

THE GUARDIAN.

SATURDAY, APRIL 15, 1876.

PERIODICAL LITERATURE.

Our School Boards are opening a crusade against the vast mass of pernicious and immoral literature which floods our country weekly, amounting in the aggregate to forty millions of copies of publications annually. It is a laudable employment on the part of our educational administrators to bring forcibly before the notice of the Legislature this huge evil, and urging the suppression of all prints which are calculated to have a deleterious effect upon the inhabitants, especially the younger portion. The evil that is being wrought is not inodorous, and it is high time that the poisonous current, which has for the past few years been attaining wider proportions, was stemmed. The revelations of the police courts as to the influence some of the bolder of these publications have had upon mere boys are sufficiently startling; but the full mischief done by periodicals which do not come under the ban of "immoral," but which may be fairly denominated unhealthy trash, can never be computed. It would perhaps be too much to expect that legislative interference could ever reach these, and other means must be used to frustrate their enervating work upon the moral tone of hundreds of thousands of our juvenile population. A great work has been and is being done by several publishing houses to check the evil, by issuing periodicals of an attractive, elevating, entertaining, and instructive character, some of which are marvels of cheapness. Prominent among these are Cassell, Petter, and Galpin, Strachan and Co., and Partridge and Co., while others whose names are not so familiar to the general public are nobly doing their part to place in the hands of young and old alike weeklies and serials which are brimful of mental food of the best kind. It is a hopeful sign that year by year the number of this eminently useful class of literature is swelling; and as it increases it improves in quality, for all the improvements in letterpress, in illustration, and in advanced intelligence are laid under contribution to its development. Here, then, is an effective agency already in operation, by which the lovers of the race may do their part in counteracting the harm that is being done by the frothy and poisonous class. Let every one in whose breast there glows a desire for the welfare of the rising populace, however humble may be their station in life, seek to place in the houses of their neighbours, (or persuade them to get) one at least of the many periodicals which aim at supplying the mind with pure stimulants, sound instruction, and aspirations after a sublimer life. If this were done, the reams of debasing prints which every week load the counters of our booksellers would be speedily materially lessened, for we have not yet lost faith in the power of the higher over the lower in our strange human nature. Bring the people in contact with good; let it be continually before their eyes in their households in the shape of pure literature, and the result will show itself. Due care should be exercised in the selection of the periodical, however, and the sickly sentimental and "goody goody" should be discarded with as much abhorrence as the other extreme.

INSPECTION OF CONVENTS.

We hardly see why the result of the division upon Mr. CHAMBERS's motion in the House of Commons upon conventional institutions should have been "received with Conservative cheers," that result having been the majority of 127 to 87 against the motion. It does not appear to us to be a specially appropriate work of the Liberal party to procure the institution of an enquiry into "the number, rate of increase, character, and present position in relation to the law of monastic and conventual institutions in Great Britain," nor do we see that it should be the natural task or the Conservative party to defend these institutions from any exterior intrusion or supervision on the part of the law. The Liberal party, having the honor of leading in pride itself upon its support of freedom of religion, while the Conservative party have always effected to uphold the established Protestant Church of England against all the insidious attacks of Rome. Both parties, therefore seem out of their place in the position they have taken up upon the question of convents, for we might rather expect to see Conservatism attempting to circumscribe the operation of these institutions and Liberals advocating a supposed free exercise of religion. But the matter is really not one in which party feeling ought to be introduced at all, for all that should be required is proof that the conventual system has led and is leading to infringements of the liberty of the subject and to improper and illegal restraint of individual freedom of will. It was in this respect that Mr. CHAMBERS failed in making out a case. He

