

CHARLES ROBERT DARWIN.

TIMES, April 21.

CHARLES ROBERT DARWIN (he seldom used the second name) was the son of ROBERT WARING DARWIN, the third son by his first marriage of ERASMUS DARWIN, best known to the general reader by his scientific-poetic work "The Botanic Garden." The late Mr. DARWIN's father was a physician at Shrewsbury, who, although a man of considerable originality, devoted his powers almost entirely to his profession; his mother was a daughter of JOSIAH WEDGWOOD. He was born at Shrewsbury on February 12, 1809, so that he has died in his 74th year. Mr. DARWIN was educated at Shrewsbury School under Dr. BUTLER, afterwards Bishop of Lichfield. In 1825, he went to Edinburgh University, therein following the example of his grandfather, where he spent two sessions. Here, among other subjects, he studied marine zoology, and at the close of 1826 read before the Plinian Society of the University two short papers, probably his first, one of them on the Ova of Flustra. From Edinburgh Mr. DARWIN went to Christ's College, Cambridge, where he took his Bachelor's degree in 1831, proceeding to M.A. in 1837. The interval was of epoch-making importance. We believe that DARWIN, like MURCHISON, was a keen fox-hunter in his youth, and that it was in the field that his great habits of observation were first awakened. In the autumn of 1831, Captain FITZROY having offered to give up part of his own cabin to any naturalist who would accompany Her Majesty's ship *Beagle* in her surveying voyage round the world, Mr. DARWIN volunteered his services without salary, but on condition that he should have entire disposal of his collections, all of which he ultimately deposited in various public institutions. The *Beagle* sailed from England December 27, 1831, and returned October 28, 1836, having thus been absent nearly five years. In more ways than one these five years were the most eventful of Mr. DARWIN's life. Mr. DARWIN during the voyage did more for natural history in all its varied departments than any expedition has done since; much more when we consider the momentous results that followed. No one can read the simple, yet intensely interesting "Naturalist's Voyage Round the World," without tracing in it the germs of all that Mr. DARWIN has subsequently done in natural science. Full of incident it is, especially during the author's long sojourn in South America and in the vicinity of Magellan's Straits. Mr. DARWIN's phenomenal genius as a scientific observer is seen throughout—when watching the method of catching and taming the wild horses of the Pampas, as when investigating the structure of the coral reefs of the Pacific. The first edition was published early in 1845, and the second was dedicated to Sir CHARLES LYELL, who, with his usual acuteness, early perceived the remarkable originality of the young naturalist, and to whom the latter was indebted for much wise counsel and help, as is evident from the recently published *Life and Letters of the great geologist*. That was not the only immediate result of this great voyage; under the superintendence of Mr. DARWIN, and with abundant description and annotation by him, the *Zoology of the expedition* was published before the narrative, in 1840, with Professor OWEN, Mr. WATERHOUSE, the Rev. L. JENYNS, and Mr. BELL as contributing specialists. Not only so, but still also before the general narrative, Mr. DARWIN published his first original contribution to science in his "Structure and Distribution of Coral Reefs" (1842). Still further, we have as direct result of the voyage in a volume, published in 1844, on the "Volcanic Islands visited during the Voyage of the *Beagle*," and in 1846, "Geological Observations in South America." Both these works are even now referred to by geologists as classical, and as having suggested lines of research of the highest fertility. In the Transactions of the Geological Society, moreover, other memoirs suggested by the results of the voyage will be found, one as early as 1838. But even that is not the earliest important paper of the great observer. Just a year after his return, in November, 1837, he read to the Geological Society a paper, to be found in its Transactions, "On the Formation of Vegetable Mould." This paper gave the result of observations begun some time before, observations only completed in his latest published work, that on "Earthworms," reviewed in these columns only a few months ago. Experiments were arranged for, we then pointed out, which took 40 years to ripen. Such far-seeing deliberation can only be the attribute of the greatest minds, which can see the end from the beginning. Other results of the voyage in botany and entomology we could refer to were it needful.

But the greatest result of all was probably that on the mind of the naturalist himself. Passing over a generation, the spirit of his grandfather seems to have reappeared in CHARLES DARWIN with intensified power and precision. We need not here enter into the delicate distinctions which exist between the developmental theories of ERASMUS, which were prematurely sown in unfruitful and unprepared soil, and those of his greater grandson, which have revolutionised research and thought in every department of human activity.

