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## THE STANDARD.

### WESTMINSTER REVIEW.

We are indebted to Leonard Scott & Co., the American publishers, for the October number of the Westminster Review. This number is attractive and its contents varied, consisting of the following:—Militia Forces. Rousseau; his Life and Writings. Spiritual Freedom. Modern Poets and Poetry of Italy. Physical Geography of the Atlantic Ocean. Garibaldi and the Italian Volunteers. Tennyson's Idylls of the King. Bonapartism in Italy. On the scope and treatment of these articles there is no room for comment in a passing notice, and we content ourselves with this brief notice. There is one feature, however, in the Westminster—one at first sight apparently subordinate and unattractive—to which it is proper that attention should be particularly invited.—We allude to the brief notices of the publications of the day under the comprehensive head of Contemporary Literature, which follow immediately after the articles forming the main part of the Number. In this department are found concise critiques on such books published during the preceding quarter as are not made the topic of elaborate essays and reviews. The new works are classified under the several heads of—Theological Literature,—History—Biography—Voyages and Travels,—Politics,—Science,—Belles Lettres, &c., thus affording a valuable synopsis of the recent advances in all departments of literature, and one which may generally be taken as a reliable guide as to the literary or scientific standing of the works commented on. Continental, as well as English and American publications, all meet on common ground; the aim of the Review in this division, being to give accurate information as to the positive merits, value and character of the several works whose publication is announced, not, as often in the more formal articles, to supercede particular criticism by independent dissertation. Price of the four Reviews and Blackwood, \$10 a year.

### Mind your own Business.

It may seem a broad assumption, and be condemned as an exaggerated expression, yet we are constrained to believe that if the practice which seems so completely and fanatically to influence multitudes of mankind to meddle, to pry into and acquaint themselves with other people's business—to comment and judge with freedom and harshness upon their manners and actions when profoundly ignorant of the motive or cause, and report and discuss all their impudent assurance has discovered, no matter at what sacrifice of justice or truth, or how much to the detriment or injury to the person under espionage, were completely wiped out from practice, two thirds of the sin, the disturbance and malice current in human society would be utterly expunged. Were all the idle regiment now engaged in completing Satan's mischief, to seek some useful employment, and make over their motto and rule of action, obeying strictly its sentiments and teachings, would they not toil to much greater profit and pleasure than to labour where the "wages is death" and a most happy reformation the result? It is almost a universal fact, that each community or neighbourhood, however small or retired, numbers among its members a class who find no employment, other than attending to the corners of others, too many of whom profess belief and obedience to the precepts and teachings of that neglected Book whose moral code and elevating and ennobling sentiments have never yet been equalled here, utterly ignoring and forgetting its commands and exhortations. "A little fire kindleth a great matter." So, even one of these Paul Pry's in a community, whose tongue and limbs are never weary in reporting, commenting, and spreading all that his prying curiosity has learned, will stir up strife in brotherhoods, sunder friendships, and destroy the peace of families, and harmony of neighborhoods. And how little peace and quiet, time to work with their own hands, can one have who is constantly occupied in meddling and studying into the affairs of others? No action or business, however private or personal, is sufficiently sacred or respected, to prevent their Argus eyes from discovering, or their unweary tongues from publishing in detail, and criticising and remarking freely, as the good may find them.

How much of the unhappiness and evils in society may be traced to such a source—innocence blighted, character defamed, friendship made a mockery, and life a burden, by these vampires in human society.—There can be no advantage or improvement derived from such a class. "They have taught their tongues to speak lies, and weary themselves to commit iniquity." Their friendship is the charm of the basilisk—their company the shade of the Upar. —like a moral pestilence. Before his breath, the healthy shoots and blooms of social joy and happiness decay. Rich and full are promises to the attentive and industrious, and "the hand of the diligent shall bear rule"—while the tale-bearer shall be cut off, and to the slothful want shall come as an armed man, and though he beg in harvest he shall have nothing. Rural New Yorker.

