

quiet wood, and can only be found where tree or brush will lend a friendly shelter from the rough winds or storms, which might fall too heavy upon its gentle head. A very pretty little plant is the sweet woodruff, with its thick clusters of purely white jasmine-shaped flowers, and its numerous coronals of bright green leaves, placed one above another around its stem. One might almost fancy that a great divine was thinking of this very flower when he said the soul of a good man was like such a little white flower as we see in the spring of the year, low and humble on the ground, opening its bosom to receive the pleasant beams of the sun's glory, rejoicing as it were, in a calm rapture; diffusing a sweet fragrance, standing peacefully and lovely in the midst of other flowers round about it, all in like manner opening their bosoms to receive the light of the sun. This little flower of the wild is indeed well adapted to suggest to the mind an image of purity and humility. The sweet woodruff (*Asperula odorata*) has slender leaves, placed around the stem in a whorl, the number of leaflets in each little coronal being generally eight. The foliage is something similar to that of the common cleavers, or goosegrass, but larger and much prettier, and the blossom, too, is far more elegant. It may be found in the woods during the whole summer, but is in flower in May and June. It emits from its foliage, while growing, a delicate odour, perceptible to the only whose sense of smelling is acute. The Latin name of the plant, derived from *asper* (rough), was given it on account of the roughness of its stem and leaves. Its English name is supposed to be a corruption of the word woodrowel; as Turner says, 'the leaves represent some kinds of rowels or spurs.' The Asperula, says Dr Drummond, 'is in English also called woodruff, woodrowel.' Perhaps you may recollect a rhyme which often forms an amusement of children at school, and is taken from the ancient method of spelling the name of this plant. It runs thus:

Double U, double O, double D, E,
R, O, double U, double F, E;
the old English word being Woodrowffe.

From Hogg's Instructor.

THE NEWSPAPER PRESS.

The modern newspaper is a very different affair from any of these primitive broadsheets. These generally consisted of four or sometimes two small pages, while the newspaper of the present day usually embraces in its columns as much matter as would make an ordinary volume. A single copy of the *Times*, with its supplement, would more than swallow up the whole contents of a three-volume novel. At the present moment there are 550 newspapers in existence in the United Kingdom, about 50 of which are issued in London alone. The amount of capital, information, and mechanical skill necessary to the efficient production of this immense mass of knowledge, is something almost beyond calculation. Let us attempt an estimate of the mere amount of employment afforded through this means. Of the 550 papers, there are twelve issued daily, a considerable proportion thrice a-week, and by far the greater number only once; but let us take the average of the whole issue at twice each week. Now, we happen to know that a paper of this description employs in editors, reporters, clerks, compositors, &c., some thirty-five persons, which number, multiplied by the whole existing newspapers, gives the amazing product of 19,250 individuals in this country who are dependent on the broadsheet for their daily bread. The dozen of daily papers alone employ not less than 200 persons each, which gives to this section of the press some 2400 individuals. Of the way in which these people are employed, and also as regards the mechanical arrangements of a London daily paper, we propose offering a few details, on the accuracy of which our readers may rely.

The *Times* employs about 120 compositors, upwards of a dozen readers, overseers, &c., twenty-four machine-men and boys; being 160 persons in all connected with the printing department; which number, however, considerably exceeds that of the other daily papers. In the counting-house, only four clerks are usually employed—an amount of superintendence in this department which appears trifling, but which is explained by the fact that the whole publication of the paper is managed by newsmen, or persons who make a trade of newspaper agency, and who form no part of the regular establishment. In the reporting department there are (exclusive of penny-a-liners) about 25 persons, viz., seventeen parliamentary reporters, one director or superintendent, one writer of summaries (who sits in the gallery of the House of Commons along with the other reporters, and there prepares his condensations of the speeches) and five or six reporters who attend the law courts. A word as to the penny-a-liners. This is an army of volunteers not connected permanently with any office. They attend the law courts, inquests, fires, executions, &c., of their own accord, and with the help of a manifold writer, prepare copies of their productions for all the morning papers, who either accept or reject them wholly or partially as they may find convenient. If they are rejected, the writers have no claim upon the paper, but if accepted they receive twopence per line—formerly it was a penny—and hence their name. There is great competition in this department, five or six reports of the same affair being sometimes sent to one paper. Of course it is the duty of the editor or his assistants to select the one most suitable. The penny a-line copy is known by the name of the *timmy* from the thin paper on which it is usually written.