Since he took up his residence at Down, Mr. DARWIN's life has been marked mainly by the successive publication of those works which have revolutionised modern thought. In 1859 was published what may be regarded as the most momentous of all his works, "The Origin of Species by means of Natural Selection." No one who had not reached manhood at the time can have any idea of the consternation caused by the publication of this work.

We need not repeat the anathemas that were hurled at the head of the simple-minded observer, and the prophecies of ruin to religion and morality if Mr. DARWIN's doctrines were accepted. No one, we are sure, would be more surprised than the author himself at the results which followed. But all this has long passed. The work, slowly at first, but with increasing rapidity, made its way to general acceptance, and its anathematisers have been bound to find a *modus vivendi* between their creeds and the theories propounded in the "Origin of Species."

All Mr. DARWIN's subsequent works were developments in different directions of the great principles applied in the "Origin of Species." Between 1844 and 1854 he published through the Ray and other societies various monographs, which even his greatest admirers admit do not do him the highest credit as a minute anatomist. His next great work, published in 1862, was that on the "Fertilization of Orchids;" this, with the work on "Cross and Self-Fertilization of Plants" (1876), and that on the "Forms of Flowers" (1878), and various papers in scientific publications on the agency of insects in fertilisation, opened up a new field which in his own hands and the hands of his numerous disciples have led to results of the greatest interest and the greatest influence on a knowledge of the ways of plants. Other works belonging to this category are those "On the Movements and Habits of Climbing Plants," "Insectivorous Plants," and "The Movements of Plants" (1831), all of which opened up perfectly fresh fields of investigation, and shed light on the most intimate workings of nature. Nine years after the publication of the "Origin of Species," appeared (1868), in two volumes, the great collection of instances and experiments bearing on the "Variation of Plants and Animals under Domestication." The chapters on Inheritance in this work were full of significance, and seemed a natural transition to the work which followed three years later (1871)—"The Descent of Man and Selection in relation to Sex." Even greater consternation was caused in many circles by the publication of this work than by "The Origin of Species." And the reason of this is obvious. Not only did it seem directly to assail the *amour propre* of humanity, but to imperil some of its most deeply cherished beliefs. With wonderful rapidity, however, did men of all shades of belief manage to reconcile themselves to the new and disturbing factor introduced into the sphere of scientific and philosophical speculation.

As a sort of side issue of the "Descent of Man," and as throwing light upon the doctrines developed therein, with much more of independent interest and suggestiveness, "The Expression of the Emotions in Men and Animals," was published in 1872. This is, perhaps, the most amusing of Mr. DARWIN's works, while at the same time it is one which evidently involved observation and research of the most minute and careful kind. It is one, moreover, which shows how continually and instinctively the author was on the watch for instances that were likely to have any bearing on the varied lines of his researches.

To attempt to reckon up the influence which Mr. DARWIN's multifarious work has had upon modern thought and modern life in all its phases seems as difficult a task as it would be to count the number and trace the extent of the sound-waves from a park of artillery. The impetus he has given to science, not only in his own, but in other departments, can only find a parallel in NEWTON. Through his influence the whole method of seeking after knowledge has been changed, and the increasing rapidity with which the results are every day developed becomes more and more bewildering. To what remote corners in religion, in legislation, in education, in every-day life, from Imperial Assemblies and venerable Universities to humble board schools and remote Scotch manse, the impetus initiated on board the *Beagle* and developed at the quiet and comfortable home at Beckenham, has reached, as those who are in the whirl and sweep of it are not in a position to say. Under the immediate influence of the sad loss we can only state a few obvious facts and make a few quite as obvious reflections; in time we may be able to realise how great a man now belongs to the past. That Mr. DARWIN's work was not done nor his capacity for work exhausted was well enough seen in his recently-published work on Worms; and with the help of his able and congenial sons, Mr. GEORGE and Mr. FRANCIS DARWIN, we might have hoped for one or two more of the familiar green-covered volumes.

