"THE GALAXY."

The Galaxy gives two illustrations this month, one English, and very good, illustrative of Charles Reade's novel, "Put Yourself in His Place," and one American, and very bad, by Winslow Homer, illustrating Mrs. Edwards' novel of "Susan Fielding."

We take the following from Mr. Justin McCarthy's paper entitled "The Real Napo-

Within the past twelve months, the genuine character of Louis Napoleon has displayed itself, strikingly, nakedly in his policy. He has tried, in succession, mild liberalism, severe despotism, in succession, find thereafs, severe despotism, reactionary conservatism, antique Cæsarism, and then, in an apologetic, contrite sort of way, a liberalism of a rather pronounced character. Every time that he tried any new policy he was Every time that he tried any new policy he was secretly intriguing with some other, and making ready for the possible necessity of having to abandon the former and take up with the latter. He was like the lady in "Le Diable Boiteux," who, while openly coquetting with the young lover, slily gives her hand behind her back to the old admirer. So far as the public could judge, Louis Napoleon has, for many months back, been absolutely without any settled policy whatever. He has been waiting for a wind. Such a course is probably the safest a man in his position can take; but one who, at a man in his position can take; but one who, at a great crisis, cannot originate and initiate a policy, will not be remembered among the grand rulers of the world. I do not remember any greater evidence given in our time of absolute incapacity to seize a plan of action and decide npon it, than was shown by the Emperor of the French during the crisis of June and July. So feeble, so vague, halting, vacillating was the whole course of the Government, that many who detest Louis Napoleon, but make it an article of faith that he is a sort of all-sec-ing, omnipotent spirit of darkness, were forced to adopt a theory that the riots in Paris and the provinces were deliberately got up by the police agents of the empire, for the purpose of frightening the bourgeois class out of any possible hankering after democracy. No doubt this idea was widely spread and eagerly accepted in Paris; and there were many circumstances which seemed to justify it. But I do not believe in any such Imperial stageplay. I fancy the riots surprised the Government, first, by their sudden outburst, and next, by their sudden collapse. Probably the Imperial authorities were very glad when the disturbances began. They gave an excuse for harsh conduct, and they seemed, for the time, to put the Government in the right. They restored Louis Napoleon at that moment, in the eyes of timid people, to that position, as a supreme maintainer of order, which for some years he had not had an opportunity effectively to occupy. But the obvious want of stamina in the disturbing force soon took away from the Imperial authorities this opportune prestige, and very little political capital was secured for Imperialism out of the abortive barricades, and incoherent brickbats, and effusive chantings of the "Marseillaise." In truth, no one had anything else to offer just then in place of the Empire. The little crisis was no test whatever of the Emperor's hold over his people, or of his power to deal with a popular revolution. To me it seems doubtful whether the elections brought out for certain any fact with which the world might not already have been well acquainted, except the bare fact that Orleanism has hardly any more of vitality in it than Legitimacy. Rochefort, and not Prevost Paradol, is the typical figure of the situation.

The popularity and the success of Rochefort and his paper are remarkable phenomena, but only remarkable in the old-fashioned manner of the straws which show how the wind blows. Rochefort's success is due to the fact that he had the good fortune to begin ridiculing the empire just at the time when a general notion was spreading over France that the empire of late had been making itself ridiculous. Louis Napo-leon had reaching the turning-point of his career —had reached and passed it. The country saw now all that he could do. The bag of tricks was

played out. The anticlimax was reached at last.

