

of them until their conclusion. Lord Palmerston obtained a promise of absolute secrecy from the representatives of Russia and Prussia at the Court of St. James's, and the secret was scrupulously kept, of which the following is a curious proof. On the evening before the Treaty was signed, the Countess of Lieven met Baron Bulow, the Prussian Minister, at Baron Rothschild's, took him aside, and asked him in her most insinuating tone, "Well, have you put your roast to the fire?"—"It has been at the fire so long, my dear Countess, that it is quite burnt," replied the Baron; and Madame de Lieven proceeded to assure M. Guizot, the French Ambassador in London, that England would never sign the Treaty in which France had refused to take part, and M. Guizot gave the same assurance to his Government. On the same evening, the 14th, Lord Palmerston asked Parliament for funds to carry on the war against Mehemet Ali, and the next day the Treaty of the Quadruple Alliance was signed. The rest is known: Lord Palmerston precipitated events, and the intervention of England arrested the victorious march of Mehemet Ali, who restored Syria to the Sultan and returned to his allegiance. English influence acquired a firmer footing than ever in the East, and from that time Lord Palmerston became the idol of public opinion and the real Chief of the Ministry.

From 1841 to 1846, Lord Palmerston sat on the Opposition benches. For his subsequent career we are obliged, for want of space, to refer to our First Vol., p. 9.

He died in peace and without pain at a quarter to eleven on the morning of the 18th of last month; his loss is yet mourned by all, from her Majesty the Queen to the cottager; his funeral was attended by the greater part of the population of London; and his mortal remains repose in the abbey of Westminster, among the great of the empire. His proper resting-place would certainly have been by the side of that of his great friend George Canning; but he is not to be found in the old basilica; the 'Autographic Mirror' unites the two eminent statesmen on the same page.

The pen-and-ink portrait of Viscount Palmerston is from a photograph by Messrs. John and Charles Watkins, Photographers to the Queen, 34, Parliament Street. It was taken on September 7th, 1860, while the Premier was in full possession of his mental and physical capacities, and is therefore much more interesting and valuable than likenesses of more recent date, when age and illness were breaking up his fine constitution. The family of the late Premier have pronounced this portrait to be the truest and best among the many for which his Lordship sat.

[The letter is from the Collection of G. R. Sanderson, Esq.; the portrait from that of the Editor.]

No. 259.—GEORGE CANNING.

B. in London in 1770; d. at Chiswick in 1827. An eminent English statesman, who supported Catholic Emancipation, detached England from the Holy Alliance, and prepared the independence of Greece. For a complete notice of Canning, we refer our readers to our first volume, pp. 9 and 70.

[From the Collection of W. A. Day, Esq.]

No. 260.—LEOPOLD-LOUIS-PHILIPPE-MARIE-VICTOR, DUC DE BRABANT.

B. at Brussels, April 9, 1835. Prince Royal of Belgium, eldest son of Leopold I., King of the Belgians, and of the Queen Louise d'Orléans, grandson of the venerable Queen Amélie. The Duc de Brabant married, August 10, 1853, Marie, Archduchess of Austria. His Royal Highness is a General in the Belgian Army, and, since his majority, a member in the Senate. He takes part in most of the important debates, and devotes a great portion of his time to the public and local affairs of his country.

The lines we reproduce are the substance of a speech pronounced by the Prince; they were very likely intended to be communicated to King Leopold.

(Transcript.)

"Voici ce que j'ai répondu hier au toast porté par M. Delehaye au Roi :—

"Je crois être l'interprète des sentiments du Roi en remerciant d'abord M. Delehaye des bonnes paroles qu'il vient de prononcer, et en vous proposant ensuite à mon tour un toast qui, vous le savez tous, Messieurs, est bien cher au cœur de Sa Majesté :

"A la prospérité de la ville de Gand."

"Au président de la Société des chœurs j'ai dit :

"Messieurs, je suis fort sensible à l'accueil que me font les Gantois.

