THE DEAN OF CANTERBURY, ARCHDEACON SANDFORD, AND THE DISSENTERS.

(Abridged from the English Independent, July 2.)

CENTENARY CELEBRATION OF CHESHUNT COLLEGE.

THE SERMON.—The Rev. Thomas Binney preached the Centenary Sermon, selecting as his text 1 Peter ii. 3—8, he dwelt upon the following points:—

1. Apostolic Christianity includes in it as an essential and fundamental truth the intervention of a personal Christ, through whom humanity is to find its way to God.

2. Humanity must be regarded as in a singular, and what we might call a most unnatural condition, to need such an intervention as this id a of the Christ involves.

3. Who and what is Christ—who is competent to come in between earth and heaven, who is Himself one in whom God is well pleased and who can so raise the sinful and the lost as to secure the acceptance and acceptableness of their services when they venture to enter into the Divine presence?

4. Whatever the Gospel itself may be as a religion, it rests on the miraculous; it includes the supernatural, it asserts the Divine interposition of a Divine act.

5. Whatever the Gospel be, it is something which may at first sight be repellent and offensive to the human mind in certain states and conditions.

6. The same fact which to some souls is presents only an aspect of repulsiveness is regarded by others in its true light, and becomes to them an object of trust, a means of safety, and a source of honour.

THE DINNER.—At the close of the service the company adjourned to a large marquee erected in the College grounds, where a collation was set out. Nearly 500 persons were present. The Dean of Canterbury presided.

The Chairman proposed "The health of the Queen, the Prince and Princess of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family," which was received with loud cheers, and was followed by the singing of the National Anthem.

The Chairman: Ladies and gentlemen,—I am going, with your permission, to do what it is not my habit to do,—indeed, I do not know that I have ever before done it in my life, and that is to read a speech. But the present is no ordinary occasion; and I am very anxious that the words spoken by me to-day should go forth as neither less nor more than they have been spoken. I am also anxious that no nervousness on my part should lead me to leave out anything I have to say, and that no enthusiasm should lead me to add to it. I am honoured by having to propose to you the toast of the day—"Prosperity to Cheshunt College." I stand before you, if my strict position is to be defined, as representing one of those Christian bodies into which, by the constitution of this College, its students may be ordained ministers. That such a purpose of the College was intended most of you are aware, but it may not be amiss to remind you how expressly, and beyond doubt, it was provided for. (He then read a passage from the deed, which provided that students on leaving the College should be left entirely at liberty to seek ordination in the Church of England, or to become ministers in any other evangelical community.) It is clear, then, that in the welfare and expansion of this College the various Christian bodies comprised in this description are deeply interested. And, as a member and a minister of one of those bodies, I have considered it not beside my path of duty to occupy the post assigned me to-day—(cheers)—and to be the mouthpiece of your good wishes for the prosperity of your College. So much, gentlemen, may be said, confining oneself to the narrowest and most technical considerations. But I am sure I shall carry you with me when I go wider than this, and profess other reasons why I feel this wish, and am here to express it. This College represents to me, as I read its documents, a very sacred principle—that of hearty mutual recognition of one another as servants of our common Lord. (Applause.) We, in this land, have been long endeavouring to make our Christianity stand on its narrowest and finest point. (Hear, hear.) And the inevitable result of equilibrium on the apex has followed. (Applause.) It has been unstable equilibrium. (Hear, hear.) Our English Christianity has had to be propped all round. (Hear, hear.) So thickly, indeed, that many have failed to discern the building itself for the multitude of shores that surrounded it. It is high time that this vain experiment were abandoned—high time that we change our course, and try whether we cannot attain stable equilibrium by setting our English Christianity on its base. It may be true that this reversal of position will require great caution and delicacy of handling. Two things certainly are true—that the process cannot be accomplished unless the artificial props be struck away—(applause)—and that, when it is accomplished, they will no longer be wanted. Now it has seemed to myself, any to others, that the day has come for setting one's hands with advantage to this work. And this has been a further reason why I stand here to day as the proposer to you of prosperity to your College—that we may, if it be God's will, inaugurate, or at least give expression to, a spirit of hearty, loving recognition of one another as brothers and equals in God's work. (Loud and enthusiastic cheering.) But there is another reason, arising from circumstances within the Established Church herself. It is no matter of dispute that her Reformation vesture was a coat of many colours. (Laughter.) Though in the main the hues were sobered, there were not wanting pieces of the original scarlet—(renewed laughter)—and here and there a tinsel ornament remained, tolerated for old custom's sake, and for the sake of those who cared for it. And when fault was found with us, there were many who could say—and my own feeling went with them—that we were far from disliking the effect of an occasional stripe of warm colour, or the glitter of an occasional spangle; and the more so, as three centuries' wear had toned down and harmonised all; so that in the brightness there was no glare and in the richness no incongruity. But, gentlemen, the case is now widely altered. (Hear, hear.) Men have arisen, who are for renewing and widening these same scarlet lines; who want to send them to the Vatican to be dyed and trimmed, and the spangles to be regilt and multiplied. Now I say, if we are going to rent, let the duffle grey have its say in the matter likewise. (Laughter, and Hear, hear.) Let us mend up and renew the home-spun as well. Give us fair play all round. (Loud applause.) If the bright bits are to cross the water for burnishing, let the sober material be sent to our own looms, and let our working hands have the reweaving of it. If accidental remnants are to be cherished, much more the main fabric, woven as it was amidst prayers, and tears, and anguish, and blood. And then, when the motley vesture is ready, raw in its colours, and without the toning of ages, I am much mistaken if John Bull do not elect to have the whole garment home-spun—to relegate the scarlet and the spangles to the Vatican, and label them—"Not wanted." (Cheers.) For this reason, also, I heartily wish prosperity to this and to like institutions; prosperity—let the word be truly understood—to Dissent itself. (Hear, hear.) For this, gentlemen, is your true prosperity—not to swell vastly in apparent numbers—not to flourish on the ruins of other churches—but to give us the best example of this goodly purity, this orderly method, of the English faith; to lay up for yourselves and us such store of this garment which no moth can corrupt, that in the crisis of England's Church we may bless God that we possess Dissenters. (Loud applause.) For these reasons, gentlemen, I, an outsider, but not an unsympathising one, say heartily—may God bless and prosper this College and its work. May the plan—now only on paper—ere long become a reality, and the most sanguine wishes of its promoters be surpassed. You, gentlemen, will have other and more cherished reasons for echoing this wish. To some of you this has been your Alma Mater—to others, the object of the cherishing care of years. But whatever reasons, and however various, may coexist in your minds, I am sure you will not overlook, but will deeply feel, those great public ones which I have mentioned. I am sure that all, public and personal, will conspire, and converge towards your fervent aspiration for the prosperity and enlarged usefulness of this admirable institution; and in that conviction I propose to you now to drink, "Floreat Domus." (The very rev. chairman resumed his seat amidst loud applause.)

