My Heroine-A True Story. BY THE AUTHOR OF "JOHN HALIPAX, GENTLEMAN."? I knew a little maid-as sweet As any seven years' old child you'll meet In mansion grand or village street, However charming they may be; She'll never know of this in verse When I her simple tale rehearse-A cottage girl, made baby-nurse Unto another baby.

Till then how constant she at school ! Her tiny hands of work how full ! And never careless, never dull, As little scholars may be.

6

Her absence questioned, with cheek red And gentle lifting of the head, "Ma'am, I could not be spared," she said: "I had to mind my baby.

Her baby, oft along the lane She'd carry it with such sweet pain On summer holidays—full fain To let both work and play be.

But, at the school hour told to start. She'd turn with sad, divided heart "Twixt scholar's wish and mother's part, "I cannot leave my baby !"

One day at school came rumors dire-'Lizzie has fallen in the fire !" And off in haste I went to inquire,

With anxious fear o'erflowing:

For yester afternoon at prayer

My little Lizzie's face did wear

The look-how comes it, whence or where ?-Of children who are-going.

And almost as if bound for flight To say new prayers in augel's sight,

Poor Lizzie lay-so wan, so white, So sadly idle seeming Her active hands now helpless bound,

Her wild eyes wandering vaguely round, As up she started at each sound, Or slept, and moaned in dreaming.

Her mother gave the pitcous tale; How that child's courage did not fail, Or else poor baby"-She stopped, pale, And shed tears without number; Then told how at the fireside warm,

Lizzie, with baby on her arm, Slipped-threw him from her-safe from harm, Then fell-Here in her slumber.

Lizzie shrieked, "Take him !" and uptossed Her poor burnt hands, and seemed half lost. Until a suile her features crossed As sweet as angels' may be. "Yes, ma'am"-she said in feeble tone, "I'm ill, I know"-she hushed a moan-"But"-here her look a queen might own-"But, ma'am, I saved my baby !"

### -Our Young Folks.

### NOBLE CRIMINALS.

#### The Shirley Family's Contributions to Judicial Literature.

The Shirley ramily, in the possession of the carldom of Ferrers, and vast estates in Lencen-tershire and Stenordsuire, have made consider-

able contributions to judicial literature. The trial of Lawrence Shirley, the fourth earl, for the murder of his steward, Johnson, is one of the ugliest cases in the ugly literature of of the upflest cases in the ugly iterature of murder. My own impression is that Lord Fer-rers was mad; but though the plea of insanity is often so successful, yet if a nobleman commits a murder, he is a very unlikely kind of criminal to derive any benefit from it. He appears, like so many other criminals, to have worked himself habitually into fits of passion is which he was hardly some Persion oftener in which he was hardly same. Passion, oftener than anything else, causes murder, and in many more cases it causes death through some sudden access of disease. In this case Lord Ferrers deciared that he bore poor Johnson no malice, and did not know what he was doing, He left large legacies, never paid, to the children of his victim, and also made compensation to other persons whom he had injured in fits of to other persons whom he had injured in fits of passion. The king refused to commute his sentence, but he had the poor satisfaction of going to Tyburn in his own landau, and being hung by a silken rope. His widow became Duchess of Argyle. He was the great-great uncle of the present lord, and it has been stated that a gibbet has been erected in Chartley Wood for the purpose of hanging him in effigy. A much more pleasing reminiscence of the family of Ferrers is preserved in Mr. T. B. "Walks Round Loughborough, Potter's Sir Bernard Burke, of which we give a resume:-"The seventh Earl Ferrers inherited some of that eccentricity of his family which in the case of one of his line had led to such sad re-sults. Disliking the splendid seat of Staunton Harold, probably from the painful associations connected with it, he crected mansions on other portions of his large estates. Rakedale Hall was one of these, Ratcliff Hall was another. He had quarrelled with his only son, the amiable and accomplished Lord Tamworth, and the latter had died without any reconciliation having taken place. One morning a woman of plebeian appearance came to the hall, and at irst requested, and then, being refused, de-manded an audience of his lordship. She was at last ushered into the study, and she led by the hand a little girl of three years old, for whose support, as the grandchild of the Earl, she support, so the grandchild of the Earl, she supplicantly pleaded for some assistance. She looked down on the child, and, relaxing and releating, said, 'Ay, you have Tamworth's eyes.' This likeness to Lord Tamworth, the little one's innocent prattle, and perhaps some compuac-tious feelings for his late coldness to his son, made a strong impression on the Earl's heart. He took the child on his knee; his stern heart was softened, and from that moment he formed the resolution of adopting her. During his lifetime she never left him, but became the solace of his declining years. He bestowed great pains on her education, and by his will ap-pointed Mr. Charles God'rey Mundy, of Burton Hall, her sole guardian, with an allowance of three thousand pounds a year for her mainte-nance during minority, and bequeathed her the beautiful manors of Rakednie, Ratellif, etc., with a large amount of personal property. "Miss Shirley, as she was always called, was removed to Burton Hall; for she had been entirely separated from her mother, who had married an humble innkeeper of Lyston, receiving a small annuity, on condition that she should not have any intercourse with her daughter. "One day the mother was brought in by one of the domestics as a visitor; the young ladies young ladies pursued their drawing, none of them being at all conscious of any relationship between themselves and the rustic stranger. A ficture or two had been described, but the woman's eye could not be diverted; she only saw her daugh ter, and in her overpowering emotion threw herself on her daughter's neck. The scene need not be described further.

