gave a strong point to his Lordship's speech, and proved at once his non-identity with the hero of Blenheim.

PATHETIC REJOINDER.—A celebrated literary character, in a northern metropolis, had a black servant, whom he occasionally employed in beating covers for woodcocks and other game. On one occasion of intense frost, the native of Afric's sultry shores was nearly frozen to death by the cold and wet of the bushes, which sparkled (but not with fire-flies), and on which, pathetically blowing his fingers, he was heard to exclaim, in reply to an observation of his master, that "the woodcocks were very scarce," "Ah, massa, me wish woodcock never been!"

CONVICTS .- Among numerous instances of bare-faced hypocrisy among the convicts on board of ship, Mr. Cunningham mentions that of one Breadman, who, on arriving at Sydney, was in the last stage of consumption, and unable to sit up without fainting. This expiring wretch, who grasped his bible to the last, mustered strength enough, while the hospital-man was drawing on his trousers, to stretch out his pale trembling hand towards the other's waistcoat pocket, and actually to pick it of a comb and a pen-knife:-next morning he was a corpse. "Yet," says Mr. Cunningham, "during his whole illness, this man would regularly request some of the sober-minded roques to read the scriptures to him, and pray by his bed-side!

The women are described as infinitely more difficult to manage than the men; but those composing the cargo which our author once superintended, were pretty well kept under by "an old sybil of seventy," a "most trust-worthy creature," who had been, during forty years of her life, in all the houses of correction, prisons, and penitentiaries of the metropolis. Some of Mrs. Fry's reformed damsels from Newgate, very soon after getting on board, set about papering their hair with the religious tracts that this good lady had supplied them with for their edification.—Cunningham's New South Wales.

SUBTERRANEOUS GROWTH OF POTATOES .- A mixture of two parts Danube sand, and one part common earth, was laid in a layer an inch thick, in one corner of a cellar; and, in April, thirty-two yellow potatoes, with their skins, placed upon its surface. They threw out stalks on all sides, and at the end of the following November more than a quarter of a bushel of the best potatoes were gathered, about a tenth part of which were about the size of apples, the rest as large as nuts. The skin was very thin, the pulp farinaceous, white, and of a good taste. No attention was given to the potatoes during the time they remained on the sand, and they grew without the influence of the sun or light. This trial may be advantageously applied in fortified places, hospitals, houses of correction, and, in general, in all places where cellars or subterraneous places occur, being neither too cold nor too moist, and where it is important to procure a cheap but abundant nourishment for many individuals.

ANCESTRY OF FIELDING .- The immortal Fielding, says Gibbon in the history of his own life, was of the younger branch of the Earls of Denbigh who drew their origin from the courts of Habsburg, the lineal descendants of Eltrico. in the seventh century, Duke of Alsace: far different have been the fortunes of the English and German divisions of the family of Habsburg; the former, the Knights and Sheriffs of Leicestershire, have slowly risen to the dignity of a peerage; the latter, the Emperors of Germany, and Kings of Spain, have threatened the liberty of the old, and invaded the treasures of the new world. The successors of Charles the Fifth may disdain their brethren of England; but the Romance of "Tom Jones," that exquisite picture of human manners, will outlive the Palace of the Escurial, and the Imperial Eagle of the House of Austria .- Lord Sheffield's Life of Gibbon.

THE HALCYON, so often alluded to by the poets, is the bird called the King Fisher. It was believed by the ancients that while the female brooded over the eggs, the sea and weather remained calm and unruffled; hence arose the expression of "halcyon days."

GUDE NEWS.—While Christie tells them wha dinna ken, that he has a public house, first door down Libbertown Wynd, in the Lawn Market, whaur he keeps the best o' stuff; gude nappy Yill frae the best o' Bruars in big bottels an' wee anes, an' Porter frae Lunnon o' a' sorts; Whuske as gude as in the Toun, an' o' a' strength, an' for cheapness ekwall to ony that's gaun. Jinger Beer in wee bottels at Tippence, an' Sma' Beer for three bawbees the twa bottels out of the house, an' a penny the bottel in.

N. B.—Toddy cheap an' unco' gude if 'tis his ain mackin.
S. H.

Bell Ringing .- A poor Swiss, who was in the madhouse of Zurich, was rather afflicted by imbecility than madness, and was allowed his occasional liberty, which he never abused. All his happiness consisted in ringing the bells of the parish church; of this he was somehow deprived, and it plunged him into despair. At length he sought the governor, and said to him, "I come, sir, to ask a favour of you, I used to ring the bells; it was the only thing in the world in which I could make myself useful, but they will not let me do it any longer. Do me the pleasure then of cutting off my head! I cannot do it myself, or I would save you the trouble." Such an appeal produced his reestablishment in his former honours, and he died ringing the bells.

An Expletive.—A Newspaper tells us that an *old* woman died April 26, at Wolverhampton, aged 150 years.

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