

Literature, &c.

NEW WORKS.

TO THE LADIES,

A LESSON IN NEEDLEWORK.

(AIR—*Burial of Sir J. Moore.*)

Not a sigh was heard, not a word of complaint,
As home to her garret she hurried;
She was sick with toil, and her soul was faint,
As she seemed to be worn and worried.
She hasten'd on sadly, at the dead of night,
Without for a moment turning;
Then working, she strained her waning sight,
By a rushlight dimly burning.

From her aching eyes hot tears were shed,
But she spoke not a word in sorrow;
She gaz'd on the face of her child unfeared,
And anxiously thought of the morrow;
She thought, as she pressed his feverish hand,
And drew her thin shawl around her,
Of the boasted freedom of England's land,
And the slavery which groud her!

Not half of her weary task was done;
She had no more coal for firing;
She fancied she heard some lovely one
Next morning the dress admiring.
Slowly, and sadly, she laid it down—
For the mother was tired and chillee—
The work, perhaps, might gain some renown,
But who'd think of her and her Willey?

She bent o'er the form of her slumbering child
On its wretched pallet lying;
Her cheek grew pale, and her eyes look'd wild,
Both mother and child were dying!
Lightly they'll speak of them both next morn;
In the pauper-ground they'll lay them:
They'll merely say 'a poor dressmaker's gone.'
Yes! this is how Britons pay them!

From the private life of an Eastern King.

A GREAT TIGER FIGHT.

The signal was given—the bamboo railing in front of the cages rose simultaneously on either side—the doors of the cages opened. Terai-wallah sprang with a single bound out of his cage, opening his huge jaws widely, and shaking from side to side his long tail in an excited way. Kagra advanced more leisurely into the arena, but with similar demonstration. They might have been fifty feet apart, as they stood surveying each other, open mouthed, the tails playing all the time. At length Kagra advanced a few paces; his adversary laid himself down forthwith upon the court-yard, just where he stood, facing him, but with his feet well under him, not extended, evidently quite prepared for a spring. Kagra watched his foe intently, and still advanced slowly and cautiously, but not in a straight line, rather towards the side, describing an arc of a circle as he drew near. The Terai-wallah soon rose to his feet and likewise advanced, describing a similar arc on the opposite side, both gradually approaching each other, however. It was a moment of breathless suspense in the gallery. Every eye was fixed on the two combatants as they thus tried to circumvent each other: it was enough to arrest the attention, for the tigers were unusually large; both were in beautiful condition, plump and muscular; the colour of the Terai-wallah was somewhat lighter than that of Kagra, a more yellowish hue shone between the black stripes. Both were very beautiful, and very courageous, and very formidable. At length, as they thus advanced, step by step, very slowly, Kagra made a spring. His former victories had probably made him a little self-confident. He sprang, not as if it were a voluntary effort of his own, but as if he was suddenly impelled aloft by some uncontrollable galvanic force which he could not resist. The spring was so sudden, so rapid, so impetuous, that it had quite the appearance of being involuntary. The Terai-wallah was not unprepared. As rapid as Kagra had hurled himself up into the air, so rapidly did he jump aside; both movements seemed to be simultaneous, so admirably were they executed. Kagra alighted, foiled; but before he could recover himself, before he could have well assumed himself that he was foiled, the Terai-wallah was upon him. The claws of his adversary were fixed firmly in his neck, and the horrid jaws were already grating near his throat. It was the work of a moment. We could scarcely see that the Terai-wallah had gained the advantage—we could scarcely distinguish his huge fore paws grasping the neck, and his open mouth plunged at the throat—when Kagra made another spring, a bound in which he evidently concentrated all his energy. The Terai-wallah was dragged with him for a little; the claws that had been dug into his neck were torn gratingly through it; the open mouth snapped fiercely but harmlessly at the advancing shoulder, and Kagra was free. His neck and shoulders, however, bore bloody traces of the injury he had received; and no sooner did he feel that he had got rid of his assailant than he turned with greater fierceness than ever to assail his foe. Another set-to ensued, and Kagra apparently gained an advantage.

