has been issued by Messrs. Longman.

The *London Lantern*, a Weekly Exhibition, Social, Political, and Otherwise, is the title of a journal announced in London.

Kabuli Pacha, the Turkish Ambassador at the Austro-Hungarian Court of Vienna, is engaged in writing a Turkish History of Rome.

Mr. Townsend Mayer will commence in one of the English magazines for July a series of articles founded upon unpublished correspondence and MSS. of Leigh Hunt.

The *Academy* states that Lord Acton has in the press a collection of unpublished journals and diaries kept during the Council of Trent by bishops and officers of the Council.

We understand that the essays which the late Mr. J. S. Mill left behind him in manuscript, on "Nature," "Theism," and "The Utility of Religion," will be published this autumn, probably in October.

The *Athenæum* says that Mr. John Forster's next work is likely to be a biography of Swift, for which he has collected a valuable mass of materials, including not a few unpublished letters of the famous dean.

The subject of the French Academy prize for Eloquence will be, for 1876, on the genius and the works of Rabelais. The prize for Poetry, in 1875, will be given to the author of the best composition on Livingstone.

The Earl of Dunraven is about to visit the Rocky Mountains. He is to be accompanied by Mr. Valentine Bromley, who is to illustrate the Earl's book. Some of Mr. Bromley's sketches will appear for the first time in the *Pictorial World*.

A new journal has been published in London treating exclusively of Transatlantic affairs. *The States*, a weekly newspaper, conducted with much ability, is edited and written solely by Americans, and relates exclusively to United States topics, political and social.

The literary world will, according to the *Weimar Gazette*, shortly be in possession of a most valuable addition to its stores, in the shape of a hitherto unpublished correspondence between Schiller and his sister Christophine and her husband Reinwald, which has been left by Schiller's last daughter, Frau von Gleichen-Russwurm, to Herr Wendelin von Maltzahn with a view to its publication by the latter. The correspondence begins in the memorable year 1782—in which Schiller, a homeless wanderer, received shelter and protection at Bauerbach, and through Reinwald's active participation finished "Kabale und Liebe" and "Fiesco," laid the plan of "Don Carlos," and began "Marie Stuart"—and ends in 1805.

DRAMATIC GOSSIP.

"Beau Brummell" is the subject of a drama shortly to be produced in Paris.

"Madame L'Archiduc," by Albert Millaud, is the theme for M. Offenbach's new opera.

The tenor, Signor Bolis, who has been singing in London, is engaged for the next season at La Scala.

A tenor has been discovered in Vienna who can sing two different notes at one and the same time.

In "Ruth and Naomi" we read, "and Orpha kissed his mother-in-law." The only case upon record.

A singing voice is a musical instrument like any other, and needs tuning up just as carefully as if it were a fiddle.

Madame Adelina Patti is engaged at the Italian Opera, Paris, for the ensuing season, at 250,000 francs.

During their tour in Britain the Jubilee Singers have realized £10,000 toward the funds of the Fisk University, Tenn.

A monument is to be erected in Cassel to Spohr, who lived in that town during the last thirty-seven years of his life.

Mr. Henry Russell has written a series of new songs in conjunction with Mr. Farnie, which will shortly be tried in public.

The trustees of Shakespeare's birthplace and museum pro-

perty report that during last year 10,000 persons inspected the relics.

"Madame Angot" has been played at various places in Italy with very great success, particularly at Naples, Milan, and Rome.

Wagner has been invited to conduct some of his own music at the musical festival to be held at Leeds, England, next autumn.

Madame Judic, the eminent French actress, has created a sensation in Paris by a new song by M. Lecocq, entitled "La Langue des Yeux."

Mme. Di Murka has declined a proffered engagement at the Paris Opéra Comique. Her reason for declining is her desire for rest and recuperation.

At the Grand Opéra at Paris there have been some experiments lately tried with the electric light which threaten to eclipse all previous experiments.

The *London Musical Standard* says: "The great gaselier of the new opera at Paris is to cost 30,000 francs, and to have 400 jets, reflected by 2,000 'drops.'"

Hartmann, the Danish composer, has just brought out a new opera called "I hryms Koiden." The scene is laid in Iceland. The music is pronounced light and agreeable.

A discovery has been made at Vienna of the original score of the "Zauberharfe" of Franz Schubert, which, after having been brought out at the Vienna Theatre many years ago, was lost.

M. Halansier, the Director of the Grand Opéra in Paris, has been in London to hear the "Talismano," as also to look out for artistes to appear at the new theatre when it is opened in 1875.