The Rev. Professor Reynolds read the annual report; and the meeting was addressed by the Revs. Messrs. Allon, Stoughton, The Common Sergeant of the City of London, the Revs. Messrs. White, Binney, Dr. Spence, Dr. Raleigh, Newman Hall, and several other gentlemen; and afterwards by the Ven. Archdeacon Sandford, who was received with loud applause, said: Mr. Dean, ladies and gentlemen, the sentiment assigned to me is—"The Professors and the present and former students of this Institution." (Cheers.) I feel honoured in being permitted to participate in the services and in the proceedings of this day. I am of opinion—an opinion already expressed by a previous speaker—that most of the estrangement which subsists between sincere and earnest Christian men originates in mutual ignorance—(applause)—and therefore I am satisfied that what we want, as Churchmen and Nonconformists, is to look in one another's faces and to clasp one another's hands, and to understand one another's sentiments, and above all, to read one another's hearts. (Renewed applause.) We want to know one another that we may believe in one another, and trust in one another, and love one another, and work together in the cause of our common Christianity, and our beloved common Lord. My Christian friends, some of us have to live long and to travel far before we learn to appreciate the elementary truths of the religion which we teach. It took our revered friend Mr. Binney half a century of life and a voyage to the Antipodes to learn rightly to appreciate the goodness that there may be in an Anglican bishop—(cheers and laughter)—and to enable us Churchmen on this side the globe to know what a genial and a generous nature, what a large, loving, true, and noble heart may glow beneath the rind of an English Nonconformist. (Applause.) I listened with an affectionate and delighted admiration to day to the glorious truths which flowed from his lips; and I will give you this proof of my catholicity, that though I am not, perhaps, prepared to endorse every word which has proceeded from my very reverend friend the Dean of Canterbury, I do endorse every syllable which flowed from the lips of Mr. Binney. (Loud applause.) Ladies and gentlemen, it is recorded of an eminent writer who has passed away from amongst us, but not before he had done good service by exposing and rebuking the follies, and the vices, and the shams of his generation that having been on one occasion associated with some young noblemen, and charmed with the society of the order which he had satirised, he said: "I am delighted to find that you scions of the aristocracy are such capital fellows." Upon which the father of one present, himself a noble sample of the English aristocracy, said: "Sir, it is a great pity that you had not known us before you described us in your works." Now, I believe that that is just the case with many Nonconformist divines and with many of the clergymen of the English Church, and that we have hitherto know as little of each other as if we were inhabitants of a different planet; and therefore I rejoice from the bottom of my heart in the gathering of today, which I believe, in the critical circumstances of the world and of the Church, to be full of encouragement and full of promise of future blessing. (Cheers.) I am proud and I am happy to be associated with my very reverend brother here to-day in doing honour to this admirable institution, and I am sure that here is an increasing number of English Churchmen who do appreciate the zealous and the God-blessed labours of our Nonconformist brethren—the men who have kept the light of Evangelical truth alive when the English Church was in a state of collapse and paralysis,—men of whom I shall always speak with reverence, affection, and respect. May God multiply such men throughout the length and breadth of our fatherland! Therefore I give the sentiment entrusted to me to-day with great pleasure, and I have a right, perhaps, to propose this toast, for for some years of my life I have had the happiness of training ministers for the service of the English Church, and for seven years, as the examining chaplain of a large diocese, I had the unpleasant office of "plucking" a great many of them who were not up to the mark. I will only say in conclusion that if the young students of this institution will only follow out the design of the founder, if they will render human learning subordinate to the gifts and graces of the Holy Spirit, and if they will tread in the footsteps of that great, venerable, and good man on whose lips both Churchmen and Nonconformists have hung with delight to-day, they, like himself, will secure the esteem and the admiration of the world, the sympathy of the Church, and the blessing of Almighty God. (Loud applause.)

