

The allied fleets had made a false attack on Beyrout, with the object of landing the Turkish troops, and English and Austrian marines. To explain the nature of this false attack, to readers not versed in warlike manoeuvres, let us (for we love all homely instances) resemble it to a run-away knock, a thing so well understood in this city.

Well, the Admiral gave a run-away knock at Ibrahim's door at Beyrout; Soliman, the porter, as it were, thought of nothing but taking care of the things in the passage, taking the Admiral for what is, in the thief-taking language, called a 'sneak.' The Admiral, laughing in his sleeve, sailed away, and snugly smuggled the Turkish army ashore some seven or eight miles off. The army so happily landed were instantly packed up in an intrenchment, Commodore Napier having himself taken a shovel in hand to assist in fencing them in. The guns of the fleet commanded the road by which Ibrahim must march to attack them, and it may confidently be said that the allied army is safe, which is a great thing to say—safely planted, so long as the wind does not blow on the shore, in which case the fleet must leave the roads—we mean both the road on shore, and the road at sea,—and claw off the shore, for its own safety, instead of clawing Ibrahim Pacha. Thus the success of our operations depends in some sort upon the wind, which in November, will be very apt to favour Mehemet Ali.

But the Syrians—ay, the Syrians—came in large numbers, and showed a laudable eagerness to take our arms. All the accounts of their enthusiasm, especially at Djibail, were excellent; but we confess, that we do not like the circumstance, stated in the despatch of Captain Martin, that large bodies of men whom we have armed have returned to the mountains, as they say, to blockade a very fine Emir that they know of in a convent.

It is to be regretted that Captain Martin did not beg them to give us the pleasure of their company, instead of going after the desirable Emir in a convent.

It is a happiness to reflect that there are no pawn-brokers' shops in Syria; but still we wish it were quite certain that those excellent Syrians would come back with our arms. We pray that the Emir may not be too strong for them.

That the Syrian insurrection may turn out as well as the fondest heart can desire of insurrections, we by no means would dispute. The revolt may realize all the rose-colored anticipations of Lord Palmerston, and for burning and destroying, bloody surprises and massacres, it may come up to the *beau ideal* of such things, and leave nothing to be desired. It is seldom that any of the devil's guns flash in the pan. Far be it from us to damp any hopes of a fierce rising in the sacred cause of liberty and Turkish government. All that we mean to say is, that the thing was not done, was not quite finished, not quite settled, when the last news came away; but the next arrival will, probably gladden us with the intelligence of progress both in restoring and destroying the Sultan's towns. So, too, we shall be sure to hear of the arming of more Syrians; but we are more impatient for the tidings of the use they have made of our arms.

At present we may content ourselves with the proud boast of the hero in *Tom Thumb*—

"Thus far with conquest have our arms been crowned,
Because we've found no foe to fight withal."

—*Examiner.*

LORD LYNDBURST.

(Abridged from the *Britannia*.)

Next to the Duke of Wellington, Lord Lyndhurst is the most influential man in the House of Lords. He is as much feared by his opponents as he is respected and valued by his friends. Like his younger coadjutor, Lord Stanley, he, too, enjoys the honorable distinction of being well hated, and few men have been more virulently abused by Mr. O'Connell and the Whigs. His influence in the House, however, is of a different kind from that of the Duke. The latter is a moral influence, grounded upon the respect universally entertained for his probity, experience, practical turn of mind, and unflinching honesty. Lord Lyndhurst's influence, on the other hand, is founded more especially upon his intellectual pre-eminence, his greater power as a debater, and the stern, unhesitating determination with which he brings those powers to bear upon the questions under discussion. But the influence which springs from fear is never so great as that which results from respect. A practised and powerful debater must always have enemies, either among those who envy him for his talents, or among those who have smarted under his lash. He must, therefore, necessarily be more powerful as a partisan than useful as a guide. What we would submit to from one for whose long-tryed sagacity we feel an habitual reverence that has become interwoven with our intellectual and moral system, we should resist from another with whom we had been in the constant practice of conflict. Yet Lord Lyndhurst is very far from being a mere partisan. On the contrary, he is possessed of more political wisdom than the great majority of living politicians; but it is as a debater that he has shone the most, and he is, therefore, always looked upon in that character more than as an originator of the course of policy pursued by his party.