The artist and his wife were the Dake and Duchess de Sforza. In the summer of 1861, an antiquary, rambling in North Leicester-bire, was induced to visit this seeluded hamlet, a few miles east of Melton Mowbray. He had been attracted to this spot by the same of the old Hall as a remarkably fine specimen of Jacobean architecture. He was descending the hill that overhangs the village, when groups of well-dressed rustics met his eye. The word 'Welcome,' too, affixed in flowers on an arch that spanned dressed rustics met his eye. The word Welcome,' too, affixed in flowers on an arch that spanned the entrance to the Hall, gave sign of rejoicing.' 'What holiday are you celebrating?' said my antiguarian friend to the civil rustic who opened the gate. 'It's flie visit of the Duchess.' was the roply: 'and there she comes,'said he, pointing to a carriage descending the hill. 'A loud shoat proceeded from the rustics, and the two bells of the little chapel adjoining the Hall at once began to jingle the best peal the dual could produce. The carriage entered the Hall gates, and a lady of middle sige was handed out by a soldier tike young man who accompanied her. With onre peads the farmers and laborers made their best bows to the Duchees and her son."

The last judicial appearance made by any of the Shirley family was that famous breach of promise of marriage case brought by Miss Mary Elizabeth Smith against Washington, Earl Fer-Elizabeth Smith against Washington, Earl Fer-rers. There was a great deal of mystery about this case; and although the plaintiff's case en-tirely broke down, and the Solicitor-General (Sir Fitzroy Kelly) elected to be nonsuited, yet many facts were left unexplained. The plaintiff after wards published a pamphlei on the subject, which, in the eyes of her friends, would make considerable excuses for her conduct. On the very night before the trial came on she was pressed by the Solicitor-General and her other counsel in the strongest way, and she was told that if she had any sort of reservation or decep-tion on her mind it would certainly be detected. that if she had any sort of reservation or decep-tion on her mind it would certainly be detected, and she would at once lose her cause; and she was told that the abandonment of proceedings would be infinitely less painful than the conse-quent degradation. Still she persevered, and her friends supported her with their full cre-dence. There is no doubt that she and Lord Ferrers had known each other when boy and girl in the same village. After they had been separated for years, Lord Ferrers received an anonymous letter, advising him to go to a ball at Tamworth:----There will, to my knowledge, be a young lady at the ball whom I wish you to see and dance with. She is very beautiful, has dark hair and cyes--in short, she is haughty and graceful as a Spaniard, tall and majestic as a Circassian, beautiful as an Italian; I can say no Circassian, beautiful as an Italian; I can say no more.

