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Parliamentary Oratory.

From the London Saturday Review.

"Who is the first orator in England?" an egregiously stupid person once asked Lord Brougham. "Lord Derby is the second," was the self-conscious reply. The querist had, no doubt, forgotten the Henry Brougham, who (chiefly heard in later days at Social Science Congresses) had once, as the defender of Queen Caroline and the champion of Parliamentary reform and negro emancipation, made all England ring with his fame. Now, however, though Lord Derby certainly does not stand second, as an orator even to Lord Brougham, in the general opinion of Englishmen, it is not at all clear that the leader of the Tories is the first orator in the country. The "Rupert of the North," whose headlong charges in the Commons sometimes threw the Liberal ranks into confusion, suffers in the Lords, not only from the influence of time, which has taken from the timbre of his once so ringing tones, but has also been gradually allowing some of his most remarkable powers to rust from disuse, partly because the atmosphere of the House of Lords is too cool for his native fire, and partly because he never finds in it a foe man worthy of his steel.

To extinguish a pretentious Duke of Argyll by a felicitous anecdote, or to banter an amiable Lord Granville, whom the most venomous of opponents could scarcely wish to wound, or to tease Lord Russell by such happy epigrams as "middle and middle," is only to bring into play some of the minor qualities of that eloquence, limited, perhaps, in its range, but sparkling and exciting in its power, for which the Lord Stanley of a former day was so distinguished. But it is in the more popular branch of the Legislature that the gift of oratory can be exercised with most facility and freedom, as it is there, also, that it is most frequently called forth. Thither, therefore, must we turn to find the men whose voices in the days we live in offend the ear of the country to its lowest depths, and whose words, faithfully recorded and carried to every corner of their own land and of the world, keep alive in the hearts of our people a traditional pride in their great representative assembly, and make its proceedings an object of unflinching interest and emulous imitation among all civilized races of "artificial speaking men."

Mr. Gladstone possesses the *capita dicendi* in an eminent degree. His wealth of words is marvellous, and the unflinching fluency with which they are poured forth. His ideas are also remarkable for clearness, order, and cohesion, and his general treatment of subjects may justly be called exhaustive. His divisions are a little too mechanical, and one cannot now hear of the regular "three courses" without a smile. A great element of his power as an orator is his intense subjectivity. He so identifies himself with his subject, he so makes of it, as it were, a cause to be contended for *tanquam pro aris et fide*, that the depth of his convictions for the time being gives to his matter a force, and to his manner an earnestness, that never fail to make an impression. But this subjectivity is also a source of weakness when it leads him to propound what seems to him political or economical truths, with a dogmatical authority that will not brook correction or dissent. He seems to convey in so defiant a manner his settled and imperishable assurance that any one who presumes to differ from him must be wrong, and wrong with so hopeless an inflexibility of error, that further argument would be wasted upon him, that he often fails to convert to his way of thinking men whose a more persuasive and confederating style of reasoning would easily gain over. It is unnecessary to say how successful has been his management of the public resources, or how frequently he has taken a Parliamentary majority almost by storm and gained from all quarters the support of measures which have previously been regarded by many with disfavor. But nevertheless we do not consider his Budget speeches, as a rule, the best of his oratorical efforts, and the "city men" who sit them out in order to have the first and fullest exposition of his intended policy generally complain of weariness at the close. They were not satisfied, on the whole, with Sir George Lewis, wretched speaker as he was; but Mr. Gladstone, whenever in the thrice of time he becomes Mr. Gladstone's Chancellor of the Exchequer, will be just the man for them. Mr. Gladstone may be called, we think, the Tennyson of finance; for he brings to his public expostulations of it not only the powers of his reason, but also the resources of his imagination, and clothes them with a beauty of diction and richness of illustration which men doubtless to hear. Still it is not the less true that a simpler treatment would generally be more effective; that the subordinate parts of the subject are sometimes developed with too much diffuseness, and that the artist often prevails over the statesman in these elaborate efforts. Mr. Gladstone's delivery is very good. His voice, if not powerful, is clear and judiciously modulated, his enunciation distinct, though natural and unaffected, and his gesture, though sparingly used and not remarkably graceful, easy and appropriate.