There is one editor who directs the whole literary arrangement of the paper, suggests subjects for leaders,* instructs the reporters what meeting to attend, and decides all points referred to him respecting the contents of the paper. Then there are several gentlemen who write the leaders, an editor of the foreign department, and a writer of the city articles; there is also a sub-editor, who manages the compiling from other papers, and other details. Then there are the writers of reviews of books, theatrical notices, concerts, fine arts, who are only partially connected with the paper—that is, they are employed only on particular occasions.

As to the yearly expenditure of a London daily newspaper, it is impossible to furnish anything like a correct idea, but we are informed on the subject, that the expenses of the *Times* will probably amount to the sum of £100,000 a-year, certainly not less, and in some cases more. The parliamentary reporting alone costs about £100 per week, and the law reporting upwards of £80. For penny-a-line matter there cannot be less than £20 per week. The salaries of the parliamentary reporters are seven and five guineas per week—the older hands having the larger sum, and the younger hands the lesser. When on duty away from town, they are allowed in addition a guinea a-day for inn expenses, besides all their travelling outlay. Many of them add considerably to their incomes from other sources: several barristers and solicitors, others are private correspondents to country newspapers, while a few of them are authors. Of parliamentary reporters connected with the London press, there must be nearly 150, of whom more than one half are Irish, the remainder being Scotch and English; the Scotch are the least numerous, but they are increasing.

The mode in which the reporting is managed is this: At the commencement of the session the names are arranged, by ballot or otherwise in a certain order, which is preserved throughout the session. The first hour of the Lords or Commons (which is usually occupied with the presentation of petitions) is generally taken by the same person a sexagenarian perhaps, who is afterwards free for the night. The rest of the gentlemen take half an hour each, in the order of their names, so long as both houses sit. When either house adjourns at or before ten o'clock, turns of twenty minutes commence at that hour, and continue till eleven, after which the turns are fifteen minutes each. If the houses sit very late, each reporter may have two or three turns in an evening. When the business is more than usually important, the turns are sometimes reduced to ten minutes each.

As soon as his turn is finished, the reporter proceeds as fast as he can to the office with which he is connected, to transcribe his notes. The gentlemen connected with the *Times* have cabs waiting them at the door of the houses to carry them to the office. In the other papers a small sum is given to each reporter at the end of the session to pay cab-hires. The usual time for transcribing a heavy turn of thirty minutes is three hours, but experienced hands are able to do it in less. But there are many turns, which are comparatively light, such as when an unimportant member addresses the house, and his speech is not reckoned worth giving at length, or during divisions, &c., when the reporter will transcribe his notes in an hour or less. A half-hour turn, if written out in full, usually occupies about a column and a half or a column and a quarter of the newspaper. Where documents are quoted by members in the course of their speeches, they are generally furnished, upon request, to one of the papers, which supplies the others with duplicates. Members very seldom furnish their own speeches, but occasionally they do. Mr. Sheil used to do so frequently, because, from the peculiarity of his style, the reporters had the greatest difficulty in catching his expressions.

In the case of important meetings in the provinces—often at the distance of several hundred miles—reporters are sent from the London papers to report the proceedings, returning with special trains, which cost about seven shillings per mile. The feats that are performed in the way of rapidity are sometimes extraordinary. A meeting takes place at a town, say two hundred miles from the metropolis, between the hours of seven and ten in the evening, and a full report of the proceedings appears in the London papers of the following morning, and may perhaps be lying on the tables of the inhabitants of the town in which the meeting took place soon after breakfast! The reporters manage to transcribe their notes in the railway train; so that by the time they reach London their copy is ready to be put into the printers' hands. The expense of reporting a meeting under such circumstances will sometimes amount to £10 a column or more.

As an instance of spirit on the part of a London newspaper, we may mention, that a London having, on one occasion, been refused to a reporter to a meeting of the governors of a certain charity, whose proceedings were regarded as important, the reporter inquired how much it took to qualify a person to act as governor, and being informed that £100 was necessary, he was at once authorised to give an order on the bank for the sum. He then took his seat as a governor, and discharged his duties as a reporter in that character!

There is another great source of expense connected with the London daily newspapers, and that is the foreign news. Correspondents are stationed in almost all parts of the habitable globe, especially where there is anything of interest going on; in America, in the East or West Indies, in China, in Africa, in Australia, and large sums are paid for their communications, and for the expresses by which they are brought to London.

