

EPITOME OF NEWS.—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

The Prince of Wales made his debut as a sportsman on Monday last in the Osborne course, where there is plenty of game. His Royal Highness is likely to prove a good shot.

The *Courrier de Bayonne* says that the Emperor and Empress, who originally meant to stay at Biarritz a month only, are so much pleased with the place that they will prolong their visit till October 1. Other accounts say that the Emperor will return to Paris alone about the 20th of this month.

Her Majesty has resolved to issue a medal to the Arctic navigators, in commemoration of their long and perilous services.

The Emperor of the French has conferred the Grand Cross of the Legion of Honour on General Don Juan Manuel, Spanish Minister of War, and accompanied the favour by "an autograph letter highly flattering to the man who in Spain has saved the cause of Monarchy and society."

Sir Hamilton Seymour has remitted to Count Buol a note from his Government, which details the reasons that prevent the immediate evacuation of Greece.

The Dowager Empress of Russia is expected at Nice on the 15th of October. She will occupy the vast hotel situated opposite the marble cross which commemorates the meeting which took place between Charles V. and Francis I. Four large houses have been hired for the suite of the Empress Dowager, which will be numerous and brilliant.

Sir Benjamin Hall, Bart., M.P., as Chief Commissioner of Works, has given notice that it is the intention of Her Majesty's Government to erect a monument in St. Paul's Cathedral to the memory of the late Duke of Wellington, and has invited designs from the artists of all countries.

The mission at Naples, vacated by Sir William Temple's death, will, it is said, be reserved for Sir Henry Bulwer, after he shall have returned from his present temporary employment in the Principality.

His Excellency Señor Don Joaquin Francisco Pacheco, the newly-appointed Ambassador from Spain to this Court, arrived at Chapman's Hotel, Cavendish-square, on Monday last.

Another German Prince, serving in the Prussian army, has sent in his resignation. His debts amount to 40,000 thalers. He was concerned in the affairs of the Jockey Club which resulted in the Hinckley duel.

As soon as the French Emperor returns from Biarritz he will sign the contract of marriage between the youngest daughter of Prince Louis Leclerc Bonaparte and the son of M. de Cambaceres. The bridegroom, who bears a name so closely connected with the First Empire, is at present Auditor of the Council of State.

Mr. George Willbraham, jun., Mr. Welsby, Mr. Robertson Gladstone, and Mr. P. S. Humberston are mentioned as probable candidates for Chester next election, in the room of Mr. W. O. Stanley, who will seek to represent the Anglessea Burghs.

Grand military manoeuvres have been fixed to take place at the end of this month in the neighbourhood of Madrid, and in the course of them the Queen is to present the regiments which distinguished themselves in the recent events with the colours of the Order of San Fernando for their flags.

In anticipation of a vacancy in the representation of Colchester, Mr. Alfred Hamilton, of Romford, and Mr. J. Taverner Miller, formerly member for Maldon, have announced themselves as candidates.

On Monday last, the anniversary of the taking of Sebastopol, the Duke of Malakoff and a large number of general and other officers attended a solemn mass at the Madeleine, in commemoration of the officers of the Staff who died in the East.

Mr. Oliveira, M.P., has arrived in Paris. He is accompanied by several friends, who are devoting the recess to the accumulation of fresh information in reference to the wines of the various districts of France, and an inquiry into the probable reduction of French duty upon English goods, with a view to lay these facts before Parliament next Session.

On Monday last the Lord Mayor remitted a further sum of 55,000 fr. to Paris for the sufferers by the inundations, thus raising the total amount to 330,000 fr., or 33,000,000.

Count de Montalivet, the ex-Minister of the Interior under Louis Philippe, has returned to Paris from Claremont.

Mr. William Gladstone and several other English civilians were presented to the Emperor Alexander on the 31st ult.

Alfred Latham, Esq., is the gentleman recommended by the Court of Directors of the Bank of England to fill the vacancy in the direction occasioned by the decease of Henry James Prescott, Esq.

Prince Ivan Paskiewitch, son of the late Victoria of Poland, has been appointed second secretary to the Russian Embassy in Paris.

By letters patent, dated Karlsruhe, Sept. 5, the Regent has been invested with the Grand Ducal dignity, and the title of Grand Duke of Baden.

