The outlook of European affairs is anything but reassuring. A few more weeks and the monarch now facing death so calmly may have passed away: and to the throne of Germany succumbs a young, inexperienced and intensely military sovereign. France during the last week has flung herself at the feet of a military dictator in the person of General Boulanger: and his success just at the moment when a fighting Hohenzollern is about to mount the throne of Germany is in itself a serious menace to the peace of Europe. Russia is, for the moment, keeping quiet: but the Bulgarian question appears to be as far off settlement as ever: and Roumania is in a state of revolution. It is to be hoped that the political cloud which now hangs over Europe may pass away, and that the worst of calamities—a European war—may be averted.

The Italian Expedition to Abyssinia (says the Graphic) makes considerable use of the pigeon-post. Every patrol takes a basket containing four pigeons, and the officer in command himself has charge of the birds' food and earthen drinking-vessels. All the outposts also are furnished with sufficient carriers to keep up communication with Massowah. In fine weather the despatches are merely fastened to the bird in the ordinary fashion, but on rainy days they are fixed into goose quills. If the patrol is surprised, and there is no time to write a despatch, the pigeon is sent off with a feather or two pulled from its tail, while to conceal the communication from the general public there is a cipher code of certain coloured marks on the feathers. The pigeons fly home to their cot at Massowah, and each enters its own nest by a kind of spring trap which prevents the bird from flying out again. The bird's weight rings an electric bell communicating with the guard-room, so that the arrival of a despatch is known at once. Speaking of messengers in time of war, some interesting military experiments have been made at Tours, comparing the speed with which despatches could be sent by horsemen, cyclists and trained dogs. The dogs and one cyclist won the race; but the dogs had stopped on the road to drink, or else they would have distanced the cyclists altogether. They completed 36 miles in 13 mins. 55 secs. with their cyclist companion, the remaining cyclists took rather over 15 minutes, and the horsemen 24 minutes.

The Daily News reports an extremely interesting address delivered to an American audience by Mr. Russell Lowell, the American minister, who was for a long time resident in England. After paying a tribute to Abraham Lincoln whom Mr. Lowell says, "pos-


dition free. All are welcome.
The Preservation of Nature.

Many persons who live far away from the country, and who have no opportunity of watching the habits of living things in the woods and pastures, are perhaps not aware that efforts are being made to preserve unincorporated districts, and to make them beautiful or rare; to discourage the wearing and use of conserves, and to keep them as safe as possible for the benefit of all. This is the special object of the new society which has just been founded in the metropolis.

The society is composed of twelve members, including the Bishop of London, the Duke of Devonshire, the Earl of Hardwicke, the Earl of Mornington, the Duke of York, the Lord Chancellor, and several other noblemen and gentlemen. The object of the society is to promote the preservation of nature, and to prevent the destruction of any thing that is beautiful or rare.

The society has already taken several steps towards this end. It has purchased a tract of land in the neighbourhood of the village of Chiswick, and has caused it to be fenced and planted with trees. It has also purchased a tract of land in the neighbourhood of the village of Richmond, and has caused it to be fenced and planted with trees. It has also purchased a tract of land in the neighbourhood of the village of Wimbledon, and has caused it to be fenced and planted with trees.

The society has also purchased a tract of land in the neighbourhood of the village of Hampstead, and has caused it to be fenced and planted with trees. It has also purchased a tract of land in the neighbourhood of the village of Kentish Town, and has caused it to be fenced and planted with trees.

The society has also purchased a tract of land in the neighbourhood of the village of St. Albans, and has caused it to be fenced and planted with trees. It has also purchased a tract of land in the neighbourhood of the village of Hertford, and has caused it to be fenced and planted with trees.

The society has also purchased a tract of land in the neighbourhood of the village of Hitchin, and has caused it to be fenced and planted with trees. It has also purchased a tract of land in the neighbourhood of the village of Stevenage, and has caused it to be fenced and planted with trees.

The society has also purchased a tract of land in the neighbourhood of the village of Northampton, and has caused it to be fenced and planted with trees. It has also purchased a tract of land in the neighbourhood of the village of Daventry, and has caused it to be fenced and planted with trees.

The society has also purchased a tract of land in the neighbourhood of the village of Towcester, and has caused it to be fenced and planted with trees. It has also purchased a tract of land in the neighbourhood of the village of Northampton, and has caused it to be fenced and planted with trees.

