THE DAILY EVENING TELEGRAPH-PHILADELPHIA, FRIDAY, MARCH 3, 1871.

LORD LYTTON AS A DRAMATIST.

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The following critical estimate of Lord Lytton's abilities as a dramatic writer appeared in the Athenceum as one of a series of papers entitled "Dramatists of the Present Day:"-

Lord Lytton is a man of high aspirations. He is also a man who has an amount of energetic enterprise seldom possessed by such a character. His importunity is as great as that of the woman in the Gospel, and the public is his unjust judge. He will not hearken to a first denial, but gains his suit by his con-tinual coming. Soon after attaining his ma-jority he published a work of fiction, the merits of which were not apparent. The following year he preduced "Pelham," and the world adjudged him a man of genius. He wrote an epic poem, with Arthur as the hero, which was received with derision by presumably competent critics; yet, on the appearance the other day of a new edition, the same poem was treated by the Times and other high authorities with the consideration due to a work of supreme excellence. In the year 1836 a play from his pen, entitled "The Duchesse de la Valliere," was performed at Covent Garden, and, although more poetical than the poem, failed. But the playwright did not therefore despair. Two years after, undisheartened by hostile criticism, the author produced at the same theatre his "Lady of Lyons"-and the drama became the most popular in our language, producing for Lord Lytton an annual income as large as that of a fashionable tailor's foreman or of two or three country parsons. As versatile in his pursuits as in his knowledge, Lord Lytton is poet, novelist, statesman, orator, political pamphleteer, essayist, and dramatist. In each department he is influential, and in each he has secured for himself a place of honor. Lord Lytten's contributions to the stage

are not many:-"The Duchess de La Valliere," in five acts (1836); "The Lady of Lyons; or, Love and Pride" (1838); "Riche-lieu; or, the Conspiracy" (1839); "The Sea-Captain; or, the Birthright;" "Money," a comedy (1840); "Not so Bad as we Seem; or, Many Sides to a Character," written in 1851, and first represented in that year in aid of the Gnild of Literature and Art; and "The

Rightful Heir," a new version of "The Sea-Captain," produced in 1868, form, I believe, a complete list of his pieces. All these dramas have the same merits and the same defects. Lord Lytton is the best story-teller I know. A brief tale of vengeance told at Naples by one of the characters in his novel "Zanoni" has never been surpassed for the wondrous art with which the incidents are blended and the effective force of the climax is strengthened.

In constructive skill and artistic treatment, indeed, Lord Lytton has not a superior. No caprice diverts him from his main purpose. The progress of his story is never deranged by episode. All the details have essential use, and the reason for their introduction is seen at the end. The fifth act of "The Lady of Lyons" opens with the entrance of three officers just returned from the campaign, and they, in dis-cussing with General Damas the rapid pro-metion of one of their comrades, Morier, disclose, in the most natural way, the career of the hero during the two years and a half which have elapsed since "Melnotte" changed his name and became a soldier. An inferior artist would have evaded such a method of developing the plot. He would have made Melnotte himself reveal by soliloquy what is necessary to be learnt; or some subordinate would announce the facts after the fashion of a messenger in the Greek drama. Lord Lytton's method is at once natural and effective; and when we hear the conversation we at once believe it is just what we should expect. All the plays-not excepting "The Duchess de La Valliere," which failed merely on account of its theme -have the same merit. But although no drama can be good which is defective in this respect, it is possible for a drama to be admirable in construction and yet have the gravest faults. It is the case with Lord Lytton's plays. They are symmetrical; for stage effect the situations are good; and the artistic treatment is excellent; yet in important particulars Lord Lytton is excelled by men greatly inferior to him in pretension and fame. His dialogue abounds in vices; it is weak and stilled when, to the casual ear, there is seeming strength. I look in vain for intellectual vigor. Where the author aims at being elevated, he is flatulent. Some of the speeches made by Evelyn in the comedy of "Money" resemble what we hear, from one of those high and mighty heroes who strut the boards of a transpontine theatre. They have meaning, but the meaning is not worth discovering. In the first act there are longwinded commonplaces which must exhaust the patience of any audience. Here is an example:-"Look you, now-Robe Beauty in silk and cachemire-hard Virtue into her chariot-lackey their caprices-wrap them from the winds-fence them round with a golden circle-and Virtue and Beauty are as goddesses, both to peasant and to prince. Strip them of the adjuncts—see Virtue and Beauty poor-dependent—solitary—walking the world de-fenseless; oh, then the devotion changes its characfors-libertines-not to worship at the shrine, but to sacrifice the victim."