All who knew anything of Mr. DARWIN know that, massive as he seemed, it was only by the greatest care and simplest habits that he was able to maintain a moderate amount of health and strength. Mr. DARWIN had been suffering for some time past from weakness of the heart, but had continued to do a slight amount of experimental work up to the last. He was taken ill on the night of Tuesday, when he had an attack of pain in the chest with faintness and nausea. The latter lasted with more or less intermission during Wednesday and culminated in his death, which took place at about 4 o'clock on Wednesday afternoon. He remained fully conscious to within a quarter of an hour of his death. His wife and several of his children were present at the closing scene. During his illness he had been attended by Dr. NORMAN MOORE, Dr. ANDREW CLARKE, Dr. MOXON, and Dr. ALFREY, of St. Mary Cray. Mr. DARWIN leaves besides his widow a family of five sons and two daughters.

OBSERVER.

WE may be asked, of course, what it is, after all, that DARWIN has done? He has not invented an electric light, or a vacuum break, or thrown a viaduct across a valley, or tunnelled

under a strait, or discovered some marvellous method by which to convert brewers' refuse into bread. He has done nothing for which he could have taken out a patent, or have started a joint-stock company with limited liability. But he has lived from the first in an air higher than that where money is made, and professorial chairs are given away. And living thus, purely, simply, and honestly, he has left his mark indelibly upon human thought; the history of human thought being, for each and for all of us, the history of the Universe. Peerages and decorations are conferred upon men who successfully conduct negotiations in the sugar trade, or wage war with the MARTINI-HENRY rifle against naked savages. DARWIN—we believe—enjoyed no such distinction. Certainly he never coveted it. He was never made a Commissioner of anything. His whole life was one continued worship of truth for its own sake. He was incapable of jealousy, ambition, or self-seeking, and—though he himself knew it not—the moral lesson of his life is perhaps even more valuable than is the grand discovery which he has stamped on the world's history.

SATURDAY REVIEW.

THE work of Mr. DARWIN consisted in making it probable to civilised man that the history of animated nature on our globe had been different from that which it had been previously supposed to be—that it had been a history of very slow and very gradual change, and not a history of abrupt transition. Exactly the same lesson was being taught by contemporaneous labourers in the fields of geology, anthropology, and even astronomy. That the order of the universe is the order of a supreme mind working silently and closely through ages, and not spasmodically through centuries, is now as much an accepted idea of civilised man as the theory of gravitation. To the general acceptance of this idea no one contributed so powerfully as Mr. DARWIN, although he contributed to it in a much less exclusive way than the way in which NEWTON contributed to the acceptance of the theory of gravitation. The idea of which Mr. DARWIN was the chief exponent has commended itself as probable to the generation he addressed, not merely because it gave it shape and consistency, but because it is an idea which forces itself on all who apply the modern method of investigation to the exploration of nature.

SPECTATOR.

THOUGH we cannot see in Mr. DARWIN a thinker nearly so great in the region of psychology as we do in the region of natural history, and though we regret the apparent deficiency in his mind on the side of the supernatural, we fully recognise the theistic character of his general view of the Universe. That Mr. DARWIN had no place in his theory of the universe for a special Providence, or for individual relations between man and God, we are aware; but that he regarded the creative force as originally material, and not intellectual, we wholly deny. It seems to us plainly written in all his great works that, for him, the origin of Nature is in mind, and not the origin of mind in Nature. Thus far, at least, the great man we have lost had no sympathy with those amongst his own followers who would have it that the logic of Darwinism leads us far beyond DARWIN, into a creative force that is as blind and ignorant itself, as it is fertile in mental surprises and wonderful geometrical or algebraic achievements. If PLATO held that GOD is the great Geometer, DARWIN certainly held that GOD is the great fountain of plastic art and biological method.

MEDICAL PRESS AND CIRCULAR.

WITH the exception of certain honorary distinctions—granted somewhat late, it must be said, by Universities—DARWIN received no recognition from sources whence marks of admiration of great powers and great deeds usually proceed. We cannot but regret that the greatest genius of our century was permitted to dwell in close retirement at the very doors of the State, without one single mark of national pride in his possession, while foreign countries not only accepted, and adopted, his teachings, but in many ways showed the honours which they would have delighted to shower upon him. Whether this was dictated by narrow, spiteful opposition to views which, because they were, to them, incomprehensible, were therefore unpalatable, or due to inability to perceive the important nature of the consequences of DARWIN'S work, detracts nothing from the conduct itself. It is well that the same little, ignoble feeling has not been permitted to influence the performance of the last act of tardy acknowledgment that is possible in this direction. There is but one appropriate resting-place for the greatest naturalist in the world—the founder of the modern school of biology, the most illustrious scientific *servant* of the century—and that place is amidst those who are by right regarded as the creators of our intellectual superiority—in the national fane of Westminster.