posed statistics which certainly show a considerable increase in the number of conventual institutions in Great Britain within less than a quarter of a century. In 1854, he said, there were in this country 17 monastic institutions, 53 convents, and 11 Cathedral colleges; and in 1874 there were 99,299, and 21 respectively. But the mere increase in the numbers of such institutions is no reason for Parliamentary interference. What the practical British people want, before they would call for or support such interference is some actual proof that the conventual system is abused to the injury of individual liberty. Whether it is or not, we have not yet had any reliable evidence to show and it is no argument to tell us that the Governments of all other civilized countries—though we think that is making too sweeping a statement—exercise some control over conventual houses. Most Governments do something that our own does not do, but that is not reasons why ours should begin to supply all supposed deficiencies. It is in accord with the genius of the British nation to allow Government to do as little for it as may well be—to reduce the interference of the central Executive with private affairs to a minimum, and in this the national character is very different from that of most Continental nations. We have Government inspection of lunatic asylums and visitation of gaols by local authorities distinct from those who manage the prisons; but in either case we are guarding the interests of people actually helpless and unable to defend themselves from oppression. But there are a variety of cases in which similar inspection or visitation might be advocated, yet in which few people think of applying it. Workhouses, hospitals, homes and refuges of different kinds, schools where the children are lodged and maintained, and various other institutions, may all offer opportunity for abuses of power on the part of their managers, and there is little doubt that cases of oppression must sometimes occur which the law would punish if it could be brought to bear upon them. But the question is whether sufficient instances of maltreatment have been brought to light to necessitate Government inspection of these institutions and just about the same in all respects may be said of monasteries and convents and more. Until it is proved that in any of these cases the Habeas Corpus Act or other legal provisions are not sufficient to deal with occasional flagrant abuses of power, Parliament will not be inclined to entertain any proposition for their regular inspection by Government officials. We should therefore advise the advocates of such inspection to make good a strong case for interference if they can before they again move in the House of Commons. Even when they would have something else to do, and that is to show that Government supervision in all similar cases has been effectual, and has prevented abuses of power. If they cannot do this, State interference might only tell us in a false sense of security, as in the case of mines and other matters where inspection is now applied without, however, removing the evils against which it was intended to guard.

MINISTERIAL MISTAKES.

In an unpropitious moment the Chancellor of the Exchequer this year opened his Budget, declaring the necessity for putting on the screw and raising the income-tax a penny in the pound. With all Sir STAFFORD NORTHCOKE's laboured modifications and explanations, this is how the country receives his proposals, and Parliament had scarcely entered upon its Easter vacation before the policy of his way of increasing taxation had been sharply rebuked. The impression seems to gain force and colour in every direction that under a more dexterous manipulation of the finances there would have been no deficit for which to provide. The temper of the country just now is by no means favourable to any increase of taxation for the sake of paying for the political fancies in which Mr. DISRAELI's administration has indulged. In a plain matter-of-fact way JOHN BULZ is beginning to inquire what he has got for these swollen estimates. There is no denying the fact that whatever may be the prospective advantages the nation may derive from Mr. DISRAELI's "spirited eastern policy," the purchase of the Suez Canal shares by means of the Meers, ROTHGIELD advances for a consideration, together with the luckless fiasco attending his further schemes in Egypt, have up to the present time, from a pecuniary point of view, benefitted only stockjobbers and Jews. Mr. DISRAELI, perhaps unconsciously, but nevertheless most surely, has played into the hands of the wire-pullers of Capel Court, and has created a strong feeling of irritation, if not of resentment, among luckless holders of Egyptian bonds—a class who will feel the pinch of an extra penny in the income-tax; and to them the Chancellor of the Exchequer's proposal will seem like a mustard plaster to