The rough stone and brick shell of the Wagner Theatre, Bayreuth, is now complete. The outside decorations and the inside fitting-up are in active progress, and the machinery for the stage is in course of construction.

A society has been established in France for the purpose of producing the works of unknown or little known composers. It has a concert-room and orchestra and singers, and proposes to give concerts of entirely new music.

The health of M. Gounod has not improved during his residence at Blackheath. He proposes living for some months at a château near Trouville, where he will be joined by his late hosts at Tavistock House, Mr. and Mrs. Weldon.

The last nights of "Le Sphinx" are announced. It has yielded to M. Octave Feuillet about £2,000, which is more than can be said for his first comedy, "La Bourgeoise de Rome," which was mildly hissed at the Odéon, as long ago as 1846.

Theatrical art is enterprising in Russia, thanks to State and municipal management. The town of Odessa invites all the architects of the world to send plans for a theatre to contain 2,000 spectators, and not to cost more than 800,000 roubles to build.

The project of producing M. Gounod's sacred work, "The Annunciation," with Mrs. Weldon as chief singer, to which Dr. Wesley, the conductor of the Gloucester Musical Festival, had given his consent, has not been approved by the committee of stewards.

M. Victor Masse will probably be the composer chosen to write the inaugural work for the opening of the new Paris Opéra in January next. M. Gounod had been proposed, but the idea was rejected on the plea that the author of "Faust" had become too Anglicised.

Some fun was created at an amateur performance at Bayswater, London, lately. The piece was "Plot and Passion," and the audience was kept waiting a full hour for the commencement, which was thus delayed from seven to eight. With cruel irony the piece commences with "It's seven o'clock and Madame not returned." The house roared.

When Madame Rachel first appeared at the Théâtre Français in 1831, the nightly receipts were only 724 francs; in 1845 the same theatre netted 11,000 francs per night. The celebrated tragedienne was very exacting in point of remuneration; but stars are not proverbial for anything generous in this respect. However, art cannot regret her pecuniary exigencies; she rendered to the stage during twenty years all the lustre and prestige that it lost with Talma. Doubtless her terms would be now cordially given to any artiste who could once more restore tragedy in France, which expired with Rachel in 1858.

The "Pied de Mouton" has at last seen the light again in all the glories of modern dress and undress. The costumes of Grévin, especially those in the skating scene and those of the enchanted flowers, are charming, especially the latter. The piece itself is a jumble of the usual *féerie* style, dependent for its attraction on its scenic effects. One of the best scenes in the old piece was the enchanted forest, in which gigantic hands and feet issued from every tree and buffeted travellers; an effect then novel, but since frequently used. In the new version a double row of statues are introduced, and the blows are given by them. The change is scarcely an improvement.

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

GIUSEPPE VERDI.—The name of Verdi has again come prominently forward in connection with a new work just issued from his pen. This is a Mass of Requiem in memory of Manzoni, the late Italian poet, and author of "I Promessi Sposi." Verdi's Mass was first performed at Milan, and a few weeks ago it was repeated at Paris. The judgment of the critics is very favourable thereupon. The style, as might have been expected, is a departure from the religious method, but it possesses an elevation which removes it from the opera. The work is pronounced worthy of its author, and even indicative of a positive advance in massed orchestration.

DOLCE PAR NIENTE.—This is a beautiful scene from the shores of Procida, or Portici, with the crater of Vesuvius in the distance, the bright waters of the Bay of Naples in the centre, and a group of as happy mortals as ever breathed in the foreground. People of the North may moralize as they like, but with such a climate, such scenery, such flowers and such vegetation, it is truly delightful to bask in the sunshine and revel in the luxury of doing nothing.

THE REPRIMAND.—Matilda has been indiscreet and disobedient, so her mother is obliged to take her before the old pastor. In her presence she scoldingly tells her story, while Matilda looks demure, and not much afraid of the good priest who hap-

pened her and taught her her catechism. Besides, how could the Padre be severe with that fragrant Mocha in the urn and those two bottles of golden Xeres peeping out of the ice-tub? And his snuff-box, and the Angora tabby snoozing at his side? The scene is Andalusian.

BRUNEAUT.—We call particular attention to this remarkable picture by the eminent French painter, Luminais. In mere technique it is full of power. The drawing of the dying steed is a study in itself.

THE GIRL AND THE LARK.—This is from a painting by Robert Bayschlog. The simplicity of the composition brings out the beauty and intensity of the ideal.

KAULBACH IN HIS STUDIO.—We give this picture not only in memory of the great German painter, lately deceased at Munich, but likewise to impart to the uninitiated a glimpse of the interior of an artist's workshop. Every kind of model in plaster is found in the room, so that the artist can copy form in all varieties without rising from his chair.