Lord Lyndhurst's personal appearance is an index of his mind and character. It is strikingly masculine. Considerably above the middle height, he would appear tall, but for the breadth and muscular development of his frame; and there is that in his manly, and somewhat stately gait, which would command your respect, even had you no knowledge of his high reputation. His carriage, indeed, is peculiar to himself, and is as distinct from the easy amble of Sir Robert Peel, as from the staid grave paces of Lord Aberdeen. His chest is expanded; his tread is firm and natural, and (O rare accomplishment in an Englishman!) his arms fall into their right place without any appearance of effort. His countenance is not less remarkable than his mind. It is capable of an inconceivable variety of expression, and all highly intellectual. When in repose, it has the dignified gravity that becomes the judgment seat, enlightened and made grand by the serenity of deep thought. In this phase of its expression, it might have been taken by an antique sculptor as his model for the ideal of wisdom. But when animated by the excitement of public debate, how indescribably vivacious is its play! Now resplendent with the workings of a piercing intellect, now majestic in indignant reproof, now radiant with good humour, now withering and sarcastic. His forehead is high, broad, and intellectual; his eye is full, clear, intelligent and expressive; the contour of the whole face is in the very finest mould; and the mouth is more capable of meaning than any I remember to have seen, except that of Edmund Keen. It is not handsome, in the ordinary sense of that term as applied to the mouth. There are none of the lines of Cupid about it. But it makes up for the want of beauty in the possession of power. When in repose, there is that compress-

sion of the lips (so that the line of junction is scarcely seen) which is always visible in men who think much and deeply. The *bouche* (I use the word for want of an English one) protrudes an expression like that of good-humoured irony, or biting sarcasm, it is alike pre-eminently. There is a flexibility about the muscles rarely witnessed. A smile will anticipate an argument, or a sneer refute one. Frequently I have known before-hand, from the expression of the mouth, what Lord Lyndhurst was about to say, and I have as often observed an antagonist put out in his attack by the peculiar meaning visible on the countenance of the noble and learned lord, as some startling proposition was enunciated. The influence which he wields in this manner is surprising. Though he sits in a remote part of the house, he seems to be the centre of all observation; and a smile, a sneer, a scornful laugh, or an ironical "hear! hear!" seems to run like the electric fire through the assembly.

But, if thus formed by nature to command respect, even without exerting himself to that end, how much more influential is Lord Lyndhurst when addressing the House of Lords on any of the great questions that come before them, or when making one of those searing attacks on ministers which have procured him from his enemies so much of the respect that springs from fear. I do not exaggerate when I say that he absolutely commands their intellects. Even his opponents, however reliant on their own views of things, confess, in their faces, now pale, now flushed, and in angry twitchings of the frame, his irresistible power. For his ability is precisely of that kind with which a supercilious critic can find no fault. He does not aspire to excel in the mere arts of oratory—in the laborious climax, the remembered wit, the prepared peroration; therefore he cannot be sneered down as superficial, as Lord Brougham has been. Nor does he attempt to dazzle with brilliant language or poetical imagery, like Mr. Macaulay, and so be a fine speaker, and nothing more. Nor, with all his sarcastic power does he ever betray even the appearance of ill nature; therefore his enemies cannot fix upon him the imputation of malignity, which O'Connell has cast at Lord Stanley. No: all that falls from Lord Lyndhurst is massive argument, sound common sense, logical analysis, set off by a species of humour that is quite legitimate, as it serves more to exemplify the arguments than merely to wound the feelings of the antagonist; for the noble and learned lord, if ever he allows himself the use of sarcasm, expends it upon measures, not upon men. With him it is the coruscation of the intellect, pointing and vivifying and relieving from the dull solemnity of debate, not, as with others, the forked lightning of passion, searing and wounding, blinding and exasperating. His most favourite style of sarcasm is a milder mode of expressing that feeling of the mind. He ever and anon indulges in a vein of delicate, natural, unprepared irony, which has all the effect of ridicule in tickling the risible faculties of an auditor, while at the same time it rather excites shame than anger in the objects of it; because, while it is perfectly good humoured, it carries with it conviction, growing, as it irresistibly does, out of the point of the argument it embellishes.

