

GREAT BRITAIN.

LONDON, March 11.—The House of Commons this evening went into Committee of Supply on the army estimates. Amendments by Mr. Holmes reducing the army by 20,000 men, and by Mr. Munz reducing it by 10,000, were successively rejected by a large majority.

LONDON, March 13.—Murphy, the well-known anti-Popery lecturer, is dead.

LONDON, March 13.—The claimant to the Tichborne estate, who has been in prison since the adverse decision in his case, has hopes of securing the large bail, £50,000, to effect his release. It is reported that the prisoner, if bailed, will immediately be re-arrested on a charge of forgery. Mr. Montagu Williams is to conduct the prosecution against the prisoner. Only £3,750 of the amount required to bail the Tichborne claimant has thus far been found, but the prisoner expects to secure the full amount. He is certain to be re-arrested on a double charge if released.

RELIGIOUS DISABILITIES ABOLITION BILL.—Sir Colman O'Loughlin's Bill proposes to enact that every subject of Her Majesty shall be eligible to hold the office of Lord Chancellor of Great Britain or Lord Lieutenant of Ireland on taking such oath of office as does not involve any religious test. As regards ecclesiastical jurisdiction, or trusteeship or exercise of ecclesiastical jurisdiction, or trusteeship or exercise of membership of the Church of England, the Bill proposes that these functions of the Lord Chancellor shall devolve upon another official person when such Lord Chancellor is not a member of the Church of England. The Bill proposes to repeal the penal clauses of the Catholic Emancipation Act relating to monastic orders. It is also proposed to enact that henceforth no use, trust, or disposition of property for pious or charitable use shall be void or unlawful on the ground of being superstitious.—Times.

LAND TENURE.—In the volume recently published by the Cobden Club, some evidence is given to show that, in all, the bona fide landed proprietors of England and Wales, great and small, largely exceed 100,000, and may well amount to 200,000. In this calculation the owners of mere houses and gardens are expressly left out of account, so that it is not inconsistent with those who raise the aggregate of consistent with real estate to 300,000 or more. It persons owning real estate to the Duke of Richmond that Lord Salisbury, distrusting the Reports for his own County, which gave only 245 persons, investigated the matter for himself, and found that 8,833 were so entered on the Rate-Book. Applying this ratio of difference to all England, the Duke argues that, instead of 300,000, there may, for aught that appears, be 994,338 English landowners; but he evidently did not seriously intend to adopt this hypothesis. It is, indeed, notorious that in the Home Counties land is held in much smaller lots elsewhere, and the rural economy of Hertfordshire would be no guide for that of Devonshire or Northumberland.—Times.

RECURRING DIFFICULTIES.—Major Knollys, in an article in the *Dark Blue Magazine*, has directed attention to the difficulty there would be in time of war in filling up the ranks of the army. Its numbers are always below the strength voted by Parliament in time of peace, and very much below that voted in time of war. And whereas in past wars gaps were filled by allowing poachers and other offenders to serve out their sentences in the tanks instead of in prison, in these days such an expedient would not be tolerated. The *Fall Mall Gazette* supplements the observation by pointing out that our principal recruiting-ground for a foreign legion is closed by the extension of the Prussian military system to the whole of Germany, and sums up the position thus: "We must not enlist criminals, we cannot enlist foreigners, and Englishmen of reputed 'honour' will not come to the colours in sufficient numbers." The conclusion to be drawn is one which has long approved itself to us as the probable future solution of the difficulty: that, sooner or later, we shall have to apply the principle of compulsory service, in a limited degree, to our population. The opinions repeatedly expressed by high military authorities as to the degree of efficiency likely to be displayed by Volunteer forces in time of war tend to confirm this view; but the Volunteer movement, even if absorbed in a system such as that which we have just indicated, will have done a valuable work in leading up to and preparing something better.

No trace of Mr. Bauer, the Russian gentleman who has disappeared from London, has been found. A letter from his father has been received tending to credit the assertion that his son has fallen a victim to the vengeance of a secret society.