THE VICTORY.

But the advantage was only momentary.—The hind claws of Kagra, were being plunged into the belly of his foe, when the Terai-wallah, who never let go his hold for a moment with his mouth, struck one of his fore paws over the face of his antagonist. His claws evidently pierced Kagra's eyes; one of them was torn from its socket; and uttering a howl of pain or despair, the mutilated beast relinquished his grip, and would have torn himself from his antagonist.—This, however, he was not permitted to do.—The Terai-wallah clung pertinaciously to his throat. His teeth were deeply infixed. He was dragged for a few paces over the arena by Kagra, who tried to release himself in vain; and then, all at once leaping from his prostrate position, the Terai-wallah hurled himself on the top of his assailant. The contest was virtually at an end. Kagra, now fallen beneath his foe, and fast loosing blood, was incapable of regaining the advantage he had lost. The Terai-wallah thrusting one paw under his lower jaw, forced back the head further until he infixed his teeth still more deeply into the throat.—Kagra did battle ineffectually with his claws, tearing the skin of his antagonist here and there, but he had lost the hold he had obtained with his mouth, and was evidently fast sinking under the victor's grasp and bite. "Kagra is beaten," was uttered in Hindustani and English in the gallery above. "He is," said the king, as he gave orders to the servants below to open Kagra's cage, and drive off the Terai-wallah. Red-hot rods were thrust through the bars of the enclosure, and the successful tiger was cruelly burnt before he would relinquish his hold. It was the most barbarous part of the exhibition; and yet it was the only way to save the life of Kagra. At length the Terai-wallah was driven off, his jaws dropping blood as he went. Kagra's cage was opened, and he made for it immediately, with all the marks of the conquered about him; he left his track on the arena in blood-stains, whilst his tail hung flaccidly between his legs; yet, though he was flying, he fled stealthily, as it were, not vigorously and upright as a horse would have fled, but with stealth, creeping, cat-like agility. The red-hot rods were held before the Terai-wallah to prevent him from pursuing. He still faced towards, and glared after his beaten foe; and ere Kagra had reached his cage, he sprang high above the rods to attack the flying tiger once more. He fell short of his victim, however, Kagra quickened his steps, reached the cage, and buried himself in its further corner, cowering like a whipped cur. As for the Terai-wallah, he watched his defeated antagonist steadily to the last, never once taking his eyes off him; and then, shaking himself two or three times, he licked his paws, rose majestically from his crouching posture, and walked deliberately towards his own cage, which was open to receive him; his torn shoulders, and the large drops of blood which fell from him as he walked, proclaimed how dearly he had won his victory.

THE VALUE OF A GOOD NAME.

Who shall pretend to calculate the value of the inheritance of a good name? Its benefit is often great when dependant on no stronger ties than those which accident or relationships have created, but when it flows from friendships which have been consecrated by piety and learning, when it is the willing offering of kindred minds to departed worth or genius, it takes a higher character, and is not less honorable to those who receive them than to those who confer it. It comes generally from the best sources, and is directed to the best ends; and it carries with it an influence which powerfully disposes all worthy persons to co-operate in its views. Nor is this all. The consciousness of the source from which it springs is wont to stimulate the exertions and to elevate the views of those who are the object of it; and many instances might be enumerated of persons who have laid the foundation of the very highest fortunes upon no other ground than that which this goodly inheritance has supplied.

INFLUENCE OF WOMEN.

Man is but a rough pebble without the attrition received from contact with the gentler sex. It is wonderful how the ladies punce a man down into smoothness, which occasions him to roll over and over with the rest of his species, jostling, but not wounding his neighbours, as the waves of circumstances bring him into collision with them.

A SNAKE.

In the steep bank of the river here where nests of innumerable swallows, into one of which a large prairie snake had got about half his body, and was occupied in eating the young birds. The old ones were flying about in great distress, darting at him, and vainly endeavouring to drive him off. A shot wounded him, and being killed, he was cut open, and eighteen young swallows were found in his body.

