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European Intelligence.

Daring Robbery on 'Change'.—£5400 in Bills and Notes Stolen.—On Tuesday last an extraordinary theft was committed on the Manchester Exchange. A cotton-spinner in the neighbourhood having to receive a sum of £400 from a gentleman with whom he was transacting business on 'Change', retired into the little room next Exchange Street, in which are boxes and divisions, with desks, so as to enable a number of parties at once to transact business more privately and conveniently than in the large room. It was between one and two o'clock when they entered this room; and the customer having paid the cotton-spinner the £400 in four £100 Bank of England notes, the latter placed them in his pocket-book, and laid the book on the desk before him. The two gentlemen continued in conversation for a short time, and the spinner, on looking round to take up his pocket-book, found that it had disappeared from the desk. At first he supposed that his friend had quietly taken it up in joke, but being assured that he had not, the spinner immediately hastened to the Police Office, and gave information of his loss; but, notwithstanding every exertion on the part of the detective police, no clue has hitherto been gained. The pocket-book, besides the four £100 bank notes already noticed, contained two bills of exchange, one for £3000, and the other for £2000, together with a quantity of letters, memoranda, &c.—*Manchester Guardian.*

Presentation.—On Friday last the pupils attending the Normal School, Castle Terrace, presented Francis Christian, a Hindu, with a set of useful and appropriate books, in testimony of their sincere desire for his future usefulness and welfare. Mr. Christian, Head Master, at the request of the children, conveyed to Mr. Christian this expression of their feeling, and bore testimony to his character and acquirements as under any circumstances fully justifying this tribute of acknowledgment. Many who have lately visited the Model School of the Normal Institution, have witnessed with great interest and satisfaction the manner in which Mr. Christian conducted his numerous Bible Class, displaying great knowledge of the Scriptures, and supplying an illustration from those Oriental customs with which he is so familiar. He has now been two years in the country, pursuing his studies with great assiduity and success. He acknowledged the present from the pupils in very feeling terms, promising to remember them often in his prayers, and to write to them from time to time. The Rev. Mr. Robinson of Greyfriars' concluded the interesting proceedings by commending Francis Christian to the Divine protection.—*Scotch paper.*

Horrible Tragedy.—Saturday afternoon, about three o'clock, a most dreadful occurrence took place on Battersea Bridge by a mother throwing her own three children into the river Thames, two of whom were drowned. It appears from inquiries made on the spot, that about the hour above stated, a young woman, decently clad, was observed to proceed on to Battersea Bridge from the Chelsea side, accompanied by three children, one a boy, about seven years of age; a girl, about four years of age; and an infant in arms, also a girl, about ten months of a twelve month old. When she got to the middle of the bridge she walked to and fro a few yards in a hurried manner, and then threw the children one after the other over the railings into the river, and was going over the balustrades herself when she was prevented doing so by the passers-by, who secured her, and gave her into the custody of policeman Woolger, who opportunely came up and took her to the station-house in Milman's Row. At the station-house she stated her name to be Eliza Clark, her age twenty-four years; that she was the wife of William Clark, a journeyman painter, living in Cumberland Street, Marlborough Road, Chelsea; and that the children were her own. During the time occupied by the above proceedings, attempts were being made on the river to save the unfortunate children which were successful in one instance, that of the second child (a girl), four years old, which was immediately carried to the Swan public-house, at the Surrey side of Battersea Bridge where it received every attention that its exhausted state demanded, and is recovering.