THE TICHBORNE FAMILY.—A Correspondent writes: "It may not be generally known that the Tichborne family was represented on the High Court of Justice which condemned Charles I. to the block. Mr. Robert Tichborne, a member of a younger branch of the family, in his early life carried on business as a linen draper in the City of London. At the commencement of the disturbances he attached himself to the Parliamentary party, to whose interests he became entirely devoted. He launched out deeply into the extravagances of the popular party, of whom he became a leader. When the Civil War broke out he entered the Parliamentary army, and passing through various ranks to that of colonel, he was appointed Lieutenant of the Tower under General Fairfax. In this position his power was very considerable: he commanded the City at his will, and swayed it at his pleasure. His consequence and power were so great that he was appointed one of the King's judges, and after presenting a petition from the Common Council of London for the trial, he omitted no opportunity of showing his deep interest in its progress and result. He was only absent from the court during its entire sitting for two days; and he appended his signature to the warrant for executing Charles. During the Commonwealth he attained high civic and national dignity. In 1650 he was one of the sheriffs of London; and in 1656 he was elected Lord Mayor of the City, under the appellation of Sir Robert Tichborne, Skinner. He was held in such high favor and esteem by the Protector, that he was appointed one of the Committee of State in 1658, knighted and made one of Cromwell's 'lords.' After his death Tichborne attached himself to the interests of his son Richard; but had nevertheless sufficient influence to obtain seats on the Council of State and on the Committee of Safety. At the Restoration he became a prisoner in the Tower. He was charged with treason and with having maliciously taken part in the trial of Charles I., and signing his death warrant. He was tried at the Old Bailey in 1660; he pledged that he acted in obedience to the Parliament and in ignorance and without malice, no doubt in fulfilment of an agreement made between his friends and the Government. No evidence was offered against him by the prosecution, and his life was spared, but he lingered on the remainder of his life in the Tower, of which he was once the commander.

THE CHEVALIER STUART.—There has just passed away from among us, at the age of 73 or 74, a gentleman who has for many years been known in certain literary circles as the Chevalier, or Count, John Sobieski Stuart. It is asserted by his friends that he was the eldest grandson of the 'Young Pretender,' and if this really were the case, if the Revolution of 1688 had never occurred, and if the strict Jacobite theory of Divine right were part and parcel of our Constitution, the nation at this moment would have been in public mourning for the loss of its lawful Sovereign. It may possibly be remembered that the real Stuart descent of this gentleman was questioned and examined at considerable length in the *Quarterly Review* for June, 1847, and which was known to have been written by Mr. John Wilson

Croker, who held him to be not a Stuart, but a Hy-Allan. Those who are curious in such subjects will find the story of the modern Stuarts fully discussed in the article above referred to, and further information as to the antecedents of the Chevalier now deceased may be seen in the *Edinburgh Review* of July, 1861, and in the *St. James's Magazine* of last month, from which we may be pardoned for quoting the following extract:—"Among the most constant frequenters of the Reading-room at the British Museum may be noticed almost daily two gentlemen, if not old, yet advancing rapidly into years, and dressed in an unmistakably foreign costume. A glance at their faces will at once remind you of the marked type of the Stuarts, especially about the forehead and eyebrows; and, indeed, they might sit for portraits of Charles I. and James II. respectively. The friends of these gentlemen say that they are John Sobieski Stuart and Charles Edward Stuart, and that they have proofs of their descent as grandsons of 'The Young Pretender,' . . . and we believe we are not wrong in asserting that both of the brothers when young held commissions in the French army, and served against us at Waterloo, where one of them was instrumental in saving the life of Napoleon as he fled from the field. It is said that the elder brother is busily engaged upon a work on military science." It is this elder brother who is now deceased.