There's not a coin that is not bought and hallowed in the cause of nations with a soldier's blood! Beauerant, Torments and death! Pauline. Meinotie. Thy husband! Thy husband! [Pauline rushes into his arms

As might be expected, his Lordship's senti-ment does not transcend his language. Love is his most frequent theme. His notion of that master passion is, however, the notion incident to puberty. It is admittedly irresis-tible; but he does not conceive it possible for a man or woman really to love except from motives of personal admiration. He is ignorant that titles and high rank have been the exciting cause of love as profound and intense as what is produced by physical beauty. Men have sacrificed themselves for love of princesses of whom they were personally ignorant; and it is well known that the traditional idea about titles and rank is as efficacious with some in begetting love as golden locks or bright eyes are with others. In delineating the other passions Lord Lytton is similarly faulty. He is full, as well in his novels as in his plays, of a sort of passion; but it is the passion which Frenchmen, more especially, affect when they do not feel it. We have glow without firelight without heat.

But there is another and more important point to be considered.

In the conception and presentation of character, his Lordship is deficient. He does not give us characters, but characterizations. His types are traditional; his treatment is traditional, and the sentiments with which he endows them are traditional. His soundingline does not reach the depths and shoals of our nature, but sinks no further than the surface currents. The Arthur of his epis is an impossible hero. In prose fiction the Gentleman Waife of his best novel is a dilution of Sterne's immortal hero: of Shandean mould, though bearing the impress of the Bulwer mint. Even "Richelieu," the most effective of his stage characters, has no real individuality. I do not object to the representation because it is not the Richelieu of history and the memoirs of the time. Mr. Carlyle, in his work on the French Revolution, introduces us to a gallery of portraits which have little resemblance to the personages with whose names they are labelled. But they are man and women. Their dress is diaphanous, and we may see the texture of their They breathe and live; and we antiskin. cipate their speech and action. Lord Lytton had no such creative power; his men and women are people with whom we cannot claim relationship; they are artificial; they are spurious; they have none of those manifold complex shadings we find inseparable from persons in real life. The tints and tones of character which make a man himself and no other have been forgetten by the artist, or his colors have failed him at the moment they were needed.

Lord Lytton's success as a dramatist is due to his ability in making common place sentiment agreeable to the common-place mind. His plays find response in the hearts of young people of imperfect education. His work, deficient in high qualities, is sufficiently elevated to make an audience believe themselves capable of understanding high things, and sufficiently mean to permit their comprehending what is placed before them. To say Lord Lytton is a great dramatist would be beyond the truth. He has the executive temperament of an artist, and his production, whether poem, play, or novel, has a mechanical regularity of form; but he wants the power of giving life to that form. He is not a philosopher, as he supposes himself to be; and his worldly wisdom, conveyed in high-floating language, is more often false than true. All, however, will be ready to admit he is an admirable man. The courage and perseverance he has shown are great, and his example is ennobling, and whatever opinion we may hold as to the value of his accomplishments, he must have the credit of being a notable example of those rare minds whose capabilities equal their capacities.

SPECIAL NOTICES. REDEMPTION OF CIVIL BONDS OF 1860. STATE OF CALIFORNIA. TREASURY DEPATMENT,) SACRAMENTO, February 1, 1871. Whereas, There is on this day in the State Treasury the sum of twenty-eight thousand (\$23,000) dol-

lars which, under the provisions of an act of the Legislature of said State entitled ."An act to provide for the paying certain equitable claims against the State of California, and to contract a funded debt for that purpose," approved April 30, 1860, is set apart for the redemption of Civil Bonds of said State, issued under the provisions of said act, notice is hereby given that

SRALED PROPOSALS

for the surrender of said Bonds will be received at this Department for the amount above specified until the

10TH DAY OF APRIL, 1871. at 11 o'clock A. M.

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No bid will be entertained at more than par value, and a responsible guarantee must accompany each proposal, which must be indorsed "Sealed Proposals for the surrender of Civil Bonds of 1860." Said bonds will be redeemed and interest paid in gold and silver coin of the United States, and must

be surrendered within ten days after the acceptance of the proposal for their redemption. A. F. CORONEL,

14eod t4 10		+	State Treasurer.	
18 ^m	REDEMPTION	OF	STATE	BONDS.
-	ST	ATE OF	CALIFOR	NIA.)