half-closed wound. Throughout the country too, trade is not in the most flourishing condition. Sir STAFFORD NORTHCOTE admits this by implication, when he avers that he dares not draw further upon the future; and in London, particularly trade is dull and the public in dudgeon because its "Season" has been spoiled by the conspicuous absence of the Royal and almost every member of the Royal Family. Income-tax falls perhaps as heavily upon London tradespeople as any class in the community, and they are assessed in a rough and ready way which bring up the asperities of a tax which naturally, swell the chorus of discontent; for they well know that the penny in the pound is to them a pondered disagreeably odious. These means, two millions sterling of money diverted by the Exchequer from the support of trade already in a languishing condition. This extra penny of income-tax comes as a feather to turn the scale of popularity against the Government. Indeed, if it were not for a conviction that the heavy majority which backs the Premier in Parliament may be reckoned upon however Quixotic or Discriminatory may be the measures he may propose, we should have a stronger demonstration of public opinion after Easter than we have had since the present Ministry succeeded to office. At public meetings convened to protest against the Royal Titles' Bill people are beginning to vent their dissatisfaction on the question whether after all, even a penny in the income-tax is not too much to pay for supporting a Ministry which has done little besides increasing the expenses of Government in almost every spending department, ending its tampering with the name of QUEEN, which has become so strongly endeared to the hearts of her loyal people. Easter is now upon us and two months of the session are gone—chiefly frittered away in the fruitless discussions over the unpopular proposal to make of a QUEEN an EMPRESS. Mr DIS-ALEX has stuck to the Bill with the same irresponsible perversity which he showed towards his old friend the Agricultural Holdings Bill last Session, and he needs some such strong incident as the Pilsenol episode to startle him once more into sense of the danger of running counter to the wishes of some of his staunchest supporters. The mistake, however, which the friends of the

Government have the strongest reason to deplore law with the sting in the tail of TITIKAKA's last utterance upon the Royal Titles' Bill. The allusion which he was prudent enough to make to Russia in his speech has caused a sensation abroad which has considerably weakened our influence, and has given umbrage to Russia which at this time was especially undesirable. The Lord Chancellor was astute enough to see that that Royal Titles' Bill was not in harmony with the wishes of the people: he admitted in fact that he preferred to revert to the old sentiments which the country had declared at the Ball Box three years ago voted by the Ministry, and accept the vote by the representatives elected then, rather than listen for any avowal of public opinion since now, thereby admitting that the time has come when the influence of the present

OUR LONDON CORRESPONDENT

Mr. Fawcett's motion for an address to the Crown praying Her Majesty not to adopt any other title but that of Queen, was indefinitely postponed, but the Government refuse to name any day for Easter, and the member for Hackney is therefore compelled to bring it on whenever he can—on any night, after the recess, that is open to a private member. I doubt whether ministers will gain much, if anything, by this. The much-vaunted question of the "Queen's title" is a question of the rights of the Royal Title Bill being read a third time in the House of Lords on Friday, and will continue to be earnestly debated by the public during the parliamentary holidays. Now, the longer this question is kept open the more unpopular seems to become the title. Emperor of the Germans, perhaps have already come to the conclusion that it would be better to have allowed the Professor to bring forward his resolution—which, of course, would have been negative—before the House adjourned for Easter vacation. The Queen and Mr. Disraeli probably have the other steering so far as one rowing so badly and the other steering so awkwardly that the punt gets aground among the reeds—this is *Fau's* expression of the situation on the Royal Titles' Bill. It is a neat way of putting the matter, and on the week of the boat-race the illustration is more obvious. The best way of it is that his colleague who is a Tory, well known as a Conservative power who has to follow a leader, are saying *Quis diaboli illi est fau's deus et cetera*. The Premier has clearly put his foot into it, and, having undressed to do the honours of the occasion, a pair of skulls, gallantry compels him to stick to it. The Liberal and Imperial Mistresses on board. The Liberal has no opportunity, and are not slow to follow it in the suburban London is following the example of the City. A meeting was held on Friday night at 'The Horns,' Kennington, and we shall soon have, not only a London Chivalry at the heels of the unfortunate Ministers, but a London Chivalry

The country is not in good humour at the Queen leaving the country during the height of the Sanitary scandal, if it is to the Paris Correspondent of the *Telegraph* is to be trusted, it is owing to Lord Derby's invariable absence, as Secretary of State in attendance on the Queen, that we have lost the opportunity of making a more useful stroke of financial policy. At the present hour France is suffering from a want of all the elements to a syndicate of French bankers, and so enabled them to offer the Khedive help which we had refused to give. All this, we are told, might have been ours, if Lord Derby had been in the country, and that carousing after the Queen to an obsequious dinner at the Grosvenor Palace. It is a remark that all this is purely imaginary. It is not likely that Lord Derby's presence would have decided the Ministry to enter on a spirited financial policy of this sort. On the contrary, from what is known of Lord Derby's character, it was more likely that the Cabinet would act in this way when his back was turned.