STANDARD, April 21.

THE deep sea dredger at one time believed that he had shot his arrow between the joints of the Darwinian harness; but, as the master himself demonstrated, Sir WYVILLE THOMSON, by not quite understanding the ideas which he had attacked, only confirmed instead of refuting them. The Geologist was to have put an end to Darwinism. But, as Mr. HUXLEY proved so conclusively in his lecture on the "Coming of Age of the Origin of Species," every fresh find of the Paleontologist only strengthens

more thoroughly the chain of evidence by supplying the long sought for missing links. Darwinism was, indeed, no hasty inspiration of a clever man. A score of failures led up to it. The labours of a lifetime devoted to research were the foundation on which it was built. The author of it first vaguely formulated his great thought while studying on board the *Beagle*; he matured it during thirty years of fact-collecting and reflection, and it added much to the confidence with which his startling inferences were received that another eminent observer, Mr. ALFRED RUSSELL WALLACE, struck upon identically the same ideas, though without any communication with Mr. DARWIN. This curious circumstance he was ever anxious to explain, and it affords a pleasing contrast to the unbrotherly kindness which too often prevails in the ranks of Science, to see the entire want of jealousy which animated the intercourse of these fellow-workers. Mr. DARWIN could well afford to spare a little of his supersounding reputation to Mr. WALLACE. Mr. WALLACE, on the other hand, was never weary of declaring that, without the co-operation of his greater colleague, he could never have gained or kept the ear of the world. He had tried his strength, and knew his weakness. Mr. DARWIN was, indeed, fortunate in his disciples. LYELL, HOOKER, HUXLEY, HÆCKEL, ASA GRAY, CARUS, DELPINS, and FRITZ MUELLER, are great names to cull at random out of the roll of his followers. His modesty, kindness, and consideration for every one, friends or foes, won him warm advocates, and disarmed bitter opponents; and, to-day, no man is more mourned throughout the world. His theory may die after having served its purpose, as a flag round which to fight. But his facts must live, and his teachings will for ever influence the thoughts of mankind.

DAILY TELEGRAPH, April 21.

CHARLES DARWIN died as he had lived, unrewarded for his splendid achievements by any of those distinctions which, flowing from the British Fountain of Honour, are justly regarded as symbols of national approbation and esteem. For many a year past this truly great man enjoyed the admiration and respect of his countrymen, whose pride in his talents and veneration of his virtues were unbounded. But the Crown—Britannia's High Steward, to whom she unreservedly entrusts the distribution of honorific rewards to the more deserving of her sons—left DARWIN'S surpassing merits utterly unacknowledged and unrecompensed. This inconceivable neglect affords matter for bitter reflection to every patriotic Englishman, and is a shameful reproach to us among nations. The wrong done to England and the illustrious departed alike is unfortunately irremediable. DARWIN is dead, untitled and undecorated, save by the hand of a foreign Sovereign, more generous in his recognition of English claims to universal gratitude than the counsellors of Royalty in these islands. The Prussian Order of Merit, conferred some years ago upon CHARLES DARWIN by WILLIAM of Hohenzollern, is one of the highest distinctions in that Monarch's gift. Its Civil Class consists but of thirty knights in all; yet upon three eminent Englishmen—LANDSEER, CARLYLE, and DARWIN, none of whom could boast the possession of a British order of chivalry—have its insignia been bestowed within the memory of middle-aged men. In each case the honour in question was a tribute to British deserts, willingly paid by a German King at the instance of those among his own subjects whom he had similarly distinguished. England should have set Prussia an example in this matter. Not only did she omit to do so, but remained wilfully deaf to so loud a reminder of her shortcomings. Had DARWIN been a German, Austrian, or Italian born, titles and distinctions would long since have been showered upon him. As, however, he was only one of the greatest Englishmen that ever lived, whose modest birth and peaceful pursuits excluded him from the category of hereditary or official candidates for Blue or Red Ribands, supreme authority deemed him all unworthy of such inestimable boons as a British titular predicate or badge of chivalry. By outwardly honouring CHARLES DARWIN England would have honoured herself. That she should have forborne her obvious obligations in this respect is at the present moment a source of national sorrow and shame.

