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# The Daily Record

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## MR. BALFOUR'S OPTIMISM.

A few days ago Mr. Balfour was the guest of the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of London at a dinner given to meet the Masters of the Livery Companies of the City of London. It was one of those agreeable occasions which a wise foresight on the part of our forefathers has set apart for the interchange of good-will and healthy platitude. Like the Saxon *bytt-filling*, at which the administrators were wont "to feed themselves according as they might deem themselves worthy," it is an occasion for retrospection fortified by repulsion, an occasion on which one sees the best aspect of things in the rosiest light. Naturally, Mr. Balfour did not discuss politics, in the business sense of the term; but, in replying for the House of Commons, he took exception to the gloomy view that the House is degenerating in its mode of conducting affairs, and in the general character of the individuals who constitute it. He admitted that the difficulty of getting through the business it set before itself had seriously interfered with the hereditary liberty of criticism which the House of Commons ought to possess; and, further, that he saw no immediate solution for the difficulty. He admitted, too, that there were many changes in the personnel of the House of Commons which he would like to see; yet he found there none of the deterioration so often spoken of. And if there were any, it was to be attributed not to the House itself but to the constituencies which returned the inappropriate individuals.

Undoubtedly, Mr. Balfour is right in refusing to be intimidated into Jeremiads. The mere fact, however, that he is bound to admit the existence of evils justifies the pessimism of which he disapproves. The last decade has seen great changes, not only in the composition of Parliament itself, but in the balance of those great forces which are behind Parliament and which condition its character. However, blindly, the nation is striving after some form of Government by merit. Government by reason of privilege, as was the case in the eighteenth century, or by reason of wealth, as was the case during a part of the nineteenth, or by reason of such a combination of the two as may at any time prevail, has grown more and more distasteful to the intelligent voter. He desires to see good ability combined with good principles, but he fears, above all else, the danger that clever brains might exploit him. Consequently, if he is a working man, he has tended to place faith in men of his own class, cognisant of his rights and grievances; but he is finding that these men are capable of class legislation alone, since they have neither training nor knowledge in the more complex branches of statesmanship. There is, therefore, as yet no substitute for the old heterogeneous body drawn from various social, intellectual, and political strata in the general administration of affairs; and, logically, it should not be unlikely that superfluous class representation should automatically diminish, and finally disappear. Were it possible to rely on such a result as inevitable, we would gladly join in Mr. Balfour's optimism. Regrettably enough, however, nations are seldom logical as a mass: it takes them ten times as long to live down one indiscretion as to outlive one achievement.

It is notorious that the British Empire is governed less by Parliament than by the Cabinet. The problem then, is how far a Parliament on a basis of merit (supposing such a thing possible) can assist the Cabinet to govern wisely. The question, though tempting, is unanswerable. There is a merit in silence and a merit in submission, if silence or submission be used at the right moment. Can an assembly based on merit be relied on to be prudent as well as efficient, to yield to opinion, to suffer itself to be marshalled? On the other hand, is a docile assembly, such as party leaders rejoice in, worth the name of a free Parliament? England does not touch either extreme. The implied criticism which Mr. Balfour was attacking was, we have no doubt, the criticism of the social composition of the House. There always have been many Members of Parliament not conspicuous for their wisdom, virtue, or good taste; but the House of Commons has also been for a long time past "the best club in Europe," and when fears are expressed for its future they are prompted by an instinct of caste. It is on caste



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## STOP PRESS NEWS.

London, March 4. The Dowager-Empress of Russia arrived here at noon today, and was received at the station by King Edward and Queen Alexandra, and the Prince and Princess of Wales.

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that English institutions have been built, though on a shifting foundation. The English system would have no difficulty in absorbing fifty workingmen in fifty years; it would mould them rapidly into the accepted type of Parliamentarian. When fifty workingmen are placed into the House of Commons, without the possibility of assimilation, there is an unaccountable reversal of conditions from which anything in the world might just as easily ensue as nothing. The English, being a conservative people, do not like to have their institutions menaced until they get to the point where the progressive spirit begins to elbow conservatism out of its path. This is the danger point at which England stands, and it calls for pessimism or optimism according to the temperament of the observer.

## QUITE LIKELY.

At Westminster Police Court a father complained that his daughter had become engaged to "an apology of a man." Perhaps the apology was so handsome that she felt bound to accept it.

## GENERAL NEWS.

### NEWS FROM ENGLAND.

#### HEALTH OF THE PREMIER.

London, March 3. Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman passed a quiet day, but still suffers from weakness consequent upon the influenza.

#### THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

London, March 3. In the course of the discussion on the Navy Estimates, Mr. Robertson, Parliamentary Secretary to the Admiralty, denied the statement made some months ago by Mr. C. Belairs (*Lib. Lynn*) that in December, 1906, Germany had more torpedo-boat-destroyers in commission in the North Sea than England. Mr. Robertson proved that during the month in question there were 45 English destroyers, 32 torpedo-boats, and 29 submarines in commission, as against 33 destroyers, 16 torpedo-boats, and one submarine commissioned by Germany. The speaker added that Germany's flotilla at the time mentioned had been augmented owing to tactical exercises which extended over fourteen days. Mr. A. H. Lee (*Unionist, Hants.*) said that it was impossible to learn whether the Government intended to maintain the two-Power standard when the first stage of the foreign naval programmes were completed in 1910.

Several members of the Opposition deplored the insufficient number of destroyers provided for in the Estimates, whereupon Mr. George Lambert, a Civil Lord of the Admiralty, assured the House that the destroyers already building and those to be laid down this year were ample for the needs of England. Mr. Balfour said that if England was to maintain her position of naval supremacy over the other great Powers it would be necessary to lay down a large number of "Dreadnoughts" and armoured cruisers, and those in favour of economy could only count upon an eventual diminution of the Estimates if the Government relinquished their intention of adhering to the two-Power standard.

#### ANOTHER UNIONIST VICTORY.

London, March 4. The parliamentary by-election at Hastings has resulted in the return of Mr. Du Cros (*Unionist*) by 4,495 votes, as against the 3,477 polled for the Liberal candidate, Mr. Harcourt; the Unionist majority is, therefore, 1,018. At the general election in 1906 the Unionist majority was only 413, so the Party have every reason to congratulate themselves on this latest result.

#### MAIMED FUNERAL RITES.

Among the broader-minded Churchmen and women in England an earnest movement is on foot to make it possible for full Christian rites to be solemnised at funerals of suicides. The public mind was somewhat disturbed two months ago by the mutilated burial rites which were performed at the interment of an unhappy suicide. Further discussion was caused some two or three weeks ago by a similar shortened service when a misguided girl had put an untimely end to her career; and last week the subject was revived when yet another very similar case recurred.

Commenting upon this question, the *Globe* says: The stalwart and the stoic firmly say that the victims have brought the deprivation of the last sad ceremony on themselves; and that the mutilation is a warning to others. It is the stock answer: we cannot but doubt its truth. In the barbarous Middle Ages they buried a suicide at dead of night at cross-roads, with a stake through the body: we have yet to learn that the practice deterred men from suicide. In times more charitable that degrading spectacle was abolished; at present a few lame words are said over the remains of those "against whom the Everlasting has fixed His Canon." But many are now debating whether it is not possible to go yet further, and to give in commiseration practically the whole of the full Christian rite to the suicide. Who are we of this earth that we should condemn an unfortunate or weak brother in the next? "These, but for the grace of God"—the saying is something musty. If any change is made from the ordinary service, it might perhaps be in the omission of the words "sure and certain" hope; further a sense of our

(Continued on page 2.)



# DRESDEN

The Royal Opera. Herr Herold, the Danish tenor from the Royal Opera at Copenhagen, began on Tuesday, as *Turridu* in Mascagni's *Cavalleria Rusticana* and *Canio* in Leoncavallo's *Pagliacci*, the series of performances for which he is engaged here. Last year he was prevented from reaping the laurels which were kept in readiness for him at Dresden, as illness compelled him to break off his engagement at Berlin when he was at the height of his success there. The Dresdeners have waited patiently, and have received him now with perhaps greater warmth than they would have shown last year; indeed, they have paid him homage such as is paid here to very few artists—and that in spite of the fact that Herr Herold has caused them a slight disappointment. Whoever expected from him a voice of the richest and most thrilling quality will have found himself out of his reckoning. The voice sounds somewhat veiled and has but little one in the low register, but the high notes are delightfully clear and produced with ease, and the cultivation reveals earnest study after the Italian method. The perfect evenness of the whole compass, the wonderful *portamento*, and the smooth declamation which never disturbs the musical flow of the melody, were proofs of such study; by his singing alone Herr Herold would have achieved a great success. But he captivated the audience still more by his extraordinarily fine acting. His dramatic power is something that we are none too often permitted to admire, he has the exact expression and gesture for every phase of feeling, and he never exaggerates.