It can hardly be said that the proposal of the Chancellor of the Exchequer to add another penny to the income-tax came on the country by surprise. It was pretty well known that he would have to meet a prospective deficiency, and rumours of a change in the income-tax were rife weeks before the Budget. But the Chancellor, however, is none the less unpleasant because it was not wholly unexpected. But if this additional penny is in itself an infliction, there are proposed modifications which in fairness should not be lost sight of. The rate of the tax, and which will be the great make it a little less unpalatable to the great mass of the lower, middle, and upper working classes. At present all incomes above £100 are taxed; it is proposed to extend the freedom from taxation to incomes under £150. This will liberate a very large number of persons, and a large number of clerks, artisans, men of letters, and others, from the tax. At present less than £150 a year. Then above this class another important section, including professional men and persons in responsible positions whose incomes are between £150 and £400 a year, will be able to deduct £120 from their salaries and pay only the balance. Thus a man with a salary of £400 a year for example. He will pay tax on only £280, which at the new rate of 3d. will be £25 s. On the present scale that is to say that last year a man with the same income could have deducted £80 only, and would have had to pay on £320 at 3d. that is, he would have paid £26 s. 8d. more than he will now pay on the same tax, which in itself has been reduced to 2s. 6d. means only 9s. more a year in his case. The additional burden to the man with £400 a year is even less. On the old scale he would have had to pay £3 s. 6d., but now he can deduct £120, and will pay only £280 at 2s. 6d. that is, he will pay only 4s. more a year. Taking all these facts into consideration, we do not think the great mass of the "wage class," as Mr. Bright would say, have much to grumble at, while the burden of additional taxation is thrown on the classes who can best afford it. Yet with all the Chancellor's modifications the increase of a penny in the income-tax is viewed in London with marked disfavour.

The friends of Mr. Palmer, the gentleman who was so cruelly assaulted by some police officers on the E Division on the occasion of the Queen's visit to the City are determined—and very properly so—to let the matter rest without endeavoring to bring home the offence to the offender. A friend of Mr. Palmer's who accompanied him to Bow-street, police-station when the constables were paraded for the purpose of the police authorities of discharging the responsibility of attempting to mislead the public; and he asserts that neither on nor before the parade was there the slightest hint given to the investigators that the uniform (and consequently the number) of the men had become changed. This is a very serious accusation, and there can be little doubt that it is well founded. Sir W. Fraser's appeal to the Home Secretary, on Friday night, in the House of Commons, urging the offer of a reward for the discovery of the offender, shrewdly "twisted the arm" of the Home Secretary.

The monument to the two Wesley's which the Dean of Westminster uncovered the other day with a very appropriate speech, is a tardy act of justice on the part of the Church of England. Though the design is taken from an incident in John Wesley's life which reflects the greatest reproach on the clergy of that day, it is represented as standing on his father's tomb-stone at Epworth preaching in the churchyard because not admitted into the pulpit. The motto underneath is the phrase of Wesley "The world is my parish." It is curious to see how selfish those who furnish a second trumpet to Methodism. In Lincolnshire churchyard a Wesleyan minister has succeeded in enforcing his rights to the title of Rector, and so a second brass has been made in the system of religious worship, the clergyman dealing with a tenacity worthy of a better cause.