Arrival of Chinese at Aberdeen.—On Saturday last, our citizens were electrified by the appearance, on their way from the London steamer to their temporary abode, of three live natives of the "Flowery Land." Arrived in their singular costume, they soon collected in very numerous and miscellaneous escort, by whom they were most diligently accompanied to their lodgings—the naval on both sides seeming to be equal. The strangers were stepping lads, apparently about eighteen years of age, of very dark complexion, Tartar features, but on the whole, not uncomely aspect. They were dressed in blue tunics, silk shoes with wooden soles

of very durable thickness, and silk caps, closely fitted to the cranium. Each rejoiced in a plaited queue of hair reaching even unto his heels. We understand that these young gentlemen have come all the way from Hong Kong, in charge of the Reverend Dr. Legge; and that they are to be for some time placed under the care of the Reverend Mr. Mill of Huntly, for religious and secular education.—*Aberdeen Herald.*

Extensive Fire at Birmingham.—Sagacity of a Dog.—Birmingham, Thursday.—This morning, at one o'clock, a fire took place on the premises of Mr. John Sutton, Nettleford, an extensive screw manufacturer. At eleven o'clock, the person whose duty it was to examine the premises every night, went round the manufactory, and finding all safe, went to bed in one of the workshops, but about two hours afterwards he was aroused by his dog, who jumped on his bed and commenced scratching his face until he awoke, when, to his great astonishment, he found a portion of the building in flames. He then raised an alarm, and information was immediately sent to the offices from whence the engines were dispatched. About four o'clock the fire was subdued, but not until a very large screw and turning shop were destroyed, and a large portion of valuable tools rendered useless. The amount of loss is roughly estimated at £1000. The cause of the fire is not known. The occurrence has thrown 200 persons out of employment.

Weekly Steam Mails between Great Britain and America.—Government have entered into a further contract with the British and North American Royal Mail Company, the effect of which is, to secure a weekly communication by steam between Liverpool and the United States of America. A steamer of great power and size will be dispatched direct from Liverpool to New York every alternate Saturday during eight months of the year. These trips are to be performed by alternate voyages, and irrespective of the fortnightly voyages to Halifax and Boston, as this latter service will continue just as at present, with the alteration of sailing from Liverpool as well as from Boston always on Saturdays, instead of a fixed day of the month, as at present. The steamers to New York will also take their departure always on Saturday. By this arrangement there will be a steamer from Liverpool to America every Saturday, and from the American side every Saturday, the only difference being that the Boston and New York will alternately be the ports of departure.—*Globe.*

Eruption of Mount Hecla.—Letters from Copenhagen state.—The packet Louisa, America, which arrived here on the 15th inst. from Iceland, brings the most curious details of the disease among the cattle of that island, which had raged of late years covered by the ashes emitted by Mount Hecla. Twenty hours after swallowing the ashes, bony excrescences of an oblong shape form on the feet, and increase to such a size as to prevent the animals from walking. The same phenomenon takes place at the lower jaw, and on the teeth of the upper jaw, a sort of long and pointed needles of bone form themselves, which penetrate and often pierce through the lower jaw, when the death of the animal becomes inevitable. As strong winds have been prevalent in the island, the ashes have been spread all over the country, and a great number of cattle and sheep have died in consequence. The late eruption was very violent. The flames, which issued from three immense craters, reached the height of 2300 fathoms, and their width exceeded that of the river Pion, the largest river of the island. The streams of lava had formed large mountains, and among the mass of pumice-stone and ashes there were blocks weighing half a ton found at the distance of a league, and a half from the volcano. The immense masses of ice and snow which had accumulated for years on the side of the mountain were melted by the late eruption, and caused the river Raugen, which flows at the foot of the mountain, to burst its banks and inundate the country. At night the aurora borealis was visible just over the mountain, and was attributed to the effects of electricity.

Still another Infernal Machine.—The ingenuity of the inventors of new inventions seems turned in a warlike direction, to suit the emergency of the times. We find in a New York paper the following description of a nest of iron wedges, intended to be served up with saltpetre and brimstone. It is a seven pound iron ball, composed of sections like the division in the orange—with a shoulder at the top and bottom of each, around which is elapsing an iron ring sufficient to hold all the parts together, and gives it the force and therefore the range of a solid round shot—and yet so brittle, that on striking a hard substance, it will break and leave the hatchet-shaped wedges that make up the ball to scatter in all directions. Truly the humanity of the age, like every thing else, is progressing.

