

THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER.

The daily organ of the Tractarian party is sorely annoyed at the appearance of a document which has strongly been permitted to repose for more than a century and a half in Lambeth Palace. It has now been printed by order of Parliament, and is accessible to the whole community at the charge of a few pence. It contains a "Copy of the Alterations in the Book of Common Prayer, proposed by the Royal Commissioners, in 1832." On the occasion of King William and Queen Mary, one of the first steps taken, in order to bring back the Nonconformists into the bosom of the Church was to appoint a Royal Commission, "to prepare such alterations and amendments of the Liturgy and Ceremonies as may be expedient." The commissioners consisted of ten bishops, six deans, four professors, four archdeacons, and six of the London clergy. And among them we find the names of Burnet, Tillotson, Stillingfleet, Patrick, Tenison, and Beveridge. The result of their labours may well shock Tractarian nerves. These excellent men desired to regain the Nonconformists to the Church. Our modern Romanists show so much desire, their apparent wish being to re-unite the Church with Rome, but to step as far as possible from the Dissenters. In order to meet dissenting prejudices, the commissioners of 1689, comprising two who were afterwards Archbishops of Canterbury, agreed—

- 1. To exclude the Apocryphal lessons from the Church Services.
2. To permit those to receive the Sacrament without kneeling who scrupled to use that posture.
3. To allow the sign of the cross in Baptism to be omitted in similar cases.
4. To remove all the Romish saints' days from the calendar.
5. To substitute the title "minister" for "priest," in many parts of the Book of Common Prayer.
6. In lieu of Benedicite omnia Opera Domini, to insert the 146th Psalm.
7. The rubric allowing the Litany to be sung to be wholly struck out.
8. The title "most religious and gracious King" altered to "Sovereign."
9. The positive declaration in the Burial and Baptismal Services greatly modified.
10. In the Ordination Service, the imperative mood "receive the Holy Ghost," altered into a prayer "that he may," &c.
Here were, indeed, enough of alterations to fill the soul of a Bennett or a Liddell with horror. Yet it may be conceived possible that those who gravely proposed these amendments—the Burnets, Beveridges, Patricks, and Stillingfleets—will be remembered by the Church with honour, when the very names of Bennett and Liddell are forgotten. This publication, however, places the question of Liturgical Revision in a new point of view. Hitherto, owing to the oblivion into which the movements of 1689 had fallen, those who in our time have ventured to suggest that some few phrases in the Prayer Book might be modified with advantage have been treated as disloyal sons of the Church—as men who were at heart Dissenters. But the fact is now made public to all the world, that a commission of ten bishops, six deans, four archdeacons, &c., has already taken this matter in hand, and has seriously propounded a larger and wider scheme than any reformer of our day has ventured to contemplate. No longer, then, may the Tractarians revile those who dare to propose something less than a whole board of bishops and learned divines have long since positively recommended. On the contrary, we may say, that this important and timely publication makes it at least probable that before any very long time has elapsed a portion at least of the recommendations of Beveridge, Burnet, and Stillingfleet, will actually be adopted.

A SCENE IN A DISSECTING ROOM.
"A pretty corpse I shall make," said my fellow student, as we took our places for the first time around the dissecting table.
"A brave surgeon indeed! I am ready to faint at the sight of this empty table—how shall I feel directly, when it receives its destined mortality?"
But, even while he speaks, the demon-

strator and an assistant threw the expected subject on the table with a carelessness that to me seemed ill becoming the charnel house. My companion shuddered. He breathed quick and almost convulsively, and his countenance betrayed the working of a sympathy of suffering; he really seemed to think for a moment that the lifeless clay could suffer, and that its fall was really painful. I whispered a word of courage in his ear; but he turned to me with a face like ashes, and with a vain effort at speaking, swallowed convulsively, as if suffocating. Some one observed his condition, and gave him a glass of water, which for awhile restored him to greater composure.

"Gentlemen," said the demonstrator, "this subject, you see, died of consumption; and as he has therefore lost all these collections of cellular and fatty matter which obstruct the more important organs in other subjects, we are peculiarly fortunate in having secured this as our first subject."
This business-like remark, and the utter absence of any other than a business tone about it, had the effect of calling my companion to a sense of his condition. He rallied, came forward, and surveyed with something like a professional interest the collapsed chest and lattice ribs of the unconscious subject. But when the demonstrator opened his case, and selecting a scalpel prepared to make a demonstration of his dissecting skill, I saw the pallor again on the face of friend Horrel. I approached, and took him by the arm; but when the knife pierced the bosom of the empty tunic of clay, his muscles relaxed, his eyes closed, and he sunk like a dead man into my arms. When he revived in an adjoining room to which we had carried him, the re-action was accompanied with a profuse and very protracted vomiting, and he retired to his room—too weak to venture out again for some days.