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, SACRAMENTO, Feb. 1, 1871.

Whereas, there is on this day in the State Treasury the sum of two hundred and fifty thousand (\$250,000) dollars, which, under the provisions of an act of the Legislature of said State, entitled "An Act to provide for paying certain equitable claims against the State of California, and to contract a funded debt for that purpose," approved April 28, 1867; and a'so under the provisions of an act amendatory of said act, approved April 27, 1860, is set apart for the redemption of Civil Bonds of said State, issued under the provisions of said first mentioned act, notice is hereby given that

SEALED PROPOSALS

for the surrender of said Bonds will be received at this Department for the amount above specified, until the

10TF DAY OF APRIL, A. D. 1871,

at 11 o'clock A. M. No bids will be entertained at more than par value, and a responsible guarantee must accompany each proposal, which must be marked "Sealed Proposals for the Redemption of Civil Bonds of 1857." Said bonds must be surrendered within ten days after the acceptance of the proposals for their re-A. F. CORONEL, demption. State Treasurer. 2 14 eod t 4 10

COURSE OF LECTURES, to be delivered in the CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, EIGHTH Street, above Arch, at 8 o'clock P. M.

Tuesday, March 7, 1871, Rev. E. D. G. PRIME, D. D., of New York. Subject—"Around the World—How to Go—What

to See-What it Costs." Tuesday, March 21, 1871, Rev. A. A. WILLITS,

lectures. 2 28 m6 7*

 NOTICE TO STOCKHOLDERS, —CHICAGO AND ALTON RAILROAD COMPANY, SECRETARY'S OFFICE, CHICAGO, ILL, 100°

SECRETARY'S OFFICE, CHICAGO, LL., February S, 1871. The stockholders of the CHICAGO AND ALTON RAILROAD COMPANY are hereby notified that a cash dividend of FIVE PER CENT., free of Govern-ment tax, has this day been declared on the Pre-ferred and Common Stock of this Company, out of the earnings of the last six months, payable at the office of the Company's agents, Messrs. M. K. Jesup & Co., No. 12 Pine street, in the city of New York, on the 6th day of March next, to holders who are registered as such at the close of business hours



The last words of the same personage, who is described as a man of genius, are-

"My friends-we must confess it-amidst the humors and the follies, the vanities, deceits and vices that play their parts in the great comedy of life-it is onr own fault if we do not find such natures though rare and few, as redeem the rest, brighten-ing the shadows that are flung from the form and body of the fime with glimpses of the everlasting holiness of truth and love."

Occasionally we light upon a happy re-partee, and a genuinely epigrammatic turn is given to the dialogue. As a rule, however, energetic feebleness of expression is the cardinal characteristic of the plays. Ease, polish, and fastidiousness are apparent; but delicacy and strength are equally wanting. When his Lordship desires to be more than nanally vigorous he invokes the printer's aid, and enhances the value of his thought by the nse of capital letters. Even his most effective stage situations suffer from this defect. When, in "Richelien," the Cardinal, with haughty scorn, daunts Baradas, his triumphant rival, and draws round his ward the circle of the Holy Church; when, in the same play, Richelieu addresses Julie de Mortemar as child, and has for reply, "Child no more! I love, and I am woman! and when, finally, in the last scene of "The Lady of Lyons," Melnotte reclaims his wife, the language and sentiment are not on a par with the situation. The scene in "The Lady of Lyons" is a fair specimen of Lord Lytton's best manner, and I cannot refrain from reproducing it. Pauline is to be wedded to an old lover, who, by his wealth, will save her father's credit. The notary is about to hand the contract to Pauline, when Melnotte, who is present, seizes and tears it, whereupon the bridegroom expectant and the father of the bride desire explanation :---

Melnotte. Peace, old man! I have a prior claim. Before the face of man and Heaven I urge it! I outbid Yon sordid huckster for your priceless jewel. There is the sum twice told! Blush not to take it.

THE DAVENPORT TRICKS.

None of his talents has been unused.

How their Dark Ways were Exposed in Knox-Knoxville Correspondent Chattanooga Times.