On Monday the 11th of May, the *Times* had no fewer than 1650 advertisements, occupying 63 columns. This was an unusually large number, but there are seldom fewer than 40 columns occupied with advertisements. On this occasion the paper was double the usual size—that is, it consisted of sixteen pages of six columns each, being a printed area of thirty-nine square feet, or a space of nearly ten feet by eight, and containing about as much matter as two monthly parts of the *INSTRUCTOR*; and all this vast body of matter printed, and the greater part of it written, within the space of a few hours.

Readers of newspapers must often have been struck to find in the London papers leading articles of great ability, commenting on a debate, which had taken place only an hour or two before the paper itself was printed; consequently the articles must have been written on the very spur of the moment, and without any time for deliberation or consultation, while they frequently display all the graces of style and all the learning and research which characterise the most elaborate productions of leisure and retirement. One wonders how the writers could have made themselves at all familiar with the debate, seeing that they cannot be present at it, their other duties requiring their attendance elsewhere. But the thing is managed thus: Each reporter, as he returns from the gallery to the office, before he sits down to write out his notes, announces to a person in charge what subject has been under discussion during his return, the members who have spoken, the drift of the argument, or any other thing worth mentioning. This is reported to the editor, and if he discovers in it any matter for a leader, the manuscript of the reporter is procured as soon as ready, or a proof of it obtained from which a leader is immediately written. In this way the editor is made familiar with what is going on in Parliament at every half hour or quarter of an hour during the whole of the evening.

Here we must conclude the subject for the present. In future numbers we shall endeavour to present a sketch of some of the more prominent members and characteristics of the French newspaper press.

* This now important division of a newspaper is a recent innovation. Mr Mitchell thus explains its origin—'During the French Revolution, Mr Flower, of the *Cambridge Journal*, introduced the commentary upon public events, now called the leading article. This we believe to be the first instance in the provincial press. In 1801, the *Leeds Mercury* became the property of Mr Edward Baines, the late M. P. for that borough, who forthwith published leading articles. It was some time, however, before these meritorious examples were universally followed.

† In some papers—the *Morning Chronicle* for instance—there is an Editor of the Railway Department.

New Works.

THE LABOURING MAN'S PLEASURES.

The rich man knows not the delightful enjoyment—the supreme blessing of man, of feeding his family every day with the essence of his life,—his work. The poor man alone is a father. Every day he re-creates and reproduces his family. It is a mystery that is better appreciated by woman than by the gauges of the world. She is happy in owing everything to man. That alone gives a peculiar charm to the humble household. There is nothing foreign or indifferent; everything bears the stamp of a beloved hand, the seal of the breast. Man seldom knows the privations she endures in order that he may find his dwelling modest, yet adorned, on his return. Great is the ambition of woman for the household, clothes and linen. This last article is new. The linen-closet, the pride of the countrywoman, was unknown to the wife of the artisan, before the revolution in industry which I have mentioned. Cleanliness, purity, modesty, those feminine graces then enchanted the house. The bed was surrounded with curtains, the child's cradle, dazzling white, becomes a paradise; the whole cut out and sewed in a few evenings. And, moreover, a flower in the window.

What a surprise! The husband on his return no longer knows his own home. This taste for flowers, which has extended (there are now several markets for them here), and this little expenditure to adorn the interior, are they not lamentable when these people never know whether they are to have any work on the morrow? Did I say expenditure? Call it economy. It is a very great one, if the innocent attraction of the wife render this house charming to the husband, and keep him there. Let us adorn, I beseech you, the home and the wife. A few ells of printed cotton makes her another woman. Look, she is young again. 'Remain here, I entreat you.' It is Saturday night. She throws her arms about his neck, and saves the children's bread which he was about to squander away. The husband, shaved and changed, suffers her to clothe him in a good warm garment. That is soon done. It is a longer and more serious business to dress the child, as they take pride to see him on that day. They set forth, the child walks on before under his mother's eye.—Look well at these people, and be well assured that how high soever you go, you will never find anything morally superior.—*Michalet.*

ANECDOTES OF BARRINGTON, THE FAMOUS PICKPOCKET.

