

ern portion of the country, or Budjak, fell under the power of the Turks; and in 1560 there settled in that district 30,000 Nogaitzians, who had devastated northern Bessarabia, then inhabited by Roumanians. These Nogaitzians acquired the name of the Biegelgorod horde. Russian armies occupied Bessarabia during all the Turkish wars in the 18th century, and again in 1806-12, when it was united to Russia by the Bukharest treaty. By the Paris convention of 1856, Russia ceded the districts of Ismael and the greater part of the Cagul to Turkey, and these now form a part of Roumania. At present the government is divided into seven districts, those of Keesheneff, Akerman, Bender, Orgieff, Soroka, Khoteen, and Yassa. Bender and Akerman are subdivided into five cantons, each of the others into four. In 1860 the population numbered 988,431, and had a very varied ethnographical character. The principal portion consisted of Moldavians, descendants of the ancient Dacians. The Russnaysks or Galicians and Reyani (that is, those who have inhabited the rayas provinces of the Turkish empire), amounted to 130,000, mostly found in the districts of Khoteen, Soroka, Yassa, and Orgieff. Malo-Russians (or Little Russians) began to settle in the country in the 17th century, and now number 70,000. The Bulgarians began their immigration from the Turkish provinces in 1806-12, afterwards in 1830-34, and finally after 1856; they number 60,000. These colonies are administratively divided into three circles:—the Upper Budjak, consisting of 19, the Lower Budjak of 19, and the Ismael of 5. The Germans began to settle in Bessarabia in 1814. Their colonies, to the number of 25, are situated in the Akerman district, along the River Cogalnika. The Jews, who number 70,000, live partly in the cities Keesheneff, Khoteen, &c., but are also settled in 16 agricultural colonies. The Gypsies, or Zigan, amount to 10,000. They live a wandering life; but in the Akerman district two villages, Pharaonof and Kaera, are permanently inhabited by them. A considerable number of Armenians and Greeks have also settled in the country during the present century.

BESSARION, JOHANNES, titular patriarch of Constantinople, and one of the illustrious Greek scholars who contributed to the great revival of letters in the 15th century, was born at Trebizond in 1389, or, according to others, in 1395. In 1423 he entered the order of St Basil, and studied under the celebrated Platonic scholar, George Gemistus Pletho. In 1437 he was made archbishop of Nicea by John Palæologus, whom he accompanied to Italy in order to bring about a union between the Greek and Latin Churches. At the councils held in Ferrara and Florence Bessarion supported the Roman Church, and gained the favour of Pope Eugenius, who invested him with the rank of cardinal. From that time he resided permanently in Italy, doing much, by his patronage of learned men, by his collection of books and manuscripts, and by his own writings, to spread abroad the new learning. He held in succession the archbishopric of Siponto and the bishoprics of Sabina and Tusculum. In 1463 he received the title of patriarch of Constantinople; and it was only on account of his Greek birth that he was not elevated to the Papal chair. For five years he was legate at Bologna, and he was engaged on embassies to many foreign princes, among others to Louis XI. of France in 1471. Vexation at an insult offered him by Louis is said to have hastened his death, which took place, on the 19th November 1472, at Ravenna. Bessarion was one of the most learned scholars of his time. Besides his translations of Aristotle's *Metaphysics* and of Xenophon's *Memorabilia*, his most important work is a treatise directed against George of Trebizond, a violent Aristotelian, and entitled *In Calumniatorem Platonis*. Bessarion, though a Platonist, is not so thoroughgoing in his admiration as Pletho, and rather strives after a reconciliation of the two philosophies. His work, by opening up the relations of Platonism to the main questions of religion, contributed greatly to the extension of speculative thought in the department of theology.

BESSEGES, a town of France, in the department of Gard, 20 miles north of Alais by railway, of importance for its coal and iron mines and blast-furnaces. Population in 1872, 8036.

BESSEL, FRIEDRICH WILHELM, a distinguished Prussian astronomer, was born at Minden on the 22d July

1784. At an early age he was placed in the counting-house of a merchant at Bremen. His strong desire to obtain a situation as supercargo on a foreign voyage led him to the study first of navigation and then of mathematics. He devoted himself with the utmost ardour to mathematical and astronomical calculations, and in 1804 undertook the reduction of the observations made on the comet of 1607. His results were communicated to Olbers, who warmly praised the young astronomer, and in 1806 recommended him for the post of assistant to Schröter in the observatory at Lilienthal. In 1810, after his reputation had been much extended by various memoirs, treating particularly of cometary orbits, he was appointed director of the new observatory then being founded by the king of Prussia at Königsberg. He was at the same time made professor of astronomy and mathematics in the university of that town. Bessel, from his keen practical intelligence, thorough acquaintance with all instrumental appliances, and complete mastery of the methods of calculation, was admirably fitted for the post of observer. The establishment at Königsberg was one of the best of its kind, and its observations, published continuously from 1813, are of great value. In 1818 Bessel completed a task on which he had been engaged for several years—the reduction of Bradley's priceless but neglected Greenwich observations. The results were published in the volume entitled *Fundamenta Astronomiæ*, the importance of which for astronomical science cannot be overrated. By its publication the author at once took his place among the first astronomers of Europe; he was received with honour by the various foreign scientific societies, and was made a privy councillor by the king of Prussia. Of his later labours in practical astronomy perhaps the most important is his determination of the parallax of the star 61 Cygni, accomplished by methods of extreme ingenuity and delicacy. The *Tabula Regiomontana*, 1830, and *Astronomische Untersuchungen*, 2 vols., 1841-42, are continuations of the *Fundamenta*. His memoirs, contained in the *Astronomische Nachrichten*, are exceedingly numerous. A volume of *Popular Lectures* was published by Schumacher after the death of the author in 1846.