Hoxie's Hall was filled to overflowing. At the proper time Mr. Fay, one of the performers, advanced to the front of the stage with a paper containing the names of the committee, and requested them to come forward. Messrs. Bell and Lowery soon made way through the audience and were greeted with tremendous applause as they bowed to the audience. While closing the door Mr. Bell was struck

on the shoulder with some unknown object, but Mr. Lowery saw it and instantly went to Mr. Bell's side, and whispered to Mr. Bell, who began to go through the same motion. Out came the object. Mr. Lowery sprang like a cat and seized the hand, and wrenched it carefully off, throwing it in the audience. Upon exam nation it was found to be a paper masked hand, as thin as writing paper, and fitting so closely in the cabinet that it was impossible to observe It was worked by wire, perfectly at the will of the operators. Cheer upon cheer was given for the committee. The brothers were raging with madness, but constant calls from the audi-

ence convinced them that they must either play or pay, and accordingly the cabinet was thrown aside and the dark seance was announced. A table was brought forward and several musical instruments laid upon it, a quantity of phosphorus was rubbed on a guitar, and the lights were extinguished. Presently sweet chords came from the guitar, and the phos-phorus was seen running here and there in the All present were thunderstruck. They air. All present were thunderstruck. They might catch the cabinet trick, but the dark scene was a stunner. While the supposed guitar was swinging in the air, one of the audience, named Brooks, pulled from under his coat a dark lantern of immense power, which he in-stantly shot on the flying guitar. One of the attaches of the show held a pole, on the end of which was nailed a small piece of a flour-barrel heading.⁸ The guitar was lying on the table in heading." The guitar was lying on the table in the same position, only the phosphorus was not To describe the scene that followed on it. would be tolly. We don't think the Brothers will book this city on their next route.

SMALL-POX.

Spread of the Loathsome Disease in New York Beyond a shadow of a doubt there is danger of small-pox spreading in this and adjoining cities. The ravages of this fearful disease have been felt severely in Brooklyn. The origin of the pestilence is traced to the extreme eastern portion of Williamsburg. Here, owing to the ignorance of the people and the attending physicians, many deaths occurred before the health anthorities were notified, and in a short time the disease broke out in a very virulent form in various parts of the city. The clothing, bedding, etc., of the patients are

in all cases burned. The Flatbush Hospital has the largest number of cases. It is about four miles from the Fulton Ferry, just beyond the Brooklyn city line. There are accommodations for one hundred and twenty patients. For ventilation, space, sunlight, water, and other facili-ties, it is well favored. There are various wards in the building, which are allotted to various kinds of intectious and contagious diseases. That portion given to the smallpox patients just now is by far the most crowded. There are now sixty four cases. The physicians aver that these patients have progressed much more favorably than those treated in private housesprobably because of the superior training of the nurses. In Hoboken several new cases have been discovered, and four deaths have occurred since Sunday .- N. Y. Commercial Advertiser, last evening.

are registered as such at the close of business hours on the 16th inst., at which time the transfer-books will be closed, and reopened for transfer on the 7th of March next. W. M. LARRABEE, Secretary.

2 1513 7

H. M. DALY'S WHISKY WAREROOMS, Nos. 222 S. FRONT Street and 139 DOCK St. IMMENSE STOCK OF THE BEST BRANDS IN ORIGINAL BARRELS. Among which may be found the celebrated "GOLDEN WEDDING," Bourbon of ancient date; Wheat and Rye Whiskies, all pure from manufacturers (in ori-ginal packages), including those well-known dis-tillers. THOMAS MOORE & SON,

JOSEPH S. FINCH & CO., and THOMAS MOORE. The attention of the trade is requested to test these Whiskies, at market rates. 2 48mw5

OLIVER AMES, PRESIDENT. JOHN DUFF, Vicè-President. JOHN M. S. WILLIAMS, Treasurer. E. H. ROLLINS, Secretary. UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY, STATES BUILDING (POST DEFECT BOX NO. 2277)

SEARS' BUILDING (POST-OFFICE BOX No. 3377.)

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY will be held at the office of the company in BOSTON, on WEDNESDAY, the 8th day of March, 1871, at 10 o'clock A. M., to elect officers for the ensuing year. OLIVER AMES,

2 14 13-8 President Union Pacific Railroad Co.

MANTOWN, AND NORRISTOWN RAIL-ROAD COMPANY, PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 13, 1871.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 13, 1571. The Board of Managers have declared a dividend of THREE PER CENT. on the Capital Stock, pay-able, clear of tax, at the Office of this Company, No. 12 Philadelphia Exchange, on and after the 13th of March next. The transfer books will be closed on the 20th inst., and remain closed until the 14th of March. A. E. DOUGHERTY, Size m 5t. Treasurer. 2 13 m 5t Treasurer.