MR. MACGIBB, M.P., ON THE EDUCATION QUESTION.—We learn by telegraph that a Catholic soiree was held at Kildermurrah on Monday night in aid of the local Catholic schools. Lord Robert Montagu was detained by the Scotch Education Bill coming before Parliament, and Mr. Maguire, M.P., took the chair. He defended the cause of denominational education, and contended that it was necessary to the welfare of mankind. Referring to Irish schools he said there appeared to be a perfect conspiracy on the part of at least some London papers to hide everything relating to the real state of Ireland from the mind of the English people, and to distort and pervert what really existed. He denied that they were parrots repeating the lessons their priests taught them. The present school system in Ireland was the most absurd that could be conceived, and they wanted denominational education free and unrestricted. This they would have with the assistance of enlightened men in this country, if possible, but they would have it whether they assisted or not. Do let them look at the results of a godless education in France; and take care they had not a godless population, but a Christian population in this country. A bad day would it be for Ireland if the priests were driven from the schools.—*Dublin Freeman*.

Jonquin Miller says of Queen Victoria: "In Whitehall I first saw the Queen of England, a sad and silent woman, whose virtues, charities and simplicity have challenged the admiration of the world; a woman who has turned from the adoration of courts to educate her own children; a woman always clad in uncompromising black. She never wears hoops, nor waterfalls, nor false hair. I think she deserves a crown for this, if nothing more."

Of all the Petty Sessions in the United Kingdom the hottest must surely have been those held at Exbridge on the 12th of February. One of the "cases" was a charge against a child of ten for squirting a mouthful of water over a little girl of twelve. Nobody whipped the naughty little urchin on the spot, and so the vigorous enforcement of the law was adopted; instead of calling in a nurse, or nurserymaid, or his mother to box his ears, a full Bench adjudicated upon the dispute. The Bench fined the child 5s., or in default, seven days imprisonment. The mother said she could not pay the money, and "the little boy" was then led from the dock weeping bitterly. "What has been done since we do not know. Perhaps the young criminal has acquired his first experience of prisons, or somebody may have paid the fine for him. But what can we think of the common sense shown by magistrates, who deemed seven days imprisonment an appropriate punishment for the childish freak of a little boy of ten? Why, if he had been detained for two hours in the custody of an officer, the fright would have fully satisfied the justice of the case. If ever women's rights are advanced so far as the Bench, we might hope to see female magistrates decide on all cases where the culprits happen to be under twelve. They know something about children, even if they do not understand politics and law.

A VERY EXTRAORDINARY STORY.—A suburban paper, the *North Londoner*, makes the following extraordinary statements:—"On Tuesday morning the residents in the neighbourhood of Harringay-grove, Hornsey, were startled by a series of loud shrieks and screaming; among others who were aroused was a gentleman, who quickly dressed, and ran in the direction whence the sounds proceeded. On reaching the banks of the New River, close by the path leading up to the railway station, he found a woman in the water, but only immersed up to her waist, and a man named Preston holding her up. Upon this gentleman approaching the spot he was asked by the man "What do you want here?" and "Who are you?" He did not wait to reply, but proceeded to drag the unfortunate creature out of the water. Other gentlemen quickly came up, and unitedly they lifted the woman over the stile (by this time she had swooned). They then tried to get a stretcher, but failed; so a scaffold board was secured, upon which the woman was tied; and the rescuers proceeded towards Wood-green Police-station, upon reaching which place they met some policemen, to whom they confided their burden. On reaching the station-house Dr. Hocken was sent for, and he speedily came and rendered such assistance as was required. The woman was taken before Colonel Jeakes, J.P., and charged with attempting to commit suicide; and eventually she was remanded. There are some strange features, however, in the case. First, the accused is the sister, we are told, of a young woman who attempted suicide at the same place in October last. Secondly, the man Preston is the same man who was then found trying to rescue the alleged would-be suicide. Thirdly, Preston's statement is a very strange one—namely, that he had missed the last train from town, and had walked home; as he passed the place where the two persons were found, he says the woman asked him the way to West-green, and that soon after he saw her jump into the water. Fourthly, neither of the gentlemen who helped to rescue the woman was asked to appear before the magistrate. Fifthly, the above-mentioned attempted suicide case was hushed up, and no more was heard of it.