Four letters in this strain were produced in court. Sir Frederick Thesiger, in the course of one of his most adroit and successful crossexaminations, showed through the young lady's mother that these letters must have been written by her daughter, the plaintiff. On this written by her daughter, the plantiff. On this point it was that her case broke slown. It was also suggested by Sir Frederick that the love-letters purporting to be Lord Ferrers', but which by no possibility could be his, were forged by the plaintif. In her pamphlet Miss Smith acknowledged that these four silly romantic letters were written by her, with a view of bringing about a renewal of old acquaintance, but she altogether denies that her con-fession of this fact involves the rejection of her case. It is a fact worth mentioning, that her leading counsel, the Solicitor-General, was absent almost entirely during the progress of the cause. Miss Smith deciares that if the individual whom she repeatedly met-and there was some confirmatory evidence of this statement-was contribution of the statement was not Lord Ferrers, there was some one who was like him, and who assumed his name. It is, of course, possible that some personation of this kind might have been effected. It was made clearer than sunlight that Lord Ferrers had run the chance of being made the victim of a conspiracy. Possibly see may have been made the done of some designing person accounted with dupe of some designing person acquainted with the previous circumstances and her romantic disposition. For hugs, also, at an age when the judgment is unripe, and the temperament less governed, she may have been influenced by passion and ambition, and that abnormal cun-ning which under such circumstances is often developed in the young. Let us hope that in either case the errors of youth were atoned for by a useful and well-balanced life. At any rate, this remarkable trial forms a curious chapter in family history, and the vicissitudes of the cause give us some singular illustrations of Luck .--London Society.

# INTERESTING MANUSCRIPTS.

have sett my hand, and both of us do hereby testific as above that it is a true copie. "January 28, 1623 (1624). "EDWARD WATERHOUSE, Secret.

"EDWARD COLLINGWOOD, Secret." The second volume contains three hundred

The second volume contains three hundred and eighty-seven pages, and is concluded with the following note:--"Memorand. That Mr. Edward Collingwood, secretary of the company for Virginia, and Thomas Collett, of the Middle Temple, gentle-Thomas Collett, of the Middle Temple, gentle-men, have perused, compared and examined this present book, beginning att page 1, att a Preparative Court held for Virginia the 20th of May, 1622, and ending at this present page 387 at a Preparative Court held the 7th of June, 1624. And we doe finde that this copple doth perfectibe agree with the originall books of the Court belonging to the company in all things, save that in page 371, the graunt of 800 acres to Mr. Maurice Berkley is not entered, and save that in page 550, we wanted the Lord's letter to Mr. Deputy Ferrar, so that we could not comthat in page 350, we wanted the Lord's letter to Mr. Deputy Ferrar, so that we could not com-pare itt, in which respect J. Edward Colling-wood, have not sett my hand to those three pages, but to all the rest I have sett my hand severally to each in confirmation, that they agree truly with the originalls. And in witness and confirmation that this booke is a true coppy of the Virginia Courts, we have hereander of the Virginia Courts, wee have hereunder jointly sett our hands the 19th day of June, 1624. "THOMAS COLLETT. "EBWARD COLLINGWOOD." Judgment accinet the Virginia

"Enward Collingwood," Judgment against the Virginia Company had been pronounced only three days before the last note was written by that Lord Chief Justice Ley called by John Milton the "old man eloquent," in a sonnet to the Judge's daughter, "honour'd Margaret." The Earl of Strafford, writing on June 17th to a kinsman, rejoiced in the downtail of the great democratic corporation, the "nursery of a se-ditious Parliament." His words were as follows:--

follows:-

"Yesterday Virginia patent was overthrown at the King's Bench, so an end of that planta-tion's savings. Methinks I imagine the Quater-nity before this have had a meeting of comfort and consolation, stirring up each other to bear it courageously, and Sir Edwin Sandys in the

midst of them, saily sighing forth, Oh! the burden of Virginia." By order of the King the original records were delivered to the privy council, and were either destroyed or lost during the trouble of the Cromwellian creater burged and the trouble of the Cromwellian cra, or burned up in the great fire of London, which consumed so many important documents, and therefore these exact tran-ecripts, now nearly two bundred and fitty years old, are doubly valuable. E D. N.

### THE "ALMANACH DE GOTHA."

From the Pall Mall Gazette.