A WORD OF ADVICE TO THE WARLIKE IN AMERICA.

Yankee Doodle talks of war,
Yankee Doodle blusters,
Matters have ex'n gone as far
As militia musters.
If he calls us o'er the coals,
We're not quite such lubbers,
As to let him play at bowls
And not to give him rubbers.
Yankee Doodle's active mind
War seems mighty hot on;
If it comes he'll have to find
Markets for his cotton.
Ere he gets out of the wood,
The man's a fool that holds
War, besides the drain of blood,
Brings a drain of dollars.
The fleet that Yankee Doodle owns
By the British navy,
Would soon be sent to Davy Jones,
You may take your "Davy."
Yankee Doodle bold as Mars,
Scorns the saucy Britisher;
But John Bull has regulars,
Jonathan but militia.
Yankee Doodle credit had;
Yankee Doodle lost it,
When his Peninsular squad
In the Atlantic lost it.
For cash he offers any price,
Still to want it fates—
Yankee debts, like Yankee ice,
N'er are liquidated!
Yankee Doodle never pays,
But, for all we need, he
Sent us by the 1—O—ways,
I O U's in plenty.
While his stock is under par,
Peace, perforce, continues—
He has lots of nerve for war,
But he wants the sinews!
Yankee Eagle, ere you fight,
Beak and talons whet first;
Then to glut your appetite,
Three things you must get first:
Get an army up, and then
Get a chief to head it—
Get a navy, get the men—
Get the cash and credit.
Illustrated London News.

LITERARY AND PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY.

At the ninth meeting of this society, a paper was read by Dr. Turnbull, "On the habitual employment of Stimulants and Narcotics as intoxicating Agents," of which the following is an abstract.—
The inherent desire in the constitution of man for such agents, his ingenuity in discovering them, and their extensive employment, were pointed out. "We find that considerable variety of taste for intoxicating agents probably dependent upon diversity of climate or temperament, exists among different nations; so that some have recourse to the narcotic stimulants, whilst others prefer the alcoholic, or more purely exciting. We generally find that those nations inhabiting cold countries, as, for example, the Norwegians, Russians, and Highlanders of Scotland, prefer the most stimulating articles, such as distilled liquors, whilst the Persians, Turks, the Chinese and the Malays are fond of the less stimulating but more narcotic, such as opium, which both stimulates and enervates the powers of the imagination, whilst it produces that repose of the body and tranquillity of mind so congenial to the character of many eastern nations."
It was observed that wine had been much used in ancient times, and that barley, wine, or beer, originated in Egypt at a very early period. It was shown that it derives a narcotic property from the hops, which contain three active principles a bitter matter which gives the bitter taste, a resin which imparts the narcotic power, and a volatile oil which gives the pleasant aroma to good ale. It was observed, that the method of preparing the spirit of wine by distillation was scarcely known until the ninth century, and that it was at first regarded as a discovery of immense importance. The physicians in those early times calling it *vinum vitae* and believing it had the power of prolonging life. The facility with which a spirit may be obtained by distillation from many grains, roots, and vegetable juices which contain starch and sugar, and from all fermented liquors, was noticed; and it was stated, that in Kamtschatka a kind of spirit is extracted from grass; whilst the Tartars and Kalouks prepare from mare's milk a vinous liquor called arki.