BETEL NUT. The name betel is applied to two different plants, which in the East are very closely associated in the purposes to which they are applied. The betel nut is the fruit of the Areca or betel palm, *Areca Catechu*, and the betel leaf is the produce of the betel vine or pan, *Chavica Betel*, a plant allied to that which yields black pepper. The areca palm is a graceful tree, which appears to be indigenous over a wide area in the East, including Southern India, Ceylon, Siam, the Malay Archipelago, and the Philippine Islands, in the whole of which it is extensively cultivated. The fruit of the palm is about the size of a small hen's egg, and within its fibrous rind is the seed or so-called nut, the albumen of which is very hard and has a prettily mottled grey and brown appearance. The chief purpose for which betel nuts are cultivated and collected is for use as a masticatory,—their use in this form being so wide-spread among Oriental nations that it is estimated that one-tenth of the whole human family indulge in betel chewing. For this use the fruits are annually gathered between the months of August and November, before they are quite ripe, and deprived of their husks. They are prepared by boiling in water, cutting up into slices, and drying in the sun, by which treatment the slices assume a dark brown or black colour. When chewed a small piece is wrapped up in a leaf of the betel vine or pan, with a pellet of shell lime or chunam; and in some cases a little cardamom, turmeric, or other aromatic is added. The mastication causes a copious flow of saliva of a brick-red colour, and gives the mouth, lips, and gums of the chewer a repulsive appearance. The habit blackens the teeth, but it is asserted by those addicted to

it that it strengthens the gums, sweetens the breath, and stimulates the digestive organs. Among the Orientals betel is offered on ceremonial visits in the same manner as wine is produced on similar occasions by Europeans. Betel nuts are further used as a source of catechu, which is procured by boiling the nuts in water. The water of the first boiling becomes red and thick, and when this is inspissated after the removal of the nuts it forms a catechu of high astringency and dark colour called in Bombay "Kossa." The nuts are again boiled, and the inspissated juice of the second decoction yields a weaker catechu of a brown or reddish colour. Betel nuts are used to some extent in the United Kingdom as the source of a charcoal tooth-powder, which, however, has no special virtue, and they are also employed by turners for ornamental purposes, and for coat buttons on account of the beauty of their structure. Recently they have come into repute as a vermifuge, and have been admitted into the *Supplement to the British Pharmacopœia* (1874) as a cure for tape-worm. The quantity of betel nuts consumed in the East is enormous. Ceylon alone exports about 70,000 cwt. annually; Travancore has upwards of a million of trees, the average produce of each being 300 nuts annually, or about 6000 tons in all; Sumatra is little less productive, and the small island of Penang, named from the Malayan name for the tree, is estimated to contain half a million trees. The nuts of other species of *Areca* are used by the poorer classes in the East as substitutes for the genuine betel nut.

BETHANY (*i.e.*, probably, the "House of Dates"), a village, now called El' Azariyeh, or Lazariyeh, nearly two miles E.S.E. from Jerusalem, on the eastern slope of the Mount of Olives, at a height of 2208 feet above the sea. The whole importance of the place is derived from its connection with New Testament history, it being never mentioned in the Old Testament or Apocrypha. It was the residence of Lazarus and his sisters, a favourite retreat of the Saviour, and the scene not only of his greatest miracle but also of his ascension. From the 4th century down to the time of the Mahometan invasion several ecclesiastical buildings were erected on the spot, but of these no distinct traces remain. Lazariyeh is a poor village of about twenty families, with few marks of antiquity; and there is no reason to believe that the house of Mary and Martha and of Simon the Leper, or the sepulchre of Lazarus, still shown by the monks, have any claims to the names they bear.

BETHEL (*i.e.*, in Hebrew, the "House of God"), originally called Luz, an ancient city of Palestine, on the borders of the tribe of Benjamin, eleven English miles north of Jerusalem. Of the origin of its new name two accounts are given in Genesis, both of them, however, connecting it with the history of Jacob. After the conquest of Canaan by the Israelites Bethel became a resting-place of the ark, and at a later date it was chosen as a royal residence and a seat of idolatrous worship by several of the renegade kings. It seems to have continued to flourish down into the Christian era, some remains still existing of its ecclesiastical buildings. Its ruins, which now bear the name of Beitin, occupy about three or four acres.