The Russian General Tollleben, who is now in Germany, and had intended to visit the fortified towns of Piedmont, has been recalled to St. Petersburg.

M. de Rothschild, in the expectation of obtaining the concession of the Transatlantic line of steamers, has purchased for 3,000,000 fr. one of the principal shipbuilding yards of Havre.

The French Government has prohibited M. Manin from receiving the subscriptions which he proposed to do for the purchase of cannon for Piedmont.

Mr. Murray contradicts the report of his retiring from the contest for Clonmel, and states that he will poll the constituency to the last man.

The Russian Generals Danesce and Cherikoff, members of the commission for settling the boundaries between Persia and Turkey, have arrived at Constantinople. MM. Koller and Bouz had also arrived, and M. Bazil and Sir Henry Bulwer were expected shortly.

William Tite, Esq., M.P., is a candidate for the vacant directorship in the London and Westminster Bank, occasioned by the death of Frederick Bimmett, Esq.

On Monday last Mr. James Duff, M.P., shot in Mar Forest three, and on Tuesday five, fine stags, all above fifteen stone weight.

The French Consul made his solemn entry into Erzeroum on the 7th of August, and was greeted with a reception of great pomp. The Russian Consul was to make his entry on the 16th.

The Royal Bucks Agricultural Association's annual ploughing match distribution of prizes to farm labourers and servants, and the exhibition of stock and roots of this association will take place at Buckingham, under the presidency of His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, on the 30th inst.

The *Vienna Presse* announces that it is about to publish a German translation of Mrs. Stowe's new fiction "Dred," in its feuilleton.

Mr. Thackeray is at present on the Continent, fast recovering his health, which was not good since his return from America last spring. It is stated that the first monthly number of a new work may be expected from Mr. Thackeray on the 1st of December.

The *Estafette* publishes a letter from Lola Montes, dated Hotel du Cygne, St. Jean-de-Luz, Sept. 2, in which she contradicts a report that her last husband, M. Mauciere, had thrown himself off a rock in the Trou de Mail, in consequence of conjugal jars.

The *Bristol Mercury* announces the death, at an advanced age, of Mrs. Minnypolpinnick, at her residence at Harley-place. The deceased lady was an authoress of some fame, to whom we are indebted for a treatise on the "Theory of Beauty," published in 1816, "Memoirs of Port Royal," and other works.

Miss Catherine Hayes has arrived in Paris to enjoy a season of repose after her long journeyings in the Antipodes, the two Americas, and the East Indies.

The *Fest of Brussels* states that Mlle. Johanna Wagner, the celebrated singer, was married on Saturday last to M. Joemann, the son of a millionaire, of Tilis.

Prince George Ypsilanti, nephew of the famous Greek Princes Alexander and Demetrius, arrived at Vienna on the 1st, from Paris and London. It is said that his journey is connected with the question of the succession to the throne of Greece, to which he has claims in the event of the renunciation of the throne by Prince Adalbert.

The *New York Musical Review* says, Madame Clara Novello will probably visit America in the autumn.

The Bishop of Solecure, says the *Revue de Geneve*, has authorised Mr. Heggeler Brothers, of Unter Eggli, in the canton of Zug, to keep their men of work on the minor fête days of the year, in return for a donation of 40,000 fr. made by that house towards the rebuilding of the Church of Unter Eggli.

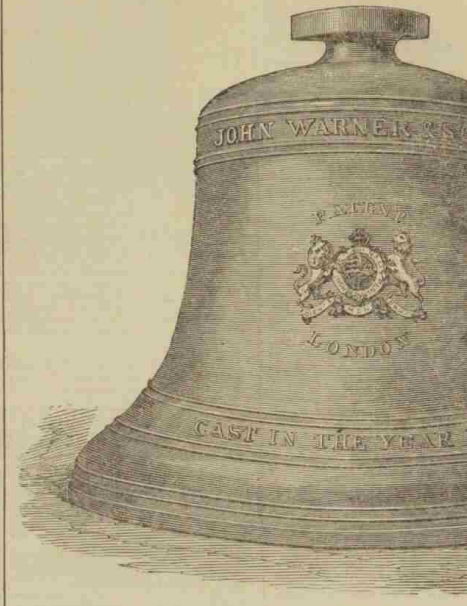
The cashier and sub-cashier of the Northern of France Railway are said to have disappeared with more than £40,000. It is supposed that the sum was obtained by the sale of shares deposited with them.