ODDITIES.

Sunday School teacher—"Next Sunday we'll have the death of Moses." Overjoyed pupil—"Then he did die at last."

Mr. Wiskey fell into a Wisconsin pond and was drowned. He thought a little water would improve him, but it didn't.

Green Bay has decided that a widower ought to mourn at least three weeks before shying around for a second wife.

Similia similibus curantur. A Western veterinary surgeon claims that brandy is an excellent remedy for the "staggers."

Hashed is the latest and most graphic way of saying that a man has been run over by a locomotive and ten or fifteen cars.

"Excursion tickets to participate in the festivities attending the execution of Jim Davis," are advertised at half-price in Texas.

The Peoria woman who wanted to throw herself into her husband's grave a few months ago has just married a lightning-rod man.

"For a young woman to begin to pick lint off a young man's coat collar" is said to be the first symptom that the young man is in peril.

A Kentucky farmer says that three good bulldogs roaming the yard nights will do more to keep a man honest than all the talking in the world.

A Kansas boy earned a nice Bible by committing three hundred verses to memory, and then he traded his Bible for a shotgun and accidentally shot his aunt in the leg.

When an old citizen of Detroit goes through a runaway unharmed the *Free Press* felicitates him on his escape from "freecolting the wheels of a passing express wagon with his brains."

The *Courier-Journal* suggests that if the Ohio crusaders would take about three fingers of Bourbon before each meal they would find that they could pray a saloon-keeper into fits in half the time.

A German physicist proposes to make poplar trees do the work of lightning rods. If by this means he can succeed in doing away with lightning rod peddlers, we can't see why this shouldn't be a poplar method.

Naughty young Indianapolis are immersed in water barrels by their fond mammas until they promise not to go fishing with Bill Jones again. This is called moral suasion, and doesn't break a child's spirit like whipping.

Referring to the way the least rumble of Bald Mountain, down in North Carolina, sends people thereabout to their knees, a Chicago paper piously remarks that a Bald Mountain wouldn't be a bad thing to have in Chicago.

"I tell you," said a Wisconsin man to a neighbour next day after burying his wife, "when I came to get into bed, and lay there, and not hearing Lucinda jawing around for an hour and a half, it just made me feel as if I'd moved into a strange country."

"My dear boy said a fond aunt to a very fast living nephew, "don't you know that in leading this irregular life you are shortening your days?" "It's quite possible that I may be shortening my days, but then look how I lengthen my nights," was the reply.

Len. G. Faxon, of the Paluoch *Kentuckian*, comes out in a card accepting the call from "many voters" to become a candidate for coroner. He says that "an experience of several years within the precincts of Cairo render me an excellent judge of a dead man."

An Augusta stonecutter has finished a headstone, on which is carved:

Stranger, pause and shed a tear,
For I was very beautiful;
But sickness came; I had to die;
And have gone to play with the angels.

The most diabolical pun ever invented was perpetrated by a very harmless sort of person the other evening. When Mr. Soberleigh read that a father in the West has chopped his only son in two, he innocently remarked that he didn't think they ought to arrest a man for simply "parting his hair in the middle."

There is nothing like dressing your local items in rhetorical finery, even if you do have to come to plain English at the end. See an example. An Oswego paper describes a fire by saying that "the red flames danced in the heavens and flung their fiery arms about like a black funeral pall, until Sam Jones got upon the roof and dashed them out with a pail of water."

Conversation between an inquiring stranger and a steamboat pilot: "That is Black Mountain?" "Yes, sir: highest mountain above Lake George." "Any story or legend connected with that mountain?" "Lots of 'em. Two lovers went up that mountain once and never came back again." "Indeed! Why, what became of them?" "Went down on the other side."

It is announced that a man who last season had \$200 worth of trunks destroyed by the "baggage smashers" has had five new ones made to order and supplied with compartments containing five pounds each of nitro-glycerine. He proposes to travel from Maine to Texas, covering all the watering places, and will have a coroner along to hold inquests of the victims.

On the walk a hat did lie,
And a gallus chap sailed by,
And he cut a lively swell—
He was a clerk to a hotel;
And he gave that hat a kick,
And he came across a brick—
Now upon a crutch he goes
Minus half a pound of toes.

A firm dealing largely in coal in one of our Western cities had in their service an Irishman named Barney. One day the head of the firm, irritated beyond endurance at one of Barney's blunders, told him to go to the office and get his pay, and added: "You are so thick-headed I can't teach you anything." "Begorra," says Barney, "I larn wan thing since I've been wid ye!" "What's that?" asked his employer. "That sivinteen hundred make a ton."