In regard to savage nations, it was shown that in no respect have they displayed greater ingenuity than in the discovery of fermented liquors; and some of the processes of distillation. This fact was illustrated by a description of the singular process by which the Accaway Indians of South America prepare the puerile beverage by chewing cassava, and of the rude method of distilling the arki practised by the friendly islanders.
In regard to the narcotic stimulants, it was stated that those most extensively used to produce a state of pleasurable excitement are

tobacco, which is now employed in every part of the world, opium, Indian hemp, the betel preparation, and the manita muscaria, a narcotic fungus used by the inhabitants of the north east of Asia for the purpose of intoxication. Opium was known as a medicine to the ancient Greek physicians. It is probable, however, that the Turks and Persians were the first to make use of it as an intoxicating agent, and it seems that the prohibition of the Koran against the use of wine encouraged its employment. It is now most extensively used in Hindostan, the southern part of China, and the islands inhabited by the Malays. In Turkey the practice of opium eating is perhaps less common than it formerly was, but in Persia it is still very prevalent, and opium is sold at stalls kept for the purpose in the bazars.

The inhabitants of the islands of the Indian ocean are passionately fond of narcotic drugs, and like the Chinese, they smoke instead of chewing opium. At Penang they smoke instead of chewing opium. At Penang the opium undergoes a process which reduces it to a state like shoemaker's wax, when it is called chandoo. The opium smokers there are the Chinese, the Malays, and a very few of other nations, chiefly the native Portuguese. It is calculated that ten per cent. of the Chinese, two and a half of the Malays, and about one per cent. of other nations are addicted to the vice of opium smoking. The poorer classes smoke in the shops erected for that purpose, but the wealthier orders smoke privately in their own houses.

With respect to the practice of opium eating in this country, it was stated that, although some are of opinion that it is gaining ground, there is no good reason to think that this is really the case to any considerable extent. It was observed that the plant called Indian hemp contains a narcotic resin, and that it is manufactured into a substance called bang, which is much used throughout Egypt, Arabia, Persia, and Hindostan, as a powerful and peculiar inebriant, which produces tranquillity of mind and a singular kind of exultation. Some account was also given of the areca or betel preparation, used by the Malays, and of the manner in which the Kamtschatkades prepare and take the manita fungus, which produces a kind of giddiness and drunkenness like that from wine or spirits.

At the conclusion, it was stated, that the action of alcohol, opium, and tobacco, and their effects upon the constitution, would form the subject of the second of the paper.—*Liverpool paper.*

To-morrow.—To-morrow is the coin with which the procrastinator pays the urgent demands of that detestable day To-day, who is continually at his elbow; or it is rather his I O U, or promissory note, which he secures, but continually renews. Time, however, saves his conscience, for no sooner is To-morrow born, than old Chronos becomes its sponsor, and names it To-day; thus aiding and abetting the quibbling procrastinator in his fraudulent pretences and evasion. The consequences of this conduct are, however, always costly, and sometimes fatal to those who indulge in it, and frequently, indeed approach to the borders of insanity. Tom Turfstone receives a letter with the information that his maternal uncle is dangerously ill! "Ah!" cries he. "I suppose I must post off and see the old fogey, and must exhibit my affection; so I'll pack up and be off—to-morrow." He goes, and alas! finds the old fogey is "gone" before his arrival, and, vexed at his delay, has left the bulk of his property to some distant relative, or some friend of To-day, who was cunningly "doing the attentive" on the spot. A neighbor complains to old Slow that, in consequence of a hole in his fences, the peripatetic pork of the said Slow have been enjoying themselves in his flower gardens, and in their porcine ignorance of botany, mistaken some valuable bulbous roots for turnips, or other legitimate food for swine. "Oy! oy!" grunts Slow. "I mean see to that—to-morrow." To-morrow comes and with it a lawyer's letter, setting forth an awful extent of damages, and the threat of an action. A compromise is intimated, but his dilatory disposition prompts him still to put off the evil day until it is too late, and Slow is mortified in a round sum and considerable costs. To-morrow is, in fact, a notorious cheat—a promise-breaker, who is always coming, but never appears; therefore put no faith in him, but put trust in To-day, who is a plain-spoken, honest servant, who is always at your side, and ready to obey your bidding.