"Puisque vous voulez bien m'en offrir l'occasion, laissez-moi de nouveau vous souhaiter aujourd'hui une longue suite de succès.

"Je bois, Messieurs, à la Société royale des chœurs de Gand; au développement du goût et de l'art musical en Belgique."

(Translation.)

"This was my reply yesterday to the toast proposed by M. Delehaye to the King :—

"I believe that I am a true interpreter of the sentiments of the King in first thanking M. Delehaye for the kind words he has just spoken, and next in proposing to you, in my turn, a toast which you all know, Gentlemen, is very dear to the heart of his Majesty :—

"To the prosperity of the town of Ghent."

"To the President of the Choral Society I said :—

"Gentlemen, I am much impressed by the welcome given to me by the people of Ghent.

"Since you are good enough to give me the opportunity, allow me again to-day to wish you a long course of prosperity.

"I drink, Gentlemen, to the Royal Choral Society of Ghent; to the development of musical taste and musical art in Belgium."

[From the Collection of the Editor.]

No. 261.—FOX MAULE, ELEVENTH EARL OF DALHOUSIE, SECOND BARON PANMURE.

B. April 22, 1801. An English statesman. Son of the first Baron Panmure, by his first wife, daughter of Gilbert Gordon, Esq., of Holbeath; married, in 1831, a daughter of the first Lord Abercromby. The ancient family of Maule was of French extraction, their surname having been assumed from the town and lordship of Maule, eight leagues from Paris. Guarin de Maule accompanied the Conqueror to England, and acquired, as his portion of the spoil, the lordship of Hatton, in Yorkshire, with other extensive estates.

His Lordship has been Under-Secretary for the Home Department, Vice-President of the Board of Trade, Secretary at War, President of the Board of Control, and finally Secretary of State for the War Department during the Crimean war. He sat in the House of Commons as the Right Hon. Fox Maule until 1852, when he succeeded his father as Baron Panmure. On the death of his cousin, the Marquis of Dalhousie, in 1860, Lord Panmure succeeded to his Scottish titles and estates. A Governor of the Charterhouse. Was for twelve years in the 79th Highlanders. Lord-Lieutenant of Forfarshire, and Keeper of the Privy Seal in Scotland. His autograph is dated 1848.

[From the Collection of T. F. Dillon Croker, Esq.]

No. 262.—CHARLES R. DARWIN.

B. at Shrewsbury, February 12, 1809. The most celebrated of living naturalists and natural philosophers. He is the son of Dr. R. W. Darwin, F.R.S., and grandson of the celebrated Dr. Erasmus Darwin (1721-1802), author of the 'Botanical Garden,' 'Zoonomia,' etc., and of the not less celebrated Josiah Wedgwood, F.R.S. (1730-1795), the Palissy of England.

He was educated at the Grammar School at Shrewsbury, and in 1825 he went to Edinburgh, and attended the lectures at the University there for two years. At Christmas, 1827, he entered

