

In the mouth of the wicked we shall be a reproach and by word, but God will defend the right, and if Mr. Wesley had been entirely silent on this point it would not have changed the nature of things. It is well enough to be sustained by the opinion of the wise and good, but eternal truth and righteousness must for ever condemn a business that is essentially vile and practically immoral.

Choice Extracts from New Works.

Under this general head, we shall serially enrich our columns with selections from the most recent publications of value and importance, accompanied occasionally with remarks and criticisms, when these may be necessary for the elucidation of the paragraph.

Although the continuation of Alison's History of Europe is only just announced as from the press, in England, we are enabled to give an extract or two. Take the following on

THE BOMBARDING OF ALGIERS, BY LORD EXMOUTH.

"On the morning of the 27th August, at day-break, the fleet was off Algiers; Lord Exmouth immediately despatched a flag of truce to the Dey, with the terms dictated by the Prince Regent, which were the entire abolition of Christian slavery and liberation of all captives, and full compensation to the British Consul, and the sailors of the *Prometheus* who had been imprisoned. An answer was promised by the port captain in two hours, and meanwhile the fleet stood into the bay and anchored within a mile of the town. At two P.M. the boat was seen returning with the signal that no answer had been given. Lord Exmouth immediately made the signal 'are you ready?' and the affirmative being returned from every vessel, the signal to advance was given, and every ship bore up for its appointed station. The *Queen Charlotte* headed the line, and made straight for the mole-head. It was Lord Exmouth's intention not to have opened his fire unless that of the enemy became very galling, and the guns on the upper and lower deck, accordingly, were not primed till the ship had anchored. But the Algerines, confident in their defences, and hoping to carry the principal vessels by boarding, after they had taken their stations, allowed the *Queen Charlotte* to bear in without molestation, until she anchored by the stern, just half a cable's length from the mole-head, and was lashed by a hawser to the mainmast of an Algerine brig that lay at the harbour's mouth. Meanwhile the other vessels, in silence and perfect readiness, moved slowly forward under a light sea-breeze to their appointed stations. Not a word was spoken in the vast array; every eye was fixed on the enemy's batteries, which were crowded with troops, with the gunners standing with lighted matches beside their pieces.

'There was silence deep as death
As they drifted on their path,
And the boldest held his breath
For a time.'

"The mole-head at this time presented a dense mass of troops, whose turbans and shakos were distinctly seen crowding on the top of the parapets. Standing on the poop, Lord Exmouth waved his hand to them repeatedly to get down, as the firing was about to commence. When the ship was fairly placed, and her cables stoppered, the crew gave three hearty cheers, which were answered from the whole fleet. The Algerines answered by three guns from the eastern battery, one of which struck the *Superb*. At the first flash, Lord Exmouth gave the word, 'Stand by;' at the second, 'fire;' and the report of the third gun was drowned in the roar of the *Queen Charlotte's* broadside. So terrible was the effect of the discharge, that above five hundred men were struck down on the mole by its effects. In a few minutes, and before the action had become general, the fortifications on the mole-head were ruined and its guns dismantled; up-

n this the *Queen Charlotte* sprang her broadside to the northward, and brought her guns to bear upon the batteries round the gate which leads to the mole and the upper tier of the light-house battery. With such accuracy were the shot directed, that the light-house tower was soon in ruins; every successive discharge bringing down some of the guns; and when the last fell, a Moorish chief was seen springing up on the fragments of the parapet, and with impotent rage shaking his scimitar at the giant of the deep, which in so brief a space had worked such fearful devastation."—pp. 145, 146.

Alison's History is to be brought down to the Accession of Louis Napoleon, and will therefore contain sketches of many eminent men yet living, as well as of many departed worthies, who were our contemporaries. The following is Alison's opinion of—

LORD BROUGHAM AS A WRITER.

"A more striking contrast to Jeffrey, as an essayist, can hardly be imagined than Brougham; for he possessed all that the former wanted, and wanted everything which he possessed. His writings, like his speeches, are varied, vigorous, and discursive, full of talent, replete with information, and often adorned by a manly eloquence. But they have none of the cool thought and temperate judgment which is essential for lasting influence in political science; they partake rather of the excitement of the bar, or the fervour of the senate, than the sober judgment of the academy. Many of them were much admired and talked of when they first appeared; none are now recollected, or have taken a lasting place in our literature. What is very remarkable, his style, both of speaking and writing, is precisely the reverse of what his taste approves, and what his judgment has selected as particularly worthy of admiration in others. He is a passionate admirer of the Greek authors, and peculiarly emphatic in his eulogies on the terseness of their expression, and the admirable brevity of their diction; and yet he himself, in his style of composition, is the most signal example of the danger of deviating from these precepts, and of the way in which the greatest talents may be in a manner buried under the redundancy of its own expression. He illustrates an idea, and puts it into new forms, till the original impression is well nigh obliterated. His knowledge is great, his acquirements vast, his mind capacious; but his fame is varied rather than great. He has marred his reputation by aiming at eminence in too many things; and he will be considered by posterity rather as a powerful debater and a skilful dialectician, than either a profound philosopher or consistent statesman."—p. 436.

On occasion of the death of the venerable Duke of Wellington, many eulogies were pronounced in the form of funeral sermons. These gave an opportunity of reviewing the condition of England at the commencement of the present century. A sermon preached at Glasgow, by the Rev. G. Steward, has come under our notice, and on the subject mentioned above, the eloquent preacher thus speaks—

"Vast, though unavailing, as had been her former efforts to stem the tide of usurpation, her heart was yet firm and her arm unbroken. Her resources had not yet been fully tested, nor her magnanimity and patience half illustrated through previous years. These were yet reserved as the glory of after times. But Europe was slow and timid in answering to her calls—her neighbours were paralyzed by fear or divided by policy. Britain's position was insular, and consequently defensive. Defiant of invasion, while the largest armament of modern times menaced her shores, she engrossed the vigilance of her fleets, she was impotent to deal out any blow upon the foe. Her position was both her weakness and her strength. Year after year rolled listlessly