

THE FRENCH BAR.

welcomed lawyers without delicacy, without enthusiasm for their duties, and only urged on in a noble career by sordid considerations of interest; you mistake—you degrade—functions precious to humanity, essential to the progress of public order; you close that school of civic virtues where talent and merit learned, while pleading the cause of citizens before the judge, to defend thereafter that of the people in the legislative assemblies."

Resuming the path of our history from which we turned aside for the moment, we find between the time of Gerbier and the present, materials that might well afford matter for a lengthy paper—the trial of Louis the Sixteenth and that of his queen, the reorganisation of the Bar under Napoleon, the trial of Marshal Ney, and the revolution of 1830; but the Bar of the nineteenth century must claim our remaining space. Hennequin, Berryer, *père et fils*, the brothers Dupin, Dufaure, Garnier-Pagès, Ledru-Rollin, Baroche, Rouher, Jules Favre, Emile Ollivier, with many others, are names with which we are familiar.

Hennequin was engaged in almost all the great trials which took place between the years 1814 and 1834. Among them were the celebrated cases of the disputed succession which followed the death of the Prince of Conde, who was found hanged in his chateau in the August of 1830, and with whom perished the great house of which he was the last representative. Two years after he undertook the defence of the Duchesse de Berri, who had been arrested while vainly endeavouring to rekindle the smouldering embers of civil war in La Vendee. About this time, Antoine Pierre Berryer began to rise to fame. No name is so well known as his. This distinguished man was for many years the undoubted leader of the French Bar, and to him the Bar of our own country has paid reverential honour. The father of Berryer, an able and distinguished advocate, defended Marshal Ney, and the position of the father naturally paved the way for the son. Berryer's life, as that of nearly all the greatest advocates in France, is as much political as forensic. And this characteristic of the French Bar makes its own history almost the history of France.

Among many great political trials in which M. Berryer was engaged, one stands out far above all others in interest—we mean the trial of the present Emperor of the French, for his attempt at Boulogne. In 1852 M. Berryer was elected *Bâtonnier* of the Parisian Bar; and, so late as 1858, defended Count Montalembert, who was prosecuted by the Government for certain alleged libellous expressions contained in a newspaper. We most of us remember M. Berryer's visit to Lord Brougham in 1864. Upon that occasion the Bar entertained the two venerable advocates at a banquet in the Middle Temple Hall. His last appearance in the Legislature was in February, 1868; on November 29 following he breathed his last. To the last a Royalist,

upon his death-bed, after receiving the last sacrament of the Church, he wrote that touching letter to the *Compte de Chambord*, which now is matter of history.

Louis Garnier-Pagès and Ledru-Rollin are known to us rather as politicians than barristers, and MM. Thiers and de Tocqueville have achieved a fame, broader and wider than that which the Bar alone can give. Two names of men living among us claim our notice, and with them our imperfect notice of Mr. Young's book must close.

Jules Favre, at present the acknowledged leader of the democratic party in France, and one of the most consummate of living orators, was born at Lyons in 1809. His speech before the Court of Peers in 1835, on behalf of those who were implicated in the fatal disturbances at Lyons, one of great eloquence, marked him out at once. On the retirement of the famous Abbe Lammennais from the management of the journal *Le Mouvement*, M. Favre became one of its chief political directors. In 1860 and 1861 M. Favre was elected *Bâtonnier* of the Parisian Bar. M. Favre is one of the most consummate speakers of modern times. He has acquired the art in its every branch, and possessing a profound knowledge of his own language, moulds it with a delicacy of finish that is, perhaps, unrivalled.

The present Prime Minister of France, Emile Ollivier, was born at Marseilles in 1826, and was admitted to the Parisian Bar in 1846. In politics a Liberal, his views are far more moderate than those of M. Jules Favre. As a lawyer he is eminent, and as a speaker, although far inferior to the great democrat, is bold and eloquent.

One quotation we shall give. It is taken from his reply to M. Baroche, in defence of liberty:—

"Infirm," says M. Ollivier, "that the honourable M. Baroche does not believe in the power of liberty, because he sees only its excesses. These excesses I also, like him, acknowledge and detest. But, for the same reason that we do not forbid the use of fire, because it burns as well as warms; for the same reason that we reject not religion, because there are wicked priests, and justice, because there are false sentences; for the same reason that we condemn not marriages, because there are adulterers; for the same reason that we refuse not to commence a voyage, because we may encounter tempests on the sea instead of propitious winds and starry skies; for the same reason I do not understand why we should proscribe liberty on account of its excesses! In all worldly things the good and the bad are found side by side. We must have the manly courage, when we follow the good, to accept the difficult conditions of strifes and efforts which are the beauty the glory, the dignity of great undertakings. Royard-Collard has said so, and yet he was no demagogue. Constitutions are not tents set up for sleep; governments are not places of repose, where one's days may glide away in tranquillity, without care or