There are few among the signs of the new year of which we welcome the appearance on our library table with more of calm satisfaction than our old friend, at once polite and instructive, the Almanach de Gotha. There is in its pages a combination of gentility with useful knowledge such as we meet with in the converse of a well-informed foreign nobleman of irreproachable pedigree. If the Peerage is justly denominated the British snob's Bible, the Almanach de Gotha may pass as the manual of devotion for the continental variety of the same species. It has before us now, in its clean and sober covering, saluting the year 1869 with its accustomed "Avis aux amateurs et protecteurs de l'Almanach de Gotha;" printed with the utnost economy of space, yet swollen, as its editors inform us, from less than 300 pages in 1816 to nearly 1100 by constantly increasing press of matter. Its frontispiece greets us with the lovely "sympathetic" face of Maries Grande Duchesse de Russie, the same who inte-ing then that the light of those genue eyes was to beam in gracious sovereignty on millions of ugly Muscovites, Calmucks, and Finns. The subdivisions follow in regular order, almanac, genealogical tables, and "Annuaire Diploma-tique;" but it is an ominous sign of the times that this last section has by degrees usurped on the rest until it forms by far the larger part of the contents, showing how statistics, and com-mercial returns, and details of the public ser-vice, have encroached in the popular mind on

The list of Counts with the title "Erlaucht" (lilustrious) follows that of Princes; and then (liustrious) follows that of Princes; and then follows the really valuable portion of our courtly almanac, the "Annuaire Diploma-tique," comprising not only an abridged court calendar of every State, with the names of all its principal officers, but also a mass of statisti-cal information respecting them. It is a singular testimony to the cosmopolite tendencies of the age that our almanac for this year com-prehends not only all the Americas republics, small and great, and the black common wealths of Hayti and Liberia, but also the empires of Persia, China, and Japan, with the last accounts of the pending controversies between the Micado and the Talcoun, and the hundred and ninety-six "prince-vassals" with their incomes of SZ13,000,000, and their military forces, and the national imports and exports, computed the national imports and exports, computed with a wonderful assumption of accuracy. Omniscience is, perhaps, the foible of the Almanach de Gotha, as it was said to be of the great Cambridge luminary, Dr. Whewell. But It is fair to add that its compilers have at all events habitually shown singular industry in complling their names and figures from the very intest authorities, wherever trustworthy authorities can really be found.

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LORILLARD'S STEAMSHIP LINE and both Companies are pushing forward the with great energy, employing over 30,000 men can be no doubt that the whole

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Sailing Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays at noon. The winter rates at which freight is not. taken is 20 cents per 100 pounds, gross, 8 cents per foot, or 2 cents per gailon, ship's option. The Line is now prepared to contract for spring rates lower than by any other route, commencing on March 15, 1840, Advance charges cashed at office on Pier, Freight acceived at all times on covored whart,

JOHN F. OHL, Flor 19 North Wharves. 8 25 6m N. B. Extra rates on small packages iron, metals, etc.

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NEW EXPRESS LINE TO ALEX. andria, Georgetown, and Washington D. C., via Chesapeake and Delaware Canal, with con-nections at Alexandria from the most direct routs for Lynchtourg, Bristol, Knorville, Nashville, Dalten and the Southwest. Biteamers leavoregularly every Saturday at noos from the first wharf score Market street. Freight received dally. No. 14 North and South Wharves, J. B. DAVIDSON, Agent at Georgetown. M. ELDRIDGE & Co., Agents at Alexandria, Vir-ginia.

ings for the last five months have been They would have been greater if the road been taxed to its utmost capacity to transpor material for construction. The income fi great passenger travel, the China freights, and the supplies for the new Rocky Mountain States and Territories, must be ample for all interest and other liabilities. No political action can reduce the rate of It must remain for thirty years ntorost. cent. per annum in gold, now equal to between eight and nine per cent. in currency. The principal is then payable in gold. If a bond with such guarantees were issued by the Government, its market price would not be less than from 20 to 25 per cent. premium. As these bondstare issued under Government authority and supervision, upon what is very largely a Government work, they must ultimately approach Gov-