Let us suppose him taking a review of the events of a session. He proceeds, in a voice sonorous yet clear as a trumpet, and in the very perfection of simple manly eloquence, to catalogue the errors of the year. He first lays the foundation by a statement of events, lucid, and unencumbered by a single unnecessary word. Facts, dates, causes, effects, all follow each other in a clear, unhesitating narration, combining the minuteness of the politician, with the dignity and perspicuity of the historian. Some speakers encumber this portion of their addresses with useless details, and digressions dictated by uncontrollable party feeling; and they refer ever and anon to piles of papers, the very sight of which frightens and wearies the house by anticipation. Not so Lord Lyndhurst. His mind is a magazine wherein all the stores are arranged in due order, and are at instant command. His intellect, accustomed to analysis in the severe exercises of the law, distils the essence and rejects the crude material. You have all that you need to know, and are saved the confusion of too much information. Having thus stated the foundation of his arguments, Lord Lyndhurst then proceeds to the attack, not with the virulence of party feeling, or the vain desire of display which actuates so many orators, but in an unsophisticated exposure of what he conceives to have been errors, intended and calculated to prevent their repetition. It is not in isolated brilliant efforts that the charm of Lord Lyndhurst's oratory consists; it is in the sustained, concentrated power that reigns throughout, that subdues your intellect, as the sight of a compact, muscular, practised athlete quells your physical courage, and bends you in submission, because all hope of competition is at once negatived. What is the cause of this spell exercised upon your intellectual nature? It is, as I set out with saying, the unvarying, natural, inborn self-possession of the man. He is one of nature's aristocrats. Wherever his lot had been cast, still he would have swayed the minds of his fellows. This peculiarity, which he enjoys in an eminent and unequalled degree, forms the key to his character and his success in the political world.

Lord Lyndhurst made the best Lord Chancellor this country has had for many years. In the court he was respected, because his legal knowledge was universally admitted. In the house he was admired, and his authority submitted to without a murmur, because, with that tact and instinctive self-respect which belongs to such sterling characters, he never exceeded its due limits.

To those who are curious in personal details, it may be as well to add that Lord Lyndhurst is 67 years of age, but does not look more than five-and-forty; that he wears a brown wig, which fits so well that it does not look like a wig at all; that, in private life, he is one of the most agreeable men living, sinking all political differences in a pervading spirit of good-fellowship; that he is a universal favourite with the ladies; and that, after being left a widower, he has united himself to a young lady of considerable beauty and unusual intellectual accomplishments, with whom he enjoys all that happiness which a man experienced in the ways of the world knows how to extract out of the marriage state. I regret to add, however, that his recent severe illness has very much impaired his personal health.

THE TEMPERANCE REFORM IN IRELAND.

The most extraordinary revolution of modern times is that now in progress in Ireland, induced by the labours of Theobald Mathew, an humble but eloquent Roman Catholic Priest, of Cork. If, two years ago, any one had predicted that before the close of 1840 more than two million Irishmen would

be induced suddenly to form habits of sobriety, that in so brief a time Ireland would be the scene of a social revolution unparalleled in history, he would have been deemed a visionary enthusiast; yet this has been accomplished by the efforts of a single individual, and the good example of the multitudes in the father land has exerted a most happy influence on the Irish and their descendants in Great Britain and America. This great change in the moral character of a people has resulted from no fanaticism or mania. A great majority of those who have received the temperance pledge from Mr. Mathew have done so in consequence of witnessing the improved health and circumstances of friends and neighbours who have joined the society; the extraordinary success of the founder on all who attended the meetings of the society; the personal influence of the founder on all who attended the meetings of the society, who were willing at once to give up their besetting sin when the contrast between intemperance and sobriety was fairly presented before them. The extent and influence of the great Temperance Movement in Ireland will be best understood from the following history of its progress, which we compile from a recent number of Tait's Edinburgh Magazine and other sources, and from a recent speech of Mr. O'Connell before the British and Foreign Temperance Society, appended to this article.

The first attempt to establish a Temperance Society in the South of Ireland was made in Cork, by some members of the Society of Friends. It was attended with little or no success; and Mr. Mathew was solicited to commence one on similar principles, his friends rightly judging that twenty years' zealous performance of the duties of his office, which had gained for him the enviable reputation of being the poor man's friend, was the best of qualifications for an apostle of temperance. Mr. Mathew was not sanguine of the success of his undertaking. At its first commencement, he would have thought himself fortunate in obtaining five hundred members. A meeting, however, was held and the society formed on the widest possible basis; the only form requisite on admission being a repetition of a pledge by each person to abstain from all intoxicating liquors, unless recommended for medical purposes, and to discourage, by all means in his power, the practice of intoxication in others. Mr. Mathew adding, 'May God bless you and enable you to keep your promise.' At first, but few converts were made, and those chiefly from Mr. Mathew's influence with the lower orders, whose confidence he had previously gained; but a great improvement taking place in the health of those who had discontinued the use of spirits, it was immediately supposed that some healing power was possessed by Mr. Mathew, of which the disciple received the benefit. This gave a great impetus to the society, and the halt, the maimed, and the blind, crowded to Cork, to take the pledge and be healed. Mr. Mathew at once discontinued this delusion, and the society was left to rest on its own merits; but there remains a strong impression that the pledge administered by him is superior in efficacy to that administered by others. The rapid increase of the society soon attracted public attention, and several applications were made to its founder to visit distant towns to make converts. These he uniformly refused, alleging that all who were in earnest would come to him, and that the fatigue and privation incident to a long journey, especially if made on foot, would be likely to impress the occasion of it deeply on their minds. The first exception to this rule occurred when he visited Limerick to preach a charity sermon; on which occasion troops were called out to prevent loss of life from the mere pressure of the thousands who crowded to take the pledge. Mr. M. was subsequently requested, by his ecclesiastical superiors, to visit Waterford and Clonmel, as the numbers of country people who flocked into Cork were, in many instances, overreached and plundered by designing individuals, who professed to accommodate strangers. It thus appears, that after the first establishment of the society, no further measures were required, on the part of Mr. Mathew, than the enrolment of the crowds who daily presented themselves for admission.