The culmen, the crisis, the turning-point of Louis Napoleon's career seems to me to have been attained when, just before the outbreak of the Schleswig-Holstein war—so small a war in itself, so fateful and gigantic in its results-he appealed to the Emperors and Kings of Europe, and proposed that the nations should hold a conference to settle, once and forever, all pending disputes. I think the attitude of Louis Napoleon at that moment was dignified, commanding, imperial. His peculiar style, forcible, weighty measured—I have heard it well described as a "monumental" style—came out with great effect in the language of appeal. There was dignity and grace, there was what Edmund Burke so appropriately terms "a proud hu-mility," in Louis Napoleon's allusion to his own personal experience in the school of exile and adversity as an excuse for his presuming to offer advice to the sovereigns of Europe. One was reminded of Henry of Navarre's allusion to the wind of adversity which, blowing so long upon his face, had prematurely blanched his hair. do not wonder that the proposed Congress never met. I do not wonder that European Governments put it aside-some with courteous phrase and feigned willingness to accept the scheme like Russia and Austria; some with cold and brusque rejection, like England. Nothing worth trying for could have come of the Con-Events were brooding of which France and England knew nothing, and which could not have been exorcised away by any resolu-tions of a conclave of diplomatists. But that was, I think, the last occasion when Louis Napoleon held any-thing like a commanding, overruling position in European affairs, and even then it was but a semblance. After that came only humiliations and reverses. In a diplomatic sense, nothing could be more complete than the checkmate which the Emperor of the French drew upon himself by the sheer blundering of his conduct with regard to Prussia. He succeeded in placing himself before the world in the distinct atti-tude of an enemy to Prussia; and no sooner had he, by assuming this attitude, forced Prussia to take a defiant tone, than he suddenly sank down into quietude. He had bullied to no purpose; he had to undergo the humiliation of secing Prussia rise in public estimation, by means of the triumph which his unnecessary and un-called-for hostility had enabled her to win. In called-for hostility had enabled her to win. In fact, he was outgeneralled by his pupil Bismark, even more signally than he had previously been outgeneralled by his former pupil, Cavour. More disastrons and ghastly, by far, was the failure of his Mexican policy. That policy began in falsehood and treachery, and ended as it deserved. Poetic and dramatic justice was fearfully rendered. Never did Philip II, of Spain, never did his father, never did Napoleon I, never did Mendez Pinto, or any other celebrated liar, exceed the deliberate monstrosity of the falsehoods which were told by Louis Napoleon or Louis Napoleon's Ministers by Louis Napoleon or Louis Napoleon's Ministers at his order, to conceal, during the earlier stages of the Mexican intervention, the fact that the French Emperor had a protege in the back-ground, who was to be seated on a Mexican throne. The world is not much affected by perfidy in sovereigns. It laughs at the perjuries of princes as Jove does at those of lovers. But it could not overlook the appalling significance of Louis Napoleon's defeat in that disastrous chapter of his history. Wisdom after the event is easy work; but many, many voices had told Louis Napoleon beforehand what would come of his Mexican policy Not to speak of the hints and advice he received from the United States, he was again and again assured by the late Marshal O'Donnell, then Prime Minister of Spain; by General Prim, who commanded the allied forces during the earlier part of the Mexican expedition; by Prince Napoleon, by many others—that neither the character of the Mexican people were the previous of the the Mexican people nor the proximity of the United States would allow a French proconsu-late to be established in Mexico under the name

of an Empire. It is a certain fact that Louis Napoleon frequently declared that the founda-tion of that Empire would be the great event of La reigh. This extraordinary delucion manner.

tained a hold over his mind long after it had be-come apparent to all the world that the wretched bubble was actually bursting. The catastrophe was very near when Louis Napoleon, in converwas very near when Louis Napoleon, in conver-sation with an English political adventurer, who then was a member of Parliament, assured him that, however the situation might then look dark, history would yet have to record that he, Louis Napoleon, had established a Mexican Empire. The English member of Parliament, although ordinarily a very shrewd and skeptical sort of person, was actually so impressed with the earnestness of his Imperial interlocutor that he returned to London and wrote a pamphlet, in he returned to London and wrote a pamphlet, in which, to the utter amazement of his acquaintances, he backed the Empire of Mexico for a secure existence, and said to it esto perpetua. The pamphlet was hardly in circulation when the collapse came. If Louis Napoleon ever believed to anything, he believed in the Mexican Empire. He believed, too, in the certain success of the Southern Confederation. No Belgravian Dundreary, no exaltee Georgian girl, could have been more completely taken by surprise when the collapse of that enterprise came than was the Emperor Napoleon III, whose boundless foresight and profound sagacity we had all for years been applauding to the echo, "That which is called plauding to the echo. "That which is called foresight and sagacity in a King," said Erskine, is called obstinacy in a donkey." That which is called foresight and sagacity in an Emperor, is often what we call blindness and blundering in a newspaper correspondent. The question is whether we can point to any great event, any political enterprise, subsequent to his successful assumption of the Imperial crown, in regard to which Napoleon III, if called upon to act or to judge, did not show the same aptitude for rash judgments and unwise actions? Certainly no great thing with which be has had to do came out in thing with which he has had to do came out in the result with anything like the shape he meant it to have. The Italian Confederation, with the Pope at the head of it; the Germany irrevocably divided by the line of the Main; the Mexican empire; the "rectification" of frontler on the Rhine; the acquisition of Luxembourg; these are some of the great Napoleonic ideas, by the success or failure of which we may fairly judge of the wisdom of their author. At home he has simply had a new form of government every year. How many different ways of dealing with the press, how many different schemes for adjusting the powers of the several branches of legislation, have been magnificated by the several branches of legislation. have been magniloquently announced and floated during the last few years, each in turn to fail rather more dismally than its predecessor? Now, it seems, we are to have at last something like that ministerial responsibility which the Imperial lips themselves have so often described as utterly opposed to the genius of France. Assuredly it shows great mental flexibility to be able thus quickly to change one's policy in obedience to a warning change one's policy in obedience to a warning from without. It is a far better quality than the persistent treachery of a Charles I, or the stupid doggedness of a George III. But unless it be a characteristic of great statesmanship to be almost always out in one's calculations, wrong in one's predictions, and mistaken in one's men, the Emperor has for years been in the habit of doing things which are directly incompatible