TREASURER'S OFFICE, ST. JOSEPH and Denver City Railroad Company. Sr. JOSEPH, Mo., Jan. 28, 1871. The interest and coupons due Feb. 15, 1871, on the

first mortgage eight per cent. (5 per cent.) gold bonds of the St. Joseph and Denver City Railroad Company will be paid at the office of the Farmers' Loan and Trust Company, in the city of New York, upon presentation and application, on and after that date, free of Government tax. 27 26t† THOMAS E. TOOTLE, Treasurer.

THE ENTERPRISE INSURANCE COM-PANY OF PHILADELPHIA. COMPANY'S BUILDING, NO. 400 WALNUT STREET, }

January 2, 1871.) The Directors have this day declared a dividend of THREE PER CENT. on the capital stock of the Company for the last six months, payable on de-manud, free of all taxes. 1 211 Secretary.

THE UNION FIRE EXTINGUISHER

COMPANY OF PHILADELPHIA

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D. T. GAGE,

No. 118 MARKET St., General Agent. 5 30 tf

MERCANTILE LIBRARY-DUPLICATION. MERCANTILE LIBRARY __DUPLICATION. __It has been decided to duplicate the stock of the Mercantile Library Company, between July 1 and December 31 of the present year, on the plan pursued in 1864. For every share of stock issued prior to July 1 another share will be issued, without cost, if applied for by the owner before the end of the year. All the new shares purchased before July 1 will have the benefit of the duplication. 3 2th m4t T. MORRIS PEROT, President.

THE IMPERISHABLE PERFUME !-- AS A rele, the perfunces now in use have no perma-nency. An hoar or two after their use there is no trace of perfunce left. How different is the result succeeding the use of MURRAY & LANMAN'S FLORIDA WATER ! Days after its application the handkerchief exhales a most delightful, delicate, and agreeable fragrance. 3 1 tuths

THURSTON'S IVORY PEARL TOOTH POWDER is the best article for cleansing and preserving the teeth. For sale by all Druggists. Price 25 and 50 cents per bottle. 11 26 stuthly

DR. F. R. THOMAS, No. 911 WALNUT ST. formerly operator at the Colton Dental Rooms, devotes his entire practice to extracting teeth with-out pain, with fresh nitrous oxide gas. 11 174

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" 21, G	deceased. eorge Butz, Jr., Guardian of SEESHOLTZ, JR., minor.	HENRY
" 23, 16	rael H. Johnson, surviving Trus	tee under
	LAUBA PEDRICK, late minor.	ased, for
" 23, J	ames McCoy and James McCuri tors of DANIEL WINTERS, de	ceased.
" 23, 1	ecutors of FREDERICK WEA	oach, Ex-
	avin H. Woodward, surviving of CHARLES WOODWARD, de	ceased.
	harles M. Deltz, Administrator o DEITZ, deceased.	PETER
11 23, J	ulia A., John and George Gan	nber, Ad- BER, de-
** 23, H	censed. lenry W. Williams and John D.	McCord,
	ceased,	And the second second
·· 23, G	ecutors of FREDERICK SCHO	
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11 02 1	deceased.	
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2 25		legister.
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Freight to	Philadelphia, New York, Wilming	ton, and
Freight to	prepared to ship every descr Philadelphia, New York, Wilming te points with promptness and d s and Steam-tuge furnished at the	ton, and
	" 20, J " 20, J " 20, F " 20, G " 20, G " 20, G " 20, G " 20, G " 20, F " 20,	 the will of George Knorr, dece LAURA PEORICS, late minor. 23, James McCoy and James McCuritors of DANIEL WINTERS, decembed. 23, Elizabeth Weadel and George Gelecaters of FREDERICK WEA 24, Gavin H. Woodward, surviving of CHARLES WOODWARD, definition of DEITZ, Administrators of DANIE A. John and George Gaministrators of ADAM GAN. 24, Julia A., John and George Gaministrators of ADAM GAN. 25, Henry W. Williams and John D Executors of ANNA A. IRV ceased. 26, George Schoher and Charles A. Secutors of AREDERICK SOHO ceased. 27, George Schoher and Charles A. Secutors of ALEXANDER A. IRV ceased. 28, Henry W. Williams and John D Executors of ALEXANDER A. IRV ceased. 29, Israel H. Johnson, Administrator c. t. a of ALEXANDER AT George G