At length I called on him again, and found him asleep in a study, with his head resting in the hollow of a wall! The dream of years had returned—and a surgeon he would be; even if death himself must be his companion. The crisis was past, and long ere the session was over he was chosen principal operator of a class of seven students.
The weeks wore away; he laughed at the recollection of his first night in the dissecting room, and looked buoyantly forward to the day when he should exchange his gloom for the bridal chamber. I had known the lady of his choice for years, and few fairer, wealthier ladies ever possessed the name of Mary. And I had promised to accompany him to her home, some fifty miles off, and to be at his marriage.

During the last two weeks of the session the demonstrator had filled in procuring the necessary material for the class; and for a few days my companion was almost agitated by the thought of leaving the class without giving them some marked evidence of his progress in anatomy. However, a subject was found—it had been "obtained by the river," was all the light the demonstrator thought necessary to throw upon its history. I never saw Horrel so cheerful before. He was to dissect the tongue; and as he approached to remove the cloth with which it is usual to hide the faces of the subject of dissection, he moved with a visible consciousness of his skill. He lifted the cloth—stood one moment—the hot blood gushed from his mouth, and he fell dead!

I recognised the countenance of his beloved Mary.
Dr. Dick.—Dr. Dick, the well-known astronomer, is very much indisposed. He is now nearly four-score years old, and the circumstances of the pious and retired philosopher are not very flourishing. It is desirable that some provision should even yet be made for him.

FRENCH AND ENGLISH MILITARY EQUIPMENTS.—The contrast between the English and French cavalry, and English and French officers, as regards horsemanship, is certainly very marked. The Englishman almost invariably bestrides his steed as if he were part of it—as if he were born in the saddle, and could never be shaken out of it; while an equestrian Frenchman generally inspires one with the idea that he is terribly disgusted with his position, and wishes he were safely on the ground again.

TRAVELLING EXPENSES.

A contemporary gives some hints to European tourists who are not overburdened with cash.—It is a great mistake to suppose that travelling on the Continent is cheap, in any such sense as to be appreciable by an American. As compared with travelling in England, it is cheap, but not as compared with travelling in Western New York, in Ohio, or generally in the New England States. In order to travel with comfort, one must secure a good room at night, and these can be obtained only at respectable hotels and at an average rate of from \$2 to \$2.50 per diem. I used no luxuries, had no extras, yet found this to be the general rate of comfortable living. The mere living, to be sure, might be about \$1.50; but the incidental charges for servants, for candles, (always charged at the rate of 30 cents apiece, whether you burn them or not,) &c., made the average of hotel-living just what it is at the Irving House. Even in Switzerland it did not fall below \$1.50 to \$2 per day. Soap is never furnished in European hotels except as an extra; it is better, therefore, to carry it with you. If one travels slowly, of course his average daily expenses are less than when he travels rapidly; for travelling is always more expensive than keeping still. But one who travels moderately, and lives neither meanly nor extravagantly, but with a due regard to health and comfort, should allow himself, for the tour of Europe, not less than \$5 per diem; this would include the fees and incidents of sight-seeing. Five dollars a day might answer; but, where there are ladies in company, a fairer average would be from \$5 to \$10 per diem for each person. To be sure, persons do travel very cheaply in Europe; I know of two young Englishmen, who recently travelled for \$50 each, over the Swiss route; that cost me three times that sum. But they walked every step of the way; and, speaking both French and Italian, they found humble lodgings with peasants, and never frequented the hotels; they lived on bread and grapes, and cheap wine, and spent on an average about a dollar a day.

OPIMUM SMOKING IN CHINA.