The Rev. Professor Thorold Rogers proposed—"Collegiate and University Education," and in doing so said: I presume I have been called upon to say a few words in connection with this subject, because I belong to one of the ancient universities, and because I am known to my kinsman, your President, as one who, on all occasions, and to the utmost of his power, has resolved to attempt that justice should be done to all Englishmen in connection with our national universities. (Cheers) It has been a wrong inflicted upon a great number of persons in this country, and not the least, as was pertinently and eloquently said some little time ago by a distinguished Nonconformist in the House of Commons, upon the Nonconformist ministers of this country, that they have been excluded from that great national benefit which is conferred by our ancient foundations. Now, what is the reason that this has happened? In the early history of the universities Oxford was the mother of free thought. It should not be forgotten that out of those mediæval universities came the beginning of the Reformation. It was by the thoughts, the labour, the study, the diligence of those who lived within those ancient universities, that the first rays of light were thrown upon that system of political and religious darkness which we know as the times of Papal tyranny. Oxford was the mother of Wycliffe. At the time when letters were being revived again, and when those down-trodden sectaries who were our forefathers in religious truth, were hiding themselves, they found a secure resting-place in the University of Oxford; and before the Reformation the tenets which were afterwards accepted and developed were held in no small degree by Collette, by Erasmus, and by More, even though in some particulars, owing to the darkness of the age and the long influence of prejudice upon their minds, they fell back from what we know to be the fundamental tenets of our faith, and the leading principles of our action. Gentlemen, the University of Oxford was closed to the nation through the intolerance of those who occupied high places in the reign of Elizabeth, by the machinations of Leicester, by the intolerance of Laud, by that system which strove to make free priesthood and free ministry an instrument of despotism, and which declared that it would not tolerate free thought unless that thought flowed in the channels which the State thought proper to prescribe. Well, what was the consequence? The universities fell from their high position. They became centres of bigotry and intolerance, till at last that very system of political government which thought to discover in those ancient universities willing slaves to the system which had been established, discovered that the universities themselves had become the great centres where principles fatal to that political revolution which was inaugurated now nearly two centuries ago were fostered, and from which they proceeded. Well, in these latter times some change has been made. The university has, to some extent, been thrown open. Unluckily it has been thrown open only to the rich. Later legislation, however long demanded, long proposed in Parliament—has thrown the university open to the whole mass of the English people. It is only six months ago that it was made an article in the indictment against me, that I was the advocate of Mr. Ewart's Bill—that is to say, the advocate of a bill in Parliament the purport of which was to enable persons to go to the University of Oxford or of Cambridge without belonging to any College or Hall—that is to say, a bill which was intended to relieve them from those expenses which the monopoly of the Colleges, as well as the extravagance of the young men, put hitherto upon all those who wished to become students in our ancient universities. Only three weeks ago, the University of Oxford, at its own instance, adopted the principles and the details of Mr. Ewart's bill, and as a consequence I look forward to the time when a large number of the professional classes of this country, and most of all a great number of those who wish to prepare themselves for the Nonconformist pulpits of this country, will be able to come to these ancient universities, and get those advantages which it would not become me to dwell upon, but which have been, I believe, fully recognised by those persons who have busied themselves in interpreting our course of study, and have striven to find out how persons may be best prepared, with their heads as well as their hearts, for the work which lies before them. (Applause.) A great deal has been said to-day, gentlemen—and I rejoice to hear it—about the sympathy which should subsist between those who profess a common faith. I admire, I honour these sentiments. I rejoice that dignitaries of the English Church—to which I belong—should here give countenance and expression to those opinions. But, gentlemen, I prefer justice to sympathy. (Cheers.) I would very much rather see a state of things brought about under which men could claim, as having had a common education, as having stood together as boys and young men upon an equal footing, an absolute right to equality among each other, than that that should be accorded as a mere sentiment of sympathy, and a mere acknowledgment of Christian duty, because I believe that public duties and public rights must be recognised before Christian duties and Christian rights can be fully understood and carried out. Therefore, gentlemen, I look with the greatest possible satisfaction upon the steps which have been taken in a just, and patriotic, and politic legislation, both within the universities and without them, and I earnestly hope that the time is not far distant when the whole mass of the Queen's subjects, whether they be in this country or without it, may, without any questions being put to them as to what their dignatic tenets are, be admitted to those ancient foundations of the universities, and those emoluments, which were bestowed in the first instance that men might be able to serve God in Church and State—that is to say, to serve Him in all the churches of the living God, and in all those forms of civil polity which men, under various circumstances, accept or live under. This time, I hope, is not far distant. It will depend a great deal upon the united action of those who are just and generous within the University itself; but we can do nothing in this matter except we have the aid of those who, differing from our religious Establishment, are yet one with us on these principles; and I earnestly hope that all those who have it in their power to further this great measure of justice, and all the people of this country, will bear in mind that it is only by united action that this justice can be done, and that the sooner it is done, the wiser it is done, and the more fully will it be done. (Loud applause.)