An elegant mind informing a graceful person is like a spirit lamp in an alabaster vase, shedding round its own softened radiance and heightening the beauty of its medium.

Incidents of the War.

PROGRESS OF THE SIEGE.

Camp before Sebastopol July 4.

The enemy threw a great quantity of grape and shell in the supposed direction of our working parties last night. An active fire was kept up from the batteries, chiefly of shell, against the Redan and Malakoff works. The heightening of the parapets in front of the Malakoff is progressing fast. The French covered approach, which is being in the direction of the Malakoff, also seems to have made a good start last night our new advanced batteries in the right attack are making rapid progress. It is anticipated by our engineers that their effect against the shipping lying off the Karabelnaia suburb will be very destructive. The enemy has undertaken a great work of labour. During the last two nights his working parties have been actively engaged in filling up the old embrasures of the Korniloff bastion in front of the Malakoff Tower, and also those of a considerable part of the Redan near the salient angle. A large quantity of earth has already been thrown up on top of the gabions employed to block up the embrasures, and also upon the merlons, the masses of solid earth between the embrasures. The Russians are also seen to be busily occupied in adding to the outworks of the North Fort on the opposite side of the harbour. A new 4 gun battery has just been completed, which, though connected with the North Fort, is placed on a commanding knoll about half way between it and the cliff overhanging the Great Harbour. Two or three shots were fired from this work to-day, as if to try the range. They fell near the French advanced works on the right of the Mamelon Vert. The Russian working parties can be seen in considerable numbers turning at sunset from the direction of the Star Fort, and marching towards the more distant camps. Every appearance tends to confirm the suspicion, that the nearer encampments on the high ground above the harbour, and stretching along the line of hill to the right of the Star Fort, are those of the Russian ambulances. Although the greater number of the tents composing these camps are completely under view, and with a good telescope an individual moving among them can be readily distinguished, there is never observed the movements, or constant ingress and egress, which characterise the ordinary encampments of troops. There can be but one other explanation of their remarkably deserted appearance; if they are not occupied by sick and wounded, they are in a great measure empty, and have been left standing for some purpose of deception.—There has been a cessation of the arrival of the immense convoys which used to be seen of carts conveying sacks apparently of grain. The two huge pyramidal heaps which were collected below the Star Fort have disappeared; they have been removed, it is supposed, into some of the large storehouses which exist nearer to the water but at no great distance from the spot where the heaps were first deposited. The increase in the size of the graveyard, just in rear of the 12 gun battery, on the verge of the opposite cliff, is becoming very remarkable. This cemetery is placed at no great distance from several of the large encampments of square tents, which have been supposed to be ambulance establishments. The part recently formed is already discerned and distinguished from the older part of the cemetery. The former is composed of immense mounds of dark-coloured earth, at the eastern end of which can always be seen the opening of a large pit. The latter is made up of single graves, each bearing a small cross of black or white wood. The large mounds are without crosses. At one part of the recently formed cemetery in an enclosed grave of some pretension. Through the palings which bound it on each side can be seen two white objects, probably stone tablets, one at each end, and different sizes. The recent part of the cemetery now occupies nearly half the extent of the older portion. Every morning a fatigue party of soldiers arrives at this grave-field, the men pile their arms, take off their coats, set to work in forming one large pit or evacuation. The same party appears to remain all day. Burials are frequent, and occur at all hours. The new part is extending up a gentle incline, and stretching in an easterly direction. At the western end a road passes so that the cemetery could not be prolonged in that direction without interfering with it. A severe casualty occurred this evening among some men belonging to the 2d battalion of the Rifle Brigade. It was caused by the discharge of a single gun from the enemy, and perhaps this instance affords an example of the greatest number of injuries inflicted by such means during the siege. A body of men of this regiment were returning from the Quarry, and had arrived at part of a trench which for a short distance is exposed to an enfilading fire. The Russians must have observed them and fired. Some of the men said that only a round shot and shell were discharged at the same moment. The missile, whatever its nature, took fatal effect, for no less than 16 men were killed and wounded. Two were killed on the spot, and three subsequently died from the effects of their wounds. Some of the injuries were comparatively trifling. The Russians also fired at