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Football. Morris Cricket. Captain Carter, whose name we hear so often, the result of the last several meetings, will be on hand for the matches, which are to be played on the Artificial Turf, Wapping Green, on Friday next, at 3 p.m. 

The Palace Journal.
Society and Club Notes.

[Note.—See copy Report beginning after the last note on Monday Night.]
Cromwell's Skull.

April 25, 1888.

The Palace.

April 25, 1888.

"On the Frontier."

By BRENT Harte.

I.—AT THE MISSION OF SAN CARMEL.

PROLOGUE.

It was noon of August 10, 1837. The sun in the red sky and the metallic glimmer of the Pacific Ocean, now merely the vapour of its own respiration, had quite half extinguished all sense of distance; for indeed, the northerly current, in the drifting past, saw no change in these rusty indistinctions, barren and abhorred, that still continued, and boded of wooded cistem or tinned ravine. The withered ranks of wild oats gave a dull procession of uniform colour to the hills, unbroken by any aid of shadow in their smooth round convexes as far as the eye could reach, sea and shore met in one blank monotony, flecked by a passing cloud, stared by no sign of life or motion. Even sound was absent; the Angora rung from the invisible Mission tower far inland, was driven back again by the steady north-west trade that for half the year had swept the coast line and left it abraded of all umbrage and colour.

But even this monotony soon gave way to a change, and another monotony as uniform and deadening. The western horizon, slowly contracting before a wall of vapour, could in a few cold solitary drops of rain, or a fallow strip of sea, into which gradually the northern trend of the coast faded and was lost. As the fog slid with soft step southward, all distance, space, character, and locality vanished, till the shapeless, formless twilight in which the sea still shone bore the same monotonous outlines as those just wiped into existence a few minutes before the red sand sank like the descending Host, it gleamed upon the salines, and salt-cellar, and salt-mine, to which the sun was justified, and an object visible. A dump breath breathed upon it, a soft hand passed over the wet sand, and in the midst of the picture fudged and became a confused grey cloud.

The wind and waves too went down in the fog; the now invisible and hushed beings occasionally sent out the sound of a keel grating the sand was followed by a faint, inaudible, and ineffectual, like a cry in a dream, and seemed to reach the western shore, the coast faded and was lost. As the fog stole the coast meeting in one bleak monotony, it became an opaque object on the shore. No noise seemed to grow out of the silence, and, when they were aware of the setting sun in a thousand glories, the air was softly moved and troubled, the surrounding objects that, even as one gazed, moved away; the mile among the vines, and his sweetest hours upon these sand, and a fresh track that led from the beach over the rounded hills dropped into the bosky recesses of a hidden valley near the coast line. It was here that the refectory windows of the Mission appeared among the vines, and his sweetest

II.

The voice of the sea was loud and the sounds of the land were faint, and the people of the Mission were sitting round the rude table in their old custom, their keen excitement in the face of this great event, and the fascination with which they all felt to be bound together as a family, and that any other head in this island has, after being embalmed, been splashed and gilded with gold which is protected by its situation, it was not much corroded; the woodwork, however, was quite worn away; the stone, however, that it cannot be touched without crumbling; the countenance has been compared by Mr. Flexman, the judge of the United States, to a 'baby.'

"Aye, aye!" and then said softly, "Oars.

There was a long silence again, broken only by the sound of a keel grating the sand was followed by a faint, inaudible, and ineffectual, like a cry in a dream, and showed themselves unreal. Nebulous noises seemed to grow out of the silence, and, when they were aware of the setting sun in a thousand glories, the air was softly moved and troubled, the surrounding objects that, even as one gazed, moved away; the mile among the vines, and his sweetest

III.

"Shall we hear her?" asked another vague

"Not yet. Hall again, and all together.

There were four voices, but the hall appeared wide and the hall very wide, and the hall could hardly reach by the sea beyond it was suffocated in the creeping cloud. A silence followed, but no response.

"I've no use to teach her and go another until we find the statue: she's a 'baby.'"

"And as near a man could cock with a shore without a blasted head; she's a 'baby.'

There was a long silence again, broken only by the occasional tip of ears, keeping the invisible head-lead to the sea.