He is always natural, and by that strict naturalness attains to the highest point of art. Herr Herold had, in Frau v. Falken und Frau Nast, two very distinguished artistes as partners; Frau Schäfer and Herr Plaschke also did good service. In Leoncavallo's *Pagliacci*, Herr Herold's art achieved a still greater triumph. His acting, which was never in excess but continually found convincing expression for all phases of feeling, rose at the close of the first Act, and again at the close of the whole piece, to an extraordinary height. Never shall I forget the powerful impression Herr Herold produced when he first struck down his wife (*Nedda*) in a fury of jealousy, and then with savage joy turned upon the robber of his honour, only then to become clearly conscious of what he had done. Never shall I forget that look of satisfied revenge, of boundless rage and yet infinite love for his wife and speechless grief for her loss. Beside such an extraordinary performance Herr Plaschke's *Tonio* and Herr Rüdiger's *Beppo* were not much more than interesting, although portrayed with much dramatic characterisation and finished vocal art. Frau Wedekind charmed us as usual with the brilliancy of her beautiful voice, but did not even approximately exhaust the dramatic possibilities of her rôle (*Nedda*). And Herr Kiess' easy-going ways compared rather painfully with the Southern temperament of the "guest". Herr Malata conducted this performance with a fire, and an emotional and yet sure passion, which are not the least valuable of the many qualities that he possesses.

His Majesty King Friedrich August was present during the performance of *Bajazzo*. M. N.

The Toboggan Races at Altenberg. The results of the various events in the winter sports held at Altenberg over the new Town Course, 650 yards, on Sunday last, were as follows:

Kjaelken Race: 1. Collet-Beyer, Akademischer Sportklub 1906; 2. Krappe-Nötzold, Dresdner Ski-Klub, each 38 seconds, so that they had to draw lots for the first prize; 3. Kröhl-Klette, Dresdner Ski-Klub. This was the first time that a Kjaelken (Norwegian sledge) race has ever been seen in Germany; it was arranged by the Akademischer Sportklub 1906 and the Dresdner Ski-Klub, whereas the subsequent toboggan races were run under the auspices of the Altenberg Ski- und Rodelklub.

Ladies' Toboggan Race: 1. Liese Krumpolt, 38 1/2 seconds; 2. Milda Hille, 41 5/8 seconds; 3. Clara Conrad, 41 1/2 seconds; 4. M. Beckert, 33 1/2 seconds; all four belonged to the Altenberg Ski- und Rodelklub.

Men's Toboggan Race: 1. v. Carlowitz (on a "skeleton"), Ski-Abteilung of the Dresdner Ruderverein, 34 1/2 seconds; 2. Siegert, 36 3/4 seconds; 3. Karl Ansel, Dresdner Ski-Klub, 37 seconds; 4. Hans Gerstle, Dresdner Ski-Klub, 37 1/2 seconds.

Bobsleigh Race: 1. the sisters Köllner, Altenberg Ski- und Rodelklub, 37 1/2 seconds; 2. Lehnert and Siegel, Dresdner Ski-Klub, 38 3/4 seconds; 3. Pilz and Ladisch, first Teplitz Ski-Klub, 38 5/8 seconds.

On this occasion, as well as on the occasion of the grand Ski-competition held by the *Ski-Verband Sachsen* on the 8th and 9th of February, it was found that the snow conditions at Altenberg are much better than at Geising, a fact accounted for by the difference of level (560 feet), and that the ground rises close to Altenberg nearly 500 feet higher still. It has frequently happened that when the snow had disappeared in Geising under the influence of the Spring sun, there was still good skiing to be had on the higher ground about Altenberg, Zinnwald, Schellerhau, Rehefeld, and Moldau. In arranging special trains, therefore, for Winter Sports on the Altenberg course the railway authorities should be guided, not by the reports from Geising but by observations obtained from the higher stations. We are informed that the local authorities are preparing a joint petition to the railway Management in that sense. Moreover, the six large Winter Sports societies of Dresden, all belonging to the *Ski-Verband Sachsen*, have decided to request the railway authorities not to depend on the reports from Geising. This decision is to be welcomed on behalf of foreign visitors resident in the city in winter, and who may desire to take advantage of the nearest and best ground for Winter Sports requiring extended space. The Town Council of Altenberg has arranged with the *Ski-Verband Sachsen*, for the rest of the winter, that every Thursday, Friday, and Saturday official reports of the temperature and snow at Altenberg will be exhibited in all the winter-sport and photographers' shops in Dresden.