BETHESDA was a pool or public bath in Jerusalem, where miraculous cures were believed to be performed; now usually identified with the Birket Israel, near St Stephen's Gate. See JERUSALEM.

BETHLEHEM (*i.e.*, in Hebrew, the "House of Bread"), a small town in Palestine, situated on a limestone ridge, about six miles from Jerusalem, on the main road to Hebron. It was a place of great antiquity; and, under the name of Ephrata is mentioned in the history of Jacob. From the book of Ruth, which contains the romantic story of some of its inhabitants, it would appear to have had special con-

nection with the land of Moab. At a later date it became famous as the birthplace of David, but does not seem to have received any special favours at his hand. It was fortified by Rehoboam; and the neighbouring inn of Chimham seems to have become a regular rendezvous for travellers proceeding to Egypt. Almost complete obscurity, however, was gathering round it when it became one of the world's most memorable spots—the birthplace of the Saviour. Desecrated during the reign of Hadrian by a grove of Adonis, the traditional scene of the nativity (a grotto on the eastern part of the ridge) was enclosed by the Empress Helena with a noble basilica, which still stands, surrounded by the three convents successively erected here by the Greek, Latin, and Armenian Churches. In the neighbourhood is still shown the traditional grotto where Jerome spent a portion of his life busy with his Latin translation of the Scriptures. Captured by the Crusaders in the 11th century, Bethlehem was made an episcopal see; but the bishopric soon sank into a titular dignity. The present village is well built and clean, and the inhabitants, who number about 3000, profess Christianity. The carving of crucifixes and other sacred mementoes gives employment to a number of persons.

BETHUNE, the chief town of an arrondissement in the French department of Pas de Calais, situated on a rock above the River Brette, 16 miles N.N.W. of Arras. It is strongly fortified, and its defences are partly the work of Vauban. It has a tribunal of primary jurisdiction, a communal college, a Gothic church, two hospitals, and manufactures of linen, cloth, and beer. The trade, chiefly in grain, cheese, linen, and oil, is facilitated by the canal, which unites the Lawe with the Lys. The town, which dates from the 11th century, was taken by the allied forces in 1710, and restored to France by the treaty of Utrecht. Population in 1872, 4594.

BETLIS, BITLIS, or BEDLIS, a town of Turkish Armenia, in the Sandjak of Mûsh, situated near the south-west corner of Lake Van, in a highly cultivated valley, which is watered by the Bitlis-chai, a sub-tributary of the Tigris. Partly owing to the irregularity of the ground, the houses are scattered without much attention to order, and most of them are surrounded with gardens or orchards. The castle of the Bey, a straggling structure, is situated on the lava rock that bounds the valley; while in the centre of the town, on an eminence so steep that it is only accessible by a road winding round it, stand the ruins of an ancient fortress of great strength. Betlis is a great seat of the dancing dervishes, who have twelve convents in the place. The Armenians, who form about a fourth of the population, have four churches and as many monasteries, and the Mahometans possess numerous mosques and medresses. A considerable trade is carried on, as well as the manufacture of gold and silver wares, the weaving of cotton-cloth and carpets, and the preparation of tobacco. According to an Armenian tradition Betlis was founded by Alexander the Great. In 1514 it became a Turkish possession, and it has for about three centuries been held as a fief by a Kurdish family. The population is variously estimated at from 10,000 to 12,000.

BETTERTON, THOMAS, the best English actor of his time, was the son of Mr Betterton, under-cook to King Charles I., and was born at Westminster in 1635. He was apprenticed to Mr Rhodes, a bookseller near Charing Cross. Rhodes, who had been wardrobe-keeper to the theatre in Blackfriars, obtained in 1659 a licence to set up a company of players at the Cockpit in Drury Lane; and there Betterton made his first appearance on the stage. On the opening of the new theatre in Lincoln's-Inn-Fields in 1662, Sir William Davenant, the patentee, engaged Betterton and all Rhodes's company to play in his *Siege of*

Rnoes. Betterton became a great favourite with the king, and was sent to Paris to examine the French stage, with a view to the introduction of improvements. According to Cibber it was after his return that shifting scenes were first used in the English theatre instead of tapestry. In 1670 Betterton married Mrs Sanderson, a good actress of the same company; and the marriage was a very happy one. In 1693, when he had just lost the little money he had laid by, he was enabled by the aid of his friends to erect a new playhouse in the Tennis Court in Lincoln's-Inn-Fields. It was opened in 1695 with Congreve's *Love for Love*. But in a few years the profits greatly fell off; and Betterton, infirm through age, and labouring under violent attacks of the gout, determined to quit the stage. On his retirement the public gave him a benefit-night, when, though upwards of seventy, he played the part of Valentine in the comedy of *Love for Love*: the profits are said to have amounted to upwards of £500. His performance of Hamlet after this time is particularly mentioned in the *Tatler*. In the spring of 1710 he made his last appearance on the stage in his celebrated part of Melantius in *The Maid's Tragedy*. A rash attempt to reduce the swelling of his limbs by external applications threw the gout into his head, and he died on the 28th of April. His body was interred with much ceremony in the cloisters of Westminster. Betterton was author of several dramatic works which were popular in their day. An estimate of his character and abilities is given in the *Apology for my Own Life, &c.*, of his friend and rival Colley Cibber.

