

fashion, than any love of science. He, therefore, considered the Sunday admissions should be upheld. Mr. Pope vindicated the propriety of more restricted admissions, and stated that in the last summer the tickets given as privileges to the members were openly sold in the parks, whilst the confusion and crowding amounted to danger. Some of the members complained that the tickets for Sunday were not given away throughout the week, or at the museum, for the greater facility of members; but the secretary explained that the reason why it was confined to that day, with an application to the gardens was, that the number of visitors might not be encouraged, the objects of the council being to decrease rather than enlarge their facilities. Mr. Pitt stated that there was a diversity of opinion whether they should be opened on Sunday or not; but no doubt could be entertained that it was the occasion of a great nuisance. Sir J. Shelley and several other members expressed the same opinion, as sufficient to deter them, and this seemed to be the general opinion of the members present, so that there is no doubt, a timely exertion on the part of the members would remove the nuisance.

SUBSTITUTE FOR THE SUN.—The newly invented light by M. Gaudin, on which experiments were recently made at Paris, is an improved modification of the well known invention of Lieutenant Drummond. While Drummond pours a stream of oxygen gas through spirits of wine on unslacked lime, Gaudin makes use of a more ethereal kind of oxygen, which he conducts through burning essence of turpentine. The Drummond light is fifteen hundred times stronger than that of burning gas; the Gaudin light is, we are assured by the inventor, as strong as that of the sun, or thirty thousand times stronger than gas, and of course ten times more so than the Drummond. The method by which M. Gaudin proposes to turn the new invention to use is singularly striking. He proposes to erect in the island of Pont Neuf, in the middle of the Seine, and centre of Paris, a light house, 500 feet high, in which is to be placed a burner lighted from a thousand to a million gas-pipes strong, the power to be varied as the nights are light or dark. Paris will thus enjoy a sort of perpetual day; and as soon as the sun of the heavens has set, the sun of the Pont Neuf will rise.—*Mechanic's Magazine*.

CRUSTACEA.—A new classification of crustacea has been proposed by Dr. Duvernoy, according to the organs of respiration: he would divide the class into three principal groups; first, the nudibranchie, or those whose branchie are always uncovered, and constantly attached, like necessary appendages, to the maxillary or locomotive organs; the second group would be the cryptobranchie, with fringed branchie—that is, composed of thousands of little tubes or filaments, distributed into distinct pyramids, which are more or less enclosed in the lateral anfractuositities of the thorax and buckles; lastly, the third group might be styled the lamellibranchie.—*Athenæum*.

NEW PARCHMENT.—M. Pelogue states, that if a piece of paper be plunged into nitric acid at 1.5 of density, and left in it a sufficient time for saturation, say two or three minutes, and immediately washed in plenty of water, a species of parchment is produced, which is impervious to damp, and is extremely combustible; and that the same change takes place in cotton and linen stuffs. They owe this property to xylofine, which M. Pelogue has found in starch, when treated with nitric and water.—*Athenæum*.

ROMAN REMAINS.—A number of human skeletons, remarkable for their high state of preservation, have been discovered at Shorter's-hill, near Pangbourn, Berks, on the line of the Great Western Railway. This was probably the scene of some great battle with the Britons, as spearheads, war axes, spurs, &c., both of Roman and British manufacture, lie scattered about, and many coins of gold, silver, and brass, bearing the

impress of Domitian and other emperors, were found in various of the graves.

CULTIVATION AND MANUFACTURE OF TEA IN BRITISH INDIA.—One of the most important discoveries connected with our commerce in the East has recently been made: it may end in the entire liberation of this country from dependence on China for tea, and if so, it will open new and grand fields for mercantile enterprises, and afford a fresh and inexhaustible source of wealth to this country, and prosperity to her East India possessions. It appears from an official memorandum, just issued from the India Board, that the project of Sir Joseph Banks, in 1783, for introducing the cultivation of tea into British India, has been suddenly and unexpectedly accomplished. It was thought by Dr. Wallick, of the Botanical-Garden, near Calcutta, by Dr. Falconer, of the Botanical-garden near Scharunpore, and other authorities, that the tea plant might be cultivated in some districts of the Himalaya mountains; and while certain steps under the auspices of Lord William Bentinck, and afterwards of Lord Auckland, were being taken, whole plantations of it were discovered in the Assam country, growing, as it were, indigenously. The Assam country, our readers may be aware, lies to the north of the Burman empire, and forms part of our late conquests. The tea there produced, has been duly prepared by persons from China, and several chests of it have very recently been received in this kingdom, and their contents have been found of a quality not at all inferior to that for which we have hitherto been indebted to the "Celestial Empire."—*Morning Chronicle*.

THE EMPEROR'S SNUFF BOX.—This is in the possession of a Captain in the French navy. It is of chased gold, small size, and plain, delicate, workmanship. It is in the form of a B, which is its only cipher; on the lid is a beautiful cameo of a lion couchant. The history of this trinket is most singular, and is connected with many historical events. The snuff box was given to Bonaparte, by his wife, at the epoch of his marriage. It accompanied him through his Italian campaigns, and oft was seen to rivet the attention of the Austrian plenipotentiary, as he regarded the lion in repose, whilst Bonaparte turned about the box in his fingers during the negotiation. Bonaparte also took the box with him into Egypt, and on quitting the army there, to return to France, he gave it to Kleber, as a keepsake, on parting from him. After the assassination of Kleber, the box was sold at Cairo, with other effects of that General, to a Jew, for the Turks never purchase property which has belonged to a Christian. The Jew kept the effects of Kleber for want of purchasers until at length, Colonel Selver, an old soldier of the Imperial regime, and since become Soliman Pacha, feeling much interested in whatever was connected with the recollections of the French in Egypt, bought of this Jew at Cairo all the effects he possessed which had belonged to the conqueror of Maestricht and the hero of Mount Tabor. Amongst these curious reliques was found the snuff box above described, which has since been given to the naval captain by Soliman Pacha.—*Le Temps*.

The arrival of the January Packet has completed our files of English papers to the 4th inst.

The Watchman newspaper is filled with accounts of the different Centenary Meetings; from this and other papers we have given considerable extracts.

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.—The lectures during the last fortnight were by George R. Young, Esq., on Steam Navigation to the Western Ports, and Dr. Teulon on Prophylactics or the art of preserving health.

ERRATUM.—On the first page of this number for volume 1, read volume 2.