The Galaxy Miscellany gives the following interesting account of the Countess Guic-

with the character of a great statesman.

At this time, when one of our most eloquent writers is advocating the cause of Lady Byron, and bespeaks the sympathy of all in her behalf, a few facts relating to the Countess Guiccioli may not be uninteresting to the public.

Teresa Gamba was the daughter of a nobleman of ancient family but moderate means, in Rayenna, a city of the Roman States; she was one of ten children. Placed in a convent, of which her aunt was Abbess, until the age of nine, she was then removed to the establishment of Santa Chiara at Faenza, kept by a lady of scientific acquirements and conducted on the most liberal principles as regarded study—so much so that after a few years it was suppressed. Italian literature in particular was studied profoundly. It is probable that the early blas given to her mind for her native literature was the cause of her inducing Lord Byron to write "The Prophecy of Dante," the dedication of which is

"Lady! if for the cold and cloudy clime Where I was born, but where I would not die, Of the great poet-sire of Italy dare to build the imitative rhyme. Harsh Runic copy of the South's sublime

Thou art the cause; and, howspever I Fall short of his immortal harmony, Thy gentle heart will pardon me the crime. Thou, in the pride of be suty and of youth, Spakest; and for thee to speak and be obey'd Are one; but only in the sunny South Such sounds are utter'd, and such charms display'd, o sweet a language from so fair a mouth— Ali! to what effort would it not persuade?

Teresa remained at Faenza until the age of fifteen; her cousin, the young Marquis Cavalli, seeing her then for the first time, declared that he would have no other wife: his father, fearing that the young man would not be denied, sent him off to travel, and threw the whole weight of his influence in favor of a suitor who had just presented himself as a candidate for the hand of the young, portionless Teresa, a Venetian nobleman of fine presence, great wealth, and cour-teous address, the Count Guiceloli. Although a widower of fifty-five, he was still sufficiently attractive to win many a fair one. Disreputable stories had been whispered about him, it is true; his first wife, a great heiress, but no beauty, had been neglected, and by this neglect had been led to seek elsewhere for the affection which she did not find at home; she was banished to a far-off castle and her place filled by a woman with whom he lived in open adultery until the decease of his Countess, when he married her: she was now dead, and hoping to have an heir, his choice fell upon the young Teresa.

Taken from her boarding school, she was told that Count Guiccioll was to be her husband. Upon remarking that he seemed too old for her, her mother told her that there was more chance for happiness with a man of that age than a younger one, and if she were to marry again herself, she would select him. The young girl thought that if her mother would act likewise, all must be right; and she was led to the altar, an indifferent if not an unwilling bride. The newly-married couple went immediately to Venice, and the next night after her arrival they spent an evening at the Countess Benzoni's. The bride, just emerged from girlhood, was far too timid to look around at the assembled company, and as some of the party adjourned to look at a statue by Canova. gentleman who stood near the youthful countess offered his arm to conduct her into the next room. Who it was she did not know, nor did she once raise her eyes to look at him Jpon her return home, her husband asked her

what she thought of the young English lord, who was, moreover, the great poet of the day. "I did not see him," was her naive answer. How little felt those two, as they unconsciously stepped from one room to another, arm in arm that evening, that both had then met their des Eight moeths after they met again, and again it was in poetical, dreamy Venice. Count Guiccioli was a man who desired the constant excitement of society, and his young wife was obliged perforce to accompany him, although she had but little taste for large assemblages. It was an evening when at a friend's, the Countess Abrizzi's; there was to be a social reunion after the opera; the girlish countess had begged hard to be excused from attending; she even shed tears at being obliged to yield. Did some mysterious power whisper in her ear that that night she would become acquainted with one who would influence her entire existence? that from that night, in every clime, by every people who would be entranced by the witchery of that poet's pen, her name would be mingled inseparably with his memory, and that her image would live in that saddened heart, till it throbbed its last in that Greece for which he so nobly gave

