

Barqual, with the image and inscriptions of Amenophis Memnon—the great stones of the Nilometer of Senneh, with the emblem of Amenhemat Mæris, proving that four thousand years ago the mean height of the river exceeded that of to-day by twenty-two feet—four sepulchral chambers, dating in the fourth century—a colossal bust of Horus, belonging to the eighteenth—profiles of others of the Pharaohs—hundreds of bricks, bearing dates—and five hundred large historical papyri, like those in the British Museum. Besides these, Dr. Lepsius brings home full materials for the study of the Congara tongue of the Negroes of the interior—of the Nuba tongue, in two dialects, never written, several translations into which of Arab works, made by a Nubian, he possesses—of the Bega tongue, spoken betwixt the Nubian Nile, and the Red Sea; a branch of the great family of Caucaso-Asiatic languages, bound to the existing form of the Ethiopian idiom of Meroë. Dr. Lepsius brings, also, the ancient Ethiopian inscriptions found in the pyramids of Meroë, traced in an unknown alphabet,—some-what analogous, in parts, to the Greek characters.

From Stockholm, we learn that the Baron de Bergmann, Swedish *Chargé d'Affaires* at Florence, has discovered, in the Library of the Marchesa d'Azzolini, in the latter city, a great number of letters and other autographs of Queen Christina. It will be remembered that the Swedish ex-queen constituted the Cardinal Azzolini her universal legatee,—which accounts for the place of this discovery. The Baron is commissioned to obtain copies, for the archives of Sweden—Dr. Pinner, one of the Associate-Professors of the University of Berlin, and a distinguished writer on the literature of the Hebrews, has found, in Odessa, a manuscript on parchment of the Prophet Habakkuk, of the date of the ninth century. This curious manuscript, more than 1,000 years old, is also remarkable inasmuch as the vowel-points and accents are there figured in a manner entirely different from that used in any Hebrew book or MS. previously known. A description of the manuscript by Dr. Pinner, with a *fac-simile*, is about to be published at Odessa, at the cost of the Imperial Society of History and Archaeology of that town.

His Royal Highness, Prince Waldemar of Prussia, brings back from his Eastern tour, it is said, about four hundred large cases, containing objects of natural history, curiosities, and a valuable collection of manuscripts in the Asiatic tongues.

Mr. Halliwell is one of those unfortunate persons who will not be protected against themselves;—who, having got upon unstable ground, where the only chance for safety is to remain quiet, continue, in defiance of every warning, to flounder about until they are irretrievably lost. That gentleman has, now, taken to advertising his honesty in the *Times*—himself being the voucher. Mr. Halliwell's perfect right to do this, at the cost of his advertisement, we have no inclination to dispute; but we demur to his recommending his own character, after the fashion of quacks in general, by depreciating that of his neighbour. We warned our readers, last week, to be on the look-out for a new subterfuge on the part of Mr. Halliwell; but were scarcely, ourselves, prepared for an evasion so complete as that which he has now executed. He has taken up ground altogether new; not even communicating with any one of his lost positions—though ludicrously affecting to cover them all. Unable to answer anything which we have said, he tries the effect of answering what we have not said. Avoiding every single one of the matters which have been charged against him, he, with an air of great pretension, mounts two wholly new guns—and both sham ones. The fire from the first of these asserts that we have denied his being the Editor of the publication which bears the title of 'Letters of the Kings of England.' Nowhere, from beginning to end of the discussion, has any such thing been asserted; but, on the contrary, every article of ours on the subject has been headed with his name in connexion with the work. It would be well for him if he had, now, the power of persuading any one that he was not the Editor of the book in question:—our charges have no force, as against him, but on the supposition of his being so. Mr. Halliwell really reminds us of the foolish bird that hides its head beneath its wing, and thinks no one sees it. Can he, in truth, be so very childish as to suppose that he escapes specific