Among the 118 Acts of Parliament abolished at one "fell swoop" by an Act of last Session was one passed in the reign of Henry V., entitled, "What sort of Irishmen may come to dwell in England."

THE WESTMINSTER CLOCK BELL.

In the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS of August 25, we detailed, with Engravings, the casting of this great Bell. It was raised from the pit, and was sounded for the first time with a clapper of 7 cwt. on Aug. 27. The casting is remarkably clean, and the tone is thought to be very fine by all who have yet heard it. The diameter is 9 feet 3 1/2 inches; the height outside 7 feet 10 1/2 inches; inside 6 feet 8 inches. It shrunk less than was expected in casting. The note is E natural. The bell has the following inscription running round it, just above the sound bow, "Cast in the 20th year of the reign of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, and in the year of our Lord 1856, from the design of Edmund Beckett Denison, Q.C.; Sir J. Benjamin Hall, Baronet, M.P., Chief Commissioner of Works."

On the waist or middle of the bell are the Royal arms, and the names of the founders and patentees of the mode of casting which has been adopted for it, "John Warner and Sons, Crescent Foundry, Crispin, Leamington, Warwick." The weight is stated to be 15 tons 18 cwt 1 qr 22 lb, or 16 tons within a small fraction; which is nearly half as much again as the great bell of York Minster; more than twice that of Oxford; nearly three times as heavy as the large bells of Exeter, Lincoln, and St. Paul's; and exactly six times the weight of "the great bell of Bow." The four quarter bells together will now weigh quite half as much as the great bell. The thickness is 3 1/2 inches at the top, where the hammer strikes, and 3 1/4 in the upper part, being very nearly 1-12th and 1-30th respectively of the diameter at the mouth, 9 ft. 3 1/2 in. The great bell was sent down from Norton to West Hartlepool by railway on Sunday, being too wide for any train meeting the usual gauge. Its composition is 7 of tin to 22 of copper, melted twice over, as in speculum metal, to secure a perfect alloy. The metal is nearly as hard as spring steel, and much harder than is usual in modern bells, in which the proportion of tin is less than in the best old ones. This proportion was adopted after trying experimental bells of various proportions; and the shape, which is fuller at the sound-bow than usual, was also determined in the same way. When the bell arrives at Westminster it is to be hung for trial at the foot of the clock tower, with a clapper of half-a-ton, to be pulled by five or six men. It is finally to be hung in the open part of the spire of the tower, which was made for the purpose, in order that the sound may issue without obstruction. It is described as sounding as if it were struck with a wooden hammer, from its remarkable softness, although the hammer which has hitherto been used is of cast iron, and the bell still harder.



The quarter bells will now be procured for a shilling. The largest of them will be six feet in diameter, and will weigh about four tons, and is also to be cast at Norton, near Stockton-on-Tees.

NEW MUSICAL PUBLICATIONS.

POPULAR MUSIC OF THE OLDEN TIME. Collected and edited by W. CHAPPELL, F.S.A. Harmonised by G. A. MACPARRIN. Part VII.

We watch with the greatest interest the successive production of the several portions of this very valuable illustration of the national English character; regarding it as a medium to place our times in sympathy with the times gone by; and thus, possibly, to regenerate, in the utilitarian and critical present, the spirit of the cordial and creative past. No lectures on the politics, no description of the manners, of a former age, however vivid, can ever rise above the coldness of representation; but to make us familiar with the tunes our forefathers sung is to make it impossible to avoid singing them; and thus the actual life of other days becomes embodied in the course of thought; while the emotions that are coloured, if not caused, by it live again with all the glowing of reality.

This work not only proves that the English were a musical people, but brings their songs before us in so attractive a form as to ensure for them a modern popularity as general as they held when new. Mr. Chappell gives such copious historical particulars as must satisfy the most scrupulous antiquary of the genuineness of his assertions; and he is likewise so successful in his selection of tunes that with folk who are unconcerned in such researches, who love a good tune for its own sake, regardless of how, when, or where it had its origin, their own merit will carry them to the heart or fix them irresistibly upon the ear. The prolific period of James I. and Charles I. still continues to furnish matter for the present part.