BETTINELLI, SAVERIO, Italian Jesuit and littérateur, was born at Mantua on the 18th of July 1718. After studying under the Jesuits in his native city and at Bologna, he entered the society in 1736. He taught the belles-lettres, from 1739 to 1744, at Brescia, where the Cardinal Quirini, Count Mazzuchelli, Count Duranti, and other scholars, formed an illustrious academy. He next went to Bologna to pursue the study of divinity, and there he enjoyed the society of many learned and literary men. At the age of thirty he went to Venice, where he became professor of rhetoric, and was on friendly terms with the most illustrious persons of that city and state. The superintendance of the college of nobles at Parma was entrusted to him in 1751; and he had principal charge of the studies of poetry and history, and the entertainments of the theatre. He remained there eight years, visiting, at intervals, other cities of Italy, either on the affairs of his order, for pleasure, or for health. In 1755 he traversed part of Germany, proceeded as far as Strasburg and Nancy, and returned by way of Germany into Italy, taking with him two young sons or nephews of the prince of Hohenlohe, who had requested him to take charge of their education. He made, the year following, another journey into France, along with the eldest of his pupils; and during this excursion he wrote his famous *Lettere dieci di Virgilio agli Arcadi*, which were published at Venice with his *sciolti* verses, and those of Frugoni and Algarotti. The opinions maintained in these letters against the two great Italian poets and particularly against Dante, created him many enemies, and embroiled him with Algarotti. In 1758 he went into Lorraine, to the court of King Stanislaus, who sent him on a matter of business to visit Voltaire. Voltaire presented him with a copy of his works, with a flattering inscription in allusion to Bettinelli's *Letters of Virgil*. From Geneva he returned to Parma, where he arrived in 1759. He afterwards lived for some years at Verona and Modena, and he had just been appointed professor of rhetoric there, when, in 1773, the order of Jesuits was abolished in Italy. Bettinelli then returned into his own country, and resumed his literary labours with new ardour. The siege of Mantua by the French compelled him to leave the city, and he

retired to Verona, where he formed an intimate friendship with the Chevalier Hippolito Pindemonti. In 1797 he returned to Mantua. Though nearly eighty years old he resumed his labours and his customary manner of life. He undertook in 1799 a complete edition of his works, which was published at Venice in 24 vols. 12mo. Arrived at the age of ninety years, he still retained his gaiety and vivacity of mind, and died on the 13th September 1808. The works of Bettinelli are now of little value. The only one still deserving remembrance, perhaps, is the *Risorgimento negli studj, nelle Arti e ne' Costumi dopo il Mille*, a sketch of the progress of literature, science, the fine arts, industry, &c., in Italy.

BETTING may be defined as the staking or pledging between two parties of some object of material value on the issue or contingent issue of some event or contest. The pursuit (it can hardly be termed a pastime, science, or art) of betting has been in vogue from the earliest days of civilization, commencing in the East with royal and noble gamblers, and gradually extending itself westwards and throughout all classes. In all countries where the English tongue is spoken betting is now largely indulged in; and in the United Kingdom it has spread to such an extent amongst all grades of society during the last twenty years that the interference of the Legislature has been found necessary. The evils it has been productive of are too well known to call for comment here, and the principles require to be treated solely from mathematical and legislative points of view.

The first principle of all betting is that "you cannot win where you cannot lose." Accordingly no bets are "play or pay" except those on certain events enumerated below, or unless such a stipulation is laid down at the time the bet is made. Betting may be divided into "bookmaking" and "backing." The former consists in laying the odds, and, theoretically speaking, secures a small though certain profit, were all debts paid and the number of starters for the event large. During the first half of the 19th century bookmaking was a far more lucrative business than now, because betting was confined to the wealthier classes and bad debts were fewer. Also, betting commenced many months before a great race, and so the bookmaker had more opportunities of laying against all the entries, whereas most betting on play or pay events is now done just before the start. Taking the St Leger (always a play or pay event) of 1875, the following table represents a £100 book opened a week before the race, according to the Continental betting quotations, September 7, 1875. Those marked † did not eventually start.