### PARISIAN SKETCH.

A friend living in the Faubourg du Temple, went out at a late hour of winter evening, to make a pistol without lock to the gunsmith's. Turning at the corner of the canal, he was stopped by a man of ferocious aspect, who demanded his life or his purse. It related that Orestes escaped, when placed in a similar predicament, by a ploy: our friend adopted the readier plan of taking his pistol from his pocket and placing it at the highwayman's breast. "Follow me to the next guard-house, or I'll pull the trigger!" he exclaimed. As it was dark, the robber did not perceive that he was threatened by an imaginary lock. He had recourse to the supplication usual in such cases. "Sir, do not ruin me!" "It is to save you, on the contrary, that I lead you to the guard-house." "I am the father of three children." "I have six." "I have a wife who depends upon me for support." "And so have I." "Indeed, I am not in reality a wicked man." "Neither am I. Come, it is late, and rather cold by the water side. March, or I shall fire." The robber was obliged to follow our friend to the guard-house. They arrived there just as a patrol came in. Our friend related his history. The robber was examined, and discovered to be an escaped convict, of whom the police had been for a long time in search. Our friend was duly congratulated upon his presence of mind, and energy which he had displayed. "But," added the officer in command, "I regret to say, I shall be under the necessity of bringing an action against you."

"Why so?" "Because it appears from your own avowal, that you carry arms upon your person, without the authority to do so." "Our friend then exhibited his pistol, and showed to the officer, that, without the lock, it was no arm at all. "Not so," said the officer, "a pistol, is always a pistol. I must put your name on the charge sheet." The robber, turning to our friend, said to him: "Sir, you have deceived me. May what happens to you now teach you that bad faith and lies always receive, sooner or later, their punishment."

A man died very suddenly in Pennsylvania from the effects of whiskey. The beverage was analyzed, when the chemist reported that he found in it the poisonous constituent of cocculus indicus. The proportion found was two grains to the pint of whiskey. This poison is considered fatal to human life in quantities of from five to ten grains according to circumstance and conditions.

It makes an immense difference whether a man looks at the world before or after dinner. What is cloudy at one o'clock, is full of sunshine, roses and smiles at three. If you wish to think well of this mundane sphere, don't look at it on an empty stomach.

The annual sales of Boots and shoes in Massachusetts amount to one hundred and fifty millions of dollars. Why is love like a canal boat? Because it is an internal transport. A man is most properly said to be "ripe for anything" when he is a little mellow. Who smoked the first pipe? Prometheus, when he stole the fire from heaven to light his clay. A friend in the country writes us that he is "breaking colts." All we have to say to him is—save the pieces. The best of men are sometimes short. We know a clergyman who isn't above three

feet, and a deacon who never has a sixpence about him.

## Poetry.

For the Standard.

### MY THIRTIETH BIRTH DAY.

"So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom."

Thirty years of life are past,  
Thirty years I've reach'd at last,  
Thirty years of joy and grief,  
Thirty years! but yet how brief.

Thirty years in mercy given,  
Thirty years to fit for heaven,  
Thirty years of records sealed,  
Acts that cannot be repealed.

Thirty years; I scan the past,  
To call the hours I've from me cast;  
How vain the task and fraught with pain,  
They never can be mine again.

How chequered are those thirty years,  
How full of joy, how full of tears;  
How often clouds obscured the way,  
How often night, how often day.

The bitter cup of grief I've drained,  
With anguish deep my soul been pained,  
What blasted hopes, what anxious fears,  
Have followed me these thirty years.

And yet, what joy has been my lot,  
Never in God's great heart forgot;  
Mid darkest shade of sorrow's night,  
I've seen the gleam of morning light.

I gaze along my thirty years,  
And strive to count the joys and tears;  
But all my ills as nothing are,  
When with the blessings I compare.

O God! Thou source of life and light,  
Guide Thou my future years aright,  
That many, or though few they be,  
I may devote them all to Thee.

I would not seek to turn aside,  
From duty's path where'er it guide;  
But with an earnest heart I pray,  
For grace sufficient for my day.

Keep me from all presumptuous sin,  
From foes without and foes within,  
The Christian's life, O let me live,  
And his reward in glory give.

WM. R. BOWEN.

### ON THE DEATH OF A BROTHER.

The following beautiful lines, were selected by children, as being appropriate to the recent death of their brother:

Death has been here, and borne away  
A brother from our side;  
Just in the morning of his day,  
As young as we he died.

Not long ago he fill'd his place,  
And sat with us to learn;  
But he has run his mortal race,  
And never can return.

Perhaps our time may be as short—  
Our days may fly as fast;  
O Lord, impress the solemn thought  
That this may be our last.