As she entered the room, her eye fell upon a gentleman who sat apart, conveying with an English friend (Scott), and she has lold me that she felt an electric thrill as she looked upon him, for the stranger seem to her as a being of another sphere. "Never," I have heard her exclaim, "did I see a beauty so perfect as Lord Byron's: I thought then that perhaps it was my

want of acquaintance with the world that made me think him so charming, but I have since seen men of every rank and clime, I have compared all, and I have never seen his equal!"

But to return to our salon at the Countess Abrizzi's. There were but few present, and the hostess begged Lord Byron to allow her to present him to the fair young countess. He play-fully but repeatedly refused; but at length the nrgency of the lady, joined to the entreatles of his friend Scott, prevailed. When Count Guic-cioli came to lead his wife to her carriage, Byron was still at her side, and Teresa Guiccioli was awakening to all the intoxicating and delicious

scusations of first leve.

She must at this time have been eminently beautiful; rather below than above middle height, fully but exquisitely formed, a com-plexion of dazzling whiteness, features of faultless regularity, hair of that golden that Titian so loved to paint floating in luxuriant masses about her dimpled shoulders, and a childlike smile displaying teeth of the greatest beauty and regularity; add to this the gayest and most amiable of tempers, joined to a highly cultivated mind, and who can wonder that Byron, driven from his own hearth-stone, and forbidden the sight of his dearly-cherished child, should have become enthralled, and that the young countess, unlearned in the ways of the world, the acquaintance of the young Englishman encouraged to the utmost by her husband, should have learned to look with eager interest for the presence of him who, when he chose, could exercise a personal fascination few could resist? Time passed on, and Count Guiccioli returned to Ravenna, where he had large possessions. Of course, his young countess accompanied him, but not the same gay, lightaccompanied him, but not the same gay, lighthearted being as before. The passionate love
that is so easily nurtured under an Italian sky
filled every fibre of her being, and without the
society of Byron, to which she had been daily
accustomed in Venice, she drooped and fell iil.
Byron, whose unhappy experience in all matters
pertaining to love made him fearful of entirely
yielding to the influence of this passion, at last
resolved to let his heart alone be master, and
started for Ravenna; the fair countess revived,
and many happy hours were spent by them, for
the Count courted his society, and public the Count courted his society, and public opinion in Italy was very lenient to that kind of liaison. But Teresa's soul was too undivided in her love for Byron to allow even a semblance of wearing another yoke, and she prevailed upon her relations to intercede with Pope Pius VII, and obtained a separation from her husband, which was the nearest approach to a divorce the Church permitted. From that hour, until his departure for Greece on his heroic but ill-fated expedition, his love never wavered. After his death, a locket containing a long, glossy curl, with their united initials, attached to a heavy hair chain, also woven from her lovely tresses, was found round his neck, and concealed next to his person.
Of Byron's faithful love for the Countess

Guiccioli few would doubt, could they read, as I have done, every line he ever wrote to her, even the most triding note, from the time he first met her in Venice until the last words penned at Missolonghi, a few days before his death. It seems as if he had at length found a haven of rest after his buffeting with the world. Her great desire to learn English was always com-Her great desire to learn English was always combated by him, for love in that tongue brought too many bitter recollections: he wrote Italian with all the beauty and fire of Petrarch and

Moore came to spend a last evening before his return to England. Byron went to his room, and being absent some little time, the Countess went to see what kept him; she met him on the landing with a bag full of papers, and with a radiant face he said to her:-

"Here is what will justify me before the world! Moore will take them to England with him, and when I die, I shall be known as I really

The bag contained his autobiography, which Moore allowed, in so cowardly a manner, to be destroyed. The Countess never ceased regretting that she had not understood English at that time, that she might, at least to a degree, have replaced them by memory.