We find a very amusing equivoque in the *Paris Figaro* from Albert Wolff:—"I must ask leave to tell the reader the curious story of the house inhabited at Chislehurst by him who was once Emperor of the French. The proprietor of this pretty house is called Scott. On the day when Napoleon III. ascended the throne, Mr. Scott sent for his architect and said to him—"In ten years—fifteen at the outside—Napoleon will be compelled to seek refuge in England, and I should like to offer him hospitality. I draw me up the plan of a splendid villa, and let us wait events. The architect set to work, and like his countryman, who followed Van Amburgh everywhere in the hope of seeing him torn to pieces by his lions, Mr. Scott followed the career of the Emperor of the French, feeling perfectly certain that sooner or later he must be eaten up by the French people. However, in course of time, 'Mister Scott' got his villa completed. When the Emperor wrote his letter of January 19th he ordered in the upholsterers; when the *Lanterne* made its appearance he had sheets put to the bed. What that true Briton must have experienced when Napoleon III. landed in England utterly baffles description. He called on the Emperor and offered him his house. The Em-

peror sent an aide-de-camp to say that the house was more pretentious than he wanted, and that he did not want to pay more than £40 a month rent. Just my figure, exclaimed the enraptured 'Mister Scott.' The bargain was concluded, and 'Mister Scott,' returning to the bosom of his family, exclaimed, 'a present je puis mourir!' The only merit of this story is that it is strictly true."

The *Fall Mall Gazette* suggests that clergymen with a limited stock of sermons, may peruse too far on the shortness of their hearers' memories, and fortifies this position by certain statistics supplied by an antiquarian correspondent concerning a certain preacher's sermons to the following effect:—"His theory is that during the thirteen years of the present incumbency the general stocks of sermons possessed by the vicar has been preached forty-eight times, or, as he says, has made forty-eight revolutions, and that they are already far advanced in the forty-ninth cycle. He that when they have gone through fifty revolutions they will be tolerably well worn out, seeing that they were ancient when they came into the possession of the present owner. He considers that he has accurately fixed the date of their composition, which he believes to be between the thirty-fifth and fortieth years of George III., or about seventy-five years ago. Two of them, which are known as the 'Astronomical Sermons' he says, are taken from Derham's 'Astro-Theology,' published in 1786, and abound with the errors of that date. Another is supposed to have been written on the occasion of the earthquake at Lisbon, and is known as the 'Trampling Sermon,' being suited to occasions of public calamity. It has already done duty on the occasions of two revolutions in Spain, twice for commercial panics in England, once for the Crimean war, and recently for the Franco-German war, with a few other similar occasions. They are taken from some early numbers of the *Church Magazine*. One is known as the 'Railway Sermon,' from its having a good deal of 'go' in it. It is supposed to have been written on the occasion of the first introduction of stage coaches in England, and has now been adapted to describe the railway traveling mania. One which begins, 'This day, 1800 years ago, was born,' etc., my friend has already ascertained, by a careful comparison of the Julian period with the correction by the vulgar era, to have been written in the year 1799, and he notes that it has been preached on twelve successive Christmas days. Another he calls 'in re Zacheus and the sycamore-tree,' and another, 'in re Blasius, the King's chamberlain.' He also has special notes upon one called 'The Lawful Minister,' which he says is a great favorite, and appears to do more than its fair share of work in the revolution of dates."

The New M.P.'s.—Captain John Philip Nolan of Ballinderry, is a son of Mr. John Nolan of Ballinderry, who was a magistrate for the county of Galway. He was born about the year 1838, entered the Royal Artillery as lieutenant in 1857, and became captain 1869. He is a magistrate for the county, with which he is connected by property, and now enters Parliament for the first time. Mr. Francis Sharp Powell, returned to Parliament in the Conservative interest as successor to the seat for the Northern Division of Yorkshire, left vacant by the death of Sir Francis Crossley, is not new to the House of Commons, having acted as M.P. for Wigan in 1857-59, and for Cambridgeborough in 1863-68. He is connected with Yorkshire by the ties of land, having a seat at Horton, near Bradford, and he is a magistrate for Lancashire and for the West Riding of Yorkshire. He was educated in St. John's College, Cambridge, where he graduated in honours in 1850, and was elected a Fellow of St. John's in the following year. He was called to the bar at the Inner Temple in 1853, and went the Northern Circuit but has for some years ceased to practice. He is opposed to the Permissive Bill. He is described in 'Dodd's Parliamentary Companion for 1867' as a Liberal-Conservative, in favour of a policy of non-intervention in foreign affairs, an upholder of the interests of the church, and a supporter of sound moral and religious education throughout the country. Mr. Powell was last year an unsuccessful candidate for the borough of Stalbridge.