To make this clear, the writer of the article to which we have referred, in Tait's Magazine, gives the testimony of a number of the reformed, who had, without an exception, been induced to join the Temperance Society, by observing its beneficial influence on their fellows. After forming associations in the principal large towns in the interior, Mr. Mathew has, within a few weeks, visited Dublin, and it is expected that he will soon, in compliance with the earnest solicitations of the British and Foreign Temperance Society, go to London, where an immense number of his countrymen stand ready to take his pledge as soon as they can receive it from his hands. On the 28th of September, while in the Irish metropolis, he preached in the Catholic Cathedral, and Lord Morpeth, the Secretary for Ireland, with the Attorney General and other members of the Privy Council, held plates at the doors for contributions in aid of the Temperance cause; and the Marquis of Lansdowne, a Cabinet Minister, at the same time forwarded to Mr. Mathew a hundred pounds, to be used for the advancement of the great reform. This countenance by men of high station and great political influence, is a testimony of the value which the intelligent portion of the people place upon Mr. Mathew's labors.

It has been questioned, whether the number of persons who have actually ceased to be drunkards is very great; but all doubts on this point are fortunately put to rest by recent official documents. The abstraction of half a million of drunkards from the population of a district would, of course, affect its statistics, and, accordingly, we find a very great decrease of the duties on spirits, in the province of Munster, and an increase in the same district of the duties on tea, sugar, and other articles of more intrinsic value. But the reports of the superintendent police magistrates, furnish the most gratifying evidence on the subject. Dr. Buller, principal surgeon of one of the largest infirmaries in Ireland, states that the number of casualties consequent upon drinking, has decreased to one third in Cork, since the commencement of the labours of Father Mathew; in Limerick three hundred and fifty venders of ardent spirits this year declined a renewal of their licences because their business had been entirely ruined; and, in many other towns and districts, the same reason has been reduced seven eighths. In some large towns the ordinary constabulary force had been reduced in two years—one-half; considerable amounts of money have accumulated in the hands of poor house commissioners, whose tenements have nearly been deserted; and the amount of crime and wretchedness of every description has been lessened to an incredible extent.

THE WESLEYAN METHODISTS.

The Leeds *Intelligencer* communicates the following details, connected with the recent proceedings of the Wesleyan Methodist Conference and the pro-

gress of the Wesleyan body:—"It appears that during the past year more than one hundred new tracts have been added to the catalogue, and nearly a million and a quarter have been disposed of either by sale or grant. One hundred and seventy supernumerary preachers and two hundred preachers' widows, in England and Ireland, have been admitted to the new auxiliary fund, in addition to which sums of different amounts have been granted to relieve particular cases of distress. Thirty pounds each have been granted this year to twelve preachers, who have been placed on the superannuated list, through age or infirmity; making altogether, with the usual allowance for the education of the children of preachers, and for incidental expenses, the sum of £12,000. By a statistical account of the state of education amongst the Wesleyan body, it appears that, as compared with the returns of 1837, a considerable increase had taken place in every department of school operations, and resolutions were adopted for carrying out still further the most efficient plan in reference to this object.—Thirty-three grants towards annual deficiencies, amounting in the whole to £262, were made by the Committee of the general Chapel Fund; one hundred trustee cases had been settled, and debts to the amount of £57,139 18s. 8d. extinguished. The number of cases still under consideration was about 120. The Building Committee noticed the erection and enlargement of 129 chapels and four schools, the estimated aggregate expense of which would amount to £65,068, and the estimated subscriptions and collections to £26,876. Various details were given at the special meeting of the Missionary Committee, with respect to the Society's operations abroad. There is, it appears, at the present moment, £10,000 more of expenditure than of income, and they were called upon to make an additional grant of £5,000, for the expense of the Ashantee mission, and thus, in some measure, compensate Africa for the grievous wrongs inflicted upon her. Dr. Bunting claimed the good opinion and support of the Wesleyan body in behalf of the new Society for the extinction of the Slave Trade, and for the civilization of Africa. A resolution was passed, approving of the contemplated object of attempting the establishment of a Christian mission in Ashantee. Upwards of a hundred candidates for the itinerancy offered themselves. From the returns laid before the Committee it appears that twenty-nine preachers have died during the last year, namely, nineteen in England, five in Ireland, and five in the missionary field. Fifty-four young preachers, having passed their four years of probation, have been admitted into full connection; 114 others have been recommended to the Conference as candidates. Several new circuits have been formed. From the returns it likewise appears that there is an increase of 16,110 members in Great Britain, 665 in Ireland (notwithstanding a loss of 600 by emigration), and 5,777 in the Foreign stations, besides 19,603 on trial for admission into the Societies."