FINANCIAL.	: INANCIAL.			
UNION PACIFIC	Union Pacific Railroad.			
RAILROAD COMPANY	WE ARE NOW SELLING			
OFFER A LIMITED AMOUNT OF THEIR	The First Mortgage Gold In-			
First Mortgage Bonds	terest Bonds			
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	PAR AND INTEREST,			
Nine Hundred and Sixty Miles	At which rate the holder of GOVERN. MENT SECURITIES can make a profit- able exchange. COUPONS due January 1 CASHED, or bought at full rates for Gold.			
Of the line West from Omaha are now completed, and the work is going on through the Winter. As the dis- tance between the finished portion of the Union and Central Pacific Railroads is now less than 400 miles, and both Companies are pushing forward the work with great energy, employing over 30,000 men, there can be no doubt that the whole				
Grand Line to the Pacific	WM. PAINTER & CO.,			
Will be Open for Business in the Summar of 1869.				
The regular Government Commissioners have pro- nounced the Union Pacific Railroad to be FIRST CLASS in every respect, and the Special Commission appointed by the President says: "Taken as a whole, THE UNION PACIFIC RAIL- ROAD HAS BEEN WELL CONSTRUCTED, AND THE GENERAL ROUTE FOR THE LINE EX- CEEDINGLY WELL SELECTED. The energy and perseverance with which the work has been urged forward and the replicity with which it has been executed are without parallel in history, and in gran- dear and magnitude of undertaking it has never been equalled." The report concludes by saying that "the country has reason to con- gratulate itself that this great work of national im- portance is so rapidly approaching completion under such faverable suspices." The Company now have in use 137 locomotives and nearly 2000 cars of all descrip- tions. A large additional equipment is ordered to be ready in the Spring. The grading is nearly completed, and the justificated for 120 miles in advance of the western end of the track. Fully 120 miles of iron for new track are now delivered west of the Missouri River, and so miles more are <i>ca</i> route. The total ex- penditures for construction purposes in advance of the completed portion of the road is not less than eight million doilars. Besides a donation from the Government of 12,500 scree of land per mile, the Company is envirted to mile autoridy in U. S. Bonds on lis line as completed and accepted, at the average rate of about 22,000 per mile.	BANKERS AND DEALERS IN GOVERN- MENT SECURITIES, No. 36 South THIRD Street, PHILADELPHIA. COUPONS OF UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD, CENTRAL PACIFIC RAILROAD, 5-20s and 1881s DUE JANUARY 1, AND GOLD, WANTED.			
according to the difficulties encountered, for which the Government takes a second lien as security. The Company has already received \$24,075,000 of this subsidy, being in full on the 349 miles that have been examined by the United States Commissioners. Government Aid-Security of the Bonds.	DEHAVEN&BRO.			
By its charter, the Company is permitted to issue	Bastow in Conservation Street			
Its own FIRST MORTGAGE BONDS to the same smount as the Government Bonds, and no more. These Bonds are a First Mortgage upon the whole road and all its equipments. Such a mortgage upon what, for a long time, will be the only railroad con- necting the Atlantic and Pacific States, takes the highest rank as a safe security. The earnings from the way or local business for the year ending June 30, 1868, on an average of 472 miles, were over FOUR MILLION DOLLARS, which, after paying all ex- penses, were much more than sufficient to cover al interest liability upon that distance, and the earn ings for the last five months have been \$2,386,870. They would have been greater if the road had not been taxed to its utmost capacity to transport its own material for construction. The income from the	No. 40 SOUTH THIRD STREET, <sup>625</sup> PHILADELPHIN. <b>STERLING &amp; WILDMAN,</b> BANKERS AND BROKERS, No. 110 South THIRD Street, AGENTS FOR SALE OF First Mortgage Bonds of Rockford, oci-			

payable in GOLD August and February, for sale 97% and accrued interest in currency. Also

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First Mortgage Bonds of the Danville Hazleton, and Wilkesbarre Railroad. Interest SEVEN PER CENT., CLEAR OF ALL TAXES, payable April and October, for sale at 50 Pamphlets with maps, reports, and full information of these roads always on hand for distribution. DEALERS in Government Bonds, Gold, Silver

"There was a stipulation in the will of the late Barl, that Miss Snirley should spend three months of every year upon the Continent. During a sojourn in Italy she was introduced to the young Duke de Siorza, to whom she was afforwards milted. afterwards united.

