

EARL STANHOPE.

PHILIP HENRY, fifth EARL STANHOPE, better known as Lord Mahon, is one of the most distinguished historians of the present day, and stands high among our living noble authors. He is the elder son and successor of the fourth Earl, and the grandson of Charles, the third Earl, so famous for his mechanical genius and scientific researches, who was the inventor of the Stanhope printing-press. The present Earl Stanhope was born in 1805; he was educated at Oxford, where he became B.A. in 1827, and D.C.L. in 1834. He has been M.P. for Hertford, and was Under Secretary of State for one year, from 1845 to 1846. But his chief distinction lies in his literary talent, which he has devoted to history and biography. His chief work is his "History of England, from the Peace of Utrecht to that of Aix-la-Chapelle." He is also author of a "Life of Belisarius," and of an able "History of the War of Succession in Spain." Earl Stanhope married, in 1834, Emily Harriot, second daughter of the late General Sir Edward Kerrison, Bart., K.C.B., and has issue Arthur Philip, Viscount Mahon, two other sons, and a daughter. In politics Earl Stanhope is a Liberal Conservative. The Earl has just been elected Rector of Aberdeen College. He is President of the Society of Antiquaries.

Earl Stanhope's ancestor, James, the first Earl, was an enterprising military officer, and commanded the British forces in Spain in 1708, and obtained considerable renown by the reduction of the celebrated Port Mahon, in Minorca. He was afterwards First Lord of the Treasury, and was created Viscount Stanhope of Mahon in 1717, and Earl Stanhope in 1718.

RECASTING OF THE CLOCK BELL FOR THE NEW HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT.

The recasting of the great Bell for the Clock Tower of the new Houses of Parliament took place at the bell-foundry of Messrs. Mears, Whitechapel-road, on Saturday last. The old bell was begun to be broken on the 17th of February last, and the operation lasted nearly a week.

The pattern of the new bell was begun in November last, from a drawing given by Mr. Denison; and the making of the mould commenced on the 18th of December, and was continued without interruption till about three weeks ago, when it was finally put together and rammed up.

The mould consists first of the core, which is built up of bricks, covered with clay, and formed to the shape of the inside of the bell, by means of a board, called the sweep or crook, travelling round a centre. When this is well dried, by a fire on the inside, what may be called a clay bell is made upon it, the outside of that being "swept" out by another crook in the same way. This also has to be thoroughly dried before proceeding to the next operation, which is the making of the cope, or outside mould, of the bell. This is made of clay or loam, held together with iron bands, and fitted with hooks to lift it by when it is dry. When it is lifted it brings the clay bell with it, holding by means of the thin bands which may be seen round all large bells, and technically called "wires." The clay bell is broken out of the cope, which is then put down again over the core, and in this instance was bolted down between a large iron plate under the core and a smaller one on the top of the cope.

The pit was 13 feet deep, and, the extreme height of the bell being 73 feet, there is a considerable space left for a dead head, or pressure of metal, which is essential to produce sound casting at the top. After the cope is put on and bolted down, the pit is filled with sand and well rammed, and this operation occupied twenty-seven men four days. The metal was melted in three furnaces, holding together very



EARL STANHOPE, LORD RECTOR OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN.—FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY HERBERT WATKIN.

nearly eighteen tons, of which nearly sixteen tons was the metal of the old bell, and the rest new metal, previously run into ingots, in proportion of seven of tin to twenty-two of copper, as in the former bell. The larger pieces of metal remained in the furnace about twenty hours, and the smaller ones about ten hours. Mr. Mears still uses only wood fuel, as the old founders did, which does not melt the metal so quickly as coal, but is supposed to be better in its action.

An operation was performed here for the first time in bell-founding

—viz., blowing hot air into the mould during the whole of the day before casting. This is now usually done in large castings of brass or gun metal, and Mr. Denison wished to have it done with the former bell, but Messrs. Warner thought it unnecessary. On this occasion it was made one of the conditions of the contract. As soon as the metal in the furnaces was pronounced hot enough, the hot air was cut off and the airholes filled up.