REFLECTIONS ON THE COURSE OF THE THAMES.—

The source of the Thames is a clear fountain in a little rocky dell, near Cirencester, known by the name of Thames Head. This is the little infantine stream so great a giant when it arrives at its full growth. What reflections we might make upon human affairs in general from the mere sight of this oozing well! What a homily we might preach upon this text—the small-beginnings of great things—and what encouragement might be held out to humble genius from it! Truly, the course of a river bears no bad comparison with the career of an able man, who makes his own fortune in the world. How slight is his beginning; yet how full of confidence he runs on in his career, dashing over some obstacles, and turning round others, obliged to take a tortuous course, that his waters may not be changed into an inland lake, or be dispersed in ponds over a marshy country; and that he may arrive at the sea of death, whither he must come at last, with a wealthy and powerful name! See, too, how he gathers tribute as he passes—how smaller minds bear homage unto his, and are content to obey his impulses, and run with him in a mingled stream! See, too, how by his well-acquired wealth he increases the wealth of others—how, by the judicious distribution of his capital, he affords employment, and consequent profit, to thousands! Thus we have seen our Thames: here he is a little child at his own strength; by and by he becomes able to walk alone, as at Lechlade, where he is first navigable. Still gaining strength, and increasing in stature, he becomes like a boy, lingering in quiet nooks, and in woody places, and leading a happy life of it. Next we have him at Oxford, a youth at college—his mind filled with reminiscences of antiquity, and assuming a classical name which does not belong to him, half for frolic and half for ambition. Next, emancipated from college, we have him turning courtier at Windsor, dallying in the consciousness of his youthful grace to gain a smile from royalty, and push his fortune in the world by means of royal favour. This he soon discovers was an idle fancy, and his good sense tells him to trust to his own strength for success, and to make himself useful to the world at large, and not a mere hanger-on at a palace. He therefore quits the court, widening and deepening as he journeys on; his mind expands, as it were, while his physical strength increases. He now makes himself a reputation, his character is known over the world, he becomes concerned in mercantile speculations, in which he is universally successful, and so full of probity that traders from all parts of the world give him unlimited credit. They would as soon believe any monstrous improbability as his failure or bankruptcy. Now he is rich indeed, and his house, (which may be called London,) becomes the mart of the world, and thousands of merchant princes attend every day at his levee. He spreads wealth wherever he goes, and a whole population live by him. This is his prime of life—his busy period—and he goes on, full of years and honour, till he is swallowed up in the dark ocean of death.—*The Thames and its Tributaries.*

SOFT SAWDER IN A NEW FORM.—So now, when I enter a location, after a little talk about this, that, or the other, I look at one of the young grow'd up galls almost like, till she says, Mr. Slick, what on earth are you a-lookin' at? Nothin', says I, my dear, but a most remarkable development. A what? says she. A remarkable development, says I, the most remarkable, too, I ever seed since I was raised. Why, what in natur's that? says she. Excuse me, says I, and gets up, and puts my finger on her crown. What benevolence! says I, and firmness of character! did you ever!—and then, says I, a passin' my finger over the eye-brow, you ought to sing well positively; it's your own fault if you don't, for you have uncommon petikilar powers that way. Your time is large, and time great; yes, and composition is strong. Well, how strange! says she; you have guessed right, I swear, for I do sing, and am allowed to have the best ear for music in all these clear-ins. How on earth can you tell? If that don't pass! Tell, says I, why it's what they call phenology, and a most beautiful study it is. I can read a head as