

Dr. Dawson's new book is likely to be accepted as well as to charm most readers. Its title is "The formation of vegetable mould through the action of worms." It is a book which may be looked to think that the great naturalist might have turned his attention to some more worthy subject. Most people despise worms. Some despise them at the sight of them. The book regards a common earthworm then as a garden pest, and the farmer rejoices to see the signs of worms that hollow the new-turned furrow, and tear them from the moulded soil. Unwittingly they are regarded as the great enemies of all those countries. Dr. Dawson furnishes us with a new view of the character and functions of the worm, which falls as a tribute upon the progress and the ignorance of man. The worm is here revealed as nature's ploughman. He is an indispensable worker, doing all more effective surface work, and tilling far deeper than the strongest and heaviest animal plough or the finest harrow can achieve. If they only knew it, he is the farmer's and the gardener's best friend. His mission, furthermore, is to open, and to always keep open, the soil to the air and to the light. In every field, besides the multiplication of the difference between the productivity of spots dug and ploughed land that, in the former the number of worms were rapidly multiplied than in the open field, and thus the garden commands the services of a more numerous army of labourers than the farmer does. Dr. Dawson believed that the number of worms who are at work in an acre of well-tilled garden ground exceeds 10,000. In every field the number is not supposed to be more than 25,000 worms. In pasture lands these figures seem to have been that the number of worms is much larger than in other lands. It is probably one reason why fertilizing failure is avoided that close herding of ruminant herbivores of the soil are not interrupted at their work.

Every year in natural selection shows of the various that are affected in the soil of the second year by the pasture, causing half of the soil worms. Mould are built up in soil from which grow and grow slowly increased with vegetation. In the fertilization of these

a weight of more than the total amount actually passes through their bodies and is brought to the surface." It may thus be seen that a wonderful process is taking place below, and, whether workers are working or not. The land they work over is fertilized by the process, and its products are made sufficiently minute to be absorbed by the delicate tubules at the various points of the roots of plants. But there is reason to believe that the channels they dig through the soil also serve an important purpose in ventilation, in natural drainage, and in facilitating the dissipation of volatiles of the elements in the rocks lying at a depth beneath the surface. There is much more which Dr. Deussen shows about the mighty results which would have achieved in the process of denudation, and there is a great deal that he states with interest and vigor having care regarding their habits, and their intelligence, skill, and knowledge that show in their modes of work, which will all be shown, and interest the reader at one of the most entertaining and instructive scientific lectures ever published.*

* The Denudation of a Granite Mass Through the Action of Water, with Observations of their Habits by John Deussen, D.D., F.R.S. London: John Murray, Alderman Lane.

SALES BY AUCTION.

By Mr. J. H. ... By Mr. J. H. ... By Mr. J. H. ...

Path, the well-known writer on Central Asian politics. He represents that, if the British Government were to...

and a crushing rebuff to the reckless skinners, and we can only hope they will profit by it.

the House of Lords in regard to the Commission for Disturbance Bill. Instead of the...

in which sometimes two or more worms may crawl together. The earth dug out of them...

Daily Review.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12, 1881.

At a meeting of the Leith Town Council, yesterday, it was resolved to apply to Parliament during the ensuing session for a Provisional Order, giving power to the police to deal with the improper houses in the burgh.

Speaking at a meeting of the Land League, held in Dublin last night, Mr. Dillon explained to Mr. Gladstone's position, which was one of direct hostility both to the Government and to the Land League.

In consequence of a case of assault having been dismissed by Bailie Melville at the Municipal Police Court on Friday morning, was resumed last night by the Municipal Town Council to apply to the Home Secretary to remove Bailie Melville from his position of Magistrate.

The Registrar returns for the period from April 1 to October 31 states that the receipts were £10,774,883; expenditure £10,415,615; and balance, £359,267. For the corresponding period last year the receipts were £10,917,470; expenditure, £10,546,916; and balance, £370,554.

The Birmingham authorities are evidently resolved to suppress public meetings. The Local Council has been instructed by the War Office to refuse to grant licenses to the War Office Committees to hold licensed houses which are the resort of prize-fighters or of the abettors of prize-fighters, or where sparring and boxing matches take place.