MR. JOHN STUART MILL ON PROTECTION.

To the Editor of the Herald.

SIR,—I send you for publication, a letter received by the last mail, from Mr. J. S. Mill, which contains matter of interest not limited to myself.

Some of your readers may remember the appearance, in your paper of 7th February, of an article signed "H," on the Impolicy of Protection, and an answer thereto, on the 18th, signed "L." The former was a product of my leisure during the holidays consequent on the visit of Prince Alfred, which I was prevented by a neuralgic affliment from turning to festive account. Being drawn up in a spirit of sedate inquiry, rather than political contention, I intended it as a paper on "Social Science" for our new Royal Society. But, as I found that body would not then meet for several months, I sent it to you for publication. It has since been republished by the intervention of my opponent "L," (Mr. Lippman), together with his answer, in a pamphlet, printed by Gordon and Gotch. Whether the cause of Free Trade or Protection is likely to be advanced by this juxtaposition, it is for others to judge. There is no doubt something in having the last word,—for although I might find it easy to reply to "L," there have been no more Prince's Holidays to afford me the leisure.

I have nothing to complain of in the tone of his letter, which is as temperate and free from acrimony as my own. The only portion of it which I felt to demand serious attention was his appeal to Mr. J. Stuart Mill, as an authority in his favour. I was aware that the same use had been made of Mr. Mill's exceptional paragraph, in Victoria, and that he had given his own explanation of it through the papers of that colony; but being unable to trace the correspondence, I thought it better to write to him myself on the subject. I was not prepared to say that "L" misrepresents Mr. Mill's original language, as guarded by his expressed limitations, although I was certainly astonished that he should have claimed for the bulk of Australian protectionists that they contended for no more than these limitations strictly admitted.

So far from this, there can be no question that, whatever his own views may be, the mass of those whose cause he advocates claim Protection as a continuous right of native industry, and not only as a means of its initiation. It is thus a question whether it is safe to admit the stimulus of a potion in small doses among those who have a depraved taste for it as an article of ordinary diet. This will account for my applying to Mr. Mill for an expression of his own views upon the subject, which I did in the following letter.

I am, Sir, yours, &c.,
G. K. HOLDEN.

"Sydney, New South Wales,
"February, 1868.

"Dear Sir,—I hope you will not consider the request I am about to make, an unreasonable addition to the burthen which is heaped on all who have earned the right and power to influence public opinion, and which must be doubly heavy on one who has now to bear it in a political as well as a literary capacity.

"If you have time to glance over them, the two papers which I send you by this mail on the Protection controversy now waging in these colonies, may not be without interest, as matter of a co-temporary history, irrespective of the merits of either of them.

"The point to which, however, I desire to ask your attention is that which has reference to the passage in your work on Political Economy, which recognises as an exceptional case justifying a protective duty, that of a new industry expected to be self-supporting, when naturalised, but incurring temporary loss during the process of naturalisation, unless then artificially supported. This passage was some time ago made a great handle of in Victoria by the advocates of a protective policy, and I remember seeing in the newspapers of the day some extract from a letter of yours disclaiming any intention to sanction the inferences which had been drawn from it. It was to this which I have alluded in the paragraph on 'Preliminary encouragement,' &c., contained in my own paper enclosed, and signed 'H.'

"My antagonist in the paper signed 'L' reproduces the passage, with an assertion that you have never disclaimed it.

"Not having the means of referring to the sources from which my impression of your having done so was derived, I hope you will not think I give you too much trouble if I ask you to be good enough to afford me the means of stating authoritatively your matured present opinion on the point in question regarded *practically* as matter of legislation for these colonies,—in which must, of course, be considered the danger of admitting the thin edge of a wedge, however innocuous, or even useful, the thin portion of it may be,—especially if the good to be effected may be equally obtained by instrumentalities less amenable to the blows of the driving mallet of monopoly. On this point I need not repeat what you will find expressed in the third column of my enclosed paper.

"You will perceive by the respectful tone of my antagonist towards yourself that your *authority* in this matter is recognised even by the party of monopoly, so that your answer to this appeal may be fairly expected to have some practical influence. Meanwhile, it can hardly be agreeable to you to know that this paragraph of yours is perpetually used by the party of protection as their *trump card*.