"The little girl whom I first introduced to the reader in the character of an humble suppliant at the door of Rakedale is now the Duchess de Sforza, whe of one of the most distinguished men in Europe, and owner of Rakedale Hall itself, and the fine estates that surround it. The Duke and Duchess reside on the Duke's anceshome in Romagna. They rarely visit England.

Three or four years ago, a stranger and his wife were observed sketching, for several days in succession, the remarkable ancient manorhouse of the Shirleys, called Bakedale Old Hall. "Even the children of the village learned to

love the strangers for their gentle manners, and still more, perhaps, for the presents that were bestowed upon them; and there was a universal gloom in the village, when 'the artist and his wife announced that they would not return again.' The morning after their departure a letter was received by the principal farmer, conveying grateful thanks to the inhabitants for their kind and hospitable attentions, and enclosing a check for a handsome sum for dis-tribution among the cottagers and their tribution among the cottagers and their children.' The letter destroyed the incognito.

A correspondent writes to the New York Ere ning Post as follows: -

In one of the old mansions of rural Chelsea. which tradition says was the home of sir Thomas More, the warm friend of Erasmus, and author of the political romance of Utopia, there dwelt in 1624 Sir John Danvers, a prominent member of the Virginia Company, who had married the gentle and comely widow Herbert, already the mother of ten children, of whom were George, the holy poet, and Edward, the philosophical Deist.

Soon afterwards King James began to scheme Soon afterwards King James began to scheme for the dissolution of the Virginia Company, which was odious, because its prominent mem-bers believed in freedom of debate, and in the submission of a minority to the will of a ma-jority expressed through the ballot box. One jority expressed through the ballot box. One of its secretaries, Edward Colling wood, hurried from London, and told Danvers that three mer-chants of that city had visited him and endeavored to obtain papers and information which might be used against the corporation, and as the King might send officers to seize the records, he suggested that exact copies be immediately obtained.

mediately obtained. A man of loose life, but a fair and ready writer, a clerk of Ceilingwood, was secured by Danvers to aid in this work, and was locked up in the chamber where he wrote, so that he might not be tempted to divulge the secret.

After the transactions were copied on folio paper, to prevent interpolation, each page carefully compared with the originals by Colling, wood an I then sub-cribed "Com. Colling wood," Danvers took them to the president of the company, who was Shakespeare's friend, Henry Wriotnesly, Earl of Southampton. The Earl was highly gratified in the possession of a was highly pratiated in the possession of a duplicate copy of the company's transactions, and expressed it by throwing his arms around the neck of Sir John, and then turning to his brother, said :- "Let them be kept at my house at Litchfield; they are the evidences of my honor, and 1 value them more than the evilences of my lands."

During the same year Southampton died; and Thomas, his son, was heir and successor to the title, and became Lord High Treasurer of England and lived until 1667. Shortly after his death William Byrd of Virginia, the father of Hon, William Byrd of Westover, purchased the manuscript records from the executors of the earl for sixty guineas.

Rev. William Sn(h, who became President of the William and Mary College, while living at Varina, on James river, the old settlement of Sir Thomas Date, better known since the civil war as Dutch Gep, obtained these records from the Byrd library in Westover; and most of the material of his History of Virginia, completed in 1746, was drawn therefrom.

Suffa's brother-in-law, Peyton Randolph, became the first President of the Continental Congress, and while visiting a friend at his scat near Philadelphia, in October, 1775, suddenly lied. When his library was sold it was purdied. chased by Thomas Jefferson, and among books were the manuscript records of London Company, that had been used by Stith in the preparation of his history of Virginia.

The United States having purchased the books of President Jefferson, these manuscripts are now preserved in the library of Congress. They are bound in two volumes, and coutain the company's transactions from April 28, 1619, until June 7, 1624. The first volume contains 354 pages, and concludes with this statement: --

"Memoranda that wee, Edward Waterhouse and Edward Collingwood, secretaries for the companies for Virginia and the Sumer Islands, have examined and compared the Booke going before, embracing one hundred seventy-seven leaves from Page 1 to Page 354, with the original Booke of Courts itself. And doe finde this Booke to be a true and perfect copie of the said originall Courte Booke, saving that there is wanting in the copie, of Court on the 20th May, 1620, and the beginning of the Quarter Court held 22d; but as farre as is here entered this copie doth truly sgree with the original itself. "And to every page I, Edward Collingwood, the province of royal and aristocratic life.