Unfortunate—Those Coffee-Bag Skirts.—Yesterday, while a mature, but rather dapper spinster, was attempting to pass the ruins of the old wooden building in Beacon street, her light dress was caught by a nail protruding from a plank which a laborer was removing from the place. The careless fellow did not heed the appeal of the lady until the outer dress was torn almost entirely off, revealing to the astonished spectators the well known commercial phrase, "PARDON OLD JAVA," written in large characters upon the skirt un-

demeath! The consternation of the victim and the amusement of the bystanders, can be better imagined than described. She stepped into a cab immediately, looking at the grinning spectators as she did so, and was conveyed home in a state of mind bordering on distraction.—*Boston Paper.*

TOTAL ABSTINENCE SOCIETY.

We experienced much pleasure in attending the meeting of the Total Abstinence Society at the Town Hall on the evening of the 1st instant, and subjoin a brief account of the proceedings had on that occasion. The meeting which was large, was opened by Mr. Charles Stevenson, who made some very forcible and appropriate remarks touching the features of a total abstinence society—the objects of the institution—and paramount necessity of unremitting exertion (among those who composed them) towards the attainment of its good—the amelioration of man's condition. A temperance hymn was then sung by some persons who kindly volunteered their services for that purpose, which added much to the interest of the meeting. Invitation was then given to any who might wish to address the meeting.

Mr. A. T. PAUL, (Secretary) then rose and spoke at some length. In the course of his remarks he observed, that he was happy to meet on one common platform, where apart from the strife of political party or the angry jars of sectarian feeling, he could in common with those around him, advocate the claims of Total Abstinence. He thought it did not require any lengthened arguments to prove that the use of ardent spirits as a beverage is an evil and attended with injurious effects in many points of view. Is that an evil which (said he) reduces the young man just starting in life with moderate or perhaps superior abilities, and with everything calculated to make him a respectable and useful member of society, down to the lowest and most degraded being who can be found crawling on the fair surface of this beautiful earth?—Is that an evil which leads the husband to treat his wife with neglect and harshness, who he had vowed to cherish and protect? After pointing out many other evils arising from the use of the intoxicating glass, he asked—could any person say that these evils and many of a more revolting nature have not been produced by the use of ardent spirits, whether in the shape of the more tempting and fashionable wine cup, or in the form of the glass of rum, gin or ale? After dilating further upon the evils of intemperance he referred to the testimony of some most eminent Judges, legislators and physicians to show that the greater part of the crimes committed were caused by habits of intoxication. The records of history, he observed, would establish the fact. He then concluded by pointing out the application of the means to these cases, which he said must be effected by convincing and persuading men—and that these means could not fail, if used in the spirit of kindness and without harsh treatment—and this must be done, depending on the aid of an ever ruling Providence to bless the efforts under this noble cause.

Mr. ALLEX. STEVENSON next addressed the meeting, and pointed out the pernicious position of the drunkard. He was followed by the Rev. M. PICKLES, who in an earnest and impressive manner, spoke of the death of the drunkard, and mentioned the awful sentence which debars him from happiness hereafter. The meeting was then closed by singing a hymn.

For the Standard.

Mr. Editor.—I met with the following question the other day, and being rather rusty in Arithmetic, after some little time found the answer—I send it you, for insertion in the Standard and request an arithmetical answer from some of your correspondents.
A merchant bought for £25 14s 4d cheques and £28, and at another time he purchased for £12 4s 2d, 20 cheques and £15. What was each cheque and dollar valued at?
Yours X Y Z.
June 5, 1846.

DIED.

At her late residence on the Grand Lake Mrs. Hannah Cox, relict of the late Robt Cox, on the 13th inst. aged 79 years.
At Sheffield, on the 18th inst. aged 37 years, Elizabeth, wife of Thomas Harrison Esq.
At Penzance, on the 13th inst. after a short illness, she who bore with Christian resignation, Sarah, wife of Mr. William W. Hawkins, and fourth daughter of Capt. Henry Young, in the 35th year of her age.