Christ's College, Cambridge, and took his degree in 1831. In the autumn of that year, the late Admiral Fitzroy, then a Captain of H.M.S. 'The Beagle' offered to give up part of his own cabin to any one who would volunteer to accompany the ship as naturalist on a voyage "round the world." Mr. Darwin offered his services without salary, and sailed in the 'Beagle,' for the survey of South America and the circumnavigation of the globe, on December 27, 1831, and returned to England, October 2, 1836. Mr. Darwin published an account of the voyage, under the title of 'Journal of Researches into the Geology and Natural History of the Various Countries,' etc., which first appeared together with a general account of the voyage by Captain Fitzroy; it has been subsequently been published separately, and has had a large sale; it is well deserving all attention an account of its interesting and graphic descriptions and observations. Besides numerous papers on various scientific subjects, Mr. Darwin edited the 'Zoology of the Voyage of the Beagle,' and published three separate volumes on geology, under the titles of the 'Structure and Distribution of Coral Reefs,' 1842; 'Geological Observations on Volcanic Islands,' 1844; 'Geological Observations on South America,' 1846. The most important of Mr. Darwin's subsequent works are his monography, in two volumes, published in 1851 and 1853 by the Ray Society, 'On Recent Pedunculated and Sessile Cirripedia,' and two volumes 'On Fossil Cirripedia,' published by the Palaeontographical Society. At the close of 1859, Mr. Darwin published his most celebrated work, 'On the Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection' ("On a appelé espèce toute collection d'individus semblables qui furent produits par d'autres individus, pareils à eux," Lamarck, i. 54), which at once attached a world-wide fame to his name, and may safely be pronounced as one of the most remarkable books of modern times. Of this work, three editions have appeared in England, and eight in various foreign countries, in the French, German, Dutch, and Italian languages. In 1862 he also published 'On the Various Contrivances by which British and Foreign Orchids are Fertilized by Insects, and on the good effects of Inter-crossing.' Of separate papers published by Mr. Darwin, the more important have been, "On the Connection of certain Volcanic Phenomena in South America;" "On the Distribution of Erratic Boulders in South America;" "On the Formation of Mould by Earthworms," all published in the Transactions of the Geological Society. In the 'Journal of the Linnean Society' three papers by him have appeared: "On the Dimorphous and Trimorphous States of Primula, Linum, and Lythrum;" and one paper, also published separately, "On the Movements and Habits of Climbing Plants." Mr. Darwin has been elected member of several English and foreign scientific bodies. The Royal Society awarded, in 1853, the Royal Medal, and in 1864, the Copley Medal to Mr. Darwin, for his various scientific works; and in 1859 the Geological Society awarded him the Wollaston Palladian Medal.

Mr. Darwin married his cousin Emma Wedgwood in the beginning of 1839, by whom he has a large family. He has lived for the last twenty-five years at Down, near Farnborough, Kent, and is a magistrate for that county.

[From the Collection of Hermann Kindt, Esq.]

No. 263.—THOMAS CROFTON CROKER, F.S.A.

B. at Cork in 1798; d. in London, 1854. A distinguished writer and antiquary. When fifteen years of age, he was apprenticed to a mercantile firm; and during his leisure hours he devoted himself to making sketches in pen-and-ink, in which he afterwards excelled, and in cultivating that taste for antiquities which never left him while he lived. In 1819, through the influence of his namesake, Mr. Wilson Croker, the Secretary of the Admiralty, he obtained a clerkship in that department, and soon rose to the most confidential employments in the office to which he was attached. But his official duties in no way damped his

literary aspirations. Shortly after settling in London, he contributed several papers to the 'Talisman' on the local antiquities of Ireland. In 1824 he published his 'Researches in the South of Ireland,' with magnificent illustrations. This was followed next year by 'The Fairy Legends and Traditions of the South of Ireland,' a work which has frequently been reprinted and translated, and which, among other marks of favour, brought him the personal acquaintance of Sir W. Scott, who was delighted with its style and spirit. The long and interesting letter written by Sir Walter to Mr. Crofton Croker on the publication of this work was given in our first series (Nos. XXV.—VI., pp. 204-5). Besides contributing largely to the "Annuals," once so fashionable, in 1827 he became the editor of the 'Christmas Box,' which however only lived two years, and in 1829 he published the 'Legends of the Lakes,' with illustrations by Mac-lise, which afterwards appeared under the title of a 'Guide to the Lakes.' It would occupy more space than we can spare to enumerate the various other works, and papers to journals, literary and antiquarian, which Mr. Croker contributed. The reader who is interested in the matter may refer to the 'Gentleman's Magazine' for October, 1854. Suffice it here to say that they were very voluminous, and that, as a collector of antiquarian and literary curiosities, particularly with reference to Ireland, he was considered an authority on most archæological subjects.