"I am, dear Sir, yours, very faithfully,
"G. K. HOLDEN.

"J. Stuart Mill, Esq.

"P.S.—You may perhaps remember my name in connection with an effort which I made some years ago when a member of the Legislative Council of this colony, to incorporate Mr. Hare's system with a reconstruction of the Council as an elective body. I succeeded in passing it through the Council, and although rejected by the Assembly, it was upheld by a very respectable minority. It was not without interest that I found much of the ground fore-fought ever, made the battle-field of more recent combatants in the recent debates on Mr. Lowe's and Lord Cairns's amendments; not without great regret that I perceived that a principle so adapted to reconcile all that is good in both parties should fall of being duly appreciated by either, at the very time when innovations, that might have been expected to meet with unyielding resistance, have been volunteered almost in excess of the demand.

"G. K. H."

The following is the answer received from Mr. Mill.

"Blackheath Park, Kent, July 5, 1868.

"Dear Sir,—I hope you will pardon me for the delay in acknowledging your letter dated as long ago as February. Parliamentary business is so exacting, and I receive such a multitude of letters which require an immediate answer, that I am often obliged to put aside for a time those which admit of delay.

"Your impression is quite correct that I was appealed to from Victoria, in consequence of the use made by Protectionists of the passage in my 'Political Economy,' which speaks of the occasional benefit in a young country of aiding the naturalisation of an industry suited to its circumstances. I did, at that time, return an answer, which was published in a Victorian newspaper, to the effect that if this encouragement took the form of a protecting duty it should be strictly limited to a moderate number of years, and not continued beyond. I have not altered the opinion that such encouragement is sometimes useful, and that, in many cases, the most just mode in which it could be given is that of a temporary protecting duty, on condition that it should be known and declared to be merely temporary, and of no very long duration. But I confess that I almost despair of this general understanding being ever practically established. I find that in Australia protection is not advocated in this form or for this purpose; but that the vulgarest and most exploded fallacies are revived in its support. As far as I can perceive, those who contend for protection in Australia mean it to be as permanent as any other legislative arrangement, and hold to all the false theories on the subject, of which Europe is rapidly ridding itself, and which are declining even in America. In such a state of opinion as this I should resist, with my utmost strength, any protection whatever; because it is far easier to withstand those false and pernicious doctrines before they have been carried into practice to any serious extent, than after powerful protected interests have been allowed to grow up under their influence.

"Allow me to express my high sense of the ability and effectiveness of your letter signed 'H' on this question. Such clear expositions of the principles of the subject are what can alone be trusted to for combating any natural prejudice in a free and popularly governed country.

"I well remember your exertions for the adoption of Mr. Hare's system in the election of the Legislative Council, and the very valuable report in which you discussed the subject. The debates in the British Parliament which have since occurred may well have struck you by the amount of ignorance they disclosed; but great and daily progress is making in the correction of that ignorance, and many political men, including some of the most active and intelligent leaders of the working classes, are now converted to Mr. Hare's system, in principle at least, and frequently even in its detail. The doctrine of personal representation is making the same rapid progress among thinking minds on the Continent and in America. But as you are probably in correspondence with Mr. Hare, you have access to the best source of information on this subject.

"I am, dear Sir, with much respect,
"Yours, very truly,
"J. S. MILL.

"G. K. Holden, Esq."

Electro-magnetism is now employed to make small butterflies flutter their wings on ball head-dresses, in Paris. Within the chignon are concealed a small battery and a minute Ruhmkorff coil. On the bosom may be a brooch, with a head upon it, the eyes of which turn in all directions. This, too, is accomplished by the use of a battery and coil so minute as to be concealed within the brooch itself.

Why would Venus descending from Olympus be like a liberal husband?—Because she would come down handsome.

FIJI.

A CORRESPONDENT writes as follows; it will be seen, however, that the news has, to a great extent, been anticipated by the account of the trip of H.M.S. Challenger, published in the *Herald* of the 9th instant.

Another disturbance has occurred with the mountaineers occupying the country on the Upper Rewa, not many miles distant from the place where poor Baker was killed. It may be as well to state that the bulk of the settlers on the river occupy the lower portion, where the country is accessible both by land and water. The tribes in that portion are Christian, having been conquered and converted about three years ago, and are governed by Ratu Timothy, a deputy of Thakobau, but the upper river is thinly settled, the country mountainous, and the tribes generally heathen, but all strongly opposed to the ascendency of Thakobau. For some time they have been threatening to attack Timothy, who appears to have made himself much disliked by the natives, but, having to march some forty miles through various tribes to do so, the threat has not been much thought of.