6 to 1 against Gilbert	£100	to	£16 13 4
7 " 1 " St Cyr	"	to	14 5 8
7 " 1 " Earl of Dartrey	"	to	14 5 8
10 " 1 " Dreadnought	"	to	10 0 0
10 " 1 " Balfe	"	to	10 0 0
12 " 1 " † Bay of Naples	"	to	8 6 8
16 " 1 " Rabagas II.	"	to	6 5 0
16 " 1 " Seymour	"	to	6 5 0
20 " 1 " New Holland	"	to	5 0 0
25 " 1 " Breechloader	"	to	4 0 0
25 " 1 " Ferkin Warbeck	"	to	4 0 0
25 " 1 " † Winner.	"	to	4 0 0
25 " 1 " † Claremont	"	to	4 0 0
33 " 1 " † Repentance Colt.	"	to	3 0 7
33 " 1 " † Salvador	"	to	3 0 7
40 " 1 " † Saint Leger	"	to	2 10 0
40 " 1 " † Temple Bar	"	to	2 10 0
50 " 1 " † Telescope	"	to	2 0 0
50 " 1 " † Garterly Bell	"	to	2 0 0
50 " 1 " † Sister to Musket.	"	to	2 0 0

£120 2 6

In this instance twenty horses are quoted in the betting. Assuming that the bookmaker finds a customer to back each of these, and that he encounters no bad debts, he receives £120, 2s. 6d., and has to pay £100 to the person with whom he laid £100 to £4

against Craigmillar, the winner. This leaves a gain of £20, 2s. 6d. or 20 per cent., but even then travelling and other expenses have not been taken into consideration, and the fewer horses that are backed the less accordingly will be the bookmaker's profit. In fact, the non-backing of any one horse in this instance materially reduces the profit. The race in question was particularly favourable for bookmakers, both because so many horses were scratched (representing a gain of £26, 17s. 10d.), and because at the date supposed the winner was at such long odds. At the actual start the odds against the beaten horses were 9 to 2, and 6, 7, 9, 10, 12, 20, 25, 25, 50, and 66 to 1 respectively, and against the winner 20 to 3. This will be found to leave the bookmaker, had he commenced his book the day of the race, a profit of £1, 12s. 6d. only, and had the first favourite won there would have been a loss of £5, 11s. 11d. There were 178 entries for this St Leger, and if the book had been opened many months before the race, and the bookmaker had been able to obtain customers, the favourites would have been backed at longer odds, bringing less profit from this source, but then more eventual non-starters are backed, which is certain profit. The chief principles of bookmaking are the same, whether the number of starters for an event be unlimited, or two only, though, in the latter case, there is no certain profit, as there are not sufficient starters to enable the bookmaker to save his stake. His only chance then is that he has been circumspect enough to have laid his odds on the winner.

"Backing" is a very plain matter, out in the long-run invariably a losing method of betting. It simply consists in taking the odds laid by a bookmaker against one or more starters for any event. If it be a play or pay event, and the possible starter be scratched, the backer loses his money at once. Although a backer may become possessed of such special information as may enable him to win large sums occasionally, his losses will in the long-run exceed them. In fact, the bookmaker virtually keeps a bank against him.

"Hedging" consists in laying off at shorter odds part of the sums various starters may have been backed for. Thus, a backer has taken £50 to £1 about A, B, and C respectively for a play or pay event some time before the date fixed for the contest. A turns out a non-starter, so there is a certain loss of £1. At starting the odds have come down to say 2 to 1 against B, and 3 to 1 against C. So the backer lays £50 to £25 against B, and £50 to £16, 13s. 4d. against C. If neither wins he receives £41, 13s. 4d., out of which he has to pay £3 to the bookmaker, leaving a profit of £38, 13s. 4d. Should B win he receives £50 from the bookmaker, and £16, 13s. 4d. on account of C's defeat, out of which he has to pay £2 to the bookmaker on account of A and C, and the £50 he has laid against B, so the profit left is £14, 13s. 4d. Should C win, the hedger receives £50 from the bookmaker, and £25 on account of B's defeat, out of which he has still to pay the bookmaker £2 on account of A and B, and the £50 he has laid against C, so the profit left is £23.

The only events that are now play or pay are the Derby, Oaks, St Leger, Two Thousand Guineas, One Thousand Guineas, Cesarewitch, and Cambridgeshire Stakes, the Ascot, Goodwood, and Doncaster Cups, and all handicaps above £200 value, with two forfeits, the minor whereof is not less than £5. In all other betting the backer is entitled to a start for his money, unless the contrary is stipulated at the time the bet is made.