We cannot tell who next may fall  
Beneath thy chast'ning rod;  
One must be first; but let us all  
Prepare to meet our God.

## European Intelligence.

### ARRIVAL OF THE CANADA.

The steamship Canada, which left Liverpool on the 5th, and Queenstown evening of the 7th, arrived at Halifax on the 19th. The Canada experienced severe weather in the Channel and for a week after leaving Queenstown. Hon. Charles Sumner and Gen. Van Rensselaer and lady are among the passengers.

PEACE NEGOTIATIONS.  
A Paris telegram of the 4th, says that the French and English Governments had completely agreed on a basis of a Congress, which is to be held at Brussels. All that remained to be settled was the official ratification from the English Government.

### GREAT BRITAIN.

The Great Eastern left Holyhead on the 2d, and reached Southampton on the morning of the 4th. She experienced very rough weather and a heavy sea on the passage round. The Times account of this third trial says:—when the ship was exposed to the

roll of the Atlantic, she rolled and dipped but with ease. The motion is described as peculiar, the ship seemed to swing herself with a peculiar sidelong motion over every wave, dropping deeply and easily beyond them, with a regular slow roll, and often quite deep enough to leave one paddle wheel out of water high and dry in the air. This motion of the vessel is attributed to her very light immersion, and to the fact of her having no upper weights to counterbalance the coals stowed below. The whole roll of the vessel is calculated at only eight degrees each way, or 16 degrees in all—an every day amount to smaller vessels, though something for one which was supposed to be almost immovable by wind or sea. The greatest speed attained was over 13 knots, or close on 18 miles per hour. The run from Holyhead to Southampton is pronounced far more satisfactory than either of the previous trips. The engines were under the sole control of McLennan, the Chief Engineer of the ship.

The new Cunard steamer just contracted for with the Napiers of Glasgow, is to exceed the Persia by 500 tons, and will in every respect be larger and more powerful than that vessel. Efforts are to be made with her to surpass anything afloat, both as regards speed and internal arrangements.

The coroner's inquest upon the bodies washed ashore from the Royal Charter, occupied several days, resulting in a verdict that "the lives were lost by pure accident,—that the Captain was perfectly sober, and did all he could for the ship and passengers." Divers continued their operations, but without any important result. 46 bodies had been found altogether.

At no time since the Russian war had greater activity been observable than at present at the Woolwich arsenal in preparation of war material for coast defences and for China. The fortifications at Dover, are to be extended forthwith, and several batteries reconstructed.

LONDON, Saturday, P. M.—The funds were steady and firm throughout the day.

The organization of the French army for China is considered definitely settled, and preparations at the sea ports for embarkation have already commenced.

FRANCE.  
Beni Sassoan has submitted to the conditions of peace dictated to him. These tribes will give hostages and will pay tribute.

It is stated that the French Government has resolved on establishing from December next a naval station in the Red Sea, in imitation of England.

Cholera had broken out among the French troops destined to invade Morocco, and carried off several distinguished officers, including Col. Lafont, commanding the Engineers. The ravages exceeded fifty men per day; total deaths 1500.

The Paris Bourse was steady but dull.

Rents closed on the 4th at 69.75.

The Russian squadron of 6 vessels will remain at the Russian Mediterranean station, Villafraanca, during the winter. The statement is reiterated that the Pope has promised to grant the reforms recommended by the Emperor Napoleon, after the insurgents of Romagna have returned to their allegiance.

The Papal Government has again prohibited the exportation of Indian Corn, which had been permitted since June last.

INDIA.  
The India mail with telegraphic news via Ceylon to Oct. 14th, from both Bombay and Calcutta, had reached Marseilles. No political news. Exchange at Calcutta 2s 3d to 2s 3d.

CHINA.  
A private despatch from Hong Kong of Sept. 28th reports the import trade good, both at Canton and Shanghai. The settlements of silk showed an increase, and advance of 20 dollars during the fortnight.

AUSTRALIA.  
The mails from Sydney to Sept. 14th, and Melbourne 17th, were telegraphed, and would reach London Nov. 7th. Lloyd Kelly & Co., Merchants, who stopped payment in London last May, had been made bankrupt at Sydney, with liabilities of £250,000 sig. and assets to a comparatively small amount. The July mails had arrived out.

The first batch of Election returns had gone against Ministers, several of whom had been defeated.