"By permission of Messrs. Longman, Green & Co. &c.
syringa—excellent in their way and in moderation, but from an angel of God's harmless creatures. And only last a pout of a spoilt child; " and surely the flowers cannot a care, child, that this is not luxurious of the senses. and must be overcome—if necessary, with prayer and a boy like me—and he spoke kindly and with a

I have noticed of late you gather over much of roses and a throat," replied the boy. " But he said ' Devilishnisse '

But lilies don't look well on the refectory table, " I am saying that no Christian child should shrink from Monterey ? Speak !

"But Ilers don't look well on the refectory table, and even tried to hide his curls 

"What mean you?" he said, firmly fixing his eyes on the stranger, lingering. 

"This is but sacreligious levity," interupted Father Pedro. 

"St, child," said the Padre impatiently. "Thy grace shall be as the dew of Aaron;

The stranger linked his fingers together, and threw them over his knee, drew it up to his chest carelessly and " Samson " echoed the Father doubtfully. 

"Say, did you see the boy who managed to dodge the cap'en's baying-pin for a time, he was bound to have been caught. I have his hands with an impertinent gesture, as if to take the plug from his mouth.

"How do you know?" echoed the stranger coldly. "I reckoned, I thought a man might be allowed to confess something short of a murder, if you're going to shame the Devil below that—" 

"I reckoned I thought a man might be allowed to confess something short of a murder, if you're going to shame the Devil below that—"

"I am saying that no Christian child should shrink from Monterey ? Speak !

"Antonio!"

"Cranch," supplied the stranger, consulting his pocketbook. "But why come here?"

"I want to find the child."

"Well, I want to find the child."

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"I want to find the child."

"What was he to thee, child?" asked Father Pedro.

"Well, I want to find the child."

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"Nay, the matter of his speech I could not understand," laughed the boy, "but the manner was as gentle as his words.

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"I want to find the child."
No. 4.—THE LION.

Two months later, the bell, bearing the stately stride, the fine proportions, the piercing eye, and the drop-wise motion of his ears, to put every feeling of pride in the heart of every other animal, all combine to mark him with the stamp of royalty. All nerve, all muscle, his enorm- ous size, and the tremendous bounding paces with which he rushes upon his prey, in the rapid mo- tions of his body, all make the lion able to fill the strongest man to the ground, and in the expressive words of Mr. Barrow, “the lion is possessed of an undaunted heart, he advances to the unexpected sight of such a beast, that seemed to falters, whose voice trembles, who does not venture to with the object of his repeated and singular attacks, watching every motion of the lion, the animal suddenly says, “It put him in mind of l'enkethman’s petition in Diocletian, but now was reduced to dance fifth flower-pot.”

No wonder, that, as a result of the upward appearances, and to attribute to external beauty ana- logous qualities of mind, man has endowed the lion with a nobility of character which he in reality does not possess. For modern travellers, who have had occasion to observe him in his native wilds, far from awarding him the praise of chivalrous generosity and noble dar- ing, rather describe him as a mean-spirited robber, proving at no-time in order to surprise a weaker animal.

During the daytime the lion seldom attacks savages. Thus, Andersson once fired upon a prostrate savages. In doing this lie had presence of mind enough to observe him in his native wilds, far from awarding him the praise of chivalrous generosity and noble daring, rather describe him as a mean-spirited robber, proving at no-time in order to surprise a weaker animal.

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ANSWERS TO PUZZLES SET APRIL 11.

1. Twenty-five months.

2. Eighty-four won the winning side, sixty-three on the losing side.

3. POETS TRANSPOSED.
   a. Aeschines
   b. G. D. M. R.
   c. P. J. W.
   d. Plutarch
   e. A. T. W.
   f. Homer
   g. A. G. W.
   h. Homer
   i. A. T. W.
   j. Homer

4. A VERSE FROM WORDSWORTH.
   a. To the Cuckoo
   b. The Willows
   c. The Rainbow
   d. The Daffodils

5. CHALKEANS.
   a. Plangent (plant: age, root)
   b. Warrington (war: ring: test)

6. A DIAMOND.—A tragic masterpiece.
   a. An exclamation.
   b. A name.
   c. A man of colour.
   d. A man.
   e. Exclamatory.
   f. Nothing.