A disappointing report has been issued by the accountant instructed to audit the books of the National Co-operative Society. It shows that a loss has been sustained amounting to £19,000. The society is hopeful, now that it accurately knows its position, that it will be able to overcome the difficulty, and it has been resolved to establish a reduced capital account, and a capital redemption account.

The Edinburgh Town Council, at its meeting, yesterday, had under consideration the motion of the Lord Provost with reference to the extension of the Leith Police District. A considerable amount of talk by Council members, who appeared not to be informed of the facts submitted at last meeting, at which he had been present, and which were given by the Lord Provost's Committee in the usual Parliamentary manner that a bill would be introduced in Parliament next session.

The attention of politicians at present is directed to Newcastle, where the Tories are in a contest with the Liberals. The National Union of Conservatives and Constitutional Associations held a conference, under the presidency of Earl Percy. The report submitted showed that 121 new members had been added to the ranks of the party, and that 141 had joined the National Union. This enthusiastic rally regarded as one for congratulation. His lordship suggested that the union had been responsible for disseminating sound Tory principles by the circulation of pamphlets, and the delivery of addresses and lectures. Much notice had also been displayed in getting up petitions against the Liberal Government, and in the case of the Tories, and in the case of the Liberal Government, and in the case of the Liberal Government.

By a fire which occurred in New York on Monday night, damage to the amount of \$2,500,000 was estimated.

The King of Spain was yesterday invested with the Order of the Queen Victoria, being conferred in Madrid by the Marquis of Northampton, in the name of Queen Victoria. His lordship was in return presented with the Grand Cross of the Order of Charles Third.

The Democratic party in the Senate of the United States, at the resumption of the session, was in a minority. It is estimated that the majority in which it was left at the death of President Garfield. By a majority of one the House decided to elect a President before the new session was opened. It is estimated that the majority of two votes. The new Senators were then admitted, and now the balance of power inclines towards the Republicans. It is estimated that the majority at Washington that, while both Mr. Conkling and his policy will be avoided, a considerable change in the personnel of the Cabinet will be made. It is thought that all of the members of the present Administration will retire from office, with the exception of Mr. James and Mr. Lincoln. Mr. Windom, the Minister of Finance, is particularly anxious to be relieved from his duties, as he proposes to offer himself as a Senatorial candidate for Minnesota.

The report that four Englishmen were taken prisoner by Ayob Khan at the battle of Mairwand and afterwards sold into slavery is not believed by Professor Hambury, of Duda-

It is becoming increasingly obvious that innately will be the defence offered by Gladstone. The culprit is heavily equipped with writing and issuing notes and statements, which will doubtless be used in the trial as evidence of their author's madness. The latest document of this kind would be a statement issued on Saturday. In it Gladstone claims that his attack on the President was the outcome of a divine inspiration, and that his object was to remove the President from his office. He claims that he was making an unavailing attempt to remove the President as he (he says) to remove the President was so enormous that I had to do it, even if I had been shot the next day. He claims that he was making an unavailing attempt to remove the President as he (he says) to remove the President was so enormous that I had to do it, even if I had been shot the next day.

The Tories' opportunity has come. Newcastle is availing of the chiefs of the party, with Jingoism disguised under a new name, and with chairman and secretary in great array. Need we have been surprised that the Tories should be so enthusiastic? Rather is the astonishment not all the other way, that the Northumbrians are very little concerned with all the imposing apparatus which is being brought to Newcastle. It is not Sir Stafford Northcote, but the Marquis of Salisbury, who when he returned from the States, was the first to pass from the Newcastle Station after his arrival without signal of recognition!

What a contrast between the Northumberland collieries and the Northumbrian collieries! The former are the seat of the Tory party, and the latter are the seat of the Liberal party. The Tories are the seat of the Tory party, and the Liberals are the seat of the Liberal party. The Tories are the seat of the Tory party, and the Liberals are the seat of the Liberal party. The Tories are the seat of the Tory party, and the Liberals are the seat of the Liberal party.

Lord Salisbury's main charge against Mr. Gladstone is that he has proposed the policy of public plunder for which he denounces Mr. Gladstone; that he has proposed the policy of public plunder for which he denounces Mr. Gladstone; that he has proposed the policy of public plunder for which he denounces Mr. Gladstone.

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Dr. Darwin's new book is fitted to surprise and to excite. It is a book that will be read with interest and with admiration. It is a book that will be read with interest and with admiration. It is a book that will be read with interest and with admiration.

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