At one of the musical meetings in St. Martin's Church, I noticed a tall, handsome man,

in a scarlet coat, with a gold button-hole in a black collar, the fashion of the day, moving with a gentlemanlike air. This person proved to be the notorious Barrington, the pickpocket. In going up the middle aisle, he was invited into the mayor's pew, and sat between Miss St. John and Mr Ashby, of Quenby, our late member of Parliament. One of the plates was held at the door by this lady and gentleman, and when Mr Barrington laid his guinea upon the plate he was kindly thanked by his new acquaintance, and passed on with a graceful bow. The gentry who held the plates retired into the vestry to add their contributions, and when Mr Ashby would have placed his ten guineas on the plate, to his utter astonishment they had flown from his pocket. After considerable amazement the mystery was explained by one of the party remarking that Miss St. John's pocket was turned inside out; and that the elegant gentleman who had sat between them had helped himself to the subscription he had put on the plate, and something besides. It is said that Barrington facilitated his operations by instruments which he had made for that purpose. I recollect a circumstance of this kind. He waited upon a surgical instrument maker, and ordered a pair of scissors of a curious form. A few days afterwards, he called for them, liked them, and paid two guineas, which the maker charged. After he had left, the cutter's wife said, 'My dear, as the gentleman seemed so pleased with the scissors, I wish we had asked the gentleman what use they were for. He might recommend us. Do run after him.' The cutter scamped out of the shop, and, overtaking the gentleman, hoped he would excuse him, but would he tell him what use he intended to make of the scissors? 'Why, my friend,' said Barrington, catching him by the button of his coat, and staring him in the face, 'I don't know whether I can tell you: it's a great secret.' 'O, pray do, sir, it may be something in our way.' Upon which Barrington, pressing hard upon his shoulder, whispered in his ear, 'They are for the picking of pockets.' In the utmost consternation the scissor-maker ran back, and the moment he got into the shop, 'My dear,' he cried, 'will you believe it, they are for the picking of pockets.' 'Yes, my dear,' said the wife, 'but what is the matter with your clothes?' The cutter looked, and presently discovered that the scissors had extracted the two guineas he had just received for them.—*Gardiner's Music and Friends.*

THE PLEASURES OF GARDENING.

The light toil requisite to cultivate a moderately-sized garden, imparts a zest to kitchen vegetables such as is never found in those of the market gardener. Childless men, if they would know something of the bliss of paternity, should plant a seed—be it squash, bean, Indian corn, or perhaps a mere flower, or worthless weed—should plant it with their own hands, and nurse it from infancy to maturity, altogether by their own care. If there be not too many of them, each individual plant becomes an object of separate interest. My garden, that skirted an avenue of the Manse, was of precisely the right extent. An hour or two of morning labour was all that it required.

But I used to visit and re-visit it a dozen times a day, and stand in deep contemplation over my vegetable progeny, with a love that nobody could share or conceive of creation. It was one of the most bewitching sights in the world to observe a hill of beans thrusting aside the soil or a row of early peas just peeping forth sufficiently to trace a line of delicate green. Latter in the season, the humming birds were attracted by the blossoms of a peculiar variety of bean; and they were a joy to me, those little spiritual visitants, for deigning to sip any food out of my nectar cups. Multitudes of bees used to bury themselves in the yellow blossoms of the summer squashes. This, too, was a deep satisfaction; although, when they had laden themselves with sweets, they flew away to some unknown hive, which would give back nothing in requital of what my garden had contributed. But I was glad thus to find a benefaction upon the passing breeze, and with the certainty that somebody must profit by it, and that there would be a little more honey in the world, to ally the sourness and bitterness which mankind is always complaining of. Yes, indeed; my life was the sweeter for that honey.—*Mosses from an old Manse.*

RELIGION IN POWER.

THE numerous and weighty duties of religion require for their faithful discharge a principle of energy and force commensurate with their importance. To restrain indwelling sin is to subdue fretting corruption, to master well-schemed and well-timed temptations, to attain eminent piety; to undertake holy enterprise of peril and self-denial, and to realise wide and extensive usefulness, are not duties to be performed by infant power, or achievements to be won by a sickly or a sluggish religion. Religion in power enables a man to accomplish them all. It covers before no opposition; it is appalled by no difficulty; it is abashed by no towering foe; it shrinks from no conflict; it succumbs to no splendid iniquity; it bows to no formidable titles; it evades no obligation; it evades no obligation; it avoids no unwelcome duty; it spares no sin; it is a secret and powerful might in the inner man. It makes its power evident and manifest by its results. It draws the sluggish heart to radiate its affections to things that are above; it constrains man to resign and forsake his darling sin; it impels him to acquire and produce good; it exalts him to fervid love and glowing compassion for the souls of men, it urges him to arduous and unweary efforts to ameliorate the world; it