### OUR LONDON LETTER.

(From our own Correspondent.)

exhausted; and if it were not, there superse les polities. In London, all the his candid pen will have full play. talk is about pictures, what artist has

"Society is just now living on the cheap." to see what it can store up against a rainy day. The Park and the Row are forsaken, houses are shut up, and that economical entertainment, five o'clock tea, takes the place of the old time honored dinner. The era of universal retrenchment appears some time been going a little too fast. It linguished baron. recognizes the necessity of setting its house in order Scores of gentlemen are ry beneath her. One of the royalties of Halifax, and with little or no advertising now, for the first time in their lives, the house of Wurtemburg wants to fol Avery, Brown & Co.'s without a home in town for the London low the example of the Princess Frederica, season. Many of those who always wel- enly more so. The object of her desire comed the approach of May in the pleasant neighbourhood of Hyde Park, now the Emperer William sees no great ob-emulate the Lord of Beaconsfield, and jection to the match, and it will probably watch the unfolding of the bud, and the blossoming of the flowers, in the gardens and groves of Arcady.

EXETER HALL is to be saved from deseeration. Its metamorphosis into a theatre was found to be impracticable, and no one would take it for any other purpose, so that it will, therefore, continue to be the home of the May Meetings and Sacred Concerts. Both are good in their way; and if there is not a little that is fussy and uncharitable associated with the former, it must be remembered that they really represent a great deal of amiable and effective beneficence. It is also something that sectarian animosity should have been subdued to a point at which it is possible for Mr. Spurgeon, as at the end of last week he did, to crack evangelical jokes on the same platform as bishops and other dignitaries of the Established Church, to chaff Anglican clergymen on the stupidity and plagiarisms of their sermons, to rally the sinners at whom he fired a shot when they least expected it, and to poke fun at the Association whose claims he was ostensibly advocating, on the ground that it was preëminent in the manufacture of "marvellously soporitic tracts." When the great Baptist pulpiteer can talk in this free-and-easy way, in the presence of a dozen divines of the Establishment, there are reasons to hope the Milenium of Christondom may not, after all, be very far distant, and that we may yet live to see Archdeacon Donison admitting Government Inspectors to his schools, as well as morely inviting them to lunch.

There is unfortunately another side to tracts." When the great Baptist pulpiteer

Columbo came over here to lay before the Archbishop of Canterbury his ground with the Church Missionary Society's Agent. Every body was relieved to find that a modus vivendi had been discovered; the bishop and the Society were no longer at daggers drawn. It was gratifying also to hear that a deficiency of £24,000 in the funds had been made up by individual effort, and that by a new system of management less capital will be needed to carry on a larger work.

It is said that Cardinal Newman is writing a new work. He has been roused to theological controversy again by Dr. Littledale's "Plain Reasons against joining the Church of Rome." They receive a quiet reply from Mr. Thomas Arnold, son, I believe, of the great Arnold, and brother of Mr. Mat-Department of Reilways & Canals, Ottawa, 13th May, 1880.

thew Arnold, who is a philosophical Romanist. But he points to the reply from Birmingham which is in contem-PUBLIC interest in politics is ulterly plation, and, if it comes, it will be received with all the interest now attachwould be no politics for the public to be ing to whatever Cardinal Newman writes. interested in. For the moment, there is The Cardinal has no longer any fear of no parliamentary or official gossip Art offending the authorities at Rome, and

talk is about pictures, what arist has been hung, and whether he deserves tend with than politics. She has offend-hanging. The Academy is crowded every day, and it is interesting to note that the energy with which she pressed on the mar-The Queen has more difficulties to conday, and it is interesting to note that the energy with which she pressed on the marriage of the Princess Frederica, and the crowds gather, as a rule, round the good riage of the Princess Frederica, and the control of the princess Frederica ostentation with which she has given it As one of our Society papers puts it, her approval. The Prince of Wales asked to be excused from attending the The period of commercial depression may be passing away, but the polite world has not recovered its confidence, and is trying The Duckess of Cambridge is very wrath at the whole business, and would have liked to show her wrath. Much friction was caused when Her Majesty's idea of making the Princess Louise Marchioness of Lorne was realised. That innovation has neither been forgiven nor forgotten to have begun; and the question which in certain circles. All that ancient feud hosts and hostesses of every degree seem is revived by the new match. The to be perpetually asking themselves, and Queen, it must be confessed, has curious courageously endeavouring to solve, is, facets to her character. She is violently what is the very least that they can give Conservative, and an open admirer of their guests without being thought mean! Lord Beaconsfield; yet sho is enough of The simple truth is, that Society is grad- a Democrat to bring about the marriage of ually awakening to the fact that it has for one of her own family with an undis-

Now another Princess is going to maris her family physician. What is more,

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There is unfortunately another side to the May Meetings. They are apt to open the flood-gates of cant, ignorance and bigotry, as well as to admit the clearing influences of charity and common sense. They are instrumental in the propagation of absurd and mischievous delusions, as well as in the establishment of harmony and good will between the champions of conflicting creeds.

The C. M. S. meeting was one of the best. It was crowded. Much interest attached to it, as this is the first meeting of the Society held since the Bishop of Columbo came over here to lay before

There is unfortunately another side to Confractors are requested to bear is mind that tenders may be an accepted the actual signature, that we will never sacrifice constitution of the constitution of cach member of the same; and farthor, an accepted blank chequal signature, the miture of the occupation of cach member of the same; and farthor, an accepted blank chequal signature, the miture of the occupation of cach member of the same; and farthor, an accepted blank chequal signature, the miture of the occupation of cach member of the same; and farthor, and farthor the properse stated in the offer submitted.

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