In the United Kingdom betting has been the source of considerable legislation during the past thirty years. Curiously enough, by the 9th of Queen Anne, if any one gained over £10 by betting, the loser was entitled to pursue for repayment of the stake if he had paid it, and if he did not do so within three months any one might sue for treble the amount with costs. After it had become a dead letter some informers raked up this Act in 1844, and the result was the insertion of a clause in the Gaming Act, 8 and 9 Vict. c. 109, annulling the old statute. During the next seven years betting on horse races increased to an enormous extent. "List shops," where the proprietors

kept a bank against all comers, and backers could stake their money in advance on a horse, sprung up in the metropolises and large towns, leading to many acts of flagrant dishonesty. Sir Alexander Cockburn, then attorney-general, accordingly introduced the Betting Houses Act, 16 and 17 Vict. c. 119, whereby all houses or places kept for such purposes were brought under the above-mentioned Gaming Act, and might be proceeded against as a common nuisance and contrary to law,—heavy penalties being incurred by the owners, occupiers, or advertizers of such houses or places. Betting on race-courses, or at Tattersall's and similar private clubs, where money is not received in advance, was not meant to be interfered with. For some time this legislation had the desired effect till attempts were made to evade it by receiving money through the post. These were successful till the summer of 1869, when the Government suddenly bestirred itself, and several prosecutions took place. As the Act, however, did not extend to Scotland, the betting-house keepers removed there or went abroad, and their advertisements at such addresses were still legal. This led to 37 Vict. c. 14, extending 16 and 17 Vict. c. 119 to Scotland, and making all advertisements of betting-houses, whether in or out of the United Kingdom, illegal. It came into force on 31st July 1874, and almost exterminated the receiving of money in advance, especially as it is now enforced very strictly.

In 1866 a system of betting, termed *Paris mutuels*, was started in France. It consisted of agencies where any one may back a probable starter for any sum or sums he pleases. The whole of the money thus staked on all starters is added together, a commission deducted by the agent for his trouble, and the balance divided in "equal shares," or *Paris mutuels*, amongst those who have backed the victor. In this instance the agent's gain is, of course, certain. It has been found, however, that unlicensed opportunities of staking money in advance have produced the same evils in France as in England. During the past three years the French Government have taken the matter up strongly, and betting-houses and agencies are now as effectually doomed on the French as on the English side of the Channel.

In the United States betting is also illegal. Under the Gambling Act, whenever any money has been staked for a bet, either side can sue the stakeholder and recover his portion of the money, either before or after the bet has been decided. Owing, however, to the strong public sentiment which naturally condemns such a course, proceedings against stakeholders are excessively rare. Any voter betting on the result of an election forfeits his franchise, yet the heaviest betting in the States is on elections, and the betters go unchallenged to the poll. (H. F. W.)

BETUL, a hilly district of British India, in the Central Provinces, comprising the westernmost section of the great Sâtpurâ plateau, situated between 21° 20' and 22° 35' N. lat., and 77° 20' and 78° 35' E. long. It is bounded on the N. by the Hoshangâbâd district and the Makrâi territory, on the E. by the district of Chhindwâra, on the S. by the commissionership of West Berars, and on the W. by the district of Hoshangâbâd. The area is about 4118 square miles; the population, as ascertained by the census of 1866, 258,335. In 1872 the population had increased to 284,055, of whom 168,788 were Hindus, 4555 Mahometans, 937 Buddhists and Jains, 19 Christians, and 109,756 aborigines; population, 69 per square mile. The mean elevation of the district above the sea is about 2000 feet. The country is essentially a highland tract, divided naturally into three distinct portions, differing in their superficial aspects, the character of their soil, and their geological formation. The northern part of the district forms an irregular plain of the sandstone formation. It is a well-wooded tract, in many places stretching out in charming glades like an English

park, but it has a very sparse population and little cultivated land. In the extreme north a line of hill rises abruptly out of the great plain of the Narbadá valley. The central tract alone possesses a rich soil, well watered by the Machná and Sámpana rivers, almost entirely cultivated and studded with villages. To the south lies a rolling plateau of basaltic formation (with the sacred town of Multái, and the springs of the River Taptí at its highest point), extending over the whole of the southern face of the district, and finally merging into the wild and broken line of the Gháts, which lead down to the plains. This tract consists of a succession of stony ridges of trap rock, enclosing valleys or basins of fertile soil, to which cultivation is for the most part confined, except where the shallow soil on the tops of the hills has been turned to account.