It is amusing to observe the dexterity with which the compilers of this universal invorte have adapted it from time to time to the changing exigencies of its readers. It professes to have attained its hundred and sixth year. But the earliest volume which we happen to have seen is that for 1788: just before the landmarks of the old world began to be obliterated by the revolutionary deluge. Its moderate bulk was then swelled by sentimental anecdotes, travellers' stories, facts in natural history, and the like; the pages of its diary are diversified with neat little steel engravings, in the manner of Chodowicski, representing scenes in the popular novel "Caroline von Litchfeld." Eighty pages contain the account of about three hundred 'pricely families;" that is, sovereign or quasisovereign, for the Holy Roman Empire as yet subsisted in all its grotesquer variety, and its high feudatories, counts and barons, bishops, abbots, and two or three abbesses, figure by the side of emperors and kings. The statistical part is compiled according to the best available knowledge of the time. Europe had then about 160,000,000 of inhabitants; our almanac for 1860 gives it 200,000,000. In military force Prussia ranked already pext to Russia and Austria, having the extraordinary relative number of 200,000 soldiers with only 6,000,000 of people. A table of the population of the principal European cities in 1788 shows that almost all of them, in the busy and com-mercial parts, have doubled and trebled in numbers since that time; a few in the South have remained nearly stationary; two only-Amsterdam and Venice-whose glory is in the past, have actually diminished. The almanac for 1869 enumerates the names

and pedigrees of thirty-eight European sovereigns only, the list becoming almost every year 'beautifully less," and containing even now one, that of the Queen of Epain, which is re tained rather in a courtly spirit than in that of hard reality. Short as it is, the entalogue still comprehends a variety extending from the gigantic to the inunitely small, from the Czar of Russia, with his fifty councillors of state and army of fifty divisions, down to Lichtenstein, and Reuss-Schleiz and Reuss-Greiz, and Monaco, with his nides-de-camp and one "dame du palais." The monarchs of this generation do not seem to be a very long lived race. Only nine are above sixty years old; only five have

The princely "no "non-sovereign" families-in early volumes ranked with sovereign-now form a class apart. The dignity of prince, entitling its owner to the privilege of a red hat and a paragraph in the Aimanach de Gotha, is now ather an anomalous compound of times past and present. The Prince-Furst, "foremost"-was once, as we have seen, a sovereign in his own dominions, saving only his feudal allegiance to the paramount power, the empire. But after the empire had been quietly dissolved, sixty years ago, the right to confer the princely title was usurped, with the consent the German Confederation, by sovereigns who themselves had previously been feudatories only. The list, therefore, as it at present stands, exhibits a very miscellaneous assemblage, from Italian and German families which once commanded States and armies, and whose origin is the night of early time-Croy, Rohad, Furstenberg, Colonna, Orsini-down to the latest products of the revolutionary wars-Marat, Blucher, Ruffo. It comprises some French, Dutch, Hungarian, and Polish families also. But those aristocracies which never had connection with Germany-those of the northern countries, Spain, England and the grand old nobility of Ventce-furnish no contigent to the well-born regiment of the Almanach de Gotha. Some forty princely families are classed apart as ci-devant sovereign, those of princes "mediatized" after the fail of the German empire, to which the title of Serene Highness-Durchlaught, more properly "transparency"-was graciously vouchanied by the authority of the German Diet in 1825.

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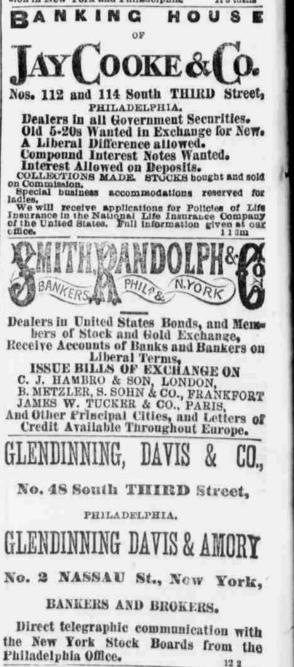
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