Imports heavy; trade dull. There was considerable speculation in Mining Companies, some of which were mere bubbles. The supply of gold was kept up. The shipments since last mail exceeded 240,000 ounces, of which 68,402 were by the ill-fated Royal Charter.

### LATEST NEWS.

All the following is telegraphed via Queenstown.

MADRID, Nov. 5th.—An official decree has been published appointing Gen. O'Donnell Commander-in-Chief.

ALBANY, Oct. 28th.—The English

General Malcolm has presented a rich present from Queen Victoria to Said Pacha. The English authorities are making preparations here for the transport of troops to China.

PARIS, Saturday.—The improved feeling is apparent on the Bourse. Rentes offered at 69 85—3, 35 prem. All the funds have raised materially at the final quotations; rentes are 70, 15, showing a raise of 2 since yesterday.

### ENGLAND.

The London Globe says the Cabinet summoned a Council on Monday.

The troops to be contributed by India to the China expedition will be 3,000 European and 4,000 natives.

Saturday Evening.—The Funds remained firm, and an improvement of 4 per cent has taken place in Consols this morning. Very little has been going on in any department. General firmness has, however, prevailed, and the principal British Railway Stock have been quoted rather higher.

LIVERPOOL, Sunday-Morning, Nov. 7th.—The Steamer Africa from New York, Oct. 26th, arrived about 10.30 this morning.

CASSEL, Nov. 5th.—In the secret sitting of the 2d Chamber to-day, the proposal of M. Hesseus to present an address the Electors in favour of the re-establishment of the Constitution of 1803, has been definitely agreed to by 38, against 5 votes.

ZURICH, Nov. 6th.—The Sardinian Plenipotentiary has received orders from Turin to sign the Treaty of Peace. It is believed the Treaty will be signed to-morrow, and the Convocation to be held at Paris will follow immediately.

PARIS, 6th.—It is stated on reliable authority that the Congress will meet in Paris, not in Brussels.

GENOA, 6th.—The Assemblies of Central Italy will, it is stated, confer the Regency on Prince Cavour.

ZURICH, 6th.—Yesterday the French, Austrian and Sardinian Plenipotentiaries assembled in a General Conference, which lasted three hours. The treaties, will be signed to-morrow or Tuesday next, and Plenipotentiaries will leave the day after. The Austrian Minister, Baron Menshenger, having consigned the Austrian steamers into the hands of the Swiss, has returned to Zurich. The submarine telegraphic connection between Corsica and Genoa has been reestablished.

ZURICH, 5th.—In the last Conference held, the working out of the treaty of peace has been entirely completed, and all that now remains is for the Sardinian Plenipotentiary to receive from Turin the official order to sign the treaty.

GENOA, 5th.—Rumours are current that an assembly will shortly be held, in which Modena and the Romagna will take part, and it is asserted that the object of this meeting would be to present Count Cavour as a candidate for a Directorship of one of the Provinces of Central Italy.

TURIN, 5th.—The Piedmontese Gazette publishes a decree transferring the Court of Cassation to Milan.

The subscriptions to the loan continue. The applications are more numerous, and it is asserted that more than the amount required has already been subscribed.

The four assemblies from Central Italy will be called together to receive from the Government communications on the present situation of public affairs. The Convocation of the States of Modena and Parma will take place on Sunday. It is supposed the King of Sardinia will be asked to grant Regency.

Consols closed at 96 1/2 to 96 3/4 for money and account.

It is a question worthy of careful investigation, whether a person whose voice is broken is not the more competent to sing "pieces."

The man who was choked, while attempting to swallow an inconsistency, has forbidden his reading political papers henceforth.

An old settler out West, who was elected justice of the peace, couldn't raise enough to pay an officer for "swearing him in"; so he stood before a looking-glass and qualified himself.

A fellow was charged with stealing a piece of cloth, when the lawyer put in as a plea that the individual charged with "stealing" could not see it for it's an invisible green.

Two brothers in Maine, by the name of Rich, have been lately married, to two sisters by the name of Wings, and removed to Illinois. Thus "riches take to themselves wings."

A fellow climbed one of the poles of the magnetic telegraph, at Baltimore, other day, and applied his ear to the wire, in order to hear the news.

Mr. Ferguson thinks it must be dangerous for a citizen of Sweden to get sober, as that country a man is deprived of the right to vote who gets drunk the third time.

What part of a ship is like a farmer?—The hull.