The principal rivers of the district are the Taptí, Wardhá, Bel Machná, Sámpaná, Morar, and Tawá. The Taptí rises a few miles from Multái, traverses the southern part of the district, and then plunges into the gorges of the Sátpurá hills, formed on the one side by the Chikaldá hills of Berar, and on the other side by the wild Kálfbhá hills of Hoshangábád. The Wardhá can hardly be called a river of the district, as it merely takes its rise in the Sátpurá hills on the south-eastern boundary. The River Bel also rises in the high plateau of Betul, and forms one of the chief affluents of the Kanhá. The Machná and Sámpaná rise among the hills that shut in the rich basin of the district. They unite their waters at the town of Betúl, force their way through the Sátpurá range, and join the Tawá near Sháhpur. The Moran rises in the Sátpurá hills within the district, and enters Hoshangábád near the town of Seonl. The Tawá rises in Chhindwára, and flowing for a short distance through the north-east corner of this district, eventually joins the Narbadá above Hoshangábád. These are the rivers of importance; but throughout the district, and more especially amid the trap formation, there are a number of smaller streams useful for irrigation. The principal agricultural products of the district are wheat and pulses, more than three-fourths of the open lands being devoted to these crops. The other products are cotton, rice, millet, rye, sugar-cane, and opium. The area under sugar-cane cultivation is estimated at 2400 acres, the juice extracted from it being exported in its raw state. The principal agricultural tribe is the Kunbis, many of whom are modern immigrants from Northern India. The aboriginal Gonds are found in all the wild jungle villages, where they follow the nomadic system of cultivation known as the *dáhya*. Extensive forests occupy some 700 square miles of the district area, and yield teak and other good timber. Coal occurs in many parts of the district, but is not worked, as except at one place not a single seam has been found exceeding 3 feet in thickness, and it is doubtful if a seam of that thickness can be profitably mined in India. District revenues in 1868-69—land revenue, £19,159; excise, £7219; assessed taxes, £1136; forests, £1218; stamps, £2743; total, £31,475. Strength of regular constabulary and town police, 333 men; cost, £3857 per annum.

Little is known of the early history of the district except that it must have been the centre of the first of the four ancient Gond kingdoms of Kherlá, Deogarh, Mandla, and Chándá. According to Farishtá, these kingdoms engrossed in 1398 all the hills of Gondwáná and adjacent countries, and were of great wealth and power. About the year 1418 Sultán Husain Sháh of Málwa invaded Kherlá, and reduced it to a dependency. Nine years later the Rájá rebelled, but although with the help of the Báhmíni kings of the Deccan he managed for a time to assert his independence, he was finally subdued and deprived of his territories. In 1467 Kherlá was seized by the Báhmíni king, but was afterwards restored to Málwa. A century later the kingdom of Málwa became incorporated into the dominions of the emperor of Delhi. In 1703 a Musálmán convert of the Gond tribe held the country, and in 1743 Raghuji Bhonslá, the Marhattá ruler of Berar, annexed it to his dominions. The Marhattás in the year 1818 ceded this district to the East India Company as payment for a contingent, and by the treaty of 1826 it was formally incorporated with the British possessions. Detachments of British troops were stationed at Multái, Betul, and Sháhpur to cut off the retreat of Apá Sáhib, the Marhattá general, and a military force was quartered at Betul until June 1862.

The ruined city of Kherlá formed the seat of government under the Gonds and preceding rulers, and hence the district was, until the time of its annexation to the British dominions, known as the "Kherlá Sarkár." The town of Multái contains an artificial tank, from the centre of which the Taptí is said to take its rise; hence the reputed sanctity of the spot, and the accumulation of temples in its honour.

The climate of Betul is fairly salubrious. Its height above the plains and the neighbourhood of extensive forests moderate the heat, and render the temperature pleasant throughout the greater part of the year. During the cold season the thermometer at night falls below the freezing point; little or no hot wind is felt before the end of April, and even then it ceases after sunset. The nights in the hot season are comparatively cool and pleasant. During the monsoon the climate is very damp, and at times even cold and raw, thick clouds and mist enveloping the sky for many days together. The average annual rainfall is 40 inches. In the denser jungles malaria prevails for months after the cessation of the rains, but the Gonds do not appear to suffer much from its effects. Travellers and strangers who venture into these jungles run the risk of fever of a severe type at almost all seasons of the year.

BETWÁ, a river of India, which rises in the native state of Bhopál in Málwa, and after a course of 360 miles, for the most part in a north-easterly direction, falls into the Jamná at Hamírpur in 25° 57' N. lat. and 80° 17' E. long.

BEUDANT, FRANÇOIS Sulpice, a French mineralogist and geologist, was born at Paris in 1787, and died in 1862. He was educated at the Polytechnic and Normal schools, and in 1811 was appointed professor of mathematics at the Lycée of Avignon. Thence he was called, in 1813, to the Lycée of Marseilles to fill the post of professor of physics. In the following year the royal mineralogical cabinet was committed to his charge to be conveyed into England, and from that time his attention seems to have been directed principally towards geology and cognate sciences. In the year 1818 he undertook, at the expense of Government, a geological journey through Hungary, and the results of his researches, *Voyage Minéralogique et Géologique en Hongrie*, 3 vols. 4to, with atlas, published in 1822, established for him a European reputation. He was about the same time appointed to the professorship of mineralogy in the Paris Faculty of Sciences. His treatises on physics (*Traité de Physique*, 6th ed., 1838) and on mineralogy and geology (*Cours Élémentaire de Minéralogie et Géologie*, 1841) were very popular. Beudant also, when holding the post of inspector of the university, published a valuable French grammar.