Our subscribers will find, no doubt, that the autograph we present to them of Thomas Crofton Croker is a real gem in every respect.

[From the Collection of T. F. Dillon Croker, Esq.]

No. 264.—ALFRED VICTOR, COMTE DE VIGNY.

B. at Loches, March 27, 1799. A French poet, novelist, and a member of the French Academy. At an early age he was sent to Paris for his education, and soon evinced a desire to enter the military service. At the age of sixteen he was enrolled in the Red Musketeers of the Royal Household, and during the Hundred Days accompanied Louis XVIII. to Ghent. After serving in the Royal Guard, and afterwards in a regiment of the Line, he got tired of a military life, resigned his commission in 1828, and resolved to devote himself entirely to letters. He had already written a number of poetical pieces, chiefly of a religious character, when in 1826 he published his historical romance, 'Cinq-Mars,' which went through several editions. He has also written several dramatic pieces. His "Othello," a translation from Shakspeare, was acted in 1829, but its success was doubtful; his 'Chatterton,' however, was a complete triumph. In 1843 he published several poems in the 'Revue des Deux Mondes,' which were not so well liked as his earlier lyrics. M. de Vigny was received an Academician in 1845. Since then he has only published the 'Consultations du Docteur Noir' (1856). His style is most chaste and elegant, as our readers will judge for themselves from the beautiful letter we reproduce, and which relates to copyright.

(Transcript.)

"16 février 1862.

"Je veux tout de suite vous dire combien je suis sensible à ce souvenir de vous. On avait oublié mon plaidoyer, et l'on n'a pas jugé qu'il fût bon de m'entendre sur cette question. Mais si la cause est gagnée, qu'importe le nom de l'avocat? Que le drapeau de l'intelligence et des lettres s'élève de plus en plus dans notre France, c'est là l'important. Que de temps on a perdu, depuis le jour où la Convention y pensa, au milieu des tocsins et des canons! Que de familles sacrifiées! Dieu veuille que la loi se fasse, et qu'elle soit bonne, et que cette propriété sacrée soit perpétuelle. Le jour où l'on délibérait à la Chambre sur cette loi qui avorta, je me sentis saisi par les coudes, et en me retournant vers celui qui m'arrêtait, je vis Balzac, qui me dit: 'Il n'y a que vous et moi ici des parias littéraires;—voyez, on les a si bien découragés et ils espèrent si peu qu'ils ne viennent même pas écouter la discussion!'

"J'ai beaucoup souffert aujourd'hui, et je suis accablé des lassitudes de cette lutte contre le vautour que Prométhée m'a légué. Il me dévore avec une cruauté inouïe.

Vol. III.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1865.

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Vol. III, Text.

CONTENTS.

258. LORD PALMERSTON.
259. GEORGE CANNING.
260. THE DUKE OF BRABANT.
261. LORD PANMURE.
262. CHARLES R. DARWIN.

263. THOMAS CROFTON CROKER.
264. ALFRED VICTOR, COUNT DE VIGNY.
265. ALFRED DE MUSSET.
266. CHARLES MACKLIN.

ILLUSTRATIONS.

XLVII. PORTRAIT OF CHARLES MACKLIN, FROM AN ENGRAVING, BY RIDLEY, OF BEECHEY'S PICTURE.
XLVIII. PEN-AND-INK PORTRAIT OF LORD PALMERSTON, FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY MESSRS. JOHN AND CHARLES WATKINS.

LONDON :

ALFRED IVE, 13, BURLEIGH STREET, STRAND.

PARIS : GALIGNANI, RUE DE RIVOLI. BRUSSELS : OFFICE DE LA PUBLICITÉ, MONTAGNE DE LA COUR.

LEIPSIC : LUDWIG DENICKE. BERLIN : ASHER AND CO. VIENNA : GEROLD AND SON.

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