charges, plainly made and publicly supported, by an idle feint like this?—Mr. Halliwell's second gun misses fire altogether. He is, he says, convinced, "from the disregard shown by the *Athenæum* to fairness or gentlemanly criticism, and from the garbled manner in which that journal prints his replies, that it will not allow him to do himself justice in its columns." The charge of "garbling" has been answered, and requires no further notice;—the questions of fairness and gentlemanly criticism are not of the kind which the *Athenæum* will argue with such men as Mr. Halliwell. But the Editor ventures to suggest to him, that he could not have had to go so far for his inference as he advertises. The process of ratiocination, by which he assumes to have reached the conviction that we would not further lend him our columns, must have been quite unnecessary to one who had before him our direct declaration, of last week, to that effect. Mr. Halliwell may be quite sure that he gained his conviction, easily, from the paragraph in question;—though his mode of putting the matter is an amusing and characteristic example of that gentleman's apparent incapacity for seeing straight or walking directly. Why must Mr. Halliwell go, always, in search of a fallacy, when the truth is at his elbow? He has not been fortunate in the game of words, if he could be persuaded to think so—and would find it better hereafter to try the effect of cultivating facts.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS, TRAFALGAR SQUARE.
The EXHIBITION of the ROYAL ACADEMY is NOW OPEN.
—Admission, (from Eight o'clock till Seven) 1s.; Catalogue, 1s.
HENRY HOWARD, R.A., Sec.

BRITISH INSTITUTION, PALL MALL.
The Gallery, with a SELECTION of PORTRAITS of EMINENT PERSONS, is NOW OPEN from Ten till Six.—Admission, 1s.; Catalogue, 1s.
WILLIAM BARNARD, Keeper.

THE NEW SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.
The TWELFTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION is NOW OPEN, at their GALLERY, FIFTY-THREE, PALL MALL.—Admission, 1s.; Catalogue, 6d.
JAMES FAHEY, Sec.

MIDSUMMER HOLIDAYS.
DIORAMA, REGENT'S PARK.—REDUCED PRICE of ADMITTANCE.—Now OPEN, with a highly interesting exhibition, representing the CASTLE and TOWN of HEIDELBERG (formerly the residence of the Electors Palatine of the Rhine) under the various aspects of Winter and Summer, Mid-day and Evening; and the exterior view of the CATHEDRAL of NOTRE DAME at Paris, as seen at Sunset and by Moonlight, and which has been so universally admired. Both pictures are painted by the late Chevalier Renoux. Open from 10 till 6. Admittance to view both Pictures—Saloon, 1s.; Stalls, 2s. as heretofore.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—A New and interesting LECTURE, by Dr. RYAN on the PHENOMENA and EFFECTS of HEAT and COLD, at Half-past 3 daily, and on the Evenings of Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 9 o'clock. Prof. BACHHOFFNER'S LECTURES on NATURAL PHILOSOPHY, with brilliant experiments, daily. MACINTOSH'S REVOLVING ENGINE, COLEMAN'S PATENT LOCOMOTIVE ENGINE for ascending and descending Inclined Planes. FARRELL'S ARCHIMEDEAN RAILWAY, the ATMOSPHERIC RAILWAY, all in action. Portraits of distinguished Men in the GOVERNMENT and ARMY of LAHORE, magnified by the OPAQUE MICROSCOPE. The OXY-HYDROGEN MICROSCOPE, exhibiting a fine collection of Living Objects. A beautiful Picture of the CHAPEL in the CONVENT of ST. CATHERINE, JERUSALEM, by Mr. Charles Smith, is one of the Series of DIS-SOLVING VIEWS just introduced.—Admission, 1s.; Schools, Half-price.

SOCIETIES
GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.—June 22.—G. B. Greenough, Esq., in the chair.—A memoir was read by Capt. J. P. Saunders, of his proceedings in the Hon. East India Company's surveying brig 'Palinurus,' during her late examination of the coast between Ras Merbant and Ras Seger, and between Ras Fertak and the ruins of Mesinab.