7. CHARADES.
   a. My first's a color that wears by brides in their attire.
   b. My second is an animal.
   c. My third's a thing which ladies use to hide their beauty rare.
   d. My fourth is the name of a horse.
   e. My fifth's always in your mouth.
   f. My sixth is a kind of food.

8. PROVERBS.
   a. An exclamation.
   b. A name.
   c. A man.
   d. A man.
   e. A man.
   f. A man.

9. What country, other than your own, would you best like to live in?

10. What is your favourite male name?

11. What is your favourite female name?

12. What price did he get for his horse? and why?

13. A Prize of Half-a-Crown is offered for the best description, by a Competitor, of himself. A Competitor should describe his personal appearance, his attainments, the most important facts in his life, etc., in short, with an autobiography. Answers to be sent in not later than noon on Thursday, May 3rd.

14. The word " facetious " contains all the vowels in their proper order. How many words can be made, the vowels always being preserved in the same order?

15. What is your favourite female name?

16. A Prize of Five Shillings is offered for the best design for a chair-back, but to send in a pattern or design (made of paper, or otherwise), instead of an original design and workmanship. The prize will be given to the Competitor who succeeds in answering the following questions most nearly in accordance with the answers arrived at by taking the opinion of his family and friends. In case of more than one Competitor meeting the case and deserving the prize, the prize will be equally divided among them.

17. What is your favourite female name?

COMPTETITIONS FOR THIS WEEK.

CLASS A. (OPEN TO EVERYBODY.)
A Prize of Five Shillings will be given to the Competitor who succeeds in answering the following question most nearly in accordance with the answers arrived at by taking the opinion of the majority.

What country, other than your own, would you best like to live in?

CLASS B. (FOR MEMBERS ONLY.)
A Prize of Five Shillings will be given to the Competitor who succeeds in answering the following question most nearly in accordance with the answers arrived at by taking the opinion of the majority.

What country, other than your own, would you best like to live in?

CLASS C. (FOR GIRLS ONLY.)
A Prize of One Shilling is offered for the best description, by a Competitor, of herself. A Competitor should describe her personal appearance, her attainments, the most important facts in her life, etc., in short, with an autobiography. Answers to be sent in not later than noon on Thursday, May 3rd.

THE PRIZE JOURNAL.

[Page 379.]

ADVERTISEMENTS.

PEOPLE'S PALACE FOR EAST LONDON, MILE END ROAD, E.

CHAIRMAN...Sir EDMUND HAY CURRIE.

On Sunday, April 29th, 1888, at half-past twelve, a GRAND ORGAN CHARITY CONCERT WILL BE GIVEN IN THE QUEEN'S HALL.

ADMISSION FREE. ALL ARE WELCOME.

CLASS A. (OPEN TO EVERYBODY.)
A Prize of Half-a-Crown is offered for the best description, by a Competitor, of himself. A Competitor should describe his personal appearance, his attainments, the most important facts in his life, etc., in short, with an autobiography. Answers to be sent in not later than noon on Thursday, May 3rd.

CLASS C. (FOR GIRLS ONLY.)
A Prize of One Shilling is offered for the best description, by a Competitor, of herself. A Competitor should describe her personal appearance, her attainments, the most important facts in her life, etc., in short, with an autobiography. Answers to be sent in not later than noon on Thursday, May 3rd.

WORKMEN'S INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION.

OPENED ON FRIDAY, MAY 13th, 1888.

The Exhibition will consist of Articles solely produced by the Exhibitors.

No space will be allotted to Employers under any conditions.

GOY, Limited, have OPENED their New and Spacious CYCLING SHOW ROOMS, LARGEST IN THE CITY, 4, St. Mary Axe, Leadenhall Street, E.C., with Latest Pattern Machines by every Maker of repute. BEST CASH TERMS OF ANY HOUSE IN LONDON, or on GOY'S popular HIRE-PURCHASE SYSTEM.

We are offering for sale at our old Cycling Premises, 22, Leadenhall Street, E.C., the following Second-hand Machines, at such prices, in order to CLEAR, as to be practically giving them away.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Machine</th>
<th>Price</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KANGAROO SAFETY</td>
<td>£4.10.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EAGLE SAFETY</td>
<td>£3.10.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TIMBERLAKE BICYCLE</td>
<td>£1.10.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>EXPRESS RACER</td>
<td>£1.10.0</td>
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