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A

DICTIONARY

OF

CONTEMPORARY BIOGRAPHY:

A Handbook of the Peerage

OF

RANK, WORTH, AND INTELLECT.

CONTAINING

MEMOIRS OF NEARLY ONE THOUSAND EMINENT

LIVING INDIVIDUALS.

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MDCCLXI.

He separated the civil and ecclesiastical functions of the Prince, as Vladika, handing over the latter to one of his relatives, with the title of Archimandrite. He then undertook the construction of a great public road from his capital to Cattaro, and the preparation of a penal code, the chief object of which was to put an end to the vendetta in Montenegro. The war with the Sultan which followed put an end to these attempts at reform. It continued down to 1855, when it was terminated by the intervention of the Allied Powers. In 1855 Prince Danilo married the daughter of a banker of Trieste. With his wife he visited Vienna and Paris in 1857, in order to induce these powers to support his claims of exemption from the suzeraineté of the Porte, but without success. A conspiracy, supported by the old Russian party, compelled him to return. He has since, it is understood, made great preparations to join in any attempt to oppose the pretensions of the Turkish Government should they materially affect his independence.

DARGAN, WILLIAM, a capitalist and contractor, the projector of the Dublin Exhibition, was born in 1799, in the county of Carlow. The son of an extensive farmer, he received a good education. He was afterwards sent to a surveyor's office, whence he went as an engineer into the employment of Telford. Subsequently he became an engineer, or rather contractor, on his own account. His first work of importance he obtained in 1832, when he pulled down a market-house, cut open a street, and built a bridge, at Banbridge, in Ireland. He then became contractor for the first railway laid in Ireland, the Dublin and Kingstown, and since that time he has been connected with almost every public work in the sister country. He was the main stay of the Dublin Exhibition in 1853, his advances being over £60,000.

The Queen visited him at his country seat, near Dublin, at the opening of the Exhibition; and he refused the honour of a baronetcy which it was proposed to confer upon him.

DARWIN, CHARLES, M.A. Cantab., F.R.S., an eminent naturalist and author. When a very young man he accompanied Captain Fitzroy in his voyage round the world, in H. M. S. "Beagle," during the years 1831—1836. His journal first appeared in 1839, as part of the general narrative of the voyage, and was subsequently re-published in a modified form under the title of "Journal of Researches into the Geology and Natural History of the various Countries visited by H. M. S. 'Beagle.'" In 1842, his work "On the Structure and Distribution of Coral Reefs" appeared, which was followed by his "Geological Observations on South America." Since this period he has contributed many papers to the Geological Transactions, and to other scientific periodicals. His chief contribution to Zoology is the "Monograph on the Family Cirripeda," in two large volumes, in which he points out many curious and interesting particulars in relation to the history and economy of the barnacles and sea-acorns, and furnishes a minute description of every known species of the family. He has recently (November, 1859) published a work entitled, "The Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection; or, The Preservation of Favoured Races in the Struggle for Life." This volume, as stated in the introduction, gives only in a condensed form the result of more than twenty years' study, and will hereafter be followed by a more detailed treatise on the same subject. Mr. Darwin's writings exhibit close observation and untiring industry in collecting and arranging facts. Mr. Darwin, although he has adopted conclusions contested by other naturalists, has always been very cautious in arriving at results without

sufficient data. He is a clear and elegant writer; and his works, independently of their scientific value, are written in a style well calculated to render them highly attractive.

D'AUBIGNÉ, J. H. MERLE, D.D., a Swiss Church historian and theologian, was born at Geneva, 1794, and is the second son of Aimé Robert Merle d'Aubigné, a merchant in that city. He received his education in Geneva, and then proceeded to Berlin, to complete his theological studies. Here he formed a friendship with Neander. A visit to Wartburg Castle, where Luther was confined, and where D'Aubigné was present at the tercenary jubilee of the Reformation, stimulated him to write his "History of the Reformation of the Sixteenth Century." For some years pastor of the French Church at Hamburg, in 1823 he was appointed by the King of the Netherlands, minister of the Protestant Church at Brussels. In 1831 he returned to Geneva, where he was appointed Professor of Church History to the new Theological School founded by the "Evangelical Society." This chair he still retains, together with the Presidency. As a preacher, professor, and author, Dr. Merle D'Aubigné has achieved a wide-spread reputation throughout the Protestant world, but chiefly in England and Scotland. He has frequently visited this country, meeting with a warm welcome from the zealous members of the evangelical party in the various churches. In 1856 he received the freedom of the city of Edinburgh. Besides his great work, he is the author of "The Protector a Vindication" (1847), and "Germany, England, and Scotland: Recollections of a Swiss Minister" (1848).

DAVID, FELICIEN, a French musical composer, was born at Cadenet, in the department of Vaucluse, on the 8th of March, 1810. Left an orphan when a child, he early devoted himself to music,

which he studied under the Chapel Master at Aix. Before he was twenty years of age, he was prevailed upon to proceed to Paris, to complete his musical education; but his relations forsook him, and his resources were limited. The St. Simonians, about the same time, sprang up; he joined them, and passed through various phases of fortune. In 1844, he produced his first great work, "The Desert," consisting of about 2000 pages of music, and written in a year! He has composed much, but his works are not generally known, or if known, not understood and appreciated at their full value. The following list contains his chief productions:—"Four Symphonies for a Grand Orchestra;" "The Desert," a symphony; "Moses on Sinai," an oratorio; "Christopher Columbus," a symphony; "Eden," an oratorio; "The Gate of the Desert," an opera in three acts; "Herculaneum," an opera in four acts; "The Captive," an opera in two acts; "Two Sonetti;" "Symphonies for Nine Musical Instruments;" "The Four Seasons," for twenty-four stringed instruments; "Two Trios, for the Piano, the Violin and Violoncello;" "Twelve Melodies for the Piano and Violoncello;" "The Brises d'Orient," for the piano; "Eight Symphonies," studies for the piano; "The Ruche" consists of thirty songs for the human voice, sixty romances and melodies, &c. A peculiarity of the compositions of David is the attempt to suggest by music, operations of nature, which are obvious only to the eye.

DAVIS, SIR JOHN FRANCIS, BART., K.C.B., was born in London, in 1795. He is the eldest son of S. Davis, Esq., formerly member of the Board of Revenue in India, and a Director of the East India Company. Mr. Davis was attached to Lord Amherst's embassy to Peking in 1816, and was joint Commissioner with the late Lord Napier in China in 1834. On his return to England, two