Kapellmeister Georg Pittrich has been engaged as teacher of the pianoforte for the higher classes at the Ehrlich School of Music.

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Mrs. Thoman H. Norton, 76 Friedrich Wilhelm Strasse, will discontinue her Friday receptions during Lent.

The programme of this evening's orchestral concert at the Gewerbehauus will be as follows:—(1) Overture "Der Edelknecht," Kreutzer; (2) Capriccio for Harp, Verdallan; (3) Prelude from *Herodias*, Massenet; (4) Six old-Dutch folk-songs, Kremser; (5) Vorspiel from *Hänsel und Gretel*, Humperdinck; (6) Military Concerto for Violin, Beriot; (7) Tonbilder from *Der Barbier von Sevilla*, Rossini; (8) Schwäbische Rhapsodie, Kämpfert; (9) Minuet, Wagner; (10) "Ein seliger Traum," Lied for trumpet (first time), Monena; (11) Waltz from the operetta *Der fidele Bauer* (first time), L. Fall.

On Sunday next the programme of the last Austrian composers concert will be repeated.

The guards in the city today are furnished by the 1st Grenadier Regiment No. 100. The band plays about 12.30 p. m. in the Neustadt.

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**CHURCH SERVICES: DRESDEN.**

ALL SAINTS' (ENGLISH) CHURCH, Wiener Strasse.  
 Thursday, March 5th. 8.15 a.m. Holy Communion.  
 Friday, March 6th. 10.15 a.m. Holy Communion. 11.0 a.m. Matins and Litany.  
 Saturday, March 7th. 10.0 a.m. Matins.  
 Chaplain: The Rev. C. A. Moore, M. A., B. C. L.

THE AMERICAN CHURCH OF ST. JOHN, Reichs Platz 5, at the head of Reichs Strasse.  
 Thursday, March 5th. Litany 4.0 p.m.  
 Friday, March 6th. Litany 3.0 p.m. followed by Address on "the General Convention in Richmond" by Miss Von Holt.  
 The Rev. J. F. Butterworth, M. A., Rector.

**DRESDEN**  
**CURRENT ENTERTAINMENTS.**

**Royal Opera House.**

Tonight, beginning at 7, ending after 10.15

**Figaro's Hochzeit.**

Opera in four acts. Music by W. A. Mozart.

**Cast:**

Count Almaviva . . . . .	Herr Scheidemantel.
The Countess . . . . .	Frau Abendroth.
Cherubin, page of the Count . . . . .	Frau Nast.
Figaro, servant of the Count . . . . .	Herr Erwin.
Susanna, his bride, chamber-maid of the Countess . . . . .	Fräul. Seebe.
Marcelline . . . . .	Fräul. Eibenschütz.
Bartolo, doctor . . . . .	Herr Nebuschka.
Basilio, music-master . . . . .	Herr Erl.
Curzio, judge . . . . .	Herr Lindner.
Antonio, gardener, Susanna's uncle . . . . .	Herr Büssel.
Barbarina, his daughter . . . . .	Fräul. Keldorfer.

**PLOT.** Count Almaviva, who figures in Rossini's opera "The Barber of Seville", is now married to Rosina, but is carrying on a flirtation with her maid, Susanna, who is about to be married to Figaro. The Count is jealous of his wife's page, Cherubino; and when Cherubino is in his wife's room, where Rosina and Susanna have been amusing themselves by dressing him up in woman's clothes, the Count comes and demands admittance. Cherubino escapes by the window. The Count, finding only Susanna with his wife, apologises, when the gardener, Antonio, enters and complains that his flower-beds have been trampled on. Figaro asserts that it was he who had been in the room, talking to Susanna, and even claims a document which Cherubino had dropped. Figaro is found to be Bartolo's son. Susanna and her mistress arrange a plot to punish the Count for his jealousy. They make appointments with the Count and Figaro, and await them at night dressed in each other's clothes. The Count takes Rosina for Susanna, and makes love to her, while Figaro, who has recognised Susanna, pretends to take her for Rosina, and makes violent love to her, till she boxes his ears, and he confesses he had been making fun of her. The Count is put to shame by his wife, who, however forgives him, and he unites Figaro and Susanna, and pardons Cherubino.

Composer: Mozart, born 1756, died 1791.