Among the most attractive of the songs we may cite, first, "Love will find out the way," a charming flowing air. Next Ford's "Since first I saw your face," the melody of which has been familiarised to our generation by an arrangement for four voices, made some fifty years ago, but quite out of character with the age in which the music was composed. Although generally known under the false definition of a madrigal, it was written as a song for a single voice, with a lute accompaniment, or as an "air for four voices." The air is beautiful, and it is here harmonised so as to bring out its truly expressive qualities to those who hear it with modern associations. The old tune of "Tom a Bellam" is now first printed, and possesses so much merit that we cannot wonder at its long-extended popularity. Mr. Chappell cites many "mad songs" that were written to it, but the list might be considerably extended from other collections of the seventeenth century. We have next to remark upon "Mad Tom," which has been falsely ascribed to Purcell, but is here printed from a collection of dance tunes, that are for the most part, as was the common custom of the time, appropriations of the popular songs of the day, published eight years before Purcell's birth. Three analogous good tunes, "Bobbing Joan," "Stings, or Oil of Barley," and "Gold and Baw," seem to have been derived the one from the other. The last is the best, and it is of this tune that the story is told of Queen Mary's slighting more elaborate music for the sake of it, and of Purcell having accordingly made it the theme of a birthday ode for her special gratification. The story, however, rests upon no very good foundation; and Purcell has in other instances taken popular tunes as bases to his compositions.

"You Gentlemen of England," is so eminently national in its spirit, and is so obviously the type that has been vulgarised in the now familiar "Bay of Biscay," that it will find a sure welcome everywhere. It must not be confounded with Dr. Callcott's glee of the same name; the original ballad was written by Martin Parker, a celebrated ballad-writer of the reigns of James I. and Charles I., but principally during the latter period. "Toan, to the Maypole away," is one of the most animating, spirit-stirring relics of the merry May-day revels that has been presented to us. It is an excellent tune, and the simple and natural frankness of the song expresses the true heartiness of the pre-Puritan period. Every well-wisher to humanity must desire to see the restoration of the time for this genuine and hearty outpouring of the spirit of nature. O for the merry Maytide and the simple sociality of this humanising spring-tide holiday! "I married a wife of late" is a song of admirable humour, which is pertinently pointed in the time. Hunting the Hare is so well known to need any other comment than the editor's manner of presenting it, and is certainly such as to start any hunting party with the "best foot foremost." There are several other tunes in this part, the interest of which is only inferior to that of those we have cited, whilst the curious historical matter interwoven with many, the political and other songs that have been sung to them at various periods, render the work attractive beyond the sphere of those who take delight only in the music. We can, however, confidently assure such of our readers as entertain no regard for tunes because they are old, that some of these have that essential excellence which never grows old—that link which connects the best of man's productions with the offerings of nature, giving to both a common freshness perennially enduring.

THE ALLIES' MARCH; most respectfully dedicated, by permission, to His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge. By F. WUSTEMANN.

The late war, and the military spirit which it engendered, have produced such a mass of catchpenny publications, poetical and musical, that it is now rather a disadvantage than otherwise for a new compo-

sition to bear a title such as that of the march before us—a title which almost tempted us to throw it aside without further examination. But we are glad we did not do so; for we can recommend it to our musical readers as a work of a character by no means commonplace, and possessed of originality as well as beauty. It is fitting, with a great deal of vigour. As published, it is, of course, arranged for the pianoforte; but it is quite fitted, by its full and varied harmony, for a military band, and would cost an experienced bandmaster nothing more than the trouble of writing out the separate parts.

I SEE ONCE MORE. Ballad. The Words by R. P. BROOKE, Esq.; the Music by F. LUIGI. Published in aid of the Nightingale Fund. Addison and Co.

This publication is under the disadvantage mentioned above. Multitudes of songs published in "aid of the Nightingale Fund" have never brought the Nightingale Fund a shilling. The New London edition is an exceptional case. The song is really good, with an intrinsic interest of its own; and besides, aided by the talents of Miss Jenny Bauer, by whom it was sung in public, it gained popularity, and was really of use to the Nightingale Fund.