a party of men belonging to one of the Highland regiments, who impudently showed themselves to needless risks, but also serves to point out to the enemy the time at which they had been relieved. The Russians fired two or three shots against the party, all of which ricocheted, after striking the ground, but no casualty occurred. Lieutenant E. Renouard James, of the Royal Engineers, was last night engaged with a working party in part of the quarries. The position was very exposed. The men were busy at their work, and Lieutenant James, went forward towards the Russian works to reconnoitre. He did not return, but the men, being intent on their occupation, did not for a considerable time notice his absence. When at last it was observed, and the officer could not be found, it was surmised that he might perhaps have returned to camp on some account, and the Sappers came back without him. No tidings have been heard all day, and there is little doubt that he was quietly taken prisoner by some advanced Russian picket. A further search is to be made to-night, in case he has been unable to return in consequence of being wounded.

July 6.

A sharp musketry fire occurred on the left about half-past eleven o'clock last night, but was of brief duration. Captain Alexander Gordon, of the Royal Artillery, was killed yesterday evening in an advanced battery on the right attack. He came out from England in charge of troop-horses, and after his arrival in the Crimea, asked permission to remain for a short time to do duty in the batteries. His request was acceded to; but his services being required at Woolwich, he was about to return in a few days. When his death occurred he was just leaving the works. The enemy had been annoying one of our working parties, and a message was sent to Captain Gordon, to request him to open some guns upon the Russians, for the purpose of directing their fire towards his own battery. This was successfully accomplished. Suddenly, Captain Gordon observed a large shell coming towards the spot where he and some of his men were, and he had barely time sufficient to warn the men to shelter themselves. He himself appears to have felt a momentary hesitation as to the side of the traverse on which the missile was falling, and thus lost the opportunity of obtaining protection. While he was still standing up, the shell struck the side of his head, and he was killed instantaneously. The shell lodged near him and burst. No one else was injured; the men had thrown themselves on the ground, and were safely under cover of the traverse, immediately after receiving warning of their danger. Captain Gordon was a valuable officer, and had acted as adjutant at Woolwich.

July 7.

The allies are busily occupied in perfecting their approaches against the Malakoff Tower and Redan, particularly the former position.—The enemy is engaged with equal activity in strengthening and adding to their defences.—From the enormous number of gabions seen to be brought over, it is suspected that the Russians are also constructing some inner works of large size. Rumours have been prevailing that the Malakoff was to be attacked again shortly,—even the date has been named. From the state of our works, however, it would appear that some time must elapse—two or three weeks—before all the proposed batteries and approaches to be brought against it, and the shipping, can be completed. There has also been a talk that the French were to take the trench duties wholly, so as to set the British force free for taking the field, but this does not appear probable. The argument used to defend this supposed arrangement has been that, being already in possession of so great an extent of the attacks, both on the left and right, the French would not find the addition of the centre any serious tax upon the resources of the vast force they now possess in the field; while all chance of mistakes arising from a want of thorough and complete action in concert, would be avoided. It is not likely, however, that, having once undertaken a share in the great work, the British commander would consent to abandon it, even although, by operating in the field, his efforts would tend to the accomplishment of the same ultimate object. Various circumstances have occurred to lead to the supposition that part of the British force would shortly leave for more active campaigning; but nothing is known respecting the intended operation, or what troops are likely to move. All the British divisions of infantry, including the Guards and Highlanders, are now employed in the siege duties.

THE BALTIC FLEET.

DESTRUCTION OF FORT SVARTHOLM.

Admiral Dundas has forwarded to the Secretary of the Admiralty the following despatch, received by him from Capt. Yelverton:—

Her Majesty's ship *Argonaut*, off Hogland, July 8.

Sir.—I have the honour to inform you, that I reached Lovisa on the afternoon of the 4th inst., and anchored the vessel close to Fort Svartholm. The enemy must have had intelligence of our movements and quitted the Fort on our approach, for they had been at work but a few hours before unroofing the barracks and taking away stores. The guns and ammunition