**MURDEROUS TRADE OUTRAGE AT
BOLTON.**

A shocking outrage has occurred at Bolton. It appears that a turn-out has existed for some time at Messrs. Slater's bleach works. On Saturday night, three of the workmen, named Thompson, McCurley, and Wright, were proceeding homewards from a beerhouse in Slater's lane, stones were thrown at them. McCurley was knocked down and kicked by several men until he became insensible. Wright succeeded in escaping. Thompson's dead body was found in the road, he having apparently been kicked to death. Sixteen men have been arrested on suspicion. -

DEATH OF THE SECRETARY OF THE
WEST YORKSHIRE MINERS' ASSOCIATION.

The death of Mr. John Dixon, secretary to the West Yorkshire Miners' Association, took place on Saturday morning. Deceased was not only well known in Yorkshire, but throughout the whole mining districts of England and Scotland, and was highly esteemed. Like the late Mr. Nорманнелл and others, he had to go into the mine at a very early age, and had to prosecute the work of self-education in the midst of considerable difficulties. He was very successful as a miners' agent. The last time he was at Barnsley was on the occasion of the late Mr. Nорманнелл's funeral.

SHOCKING DISCOVERY OF THE DEAD BODIES OF TWO CHILDREN

A shocking discovery was made last week in a house at Pandoon, Newcastle. Two women, named Scott and Smead, had their suspicions aroused concerning a room where they lived, which had been occupied by a man and his wife. On entering the room, the body of her husband. It was noticed that the keyhole in the door was stuffed with rags. An entrance was forced into the room by the women, and the bodies of two children were found lying on the floor, one of them in a cloth. The bodies were in an advanced state of decomposition. The room was in a dreadful state of filth, and was swarming with vermin. A doctor who examined the bodies, and who was present when the bodies were taken out, stated that the children had been dead for some time. The bodies were taken out of the room, and the women were taken to the police station. The children, boy and girl, are aged eight and five years respectively. Smead has been apprehended. An inquest is also being opened, and adjourned to the 10th inst.

THE ROYAL TITLE.

[illegible]

LORD ABERDARE AT DARLINGTON.

[illegible]

NATURAL DISCOVERY FOR THE HAIR.—If you are afflicted with *Malassezia*, or, in other words, with **MALICE HAIR REMOVER**, for it will positively remove in every case *Gryce* or *White Hair* to its original color, and will cure the itching and burning of the scalp. **Restores**. It makes the hair charmingly beautiful, and gives it a soft, wavy, and shining appearance, where the glands are not decayed. Ask your druggist for **THE MAXIM HAIR REMOVER**, prepared for **THE MAXIM HAIR REMOVER**, London, and sold by Chemists and Perfumers in all the principal cities of the world.

THE TUBERCULAR AND HOARSENESS—All suffering from irritation of the throat and hoarseness, and all who are afflicted with the *Malassezia*, will find relief afforded by the use of **BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES**. These famous "lozenges" are now sold in every city and town, and are the only remedy to be relied on for the cure of all the above ailments. It is sold per box. People troubled with a "hoarse" or "raw" throat, or with a "croupy" cough, will not get better by using any other remedy, but will find relief by using them too soon, as similar trouble, if allowed to progress, results in serious Pulmonary and Asthmatic troubles. **BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES** are on the Government Dispensary stand, and are sold by all the principal druggists in all the principal cities of the United States. Depot, 250 Oxford-street, London.

FITZ.—EPILEPTIC FITS OR FALLING SICKNESS.

A certain method of cure has been discovered for this distressing complaint by a physician, who is now in the city of London, and who has been successful in curing many cases of this distressing and fatal disease. This is a providential discovery; it is now known to all, and will cure the most hopeless cases after all other remedies have failed. It is a certain cure, and is sold by post to any person free of charge, address—

PILOSAGINE FOR WHISKERS, MOUSTACHES, BALDNESS, &c.
PRICE ONE SHILLING AND SIXPENCE. By Post

PILOSAGINE contains neither oil nor grease but is a liquid extracted from various extremities, scarce productions of the vegetable world, and contains no mineral extract whatever. It therefore will not injure the most delicate skin, and its success is daily being testified to by hundreds of unopinionated testimonials from all parts of the globe.