THE LAGER BEER MANIA.—It would appear as if our American friends could not endure life without a mania. Some of the excitement takes the form of a popular furore in favour of some great theatrical star, as in the Macready case; at another the enthusiasm expends itself on a great singer or dancer, as was witnessed in the Jenny Lind and Elsieker outbreaks, or some political hero, like Kossuth, monopolizes all the adulations and homage of the unreflecting crowd. The New Yorkers are at the present day suffering under a new form of the disease, which seems to have concentrated within itself all the essence of all the old manias united together. Society here is suffering under a rage for *lager beer*. As in your northern regions there may possibly be many persons who do not even know what *lager beer* is, it may be well to mention, for the edification of such outcasts from the civilised world as Yankees affect to consider them that it is an excellent drink, which is highly popular with the sons of the good old German fatherland. Freely translated it means simply "old beer," although it possesses but few of the qualities of genuine "old October." On the contrary, consisting as it does of a very large proportion of hops to a very small modicum of malt, its intoxicating properties are very slight. So innocuous, indeed, is it, that many of those most in favour of a repressive law to forbid the sale of intoxicating drinks publicly take their *lager beer* with all the freedom and absence of restraint of confirmed old toppers. Until aware of this fact I was surprised at meeting in a saloon where this liquor is sold a gentleman who, in the time of the Maine Law excitement, I knew to be a most fervent and uncompromising advocate of a prohibitory liquor enactment. One of the most noticeable of the many social advantages which the introduction and general popularity of this drink has brought up has been that it has caused the permanent discontinuance of the agitation of the Maine Law question, which has been allowed gently to blow away to the grave. There is no doubt in my mind that this is due far less to the decision of the Judges declaratory of the unconstitutionality of the obnoxious statute which passed the New York Legislature about a year and a half ago, than to the common sense and moderation of the *lager mania*. Man is by nature a social animal; and in all communities, whether large or small, people will congregate together to seek for recreation from their ordinary pursuits; and, as more talking is dry work, on such occasions they will indulge in libations more or less stimulating in their nature. It cannot be denied that till within a comparatively recent time it has been the custom in this city not only to drink too deeply, but to indulge in potations of too powerful a nature. The result was drunkenness, and vice and crime of every kind. But *lager beer* became popular at a very happy moment, and its general adoption as a beverage, and the consequent state from any further agitation of the Maine Law theories. Indeed, nothing can now be done here without this harmless tippale. If you call on a man on business matters, he will at once move an adjournment to the next evening, and he will walk the manor over; or, if you want over a political discussion your adversary good-naturedly invites you to cool yourself over a glass of "lager." The epidemic has extended to the Church, and even to the fastidious American ladies, who publicly imbibe the glass that "cheers but not inebriates" as a little *non-vivisante honte* as is displayed by a Frenchwoman while sipping "the ordinary of our *snore* on the Boulevards of Paris.—*Letter from New York.*

RUSSIAN INHUMANITY DURING THE WAR.—The *Revue des deux Mondes* contains an interesting letter from M. Tanski, formerly attached to the staff of Marshal St. Arnaud during the late war in the Crimea. In Russia, if we may judge from the reports of the journals, the present Emperor, the superior authorities, and the nobles, have expressed the most generous sentiments regarding the prisoners of the Allied armies; but, unhappily, irreconcilable facts exist which prove that on the theatre of war, on the battle-field, despite a severe discipline, the Russian soldiers manifested on many occasions the instincts of a people if not barbarous not to apply a term offensive even to our enemies, at all events less humane and less civilised than the soldiers of France and England. On the day of the fight before Balacava, after the brilliant charge of the English cavalry, the troops in position on the heights which were displayed with horror the death of the British soldiers, and the English cavalry, to beat or stab them whilst disarmed and on the ground wounded. It is well known also that, after the battle of Inkerman, Lord Raglan was obliged to bring the Russian Major before a military commission, accused of having passed his sword through an English soldier whilst wounded and on the ground.

The Paris Exhibition Palace in the Champs Elysées, which has been purchased by the Government, is to be removed to another site.