UNITED STATES.

METHODISM AMONG THE NEGROES.—The Catholic mission among the colored people of the South has aroused deep and wide-spread alarm among the leaders of Methodism. Their frantic appeals to their religious brethren, to contribute with greater generosity than they have shown in past years, to the work of Protestantizing the colored people, in order that the zeal of the Romanists may be thwarted, and defeated, sound like the ravages of men on the verge of despair. In the war "that has been carried into Africa," they who a few days ago were confident that the colored people would universally accept Methodism, are now admitting a well-grounded fear that a Church whose high priest is a prisoner and a dependent upon charity, and the mass of whose followers are the poorest and the most despised of this world, should overwhelm with the dread of its triumph in this new missionary field the largest and wealthiest army of American Protestantism. But the humiliating confession, that they anticipate the victory of the weak and the few and the poor over the strong and the many and the rich, unless extraordinary exertions be put forth in favor of Methodism, comes loudly from their own lips.—*Catholic Telegraph*.

A Maryland paper tells the story of a marriage under difficulties, where first the bridegroom failed to appear at the appointed time through thoughtfulness, and was discovered, pursued, and only "brought to" with a shot gun; the bride then became indignant, and refused to marry so faint-hearted a swain; and finally the clergyman, who is something of a wag, settled the matter by threatening to have them both arrested for breach of promise—unless the ceremony was immediately performed—which it was.

The *New York Tribune* says: "The salient point in the French arms scandal is that the government armories were employed by Gen. Grant's administration, to manufacture cartridges for the use of the French in the aggressive war they opened in 1870 against the Germans. There are other startling features about it, but this is the one point which is admitted by all sides." German citizens will please take a note of this.

If we were to believe the daily press of New York, there is scarcely an official in the City or State, who is not justly entitled to "free bond" at Sing Sing.

QUACKERY.—Of every social evil some cause must exist; and this cause in the ultimate analysis, will be found to reside not so much in the defective social reorganization as in the individuals who compose society. Quackery in this country is co-extensive with the nation, and the evil thence resulting is affecting, it would seem, even the national life itself.—Physiologists both here and in Europe affirm that the Caucasian race is degenerating in America. Is not this physical degeneracy ascertainable, in part, at least, to the very general habit of taking poisonous patent medicines? Why this should be the promised land of quacks is, upon superficial reflection, not so apparent—that such is the fact, however, no one will deny. Our successful quacks are millionaires, and, after that, anything that they wish to be. Quackery, indeed with us, is by no means confined to the art of healing. The quack, both in religion and in politics, is a standing nuisance, which cannot be eradicated, because it is firmly rooted in the affections of the people. We seek to get wealth by credit, knowledge by raps on midnight tables, religion from the platitudes and puerilities of a buffoon skilled in declamation, place, and position through a caucus or by bribery, and to cover up our crimes we

have recourse to a packed jury or a venal judge. If all this is not quackery, what is it? Or is not quackery to attempt to make honest men or good citizens by a system of education from which God, and consequently all the ultimate principles of morality, are excluded? We are persuaded that the grandest theory of quackery ever devised is the common school system of the United States. Education is the universal patent medicine for every evil.—Teach men reading, writing, and arithmetic, and theft, murder, drunkenness, abortion, with their innumerable attendants will disappear. And that sublime faith which usually characterizes the victims of quackery, is to be found in this case. In spite of the accumulating mass of evidence going to show that the houses of debauch, prostitution, and the prisons are being filled with persons who have been educated in the public schools, notwithstanding the appalling increase of crime and corruption in public and private life, we still cling with undiminished faith to our quack medicine, and continue to add to the burden of taxation that our children may receive an education from which God and religion are excluded. Religion is dying out, infidelity and atheism are daily gaining ground; the independence and love of freedom which once marked the American character are disappearing; day by day we are preparing for despotism; the apathy and degeneracy of the people allowing the central government to encroach upon the liberties of all. The highest in authority notoriously receive bribes for offices in their gift; the local governments are in the hands of rings utterly unprincipled and corrupt. The State Legislatures are controlled by cliques and corporations; by the influence of money and whisky, any measure, no matter how iniquitous, may be passed; the judiciary is as corrupt as the legislative bodies; the packing of juries, and the buying of judges have become universal. This official corruption is confined to no one party, but belongs equally to all, showing the hopelessness of political reform. If we consider private morality, we shall find a state of things equally discouraging; and still, by a singular infatuation, we continue to dose the nation with the great panacea for every evil—common school education.—*Louisville (Ky.) Catholic Advocate*.

