amuses himself with the contemplation of misery and guilt?'

'And yet, George, I should have thought that your proud high spirit would have borne all this rather than'——He paused.

'You are right, Mr. Morgan. I would have encountered any amount of *present* pain, if by so doing, I could have redeemed the future from its abiding shame. I would have braved publicity, ridicule, everything, to have rescued my name from dishonour—to have regained the proud freedom I had lost. You are right in judging me so, but I was hindered.'

'What could hinder you' In such a case, your own judgment only should have been followed. You only had suffered, and no one, *no* one had a right to restrain you?'

A smile—but how bitter a smile—curled the lip of Stuart, and his proud nostril expanded with a look of wearied scorn.

'My friend,' he said, 'you are a lawyer: you should know something of the English law of divorce. Do you not understand?' he added, as Mr. Morgan looked up inquiringly. 'Doubtless my cause was good—doubtless I should have gained a decision in my favour; but'—his lips and his hand closed quickly—'I could not pay for it!'

(*To be continued.*)

TROUBLES OF THE LYONNESE.

From a friend who has just visited the scenes of the recent inundations in Franse we received melancholy accounts of the ravages and miseries that have befallen both the country and the town population. It is difficult to say which have suffered most. Lyons itself is built on high ground between the Saone and Rhone; but its numbers had so increased beyond the narrowness of its accommodation, that large masses of its artizan poor were long ago compelled to transfer their residences to the other side of the rivers, and especially of the Rhone. On its left bank, scattered over a plain as low as its bed, the working-class reared its abodes, and formed a new town of its own, called Les Brotteaux and La Guillotiere. The Rhone, coming from Geneva, sweeps round the northern extremity of these scattered villages, or this plain, in order to enter Lyons; and they are protected from it by two lines of mounds or dykes, which look like fortifications, though their purpose is but to keep out the river. It was through and over these mounds that the stream burst on the last days of May, and precipitated its current through the devoted suburbs. To depict the ruin it has left would be. impossible Stones, mud. and mortar were of course swept away, or assimilated to the soil; and planks, tiles, crockery, or fragments of household furniture, alone remained to bear witness of what once were habitations. Of some of the workshops the ironwork and engines might still be seen firm and exposed, though all the walls and roofs around and above had disappeared. The barracks alone appear intact. Is it that the army, stronghold and institutions, are alone able to defy the ruin which befalls everything else in France? That the minds of the artizan population of Lyons should not be affected by the inundation and its conseqences, it would be unreasonble to suppose. The presence of the Emperor, the prompt succour given by the Government, the subscriptions that have poured in from the rest of France, the large and generous tribute from England, may not unfairly be expected to change the long-standing moral and political discontent of the Lyonnese into something more rational, philanthropic, and humane. The Archbishop of Lyons indeed, who is a politician and theologian of the same school and calibre as Polignac, tells the artizans, that the inundation was a punishment sent from Heaven for their habits of working on Sundays; but though these poor people may at times have deen guilty of such habits for thrift's sake during these dear times, they are nevertheless able to point for answer to the other side of the Rhone, where the well-to-do citizens keep their shops open, and ply the work of business as well as pleasure on Sunday, without having suffered in the least from the vengeance of the elements, It is a dangerous doctrine, that of attributing direcly to Providence the accidents of natuie. In the earthquake which traversed the valley of Viege, while the houses of private individuals weie cracked and shaken, the churches and the adjoining habitations of the priests were utterly destroyed. It seemed as if the fury of the storm was peculiarly directed against the latter; and the uncharitable, of course, drew comments therefrom quite as absurd and unjust as those of Cardinal de Bonald against the artizans of Lyons. Common sense points out, on the other hand, that the churches of Viege suffered,most simply because they were the largest and the tallest buildings. In the same way it in the industrious who have suffered most from the inundations, for it is they who have most crowded and multiplied on river sides and at river confluences, because of the water power which they had learned to employ. In the regions adjoining the Alps there is small fertility on the mountains or on the mountain sides; the bottoms of the valleys have alone been made rich by what has poured down the hills. But the valleys are traversed by torrents; and to render available, while protecting the soil from these torrents, has been the chief occupation and care of the industrious agriculturist. And he enjoys the fruit of such labour, it may be, for a long series of years, sixty or seventy perhaps; bnt rarely has there failed then to come a season of universal rain that swells the torrent, and, raising it suddenly from its bed, inundates, and covers, devastates the whole valley. Of all the countries which have suffered on the present ocsation, those adjoining or in the Alps have been most severely visited. In other regions the inundations have brought partial destruction; but in the Alps, not only all crops have been destroyed. but the soil so turned and covered that the labour of a year may not be able to bring the same field again into cultivation. Nor can this labour be even attempted, until the government engineers have restored the roads, embanked the rivers, and forced them to resume their old beds. Let us hope, meanwhile, that the succour so generously poured in from so many quarters will be distributed to the rural population as well as to the towns. Whole families of the former have not only lost their houses, furniture. and cattle, carried off by the torrents, but their very fields have disappeared, and the comfortable and industrious landed proprietor of yesterday is but a beggar to-day. All the attendant circumstances of these inundations, it must be admitted, do very little honour or credit to the French Government School engineers, so expensively kept up. Even in some Alpine valleys, English engineers had been able to construct railways which have not suffered, whereas many of the French royal and imperial roads have been totally destroyed. The great road to the Alps, as the passage was called from Grenoble to Briancon, was only completed in 1852. It is the most recent effort of French road-making science, and it has been completely swept away. The millions sunk in it are lost, and the labour of ten years fruitless. Yet on the other side of the Alps in another valley also traversed by torrents from the most lofty peaks, English engineers constructed, not many years since, a railway (we speak of that from Turin to Susa and the Mount Cenia); and of this railroad not a single foot has stirred, not a single bridge been damaged. The rains were nevertheless just as copious in Piedmont, and nearly as tremendous in their effects, as in France. There are some centuries of Chinese history altogether taken up with the struggles of that people, led by intelligent sovereigns,to conquer their great rivers, to confine them to their natural beds, and to make profit of the alluvial soil created in the valleys by these gigantic streams. A Chinese monarch in those old days derived his popularity from his conquest over the waters, not from the slaughter of human foes, and higher places have been assigned to the deified heroes who rescued territories from the rivers, than to those who conquered them from living enemies. It might worthily be the office of a Napoleon of peace to take example from such Chinese demi-gods. One of the floods which occur but once in a century has just visited France, marking 1856 as s year of disaster; and some millions of temporary succour, accompanied by some personal presence and sympathy, have already done much. But a series of works of art that would permanently protect the most rich and industrious regions of that great country from these periodical devastations, would yet more contribute to the glory of the French Imperial Government than even the bold policy of erecting a dyke against the encroachments of Russia.