Mr. Disraeli has few, if any, points of contact, and many of contrast with his great antagonist. His great defect as an orator is the want of that subjectivity of which Mr. Gladstone has rather too much. That Mr. Disraeli is never earnest it would be unjust and absurd to think, and that there are many principles of public policy which he advocates from conviction is very probable. But the appearance of hesitation and effort with which he often speaks gives a disinterested and impartial auditor the impression that his words are not so much the signs of his inward ideas, as attempts, sometimes painful and not quite successful, to give expression to opinions that are struggling for utterance in the minds of others; that he is speaking not exactly what he thinks, but rather what others may like to hear, or he may wish them to believe. We have no doubt, however, that this hesitation is often affected, and we have remarked it at times when it seemed carefully designed to give more effect to keenly conceived and biting sarcasm. On comparatively rare occasions, when there is some great personal interest in the debate, or when the peculiar characteristics of an opponent have led him upon some happy vein of humor, it is very pleasant to hear him. His manner, so languid and listless, becomes warm and animated, his face is lit up with a glow of comic enjoyment, his words come out freely and with a bristling emphasis, and the unhappy wight upon whom he is giving for the time as it were, an anatomical demonstration, wriggles uncomfortably in his seat and adds, by his evident sensibility

VOL. I.

RALEIGH, THURSDAY APRIL 5, 1866.

NO. 201.

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A large Bay Horse, warranted good for any kind of work. The owner offers him for sale solely because he does not need him at present.

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March 21, 1866.

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1 New Iron Axle Wagon, New York make, 2 horse
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All of the above are of the very best quality, and will be sold at a small advance on New York cost. In addition to the above we keep all kinds of Plows and Farm Outfits, Scales, Buckets, Forks, Axes, &c.

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All produce, consigned to me for shipment, to Messrs. Dancy, Corner & Co., New York, will be insured from the point of shipment—parties advising me as soon as the goods are sent forward.

MERCHANDIZE

received and forwarded with promptness and at moderate charges.

A full supply of

GROCERIES.

kept constantly in store, which will be sold at low figures for cash.

Agent for the sale of Marvin & Co.'s celebrated

FIRE AND BURGLAR-PROOF SAFES,

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weighing only one-quarter of an ounce. These Safes are warranted fire and burglar-proof, and are sold at

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75 Bales of Cotton Yarn, and 4-4 Brown

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REFINED and Cuba Sugar for sale by

A. A. WILLARD,

Wilmington, Feb. 2, 1866.

Cuba Molasses.

In hogheads and barrels, for sale by

A. A. WILLARD,

Wilmington, Feb. 2, 1866.

CORNICORN!

8000 Bushels prime White Corn in Store, and

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A. A. WILLARD,

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FLOUR! FLOUR!

7000 Bushels, Super and Family, now landing

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5000 POUNDS of Soudon, bright and dry, for

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A. A. WILLARD,

Wilmington, Feb. 2, 1866.

Candies.

150 BOXES "Admiral" for sale by

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Coffee.

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SALISBURY BRASS BAND

REORGANIZED in January, 1866, on a larger scale

than ever before, under the leadership of the former

leader, W. H. KEAVE, who was also chief music

writer and band conductor. The band is now

increased in number and strength, and is now

under the leadership of W. H. KEAVE, who was

also chief music writer and band conductor. The

band is now increased in number and strength, and

NEW
SPRING AND SUMMER
GOODS
FOR 1866.NEW LINE STILL AHEAD.
Makes her trips regular and ahead of time.

A. CREECH

AGAIN has the pleasure to inform his old friends,

that he has just received from the North, where he

has just returned from the North, where he has

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BRADLEY'S CELEBRATED
DUPLEX ELLIPTIC

OF DOUBLE SPRING

SKIRTS.

EACH HOOP BEING COMPOSED OF TWO PER

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and firmly together, ed to edge, forming one hoop

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