HARDY.—Deacon Johnson is a great temperance man, and sets a good example of total abstinence as far as he is seen. Not long ago he employed a carpenter to make some alterations in his parlor, and in repairing the corner near the fireplace it was found necessary to remove the wainscoting, when, lo! a discovery was made that astonished everybody. A brace of deacons, a tumbler, and a pitcher, were cozily reposing there as if they had stood there from the beginning. The deacon was summoned, and as he beheld the blushing bottles, he exclaimed—"Well, I declare, that is curious, sure enough. It must be that old Bains left them when he went out of this house thirty years ago." "Perhaps he did," returned the carpenter, "but deacon, the ice in the pitcher must have been friz mighty hard to stay till this time."

OUR JAPANESE LADY VISITORS.—A writer in the *New York Evening Post*, in view of the anticipated visit of a number of Japanese princesses, discusses the interesting and mysterious topic of the dances of the Orient. Accustomed as they are to the simple toilet characteristic of the *chies* of Hakodadi and Yokohama, these wandering ladies cannot fail to be deeply impressed with the costumes in which their sisters of America indulge, and in which they will undoubtedly be instructed by a special ladies committee, headed by Miss Flora McFinnley, of Madison Square. It will be interesting to note the wonder and admiration which will fill the souls of the fair strangers as the mysteries of the chignon, for instance, are explained to their intelligent and inquiring minds. The immense efficacy of bouffants they will learn for the first time; the use of fringe as a saving means of grace will be made manifest to them; feathers, frills, gimp, bugles, bows, paniers, sashes, and other similar triumphs of Christian civilization will be brought before their enraptured vision; befitting bonnets will enlighten their darkened minds, and they will learn how much more sustaining under trying circumstances a real Paris dress by Worth than even the sternest possible sense of moral rectitude. The Oriental maidens will be instructed in our admirable legal system of divorces made easy; they will learn for themselves the worship of the great goddess Fashion, so slavishly adored by the daughters of "the leading damoiselle" of New York; they will, in time be initiated into the bewitching mysteries of fancy fairs, and thus know how to sell a twenty-five cent doll for five dollars; they will become wise in the matter of churches, and perceive the great advantages which the fashionable edifices on the avenues have over the inferior ones in the side streets; they will, in fact, go through the entire curriculum of the fashionable university of New York society.

THE UNITED STATES NAVY.—The United States Navy is described, at the beginning of the year 1872, as composed of 178 vessels, nominally amounting to 1,426 guns. Of these, 36 vessels, with an aggregate of 398 guns, are on foreign stations or cruising; eight, carrying 103 guns, are used as school and practice ships; seven, with 30 guns, are used as receiving ships; and one, of 10 guns, is occupied as marine barracks at Pensacola, Florida. Seventeen unarmoured vessels are stationed at various navy-yards, and 26 vessels, with 206 guns, are repairing. One vessel of eight guns is in winter quarters on Lake Erie. The remaining 82 vessels are not in use, four, of 61 guns, being out of commission; 14, of 130 guns, in ordinary; 49, of 204 guns, being laid up; 13, of 193 guns, being unfinished; one, of 23 guns, being sunk, and one being condemned. There are 1,124 commissioned officers and 188 warrant officers on the active list. The commissioned officers are employed as follows:—On duty at sea 687; on duty ashore, 484; waiting orders and unemployed, 282; on leave of absence, 25; and on sick leave, 26. The principle officers are one admiral, one vice-admiral, 12 rear-admirals, 25 commodores, 50 captains, 90 commanders, and 164 lieutenants. There are 60 chief engineers, 99 first-assistent engineers, and 70 second-assistent engineers.