NEW BRUNSWICK AND CANADA RAILWAY AND LAND COMPANY.

We clip the following interesting report from the article of the London *Express*, of July 4:

The prospectus of the New Brunswick and Canada Railway and Land Company is issued. This company is formed for the purpose of purchasing the railway and privileges of the St. Andrew's and Quebec Railway Company, and for completing the first portion of the line to Woodstock, a distance from St. Andrew's, where the line commences, of about 90 miles. Of this distance, 21 miles are already finished, at a cost not exceeding £3000 per mile. The railway will form a junction at Trois Pistoles with the Grand Trunk and Great Western Railways of Canada, and will thus form a main trunk line to the Canadas through British territory. It is mentioned, as indicative of the importance of the undertaking, that the port of St. Andrew's is never frozen, whilst the river St. Lawrence is entirely closed by ice during six months of the year. Amongst the privileges accorded by the colonial government to the original undertaking and newly transferred to this company, are—the free grant of upwards of 200,000 acres of valuable land along the entire line, timber and materials for the construction of the railway, a guarantee of a minimum dividend of 6 per cent. on £80,000 for 25 years commencing, on the completion of the line to Woodstock, and the right of making branch lines through any part of the province of New Brunswick. The total capital is fixed at £800,000, in 40,000 shares of £20 each, of which only 17,500 shares, representing £350,000 stock, are to be issued at present, being the amount required to complete the first section to Woodstock. Of these 17,500 shares, 4000 are to be appropriated to the English proprietors of the St. Andrew's and Quebec Railroad Company (forming class C shares), and 2500 to the local government, so that only 11,000 shares, or £220,000, will now be offered to the public, Four thousand of these are class A shares, and to be entitled to a government guarantee of 6 per cent for 25 years, commencing on the completion to Woodstock, with bonus of 16, acres per share. The other 7000 shares will form class B, and will be entitled to 15 acres per share, with 6 per cent interest during construction, but no government guarantee. Separate certificates are in each case to be issued, one representing the right to the dividends of the railway, and the other representing the land. A deposit of £2 per share is to be paid on allotment. The undertaking is provisionally registered under the Limited Liability Act, and is to be incorporated by Act of Parliament. The Earl Fitzwilliam is chairman, and amongst the directors are Mr. H. W. Wickham, M. P., chairman of the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Company, Mr. Henry Maudslay, and Alderman Sir Henry Muggeridge.

