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In the correspondence of John Lothrop Motley, author of "Rise of the Dutch Republic," recently published, there are some interesting descriptions of English public men. Motley, it may be remarked, was educated for the law, but found other occupations more congenial, and probably more useful to mankind. In 1851, the historian met Lyndhurst and Brougham at dinner. Here is what he writes of the latter: "Brougham is exactly like the pictures in *Punch*, only *Punch* flatters him. The common pictures of Palmerston and Lord John are not like at all to my mind, but Brougham is always hit exactly. His face, like his tongue and his mind, is shrewd, sharp, humorous. There certainly never was a great statesman and author who so irresistibly suggested the man who does the comic business at a small theatre. You are compelled to laugh when you see him as much as at Keeley or Warren. Yet, there is absolutely nothing comic in his mind. But there is no resisting his nose. It is not merely the configuration of that wonderful feature which surprises you, but its mobility. It has the litheness and almost the length of the elephant's proboscis, and I have no doubt he can pick up pins or scratch his back with it as easily as he could take a pinch of snuff. He is always twisting it about in quite a fabulous manner. His hair is thick and snow-white and shiny; his head is large and knobby and bumpy, with all kinds of phrenological developments, which I did not have a chance fairly to study. The rugged outlines or headlands of his face are wild and bleak, but not forbidding. Deep furrows of age and thought and toil, perhaps of sorrow, run all over it, while his vast mouth, with a ripple of humor ever playing around it, expands like a placid bay under the huge promontory of his fantastic and incredible nose. His eye is dim and could never have been brilliant, but his voice is rather shrill, with an unmistakable northern intonation; his manner of speech is fluent, not garrulous, but obviously

touched by time; his figure is tall, slender, shambling, awkward, but of course perfectly self-possessed. Such is what remains at eighty of the famous Henry Brougham."

The table talk of these two veterans of the law was not particularly interesting or brilliant. Motley says he does not repeat it because it is worth recording, but because he "trys to Boswellize a little" for the entertainment of the member of his family to whom his letter is addressed:—"The company was too large for general conversation, but every now and then we at our end paused to listen to Brougham and Lyndhurst chaffing each other across the table. Lyndhurst said, 'Brougham, you disgraced the woollack by appearing there with those plaid trousers, and with your peer's robe, on one occasion, put on over your chancellor's gown.' 'The devil,' said Brougham, 'you know that to be a calumny; I never wore the plaid trousers.' 'Well,' said Lyndhurst, 'he confesses the two gowns. Now, the present Lord Chancellor never appears except in small clothes and silk stockings.' Upon which Lady Stanley observed that the ladies in the gallery all admired Lord Chelmsford for his handsome leg. 'A virtue that was never seen in you, Brougham,' said Lyndhurst."

One of the most interesting things in the book is Bismarck's description of parliamentary warfare. Bismarck and Motley were college companions at Göttingen and Berlin in 1832-3, and the friendship then formed continued throughout life. In a note jotted down in the Chamber (about 1864), Bismarck says:—"You have given me a great pleasure with your letter of the 9th, and I shall be very grateful to you if you will keep your promise to write oftener and longer. I hate politics, but, as you say truly, like the grocer hating figs, I am none the less obliged to keep my thoughts increasingly occupied with those figs. Even at this moment while I am writing to you, my ears are full of it. I am obliged to listen to particularly tasteless speeches out of the mouths of uncommonly childish and excited politicians, and I have, therefore, a moment of unwilling leisure which I cannot use better than in giving you