MORNING POST, April 21.

CONSIDERING the strong words that have been used about the great treatise, it is strange to see how obvious and simple are most of the conclusions advanced in its pages. As Professor FISKE has pointed out in his profound "Cosmic Philosophy," the whole book resolves itself into certain simple propositions, most of which are demonstrated truths. We present these propositions in order: More organisms perish than survive. No two individuals are exactly alike. Individual peculiarities are transmissible. Those individuals whose peculiarities bring them into close adaptation with their surroundings survive and transmit them to their offspring. The survival of the fittest thus tends to maintain an equilibrium between organisms and their surroundings. The environment of every group of organisms is steadily changing. Every group of organisms must therefore change in average character under penalty of extinction. A change set up in one part of an organism necessitates changes in another part. These changes are complicated by the law that structures are nourished in proportion to their use, and the changes thus set up must alter the character of any group of organisms. These are propositions which a child can understand. After they are granted, DARWIN simply asks us to believe that since the appearance of life time enough has elapsed to produce all the variation of species

now seen. The volume closes with a beautiful and devout expression of belief in the divine wisdom that orders the life of the world. But, in spite of DARWIN'S simple faith, his views were twisted by unwise men. By some sad irony of fortune the most reverent of thinkers was injured by rash disciples who misunderstood him. The man who had done more than any other writer to show the marvellous design that runs through creation was represented as believing in mere anarchy. This error has long ago passed away, but it must have grieved DARWIN much while it lasted.

THE *Globe* says:—"To those who were not carried away by daring speculation and brilliant writing it was evident enough that the Darwinian doctrine was, at the utmost, but a plausible hypothesis, and Mr. DISEAEL'S blunt declaration that he was 'on the side of the angels,' rather than on that of the apes, was a perfectly fair rebuff to the pseudo-scientific dogmatists who so quietly assumed that the Bible, and even natural religion, must be treated as worn-out superstitions. Mr. DARWIN'S successive works, but 'The Descent of Man' above all, did no doubt contribute in a very appreciable degree to the extension of that shallow scepticism which is so prevalent among a certain class of half-educated minds. The variations of species were seized upon for their purpose by those who desired to get rid of an intelligent First Cause, just as the teachings of palæontology had been a few years earlier. For this, however, Mr. DARWIN could not be held wholly responsible. 'Darwinism,' particularly as it is understood in Germany, is much more than a legitimate development of his principles. Evolution doubtless explains some natural phenomena; to pretend that it gives a sufficient account of the universe is absurd."

The French papers pay homage to the dignity of Mr. DARWIN'S character, and his distinguished services to science. The *Liberté* says:—"The most implacable adversaries of the doctrine of descent are unanimous in paying homage to his exceptional qualities. His doctrine has had a calamitous influence upon our age, but Science can only feel grateful for the rich store of new ideas for which she is indebted to him." The *Temps* remarks that "DARWIN'S great claim to originality is his discovery of the natural laws proving LAMARK'S theory. The mass of facts collected, classified, and elucidated by this patient observer is truly marvellous." The *France* observes:—"DARWIN'S work has not been merely the exposition of a system, but, as it were, the production of an epic—the great poem of the genesis of the universe, one of the grandest that ever proceeded from a human brain—an epic magnificent in its proportions, logical in its deductions, and superb in its form. DARWIN deserves not only a place by the side of LEIBNITZ, BACON, or DESCARTES, but is worthy to rank with HOMER and VIRGIL." The *Télégraphe* remarks:—"The glory of DARWIN is inseparable from the literary history of the nineteenth century. This great savant has been a great poet."