A STRANGE DISEASE.—Within the past few years there has sprung upon the world a strange and terrible disease, which the faculty elect to call cerebro-spinal meningitis. More strictly, however, if we are correct in our lay opinion, it is the name that is new rather than the complaint. It is a long witnessed fact, which physicians, we believe, have never attempted to explain, that a war of any magnitude is invariably followed by a cattle plague of malignity proportioned to the loss of human life. Europe has seen it after every one of her bloody wars, the late Franco-Prussian struggle giving one of the best examples. So in both continents, but more particularly in America, has a strange disease which we have sometimes called "the black plague," sometimes "spotted fever," followed in the path of war. At the close of the revolution which established our independence the valleys of Pennsylvania were attacked with a human complaint that commenced with vomiting and pains in the back, and generally ended, in a few hours after, in death, leaving the victim covered with purple spots. A slight recurrence of the disease took place in 1812. During our late civil war it broke out again with great malignity over a far greater surface of country. In the Luzerne Valley of Pennsylvania people died of it by hundreds; and, strange to say, it seemed most fatal in the poorest and the most elevated regions. At Long Branch, too, its fatality was very great, and its strange character, its suddenness, and the hopelessness of physicians resulted in a general panic. We remember also a female seminary in the north of Massachusetts—a region considered unusually free from sickness—that was entirely broken up by its ravages. Of late

the same disease, or a disease with the same symptoms, has broken out in various portions of the country, without any seeming connection with what was held to be its former cause—the bloodshed of war. Maryland has been seriously affected with it, and within the past few weeks it has made its appearance in New York. During the present week four children of one family have died of it in that city, and with all of them there was scarcely twelve hours between the attack and the death. The symptoms were all nansen and sudden death. The symptoms, and purple and rose-colored spots on the face, chest and body at the death. Physicians have at last been called to its careful consideration, have penetrated somewhat into its character, and have baptised it with the above-mentioned name. They declare it to be the result of blood poison, and that the direct cause is generally traceable—sometimes epidemic, but more often local—to the filthy condition of drains, sewers, or garbage piles. Little has yet been said as to the proper treatment of the disease, as, in fact, its speedy action has too often prevented any successful handling. Active stimulants are, we believe, the only hope; sanitary committees and the faculty generally are carefully examining the subject, and it is to be hoped that further light will soon be thrown upon it.—*Centinatti Commercial*.

IMPERIAL REMINISCENCES.—The romance which surrounds the life of the deposed French Emperor gives particular interest at the present time, when he is again an exile, to the following portrait of his mother, Hortense. Who would have thought that the daring and chief actor in the coup d'etat that placed the crown of the empire on the brow of the nephew was so fearful and timid in his youthful days? If it be true to say that the boy is father of the man, this instance would seem to furnish a notable exception.

THE MOTHER OF THE EMPEROR NAPOLEON.

Hortense was a remarkably handsome woman; her organization, too, being delicate as her principles were flexible. Her writer says that she possessed the most beautiful and luxuriant hair, of a light, shining blonde, tinged with an ashen hue, which imparted to it an extraordinary appearance. It was long enough to reach the ground, and when she sat upon the chair to have it dressed, she suffered it to fall over her whole figure like a veil, and trail on all sides upon the floor. Even at such times her two little sons were always with her, and used often to amuse themselves by hiding in turn under their mother's hair, and holding out suddenly to produce a laugh. When she was dressed they generally went down with her to the carriage-door, one of the little fellows carrying her gloves and shawl, while the other performed the office of page, and bore her train. It must be recalled that at this time Hortense did not reside in the Tuileries, but in her own palace, where she almost went daily to dine with the Emperor.