The immediate origin of the present disturbance is the old song—"A land dispute." A Mr. Pfluger—one of the settlers highest up among the hills—having purchased from a native chief some land on which a native town was situated, found that the natives refused to leave, and that they disputed the right of the chief to sell the land. Mr Pfluger's dispute has now lasted some time, and generated a hot feeling, which found vent on the native side by their burning down his kitchen, and threatening to do the same with his house. When the Challenger was lying in Levuka, about twenty of the Rewa settlers petitioned the Consul for redress, and requested that the Challenger's boats might be sent up to look into matters. The boats were sent up about a week since. Two of the settlers, well known to the native townspeople, were sent to ask the chief to see the officer in command; the chief refusing peremptorily, the boats were ordered to shell the town.

Finding the fire insufficient to destroy it, the men were landed, and burnt some of the houses. Having accomplished its object, the expedition re-embarked, and, on proceeding down the river, the boats were fired into by a large number of the natives in ambush.

The firing on the native side must have been hot, but very ill directed; while the marines and sailors, aided by about twenty-five of the Rewa settlers, returned it with vigour and effect. Every puff of smoke from the banks or bush was followed by volleys from one or other of the boats or from the settlers on the opposite bank. As, however, it was contrary to the Naval commander's orders to land his men, and as doing so in the thickly covered country, which was the scene of action, might have led to disaster, there was nothing for it but to keep up the fire as long as possible, and return down the river.

This left the scattered settlers on the upper river defenceless, and they were obliged to follow the boats and abandon the plantations which they have with such industry and labour established.

In the action only one marine and one settler were wounded. The marine was shot, it is said dangerously. The settler (Mr. Creeland) less so, although he had a very narrow escape, the ball entering at the back of the neck and traversing the cheek where it was soon extracted by the surgeon in attendance.

We are still (3rd August) without any further reliable intelligence of the result, although rumours of all kinds are afloat. We know only that the upper river settlers have taken refuge at Tauua (Mr. Lee's plantation), about forty miles up the river; and we hear that the mountaineers talk again of attacking Bau, and his deputy, Timothy.

To do this they must traverse and attack many strong and friendly towns, and then be prepared to meet Timothy, who has a considerable Bau force at his disposal. It is very unlikely they will attempt this; but, if so, the settlers on the lower river will be obliged to leave their plantations, as they would scarcely be safe on the scene of action after white men have been mixed up in the quarrel.

The town (Duka) which has been the cause of trouble was only partially burnt. The natives, in return, have burnt Mr. Pfluger's house, and it is said the houses of the planters. The expedition consisted of the launch, pinnace, cutter, and whaleboat, having two Armstrong guns and eighty-seven men and officers.

They ascended the river to Duka, 50 miles from the mouth. It is there between 100 and 150 yards broad, and the banks very high and bushy, affording excellent cover to an enemy.

Other disputes have taken place at different parts of the coast between the Christian and mountain tribes, but the result has so far been defeat and submission on the part of the mountaineers everywhere but on the Rewa. That we shall see the same result there very few doubt, as Thakobau's power and position are at stake in the conflict.

But in the meanwhile great mischief is done, and the result of years of labour destroyed or abandoned.

The one great good we have to hope for from the disaster is that it will cause the establishment of some legal and recognised authority to settle these land disputes, which are becoming naturally more frequent as settlement extends. There are already nearly a thousand whites in the group. Their number is fast increasing, and will, doubtless, lead to the establishment of the law and order so necessary to the progress of this beautiful country.

We need scarcely say that these disputes are purely local, and do not affect settlers in other places except indirectly. We should add that the future movements of the Challenger are not certainly known here, but it is reported she will go to the New Hebrides, and send the Charybdis to remain some time in Fiji.

LEVUKA, 6th August.—Reliable information has at last been received from Rewa. Messrs. Hennings and Payne, two of the lower river settlers went up to the mountains after the fight, and have just returned. The Fiji men admit that upwards of forty were killed and wounded on their side, and among them the Chief of Koro Vatu, who was the most active leader in the disturbance. He was killed at the first discharge. Poor Creelman died of his wounds, but the marine (Foskett) was recovering. The settlers below Viria are all reassured, and the mountaineers having found how hard the white men's rifles hit, appear far from over confident in their victory, and not at all disposed to pay their threatened visit to Ratu Timothy. Mr. M'Loughlin, the settler highest up the river, passed through the hostile tribes just after the fight. In ignorance of what had occurred he held his usual friendly intercourse with them, and they were equally friendly in return. The settlers' houses, with the exception of Pfluger's, have not been burnt, but the trade and gunpowder in them have been taken away. The Challenger has left for the New Hebrides, to meet the Charybdis, and Commodore Lambert sends the latter vessel here in about eight days' time to be at the Consul's disposal.

LEVUKA, 15th August.—The Charybdis arrived here on the 13th instant, from the New Hebrides, and to-morrow she leaves for Bau, with the British Consul on board, to have, it has transpired, an interview there with Thakobau, prior to proceeding to her destination, the scene of the late hostilities, the Rewa River.

THE FIJI ISLANDS.

THE following correspondence has been handed to the *Argus* for publication:—

SIR,—I notice by a paragraph in your issue of to-day in reference to Fiji matters, as from the latest date, viz., 22nd July, that King Thakombau is represented as having repudiated his contract with Messrs. Evans and Brewer.