Bayard Taylor, while in China, experimented in opium smoking, and reports his experience in the New York Tribune, as follows:—

In spite of the penalties attached to it by Chinese law, the smoking of opium is scarcely a concealed practice at present. I have seen it carried on in open shops in Shanghai, where there are some streets which are never free from the sickening odour of the practice, in order to learn its effects by personal experience, and being now on the eve of leaving China, I applied to a gentleman residing there to put me in the way of enjoying a pipe or two. He was acquainted with a Chinaman who is addicted to the practice, and by an agreement with him, he took me to his house. We were ushered into a long room, with a kivan or platform, about three feet high, at the further end. Several Chinamen were in the room, and one, stretched out on the platform, was preparing his pipe at a lamp. The host invited me to stretch myself opposite to him, and place my head upon one of those cane head-stools which serve the Chinese in lieu of pillows.

The opium pipe is a bamboo stick, about two feet long, having a small drum inserted near the end, with an aperture in its centre. A piece of opium, about twice the size of a pin's head, is taken up on a slender wire, and held in the flame of a lamp until it boils or bubbles up, when it is rolled into a cylindrical shape on the drum, by the aid of the wire. It loses its dark color by heating, and becomes pale and soft. Having been sufficiently rolled, it is placed over the aperture, and the wire, after being thrust through its centre, to allow the air to pass into the pipe, is withdrawn. The pipe is then held to the flame, and as the opium burns, its fumes are drawn into the lungs by a strong and long continued inspiration. In about half a minute the portion is exhausted, and the smoker is ready for a second pipe. To my surprise, I found the taste of the

drug as delicious as its smell is disagreeable. It has a sweet rich flavor, like the finest liquorice upon the palate, and the gentle stimulus it communicates to the blood in the lungs, fills the whole body with a sensation of warmth and strength.—The fumes of the opium are more irritating to the windpipe or bronchial tubes than commonly while they remain imbued with stickiness of mucus, and send out diluted oxygen. I had supposed that opium was smoked entirely for the purpose of mental exhilaration; and that the smokers, as to many, who intoxicate themselves with ardent spirits, there was no sensual gratification in the pure taste of the article. The reverse is undoubtedly the truth, and therefore doubly dangerous.—The victim becomes hopelessly involved in its fascinating illusion, and an awful death, such as I witnessed not long since, is sure sooner or later to overtake him who indulges to excess. I have a pretty strong confidence in my own power of resistance, but nothing could induce me to make the second experiment.

Beyond the feeling of warmth, vigor, and increased vitality, softened by a happy consciousness of repose, there was no effect, until after the sixth pipe. My spirits then became joyously excited, with a constant disposition to laugh; brilliant colours floated before my eyes, but in a confused and cloudy way, sometimes converging into spots like the eyes in a peacock's tail, but often melting into and through each other, like the hues of a changeable silk. Had the physical excitement been greater, they would have taken form and substance, but after smoking nine pipes, I desisted through fear of subjecting myself to some unpleasant after-effect. Our Chinese host informed me that he was obliged to take twenty pipes, in order to elevate his mind to the pitch of perfect happiness: I went home feeling rather giddy, and became so nervous, with slight quivers of the stomach, that I went to bed at an early hour. After a deep and refreshing sleep, I rose at sunrise, feeling stronger and brighter than I had done for weeks past.

DAMAGES AGAINST A RAILWAY COMPANY.

The orphan children of a Mr. and Mrs. MacSweeney, recovered \$25,000 damages against the Irish Great Southern and Western Railroad Company, in an Assize Court lately, for the loss of their parents. The same Company have been already mulcted to the extent of about \$400,000 on account of the one accident.

MONUMENT TO THOMAS HOOD.—A monument to Thomas Hood has been inaugurated at Kensal-green Cemetery. It consists of a bronze bust of the poet, elevated on a pedestal of polished red granite, the whole being twelve feet high. In front of the bust are placed wreaths in bronze, and on a slab beneath the bust, appears that well-known line of the poet, which he desired should be used as his epitaph:

"He sang the song of the shirt."

Upon the front of the pedestal is carved this inscription:—"To the memory of Thomas Hood, born 23d May, 1798, died 2d May, 1845." At the base of the pedestal, a lyre and comic mask in bronze are thrown together, whilst on the sides of the pedestal are bronze medallions, illustrating the scenes of the "Bridge of Sighs" and the "Dream of Eugene Aram."

NOT ASHAMED OF THEIR TRADE.—Hon. W. W. Pepper, one of the Circuit Judges of Tennessee, was formerly a blacksmith; and "for the fun of it," he lately made with his own hands, an iron fire-shovel, which he presented to the governor. Hon. Andrew Johnson. In return, Governor Johnson, who was formerly a tailor, cut and made with his own hands a coat, and presented it to the Judge. The correspondence which passed between these distinguished and worthy American mechanics, is published in the Tennessee papers. Such men not only add lustre to their official positions, but set an example which "Young America" would do well to imitate.