PILOSAGINE being absorbed by the skin is invisible immediately when applied; it can therefore be used with perfect comfort at any hour of the day.

Full directions for use are enclosed with each Bottle, the size of which has just been enlarged. Each Bottle contains

PILOSAGINE, WRIGHT & COMFY, HULL,
impressed on the glass, without which none are
genuine.

PILOSAGINE versus Beardless Faces.
PILOSAGINE for Whiskers and Moustaches.
PILOSAGINE for Thin Mustaches.

PILOSAGINE for thin and falling Hair.
PILOSAGINE prevents and cures Baldness.
PILOSAGINE removes Scurf, Dandrif, &c.
PILOSAGINE of Chemists and Perfumers.
PILOSAGINE in Enlarged Bottles.
PILOSAGINE, Price One Shilling and Six
 pence. By Post Eighteen Stamps.

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Thousands of Testimonials from all parts of the
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Speedily produced, and
BALDNESS CURED BY
W RIGHT'S WORLD-FAMED PILOSAGINE

is proved by thousands of unsolicited Testimonials that it can be the only producer and restorer of hair, and the only certain remedy for Baldness. After a few applications it will cause Baldness to give way to a luxuriant growth of hair; new hair will soon be seen to start around the margin of the bald spot.

near the permanent hair, and extending upwards until the entire bald place is covered with fine short hair, the growth of which will be most rapid, and will present the colour and appearance of youth.

WRIGHT'S WORLD-FAMED PILOSAGINE.

A few recent Testimonials:

Some time ago I purchased a packet of your PILSOGINE, and I can only say that I cultivated an imperial in three weeks. Now send me another packet.

previous to this I had carefully tried both—and—
preparations [names are suppressed], but to no purpose.
PILOSAGINE is really a most efficient and speedy
preparation for the hair. You may give my real address
to any inquirer for reference, if necessary.

From Mr. John Bell, Plumstead-road, Plumstead,
80th Jan., 1875.
Please send me another.

the last has made the hair grow on the bald place on
my head.

LONDON, 16th January, 1875.

Allow me to state that the PILOSAGINE I had of
you a short time ago has been attended with marvellous
effects; I have now a moderate-sized Moustache and
Whiskers. You are at Rhododendron.

case of this, as it will perhaps induce others to try it.
A. R. JENKINS.

BEDMINSTER, BRISTOL, 6th January, 1875.

I received your PILOSAGINE and applied it to my
ce, but for a fortnight could not see any difference
was beginning to despair when I observed a lot of
the hairs beginning to shoot out, and I followed it.

Yours truly,
T. BURSTON.
ROYAL ARTILLERY, COBB HOUSE FORT,
January 4th, 1875.
find your PILOSAGINE answers my purpose. and
am recomending it to my friends.

RODSTOCK, NEAR BATH, January 4th, 1875.

TRANMERE, BIRKENHEAD, January 4th, 1875.
The last you sent me works well, and I shall take the
asure of introducing it to others.
E. D. GRIGGS.
LA MOTTE STREET, JERSEY.
December 28th, 1874.
enclosed I forward Eighteen Stamps.

packet of your PILOSAGINE. I have already
some three weeks since, which I find is improving
growth of my hair.

GEO. MARETT.

AYR, SCOTLAND, 11th December, 1874.

PILOSAGINE improved the growth of
hairs.

W. CREAM

SOUTH SHIELDS, NOV. 5, 1874.

PILOSAGINE I received from you I was very satisfied with. My upper-lip had not the semblance of hair before I received it. I only used half the box and now I have a fair show of hair on my upper lip. My age is sixteen years.

Yours respectfully,
J. D. HACKWORTH.

RIGHT'S WORLD-FAMED PILOSAGINE

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One Shilling and Sixpence of Chemists. By
Post Eighteen Stamps.
Note the Address—

WRIGHT AND Co.,
LOSAGINE MANUFACTORY HULL.