Too True.—The less you leave your children when you die. the more they will have twenty years afterwards. Wealth inherited should be the incentive to exertion. Instead of that, "it is the title deed to sloth." The only money that does a man good is what he earns himself. A ready-made fortune is like ready-made clothes, seldom fits the man who comes into possession. Ambition, stimulated by hope and a half-filled pocket-book, has a power that will triumph over all difficulties, beginning with the rich man's contumely, and leaving off with the envious man's malice.

Iron Houses.—Russian journals state at a late fair at Nijegorard, an iron house was to be seen, composed of antechamber, bed room, and kitchen. The front was ornamented with columns, and had three windows; the walls, roof, staircase, &c., were all of iron. Its weight was nearly 26,000 pounds, and its price equivalent to about $1280. Two men could take it down in one day, and it only required two days to put it up again.

India Rubber Lining for Vessels.—A plan has been devised for lining vessels with a continuous coating of India rubber as a safeguard against leakage. It is intended to apply the lining within the frame of the ship, and beneath the ceiling. The edges of the sheets, which are proposed to be from one-fourth to three-fourths of an inch in thickness, are to be cemented by heat, and the gum, it is believed, will be as durable as the wood itself.

An Arab Widow—When an Arab woman intends to marry again after the death of her husband, she goes the night before to the grave of her first husband. Here she kneels, and prays him not to be offended—not to be jealous. As, however, she fears he will be offended and jealous, the widow brings with her a donkey laden with two goat' skins of water. The prayers ended, she proceeds to pour on the grave the water, to keep the first husband cool under the irritating circumstances about to take place; and having well saturated him, she departs.

Russian Bank-notes.—The English and French officers in the Crimea who have sold horses and other property to Russians, have made very sorry bargains wherever they have taken bank-notes in payment. Out of Russia the notes are valueless, for there is an ordinance prohibiting their exportation, and if they leave the country and are openly sent back again, the Customs-officers confiscate them! The French and English were not aware of this, and have been disagreeably surprised by the discovery of the fact. An appeal to the Russian Government is talked of.

Price of a Landscape by Rubens.—At the sale of Lord Orford's pictures, last Saturday, a celebrated landscape by Rubens, called the Rainbow Landscape, fetched the extraordinary price of $22,-750. The subject of this picture represents a party of peasants returning home at evening from harvest work, soon after a shower, and various others engaged in farming employments; a group of cattle watering, and a brood of ducks hurrying to a pool, display all the magic of Rubens' pencil. A mass of wood on the right forms a perspective, which is lost in a delightful distant landscape; a rainbow, with a grand sweep, unites the colouring of the whole in the richest harmony. This celebrated chef d' oeuvre is one of a pair which formerly adorned the Balbi Palace at Genoa.

A young lady having been invited to a military ball, inquired, with great simplicity, if all the ladies were expected to bare arms!

Why is it impossable for a butcher to be a strictly honest man? Because he steals his knives!

Quin being asked by a lady, why it was reported that there were more women than men, replied, "it is in conformity with the arrangements af nature, madam; we always see more of heaven than earth."

A toper lately asked another, if he believed in the appearance of spirits. Toper No. 2 answered in the negative, but added that he believed in their disppearance, as some one had but a short time previous purloined a bottle of Jamaica from his pocket!

A lady on leaving her home, was addressed to the following offect by her little boy: "Mamma will you remember to buy me a penny whistle; and let it be a religious one, that I can use it on Sunday!"

Capital Punishment.—The committee appointed by the Lords to take into consideration the present mode of carrying into effect capital punishments has presented its report, which contains the following recommendations: —1. That executions should in future be carried into effect within the precincts of the prison, or in some place securing similar comparative privacy. —2. That a certain number of official witnesses be present at the execution, and sign a deposition to having witnessed it. 3. That such spectators as the local authorities see fit to admit be also allowed to bepres ent.—4. That the exact time of the execution be made known to those without, as, for instance, by the tolling of a bell, which shall cease at the moment of execution, and the hoisting at the same time of a black flag.

Murder in the Crimean Camp.—Close by the Inkermann monument, which has just been completed, a party of Sappers, on the afternoon of the 25th June, discovered the body of a young man who had been recently murdered, his throat being cut from ear to ear, and his clothes taken off. A shoe, stick, pouch, pocket-book, a pair of stocks, and some linen shirts, were found close by; and from the contents of the pocket-book, and expensive character of the articles found, he is supposed to be either a Kamiesh merchant or a travelling gentleman. The socks were marked with the initials J. O., and the pouch, on the back had the letters A. O. A. At the suggestion of Captain Baynes, all the articles of dress were handed over to the French authoriaties, and the man was buried next day on the field of Inkerman. —*Correspondent of the Daily News.*