"You are a hard customer!" as the man said when he ran against the lamp post. The astronomer Hind, has recently discovered another asteroid.

GRAVIES AND FRIED MEATS.—If fried pork must be used as an article of food, to some extent, do not suffer the drippings or fat to be ever placed upon the table for gravy. Turn it out, leaving but a spoonful or two in the skillet, then pour in water or milk, and thicken white boiling, with a little flour and water rubbed till free of lumps. With the addition of salt, this makes a wholesome and palatable gravy. Gravy should be made in the same way for all fried meats. Fried meats usually, however, absorb too much fat to be strictly healthful.—Meats broiled on the gridiron or baked in the oven are more digestible.

WOOD PAPER.—We are now writing, says the Ledger, upon foolscap paper of a very fair quality, made from wood, at Lee, Massachusetts, by Planter & Smith. These experiments in paper-making are made necessary by the scarcity and high price of cotton and linen rags, which have advanced so much that newspapers can scarcely afford to be published at their former rates, the cost of paper being so heavy. If wood, straw, and other fibrous substances, of a cheaper price, can be made to supply the deficiency of rags, every branch of the printing business will be relieved of an onerous expense.

THE GREAT BELL OF VIENNA. For a birthday excursion, I yesterday ascended the tower of St. Stephen, which rises up to the enormous height of 430 feet. About 300 feet above the floor we reached the Cathedral bell, the largest in Germany, weighing 35,400 pounds. A small family could conveniently live under the immense structure. It is 11 feet high and 10 1/2 wide. Eight men are required to ring it, as the clapper alone weighs 1400 pounds. It was cast in 1711 by the Emperor Joseph I. from 100 Turkish cannons taken by the Austrians. At the height of 250 feet in the clock.

In the room with the latter is stationed a man to watch for the breaking out of fire in the city and suburbs. He takes the angle by means of a fine telescope, and on a chair prepared for the purpose, finds the street and house. The Alarm is then given I ascended to the top of the tower, but as incline three feet from a perpendicular, an trembles at the slightest blow, I did not remain long at so dizzy a height.—Correspondent of Northern Advocate.

HOW KOSUTH WOULD TAKE SEBASTOPOL.

M. Kossuth, speaking of the taking of Sebastopol by the sea.—"The opportune moment of coup de main being lost, it would afford nothing which you neither can afford nor risk. And to taking it by land, to a fortress accessible by trenches, and having but a garrison to defend it is but a matter of art and comparative facilities. It can be situated to the best advantage. But to take a retrenched camp, lined by terrible fortresses, and an army for garrison in it, as now armies pouring upon your flank and rear and in the plains of the Crimea, with the cavalry to resist them, is an undertaking, success in which more forces are necessary than England and France ever can unite in the question for such an aim. Ask about it whichever staff officer who has learned something about tactics and strategy.—And in that position in Sebastopol, thanks to your Austrian alliance, which having interrupted herself between you and your enemy in Wallachia, made the Car for to send such numbers to Sebastopol as he likes.

"You will be beaten, remember my word. Your heavens will fall in vain under Russian bullets and Chinese arrows—the Russians fe under Turkish bullets and Danubian fever. No one out of five of your bravos, immolated in vain shall see Athos or Gallia again. But I will tell you in what manner Sebastopol is to be taken. In Warsaw that you can take Sebastopol. No pier landing at Tomoglia, and brave Poland risk at his gallant call, will at the very first burst engage 100,000 Russians. The first report Poland's insurrection can but spread dissolution the Polish ranks of the Russian army; in the words the Czar shall have 200,000 men less, and shall want 200,000 more. His bravest provinces, 19,000,000 of Poles, will have not an escaped from his grasp, but fight against him—600,000 left by your impudency to be the source his power and the tools of his ambition. Where a truth ever evident if this is not? A that's not all yet. Poland, with your authority and your aid in arms will assure King Olof of Sweden that he is not to be left a sacrifice in hands of an ever powerful Russia. Poland shall give you Sweden for an ally, and Sweden, again, occupies at least 100,000 Russians in Finland—and secured by your fleet, pushes on wards St. Petersburg. Thus you may in