The Austrian and German press is filled with glowing tributes to the memory of Mr. DARWIN. The *Allgemeine Zeitung* of Vienna says:—"We must apologise for touching on political matters on a day when humanity has suffered so great a loss. It seems to us that the world has become gloomier and grown grayer since this star ceased to shine. Our century is DARWIN'S century. We can now suffer no greater loss, as we do not possess a second DARWIN to lose." The *Neue Freie Presse* says:—"DARWIN'S death causes lamentations as far as truth has penetrated, and wherever civilisation has made any impression. DARWIN advanced the progress of mankind. Although his peculiar work was determining man's real position in nature, the life of DARWIN had far greater importance in point of culture than the life and work of many more exalted personages who were interred with pomp." The *Vienna Presse* says:—"DARWIN'S 'Origin of Species' caused a revolution second to none since the days of COPERNICUS—a revolution which soon extended far beyond the sphere of natural history, and is already making itself felt in our whole social system. Without knowing or intending it, we have become Darwinian in our politics, in our economy, and in our history, which have all resolved themselves into a struggle for existence. The Darwinian theory has absorbed all metaphysical and religious speculations." The *Cologne Gazette* calls him "a man of science who made a mark upon his times in a manner unparalleled by any of his contemporaries. He compelled every branch of science to acknowledge his revolutionising discoveries. The completion of his gigantic system will give abundant occupation to the remotest generations; but the memory of the founder of this prodigious scientific structure will remain imperishable to all time."

The American papers publish long eulogies of Mr. DARWIN, touched in the strain of the *New York Tribune*, which remarks that the announcement of Mr. DARWIN'S death will cause a shock to men of science all the world over, and calls him a giant among his fellows, and of the *Herald*, which says his life was that of SOCRATES, except its close.

Articles on this subject have also appeared in the *Daily News*, *Morning Advertiser*, *Daily Chronicle*, *St. James's Gazette*, *Pall Mall Gazette*, *Birmingham Daily Post*, *Birmingham Daily Mail*, *South Wales Daily News*, *Newcastle Chronicle*, *York Herald*, *Manchester Guardian*, *Liverpool Mercury*, *Glasgow News*, *Edinburgh Courant*, *North British Daily Mail*, *Dublin Mail*, *Freeman's Journal*, *Belfast Northern Whig*, and *Belfast Morning News* of April 21; *Morning Advertiser* and *Standard* of April 22; *Standard*,

St. James's Gazette, *Daily Telegraph*, and *York Herald* of April 24; *Times* and *Brighton Guardian* of April 26.

THE BUDGET.

Times, April 25.

THE revenue for 1881-82 was £85,822,000, and the expenditure, showing a reduction as compared with the estimates of £718,000, was £85,472,000. For the year 1882-83 the revenue is estimated at £84,935,000 and the expenditure at £84,630,000, leaving a "small and modest surplus" of £305,000. With this narrow margin for contingencies even Mr. GLADSTONE, crediting him with all the magic of finance in which his most devoted admirers believe, could plainly do nothing at all. A great part of his speech was occupied with the discussion of subjects which he was precluded from taking in hand by the slender proportions of the estimated surplus. Mr. GLADSTONE foreshadowed once more, vaguely and ominously, his policy for a revision of what he calls the "death duties," but this large and difficult task he relegated to a more prosperous time. He also explained, as he did last year, what excellent reasons there were for removing the duty on silver plate, and concluded that at present he could not give practical effect to his reasoning, because the difficulties connected with the drawback could not be faced without the support of a considerable surplus. Thus Mr. GLADSTONE led up directly to the conclusion that no taxes were to be either increased or remitted. But at the very end of his argument he recalled to the minds of his audience the pledge that he had given in the discussion on Colonel HARCOURT'S motion with respect to the highway rates. The Government could not consent to apply to the relief of local taxation any part of the "small and modest" surplus of £305,000, but they would undertake to find the necessary sum—about a quarter of a million—in another way. The resource discovered was scarcely worthy of Mr. GLADSTONE'S financial ingenuity, and it was assuredly unlooked for among those on whose behalf Colonel HARCOURT pleaded. It was an increase of the duty on carriages—from two guineas to three guineas on four-wheeled vehicles, and from fifteen shillings to one guinea on two-wheeled vehicles. The proposal is one which, if not in itself of great importance, would be difficult to defend on grounds of scientific finance. The assessed taxes, and especially the duty on carriages, are a remnant of the sumptuary laws, which it has been the policy of all modern financiers to remove. Why a tax on the use of carriages should be imposed by the State rather than one on pianos or pictures is a problem which Mr. GLADSTONE has not attempted to solve. If it be contended that carriages may fairly be taxed for their use of the high roads now that turnpikes have been generally abolished, it follows that not only the addition to the duty, but the whole of it, should be given in aid of the local ratepayers who groan under the burden of the highway rate. But Mr. GLADSTONE does not contemplate anything of the kind. Owners of landed property, on whom the burden of the rates falls, are the very persons who will chiefly contribute to their own "relief" in the shape of the increased carriage duty. In fact, they will have to pay as before, only in a different form. Meanwhile the heavy traffic on the high roads, emancipated from the necessity of paying turnpike tolls, will go absolutely free. The brewers, maltsters, and the like, whose immense wagons grind along the highways every day and all day long, causing more wear and tear than any number of taxed carriages, have profited largely by the abolition of the turnpikes, and will now continue to enjoy what is to be paid for by the extension of an obsolete sumptuary tax.