I beg to furnish you, for publication, the following extracts from a letter received by me from the United States Vice-consul in Fiji, dated July 23, from which it appears that the repudiation referred to was with reference to their first contract or charter, the second (the one referred to by the United States Vice-consul) having been signed by the King and his chiefs on July 23, at the United States Consulate.

GEORGE R. LATHAM, United States Consul.
U. S. Consulate, Melbourne, September 8.

"United States Consulate, Fiji, July 23, 1868."

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"They (Messrs. Evans and Brewer) have met with a strong opposition in obtaining their charter and grant of lands of King Cakobau' from H. B. M.'s consul in Fiji, and the commodore of H. B. M.'s ship Challenger, now on a cruise to Fiji.

"King Cakobau [Thakombau] has, notwithstanding, executed a 'charter,' the privileges of which, though quite liberal, are much curtailed from the original design.

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"My impression is that King Cakobau will not fail. To fail in this is utter and total ruin to him and his family.

"I anticipate much advancement in the country from the enterprise, and I sincerely hope the company may be satisfied with the concessions and arrangements their agents have obtained.

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(Signed) "J. M. BROWER, U.S. Vice-Consul."

RATHER TOO FAST.—It appears that the Empress has struck out of her invitation list two American families, the young ladies belonging to which she considers as too eccentric in dress and manner to be received at Court. One of the young ladies in question, whose skating had been much remarked last winter by his Majesty, lately sent him his portrait, executed by herself, with the following naive inscription, "D'une amie à un ami."

SNAKE POISONING.

AT a meeting of the Royal Society, Melbourne, on the 27th ultimo, Professor Halford made the following remarks on snake-poisoning:—

It would be remembered that he had stated on a former occasion that he noticed the following points in cases of snake-poisoning, namely, the presence after death of large cells, the total loss of fibrine, a perfect fluid state of the blood, and the apparent perversion of oxygen absorbed into the system. Subsequent observations had confirmed those facts. He found, however, no similar cells in the poison of the snake, and, consequently, the origin of these cells was very mysterious. Mr. Ralph, a friend of his, having seen these experiments made other experiments with prussic acid, and found the cells somewhat similar to those which were noticed after death by tiger-snake poisoning. He (Professor Halford) had also poisoned animals with hydrocyanic acid, and after an examination he found that Mr Ralph's statements were perfectly correct; the condition of the blood resembled very much that of snake-poisoning. The origin of the cells had therefore yet to be discovered, and he had no doubt that in time it would be found. He would say no thing more about this portion of the question this evening, as he would bring the subject more fully before the society on a future occasion. He would now comment on an article in *The Australasian* of July 25, 1868 which he would recommend should be reprinted, for it contained a great deal that was worth knowing. He believed he could detect the hand of his friend to the author of Dr. Mitchell, professor of physiology at Philadelphia. The writer was the first who had properly described the connection between the poison gland and the poison fangs. Dr. Mitchell had sent to him some grains of the poison; with half a grain of it a dog was poisoned in five hours. Dr. Mitchell described the recent poison as being perfectly transparent and containing no cells. He (Professor Halford) had found cells in the tiger-snake poison, and in this dried poison of the rattlesnake when it was dissolved in water and placed beneath a microscope he found some cells and a large quantity of granular matter. Dr. Short, of Madras, found the same characteristics in the poison of the cobra. Dr. Mitchell went on to say that rattlesnakes never poisoned each other. He (Professor Halford) had tried the experiment with tiger snakes, and had even injected the poison into a snake, but never could produce a fatal effect. In the rattlesnake and cobra poisoning a severe wound and swelling resulted to the animal poisoned. In the tiger-snake poisoning there was no such wound; there was no inflammation, no disorganisation of the muscle, no putrefaction. It was not so with the rattlesnake or the cobra. The tiger-snake had a weapon very much smaller than either of these; its venom, he believed, was more deadly; it killed more by direct action on the blood than by disorganisation of the tissues. The man who died at Tankard's Hotel a short time ago suffered great pain—indeed, attention was first drawn to him by his groaning—while Mr. Drummond had no pain. Dr. Mitchell saw no discoloration of the blood even after an examination with the microscope; nor did Dr. Short observe any alteration after bites by the rattlesnake and the cobra respectively. Now he (Professor Halford) had tried the experiment with both rattlesnake, cobra, and tiger-snake poisoning, and he saw the cells in all, and the blood in a fluid state after death; consequently, the point must have been overlooked both in America and India. He brought the question before the society, because he desired to state that all the observations he had made previously were correct, though the inferences he drew were not borne out, and because he wished that the paper in *The Australasian* should be better known. It would probably take years before any result was arrived at by these experiments, and before we could understand how death was produced by snake-poisoning in the system, but he believed that in time something definite would ultimately be known.

IMPOUNDINGS

(From the Government Gazette, September 15.)