Friday night . . . . .	Lohengrin . . . . .	at 7.30
Saturday night . . . . .	Tiefland . . . . .	" 7.30
Sunday night . . . . .	Undine . . . . .	" 7.30
Monday night . . . . .	Carmen . . . . .	" 7.30

**Royal Theatre Neustadt.**

Tonight . . . . .	Zweimal zwei ist fünf . . . . .	at 7.30
Friday night . . . . .	Stella und Antonie . . . . .	" 7.30
Saturday night . . . . .	Zriny . . . . .	" 6
Sunday night . . . . .	Dr. Klaus . . . . .	" 7.30
Monday night . . . . .	Die Rabensteinerin . . . . .	" 7.30

**Residenz Theatre.**

Tonight . . . . .	Ein Walztraum . . . . .	at 7.30
Friday night . . . . .	Die Glocken von Corneville . . . . .	" 7.30
Saturday afternoon . . . . .	Blond Elfenbein or: Im Zauberreich des Hutbrass . . . . .	" 3.30
Saturday night . . . . .	Die lustige Witwe . . . . .	" 7.30

**Central Theatre.**

Tonight . . . . .	Der fidele Bauer . . . . .	at 7.30
Friday night . . . . .	Der fidele Bauer . . . . .	" 7.30
Saturday night . . . . .	Der fidele Bauer . . . . .	" 7.30

Victoria Salon . . . . . Variety Performance . . . . . at 8.

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**GENERAL NEWS.**

(Continued.)

**BRUTAL DEED AT TIFLIS.**

Tiflis, March 4. During the singing of the National Hymn in a concert-hall crowded by school-children from the adjoining gymnasium, two bombs were hurled into the midst of the assembly. A terrible panic ensued, and several children were badly injured by the explosion and the subsequent rush for the exit.

**MOROCCAN AFFAIRS.**

Paris, March 4. At yesterday's Cabinet council in the Elysée it was decided that in view of the situation at Casablanca and the outstanding questions concerning the Algerian-Moroccan frontier General Lyautey and Ambassador Regnault shall respectively proceed to Casablanca and Ujja. They shall there investigate the measures for organising the Franco-Spanish police force, in accordance with the Acts of Algeciras and with France's separate treaty with the Maghzen. Upon the termination of their journey, which may extend over three weeks, the two officials will return to Paris and report to the Government on the result of their investigations.

Paris, March 4. With further reference to Tuesday's Cabinet council it is semi-officially reported that after the council M. Pichon telegraphed the diplomatic representatives of France at the Capitals of the Powers signatory to the Acts of Algeciras, charging them to communicate to the various Governments the decision of France to send 4,000 more troops to Casablanca for the purpose of speedily pacifying the Schauja district and rendering possible the immediate organisation of the police in Casablanca, in accordance with the Acts of Algeciras. The diplomatic representatives were further enjoined to emphasise the fact that these reinforcements do not in any way foreshadow an alteration of the programme designed by France at the commencement of operations, of which due notice was given the Powers.

**THE ALLENSTEIN TRAGEDY.**

Allenstein, March 3. This afternoon the body of Hauptmann von Goeben, who committed suicide on Monday in his cell, will be conveyed to the mortuary of the Evangelical cemetery, and will probably be interred quite privately on Thursday. A pathetic feature of the case is that the suicide's mother, who arrives here tomorrow, wrote comforting letters to her son during his imprisonment, and repeatedly exhorted him not to contemplate suicide but to bear his fate with fortitude.

The news that Hauptmann von Goeben committed suicide has not yet been communicated to Frau von Schönebeck, whose condition is regarded as very serious.

**REMARKABLE ROBBERY IN ZURICH.**

Zurich, March 4. The police here have arrested a German author named Rudolf Nordenov, of Stettin, who was formerly a dentist and later an editor, and who attempted to commit suicide in Zurich last October. He is now charged with having cut out pages from several priceless volumes dating from the 15th century, which are in the Zurich Town Library, and selling them to antiquaries in London and Leipzig. The leaves he stole are valued at several thousand francs.

**AUSTRIAN TEACHER ASSAULTED IN TURKEY.**

Constantinople, March 4. A teacher at the Austrian school, Herr Boetzel, was set on at Pera last night by a number of men, and beaten and robbed. Among the perpetrators of the outrage the son of a very prominent Pasha is suspected. The Austrian Ambassador has immediately taken steps towards the punishment of the offenders.

**DEATH OF A PRINCESS.**

Vienna, March 4. Princess Franziska Croy (née Princess Salm-Salm) died yesterday.