MORNING POST, April 25.

IN summing up the financial statement of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, it might not unfittingly be described as an exposition of disappointed hopes. The revenue returns have shown in many important particulars a falling off, whilst on the other hand expenditure has shown an alarming tendency to increase. Mr. GLADSTONE will not hear it suggested that the country is not commercially prosperous, but he confesses that its prosperity is not so striking as it was a few years since, namely, between 1873 and 1879, even although there has been since then a sensible increase in the population. Altogether, there has been, on the Chancellor's admission, a falling off of two millions and a half in the return from the malt and liquor taxes taken together. In one sense this result might be received with equanimity, if not with positive satisfaction, inasmuch as it indicates a diminished consumption of alcoholic liquors; but those who are acquainted with the direct connection between general prosperity and large contributions to the Exchequer through the consumption of taxed liquors will fail to discover in the figures now before them that consolation which the superficial inquirer might derive. Coffee taverns are on the increase, and Mr. GLADSTONE would have willingly found an explanation of the deficit in the consumption of coffee, but unfortunately the returns from this commodity also show a falling off, whilst on chicory, which is largely used in adulteration, there is only a nominal increase. From whatever point of view the figures in the revenue returns be looked at the inference is equally discouraging.

DAILY NEWS, April 25.

MR. GLADSTONE is in a new position. He has no longer to deal with a quickly-expanding national income on the one hand, or to show the result of large economies on the other

THE FUNERAL OF DARWIN.

LA SEMAINE FRANCAISE says that DARWIN committed only one fault—that of giving way to the current. He adhered only in 1871 to the fantastic doctrine of his German partisans, the *descent of man*. This adhesion is all the more to be regretted as it was drawn from him by HÄCKEL, the man who most contributed to discredit the evolution theory by the light-mindedness of his scientific conceptions and ridiculous rashness of his affirmations. Yet, whatever be the fate in store for DARWIN'S theory, this scholar will always reckon amongst the most illustrious. He will remain one of the greatest scientific glories. No man has exercised a more decisive and fruitful influence on the progress of science in the second half of this century.

La France, writing of the funeral, says:—England, in spite of her official pietism, knows how to honour the memory of the great physiologist. The burial in Westminster Abbey is remarkable when compared with the intolerance of the late Bishop of OXFORD, leaving the French Academy to avoid sitting there with M. LITTRE. The difference between Catholicism and Protestantism is shown here. There, on the banks of the Thames, a learned man could discuss the mysterious secrets of nature without being ostracised by the representatives of the national religion. Here, on the banks of the Seine, the Clerical party ostracised a scholar who was a glory to his country. Yet is the liberty of human conscience recognised at London? Certainly not. The exclusion of Mr. BRADLAUGH proves that the House of Commons demands legal hypocrisy.

La Science pour Tous remarks that many people who pronounced his name, and only knew his name, not his works, considered him as one of the founders of modern absolute materialism. DARWIN'S life has been that of an indefatigable worker and conscientious analyst, without any incident except his success.

The *National Zeitung* observes that the report that the Dean of WESTMINSTER had granted a place in Westminster Abbey for the remains of DARWIN has unpleasantly moved the orthodox circles. They would much more willingly have held an inquisition, as was the case after BYRON'S death; but Dr. GRANVILLE BRADLEY has shown himself a worthy follower of Dean STANLEY by honouring the profound thinker and great son of England, and giving him, in spite of all objections, a resting-place between HERSCHEL and NEWTON.