Napoleon was as punctilious about appointments, and observed time with an extreme exactness, as did the late Duke of Wellington. Hence he was wont to send the members of his family if they were not at the Tuileries precisely as the clock tolled six, at which hour dinner was laid on the table. Oftentimes Hortense, knowing this particular characteristic, had little time to prepare her toilette. Her nervous impatience used frequently put her *collifichambre* out of humor. "Don't you mind," she used to say, "how my hair is done; only be quick, so that I can get into the Tuileries in time." "But your Majesty," her attendant would rejoin, "will absolutely ruin us in the opinion of the Emperor. Should he see your hair huddled up after this fashion, what will he say?" "Don't be alarmed," replied Hortense, "there are an abundance of ladies about the Court on whose heads you can exhibit your skill. Quickness is the only point I insist upon." Hortense published some reminiscences of her life, which book throws some light on her son's early career. She was also a clever musician, and composed several airs, one being the well-known "Pantant pour la Syrie," which ultimately became the national melody of France.

Louis, at first, appeared to have inherited the feeble constitution of his mother, whose frame was exceedingly delicate. Although exceedingly terrified, fear made no lasting impression upon him, as it does upon other children. The following anecdote is related, by way of illustration. When but four years old, he, for the first time, beheld a chimney-sweep, all black with soot. "The strange sight greatly alarmed him, so that he rushed to his governess and sought protection. Madame de Bothers, acting on the theories of Jean Jacques, which were then so much in vogue, took the opportunity of "improving the occasion," by inculcating the moral lesson of self-command. She did not do this violently, or even reprove her charge, but took her pupil on her knee, soothed him with caresses, and by this gentle treatment for ever dissipated the apprehension of sooty boys, for whom she inspired in his mind sentiments of pity. Some months later, when asleep with his brother in the nursery, the nurse retired for a short time. During her absence down popped a young Savoyard from the chimney, wrapped in a sooty envelope. Louis being a light sleeper, awoke, and was again terror-struck at the unexpected apparition. Their stood the sweep in his presence, filling the room with a cloud of dust. However, the boy, calling to mind the pitiful tale told him by his governess, soon got composed, left his bed, and running across the room in his night-shirt, climbed on a chair, and having taken his pocket-money from a drawer, gave it, purse and all, to the poor sweep. He then endeavored to get back to bed, but failed in the attempt, so that he awoke his brother, who called the nurse to his assistance.

Hortense had her virtues as well as her vices, and her extreme fondness for her children served to brighten the dark side of her character. The following story illustrates her devoted care and affection as a mother. Louis Napoleon, when a child, once suffered severely owing to a clumsily-performed dental operation. Serious hemorrhage resulted from the rupture of an artery in the gums. So constant was the bleeding, that apprehensions were entertained of the Prince's life. Although Paris was famous for its dental surgeons, still their art failed to arrest the effusion of blood in the young patient. In the dead of night Hortense received tidings of her child's danger. She hastened to her son's chamber, where she discovered the attendants in tears. She directly applied remedies of her own, and gradually had the delightful satisfaction of seeing the wound stanch, and her emaciated child gently fall into a deep slumber. The mother then stole to her room and sought repose. In vain, however, she wooed sleep. Her mind was constantly haunted, while in a dreamy, half-wakeful state, by the spectre of her son, wan, death-stricken, and smeared with blood. So powerfully did this vision affect her imagination, that she quitted her bed, and stealthily made her way to the sick chamber. Not a sound was heard save the heavy breathing of the nurse, who, possibly from fatigue, had fallen fast asleep beside her charge. From this omen Hortense naturally thought that all was right. To make sure, however, she moved towards the bed, and drawing aside the curtains, to her horror saw her child's face wan, ghastly and blood-stained. The artery had again burst, and life was fast ebbing away. What was to be done? Suddenly the terrified mother caught the boy in her arms, and acting on a sudden impulse, placed her finger in his mouth, meanwhile pressing the digital member firmly on the wound. Soon the crimson stream was arrested; and after passing the remainder of the night with Louis in her arms, she had the gratification of seeing her love and prayers requited; for, when morning broke, the bleeding had not only ceased, but the wound was healed.