A paper was read relating to the currents of the ocean, as shown by a bottle thrown overboard from the Erebus, by Sir J. C. Ross. At 8 P.M., on the 4th April 1842, in 53° 59' S. and 60° 47' W., Sir James threw into the sea five bottles, as was his frequent practice during the voyages. These bottles were made to float at different depths, by being loaded with different weights of dry sand. The deepest would, of course, be more influenced by the current than by the prevailing winds; the lightest, on the contrary, would be carried forward more by the wind than the currents; those floating at intermediate depths would serve to show more nearly the joint effects of both. The vicinity of Cape Horn was considered by the captain an eligible position for one of these experiments. These details were given by Sir J. Ross to Sir R. I. Murchison; who having seen, in the *Scotsman* newspaper, the account of a bottle picked up at Cape Liptrap, at the southern extremity of Australia, in September 1845, wrote to Sir J. Ross

on the subject. The bottle picked up at Cape Liptrap contained a paper which identified it as one of those so thrown overboard; and, from its having no sand in it, was doubtless the lightest. It must, says the captain, have been hurried forward on its course to the eastward by the strong westerly winds which blow in that parallel of latitude—with much greater force than, and with almost equal constancy as, do the trade winds of the equatorial regions in the opposite direction. The bottle, in its course, will have travelled nearly along the track of the ship in 1840. It must have taken the longer route, and travelled over a distance of 9,000 miles, even if it made no detours. "Supposing," says the *Scotsman*, "that the detours did not exceed 1,000 miles, and that the bottle had newly reached the strand at Port Phillip when discovered—as the time spent in the voyage was 3½ years, or 1,270 days, it follows that the current had moved at the rate of about seven miles per day."

Mr. Duncan, who has just returned from his explorations in Western Africa, gave a *viuâ voce* statement of some interesting details respecting the manners and customs of the king and people of Dahomey, and the productions of the country,—of which some were on the table. The Shoa butter attracted much interest, and the mode of preparing it from the nut was explained by Mr. Duncan.

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—June 3 and 17.—Leonard Horner, Esq. President, in the chair.—A paper, begun at the first of these meetings, 'On the Silurian and Associated Rocks in Dalecarlia; and on the succession from Lower to Upper Silurian in Smoland, Öland and Gothland, and in Scania,' by Sir R. I. Murchison, was concluded at the second.—It completes the series of communications which the author has made to the Geological Society of London concerning Norway and Sweden; and is the result of a survey made by M. de Verneuil and himself, during the last summer. After an introductory explanation, it was shown that the lowest sedimentary deposits containing organic remains in Dalecarlia, belong exclusively to the same Lower Silurian group which has been described in various parts of Scandinavia and Russia. In Dalecarlia, however, these strata have been so dismembered by the intrusion of igneous rocks, that a regular sequence of all the subdivisions is nowhere visible. The igneous rocks consist of varieties of granite and porphyry, the latter ranging to the west of the Silurian strata, and occupying an extensive tract (Elf Dal, &c.) between the lake of Siljan on the east, and that of Wenjan on the west; where they are succeeded by wide tracts of that old red sandstone, whose peculiarly broken surface has been described (in a previous memoir) as having been one of the great sources of angular erratic blocks. A sketch was then given of the geological position of the magnetic iron ores at Bisberg and Dannemora; which, notwithstanding their apparent stratification, are considered to be true metallic veins that have been formed in the slaty azoic tracts to the north of Upsala. A detailed account was next entered into of the ascending order in which the Silurian strata are exhibited to the geologist who proceeds from the mainland of Sweden, in the province of Smoland, to the islands of Öland and Gothland. The lowest sandstone is seen, in Smoland, to rest on crystalline azoic rocks; and also crops out on the north-western shore of Öland, where it is overlaid to the E.S.E.—first by alum schists, and next by the well known orthoceratite limestone or marble of that tract, in which occur all the typical Lower Silurian fossils of these northern countries. Among them are certain orthidæ (notably the *Orthis calligramma*), which characterize the Lower Silurian rocks of Britain. The Island of Gothland (upwards of 80 miles in length) is exclusively Upper Silurian; and the lowest strata are nodular shales, which are surmounted by coralline and encrinure limestone,—both of which are charged with numerous shells, corals and crinoids, identical with those found in the Wenlock shale and limestone of England. Every geologist (from Hisinger downwards) who has visited Gothland, has considered all its limestones to be of one age; but, in passing from N.N.W. to S.S.E., Sir R. Murchison and M. de Verneuil convinced themselves, that this long island presents a succession from lower to higher beds. Seeing that,