**MOVEMENTS OF LINERS.**

North German Lloyd S. S. Co., Dresden office: PR. BREMERHANN, Prager Strasse 49.

**YESTERDAY'S REPORTS.**

"Prinz Ludwig," from Bremen for Japan, arrived Hongkong March 3rd.  
 "Kronprinzessin Cecilie," from Bremen for New York, left Bremerhaven March 3rd.  
 "Prinzregent Luitpold," from Bremen for Japan, arrived Suez March 3rd.  
 "York," from Hamburg for Japan, left Antwerp March 3rd.  
 "Goeben," from Yokohama for Bremen, left Nagasaki March 3rd.  
 "Roon," from Bremen for Australia, left Naples March 3rd.  
 "Kaiser Wilhelm II.," from New York for Bremen, left New York March 3rd.

**WEATHER FORECAST FOR TODAY**  
of the Royal Saxon Meteorological Institute.

Variable winds, generally bright with light showers at times, temperature not much altered.

**LEGITIMATE CRITICISM.**

We have frequently been attacked, either directly or indirectly, by authors and composers who consider themselves the subjects of unfair treatment in these columns, and deem the present an opportune moment for the expression of our attitude on this point.

Ever since the establishment of this newspaper we have endeavoured, so far as lay in our power, to present our readers with well-considered, impartial impressions of those compositions, together with their rendering, which are of popular interest. Personal animus has never entered into the question, and those familiar with the *modus operandi* of an independent newspaper must be aware that the ascription of biased motives to a reviewer is usually the result of irritation on the part of a disappointed genius.

It must surely be conceded by every reasonable person that consistent, unreasoning eulogism of any and every work submitted to the judgment of the public would not only prove nauseous in the extreme, but would also nullify the value of a newspaper as a vehicle of criticism. Therefore, it is the manifest duty of a journal which claims—as does the *Daily Record*—to be absolutely without bias or partiality, to set forth its candid opinion; if this duty is denied, the fundamental principle of all branches of Press criticism is rendered null and void.

As a consolation for those to whom our judgments seem harsh we quote the words of Dr. Johnson: "It is advantageous to an author that his work should be attacked as well as praised. Fame is a shuttlecock. If it be struck only at one end of the room it will soon fall to the ground. To keep it up, it must be struck at both ends."

**OUR LIBRARY TABLE.\***

By H. C. B.

As an authority on Italian manners and customs Mr. Bagot may be classed with his brilliant contemporary. Mr. F. Marion Crawford, and his present volume dealing with that delectable region immortalised by Ruskin will be welcomed by all who appreciate an interesting survey of its scenery and history ancient and modern, written in a manner that is distinctly refreshing after the turgid monotony of Baedeker, the conscientious.

Mr. Bagot knows his subject thoroughly. We admit his knowledge, but sincerely wish he had confined himself strictly to its exposition, since the disagreeable digressions in which it has pleased him to indulge by no means enhance the intrinsic value or charm of his book. At regular intervals we come across irritating diatribes against the tourist of all nationalities until, finally goaded beyond endurance, we are forced to ask in what category this superior Mr. Bagot condescends to place himself. It is manifest that the author has made exhaustive tours to all the localities he describes; therefore, he must have assumed the rôle of tourist on more than one occasion, and much of the cheap sarcasm he expends upon his fellow pilgrims must inevitably be applicable to its author. We do not know what nation has the honour of owning Mr. Bagot as its son, but, according to the invective he hurls impartially at representatives of many nations, we judge him to be of planetary origin. Hapless Italy is also chastised mercilessly. What connexion exists between a study of the Italian lakes and Italian politics we are unable to discover, but these trivial questions do not discompose truculent Mr. Bagot. "There's a head, hit it!" is his motto, and he certainly lives up to it.

However much the unfortunate defects of this character detract from the book, it still remains of much value. Particularly interesting are the side-lights thrown upon obscure phases of Northern Italian history, and we learn that the limpid waters of Lakes Como and Garda were frequently encrimsoned by the sanguinary conflicts which raged there in the Middle Ages.

This book should be in the hands of everybody contemplating a brief or lengthy sojourn in the region in question, but we advise its readers to temper their annoyance at the anti-tourist fulminations contained therein with the reflection that such passages are probably the result of dyspepsia or jaundice. They are characterised with that unmistakable acridity consequent upon imperfections of the digestive apparatus.

*The Lakes of Northern Italy*, by Richard Bagot. Tauchnitz Edition, 1 Vol.

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