AVENON.—Bay horse, star, off hind leg swollen, pulled tail, 3 over willing capital A near shoulder, aged, 15 hands high. Black colt, FS off shoulder, 2 or 3 years old, 14 hands high. Bay mare, star and snip, near hind foot white, IS over 3 near shoulder, 2 thigh, 14½ hands high. Bay filly foal, no brand visible. White steer, off ear marked, no brand visible, 2 years old. Will be sold on 1st October.

ALBERT.—Roan or grey colt, white stripe in forehead, white spots under near and off hips, EB off shoulder, tail docked, 2 years old, 13 hands high. Bay mare, star in forehead, off fore foot white, two J's crossing one another near shoulder, writing capital T and 22 near neck, lame fore feet, pulled tail, broken to saddle, aged, 14½ hands high. Will be sold 24th September.

BEAU.—Dark bay or brown horse, pulled tail, branded like CT or CI off shoulder, 16S under saddle off side. Will be sold on 24th September. Bay horse, star and small stripe, little white on near hind foot, lump on near fore fetlock, hobbles on, broken in, blotched brand like O near shoulder. Will be sold on 1st October.

BOYALBANE.—Dark bay or brown gelding, off hind foot white, XX conjoined off shoulder, JS near shoulder, unbroken, 15 hands high. Black gelding, X over X conjoined with JS under on off shoulder, JC over near shoulder, unbroken, 15 hands high. Black gelding, snip on nose, blotch near shoulder, TR near rump, unbroken, 15 hands high. Bay gelding, short dock tail, blaze in face, blind in off eye, hind foot white, branded A sideways on near shoulder, unbroken, 15 hands high. Red cow, DR on off ribs, 9 off rump, blotch brands on near rump. White calf, progeny of above, A over 6 sideways on near rump. Red ox, AM near rump and off rump. Will be sold on 1st October.

BOVANE.—Bay horse, star, aged, about 14 hands high, like CXD near thigh. Dark bay or brown coloured pony horse, like R near shoulder, hind feet white, aged, about 13 hands high. Black mare, saddle-marked, like 98 near shoulder, star and snip, about 15 hands high. Bay pony mare, blotch with JF over and 3 under near shoulder, about 4 years old, about 13 hands high. Bay mare, like diamond near shoulder, like BRC over C off shoulder, rope round neck, about 13 hands high. Bay horse, bang tail, stunt build, K near rump. Bay mare, branded like — over A near shoulder, about 9 years old, about 13 hands high. Bay mare, dark, EN off shoulder, CA with indistinct brand over off shoulder, aged, about 14 hands high. Will be sold on 1st October.

BARADINE.—Brown mare, MNB conjoined over O near shoulder, conjoined, hollow back, broken in, aged, 15 hands high. Red and white pointed cow, J sideways with blotched brand near rump, like M reversed near ribs, illegible brand near shoulder, 3 years old. Will be sold on 1st October.

BENDEMEER.—Chestnut horse, MM near shoulder, white face, near hind foot white. Bay mare, blotch brand near shoulder, like 3 blotched near neck. Bay mare, no brand visible, spots white forehead, white on off hind foot. Brown mare, like J 8 near shoulder, like 13 off shoulder, near hind foot white. Chestnut mare, bald face, A over blotched brand near shoulder, silver mane and tail; foal at foot. Chestnut pony mare, F in circle near shoulder; roan foal at foot. Piebald horse, like B, or F reversed conjoined with B, near shoulder. Bay horse, hind feet white, O over HD conjoined near shoulder, O near thigh. Bay mare, MT over 5 off shoulder; roan foal at foot. Brown horse, like E8 near shoulder, near hip down, star on forehead. Brown mare, W8 over BP near shoulder, F near rump, No. 3 near ribs. Bay mare, bald-faced, no brand visible, white face, hind feet white; foal at foot. Bay mare, one hind foot white, no brand visible. Chestnut colt, B8 near shoulder, W near thigh, one white foot. Chestnut mare, F in circle near shoulder. Chestnut mare, same brand, star on forehead; foal at foot. Will be sold on 24th September.

BARWARMBA.—Grey entire horse, P indistinguishable brand near HRC near neck, BC sideways near shoulder, like C off shoulder, aged, 15½ hands high. Bay filly, off hind foot white, x over 88 off shoulder, 3 years old, 14 hands high. Flea-bitten grey horse, O blotched near shoulder, aged, 15 hands high. Strawberry colt, both ears marked, like D near rump, R 6 off rump, like T over B off shoulder. Red and white cow, off ear marked, OB off rump. Red and white bull calf, unbranded. Red and white cow, LL near ribs, TW near loin and rump. Brindle and white bullock, both ears marked, blotch near rump, KH off rump, O over 8 off shoulder. Red and white spotted bullock, both ears marked, K over CL near shoulder, blotched back and rump. Red and white bullock, off ear marked, COC off ribs. Red and white bullock, both ears marked, BA near ribs. Brindle bullock, off ear marked, 2 near ribs, 2 off ribs. Brown filly,