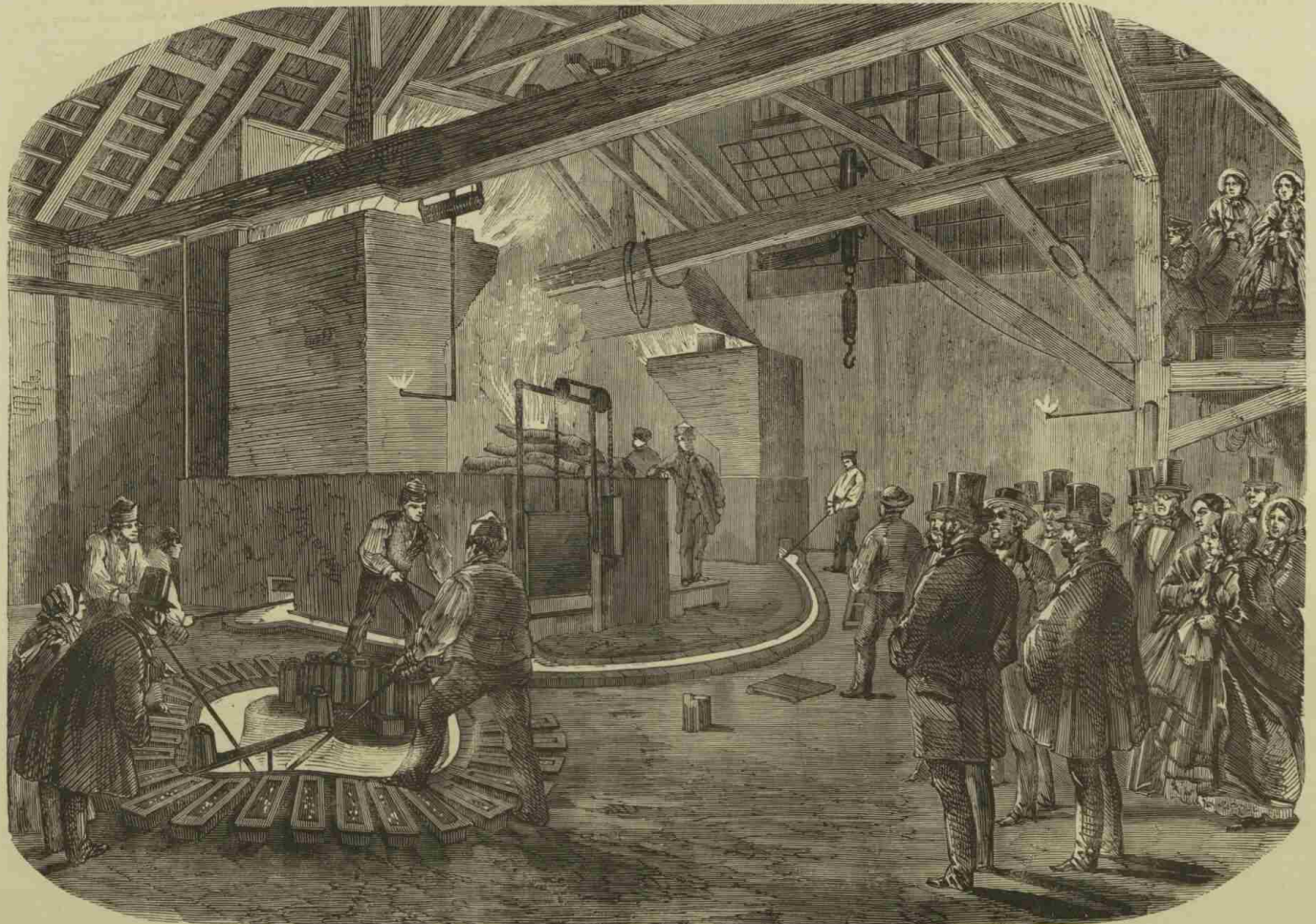
The fountains of metal were opened at twenty-seven minutes to eight p.m., and the mould was filled up in twenty minutes; the workmen regulating the supply as seen in the Engraving. Nothing can be known of the success of the operation for two or three weeks from the time of casting, as it will take a fortnight to cool. We shall give full particulars of the exact dimensions and weight of the bell hereafter.

INDIANS OF THE FAR WEST.

NEVER before has the American Government had so many exploring expeditions on foot as at the present time. One of them is engaged in surveying the boundary line between the British possessions and the north-western territories of the United States; some five or six of them are engaged in laying out wagon-roads from the Mississippi to the Pacific; one or two are attending to the Indians on the borders of Mexico; and there is also a fighting expedition on its way to Salt Lake. The last expedition brought to a successful close was that in charge of Major William H. Emory, which had for its object the surveying of the boundary line between the United States and Mexico. All the materials for a complete history of this expedition are now in the possession of the Government printers; and in the course of a few months the public may expect to receive a number of huge quarto volumes on the subject, very extensively illustrated with pictures and maps. In the meantime, however, we have received from Major Emory (through a correspondent) a number of Sketches, from which our readers may gather a pretty correct notion of the races of men who reside along the southern boundary line of the American states and territories.

Our first Sketch represents a Family of Diegeno Indians on their Travels. This people inhabit the San Diego country, and are among its curiosities. They were converted by the Jesuits, who, many years ago, organised missions throughout that country. They became partly civilised, and were industrious and happy, and collected many comforts about them. Naturally lazy, and incapable of self-government, and deeply imbued with all the traits of the wild Indian, they soon degenerated, after the missions had fallen from under the rule of the Church, and have become worse than in their original condition. Many of their women are said to be beautiful, and all of them are well developed and superbly formed. They imitate the whites in dress, and on a single person one may sometimes see odds and ends of clothing from all parts of the globe.

Adjoining the Diegeno, and owning a part of the same great valley, that of the Colorado, is the nation of Yuma Indians. These are said to be a very treacherous people; they conquer by craft and cunning, and delight in midnight attacks; they invite each other to feasts under the garb of friendship, and suddenly fall upon and kill their guests; or, taking advantage of the absence of the warriors from their villages, massacre the old women and the young children, and carry off as prisoners the young women and larger children. They possess but few horses, and carry on their expeditions on foot. Their war weapons are bows and arrows, clubs and knives, with which they make sad havoc among their enemies. They are of the medium height, and of a dark brown colour, and many of the women are beautiful in form. An essential article of dress, worn by the



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