The news of his death gave her a shock from which she did not recover for years; she refused to accept the ten thousand pounds left to her by Byron in his will, and mourned long and deeply for him. After a while she visited England, where she was made much of by the literary circles of Lady Blessington and Lady Morgan, then the pleasantest in London. She finally settled quietly in Paris, and in 1840 Count Guic-cioil died, leaving her an income of thirty thousand francs a year.

In 1847 she married the Marquis de Boissy, a widower, a peer of France under Louis Philippe and a Senator under the Empire, although be longing to one of the old Legitimist familie and his only daughter married to the Prince de Leon, heir to the dukedom of Roban. He was very wealthy, but very eccentric; they, however, lived together harmonlously until his death in

As a woman, the Marquise de Boissy is still charming and lovable, and one of the most quetly-crudite women in Europe. Time has touched her with a gentle hand, and one easily recognizes how exquisite must her beauty have been at seventeen, when she first saw Byron. During the revolution of 1848 her salon was the only one that could be could a "salon" in those troublous times. Intimate with the Bonapartes from their youth, connected with "the Faubourg" through her husband, all shades of politics were represented around her hearthstone: there were seen Prince Louis Napoleon, then candidate for the Presidency, Lamertine, Montalembert, Emile de Girardin, the Papal Nuncio, and others of opin-ions equally diverse. The dinners were famous in gastronomic annals, and most of the European notabilities have partaken of them. The Mar-quis' Auglophobia was well known, but it never interfered with his hospitality. Lord Malmes-bury, Richard Cobden, and other eminent Engishmen have been guests in the hotel of the Cite

de Londres.
One of their evening reunions was a sight to be rememberd—one saw Europe typified at a glance. I have seen in that salon "the Faubourg" represented by the Prince and Princesse de Leon, the Princesse de Craon and her daughter. Mademoiselle de Beauvan, the Marquis du Hallay-Coetquen and his two daughters, the Duchesse de la Tremouille and her daughters, the Princesses di Torramuzza and de Mouleal, the Cardinal Archbishop of Paris, and the Papal Legate. The Empire by the Marquis and Mar-quise d'Hautpool, M. and Mme. Troplong, the Baronne Pons de Wagner, lectrice to the Em-press, Marshal Canrobert, various members of the Bonaparte family, and, en somme, all the court circle. England lent her quota, too. The Countess of Harrington and her daughter, the Lady [Geraldine Stanhope, Lady Somerset, Lord and Lady Gray of Gray, Lord and Lady Gort and daughters, the Queen's chaptain, Rev. John Barton and lady, and many others, titled and untitled; in fact, it was one of the best foreign houses to meet nice English people, best foreign houses to meet nice English people. Of Italians, there were present Ubaldino Peruzzi, the statesman, and his very clever wife, the savant Mattencei, the hostess' stepdaughter, the Marquise Guiccioli, belonging to one of the princely Roman families, with the Marquis, her husband; Spain lent her presence in the persons of the young and beautiful Duchess of Medina-Cell and the Duke; Poland, the Prince and Princess Ladislas Czartoriski; and Russia, and Princess Ladislas Czartoriski; and Russia, her Ambassador, Connt Kisseleff; Art, as pursued by the fair sex most successfully by the Princess Colonna, the sculptress, and that clever amateur painter, the Russian Baronne de Meyendorf. Journalists and poets were always present in great force. In fact, it would take too long to enumerate the bright particular stars who throng her rooms on one of her recep tion nights, among whom some of our fair countrywomen are not the least admired.

Well known to all is the fair hostess' fidelity to the lover of her youth. Every one who admires Byron is especially welcomed by her; those who decry him, coldly received. No word of blame is ever allowed to be spoken in her presence; every memento of him is carefully preserved—a sketch of his yacht Boliver, the copy of "Corinne" in which he wrote the letter familiar to all readers of Moore's "Life of Byron," carefully covered with yelvet, and her two

large pertfolios with his manuscripts of various kinds (among which are five cautos of "Don Juan," one of "Childe Harold," "The Prophecy of Dante," "Beppo," "Manfred," and others) are packed in a large box, which is always in the room, and is carried with her in her annual journeys to Italy, she never allowing it to be out of sight

Her book, published in 1868, gives her own view of Lord Byron. She considered it a duty, before her death, to do all in her power to solicit an impartial opinion of him from the world.

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