BEULÉ, CHARLES ERNEST, a French archæologist and man of letters, was born at Saumur 29th June 1826, and died 4th April 1874. He was educated at the École Normale, and in 1852 was sent to Athens as one of the professors in the École Française established there. At first distinguished as a man of fashion, he afterwards devoted himself with intense vigour to archæological researches. He had the good fortune to discover the propylæa of the Acropolis, and his work, *L'Acropole d'Athènes* (2 vols. 1854), was published by order of the minister of public instruction. Promotion and distinctions followed rapidly upon his first successes. He was made doctor of letters, chevalier of the Legion of Honour, professor of archæology at the Bibliothèque Impériale, member of the Academy of Inscriptions, and perpetual secretary of the Academy of Fine Arts. Like too many French men of letters, he joined eagerly in political affairs, with which the last few years of his life were entirely occupied. The most important of his writings are *Études sur le Péloponnèse*, 1855; *Les Monnaies d'Athènes*, 1858; *Histoire de la Sculpture avant Phidias*, 1864; *Histoire de l'Art Grec*, 1870.

BEUTHEN, the chief town of a circle in the government of Oppeln in Prussian Silesia, on the railway between Oppeln and Cracow, about 50 miles from the former. It is the centre of the mining district of Upper Silesia, and its population, which numbered 15,711 in 1871, is mainly engaged in mining operations. Cloth and linen weaving, however, is also carried on. Beuthen is an old town, and was formerly the capital of the lordship of Beuthen, which belonged to the counts of Donnersmark. It is frequently called Ober Beuthen to distinguish it from the following.

BEUTHEN, or NIEDER BEUTHEN, a town in the government of Liegnitz, in Silesia, on the Oder, and the capital of the mediatised principality of Carolath-Beuthen. The chief industries of the place are straw-plaiting, boat-building, and the manufacture of pottery; and a considerable traffic is carried on by means of the river. Population in 1871, 3826.

BEVERLEY, a market and borough town in the East Riding of Yorkshire, about a mile from the River Hull, with which it communicates by means of a canal called the Beverley Beck. It consists principally of one long wide street, upwards of a mile in length, and terminated by an ancient gateway. The magnificent collegiate church of St John is in size and splendour superior to many cathedrals. Having been erected at different times it exhibits various styles of Gothic architecture. The west front is said by Rickman to be the finest of its kind in England. It is 334 feet in length from east to west; the breadth of the nave and side aisles is 64 feet; the transept is 167 feet long; and the two towers at the west end are 200 feet in height. One of its most remarkable monuments is the Percy shrine. St Mary's church is also an exceedingly handsome and spacious Gothic building. The market-place, which comprises an area of nearly 4 acres, is ornamented with an octagonal market-cross. The grammar school is of great antiquity, and has two fellowships, six scholarships, and three exhibitions at St John's College, Cambridge. There are several national and two infant schools, a blue-coat school; a mechanics' institute, a news-room, several banks, a theatre, a jail, and a cattle-market. There is a large trade in grain, timber, and coal. The tanning of leather is the principal industry; but there are also several important manufactories of agricultural implements and of artificial manures, as well as whiting-factories, corn and linseed mills, and breweries and malt-kilns. It formerly returned two members to parliament, but was disfranchised in 1870. Population of municipal borough in 1871, 10,218.

BEVERLEY, a seaport of Massachusetts in the United States; situated on a branch of Ann Harbour, and connected with Salem by a bridge built in 1785. It is 16 miles N.E. of Boston, on the Eastern Railway, and is connected with Gloucester by a branch line. The principal industry is the manufacture of shoes; and a considerable number of people are employed in the coasting trade and fisheries. Population in 1870, 6507.

BEVERLEY, JOHN OF, a celebrated prelate, who flourished during the 7th and 8th centuries, was born at Harpham in Northumbria. He received his education at Canterbury, and after his return to the north was the instructor of the Venerable Bede. In 685 he was made bishop of Hagolstad or Hexham, and two years later was promoted to the archbishopric of York. He resigned his see in 717, and retired to a college which he had founded some years before at Beverley, where he died in 721. He was celebrated for his scholarship as well as for his virtues. The following works are ascribed to him:—*Pro Luca Exponendo* (an exposition of Luke); *Homilia in Evangelia*; *Epistola ad Heribaldum, Audeniam, et Bertinum*; *Epistola ad Holdam abbatisam*.

BEWDLEY, a market and borough town in the parish of Ribbesford, in the county of Worcester 129 miles from London, on the Severn Valley Railway. It is well built, and stands on an eminence near the River Severn, over which there is an elegant bridge, erected in 1797. It has a town-hall, a free grammar school, and several charities; and manufactures combs, brass and iron wares, leather, and malt. It returns one member to parliament. Population of parliamentary borough in 1871, 7614.

Bewdley, or, as it was formerly called, *Beaulieu*, was a place of some importance in the 13th century, and had the right of sanctuary for those who shed blood. Henry VII. built a palace in the town for his son Arthur, who was married there by proxy to Catherine of Aragon; but no remains of the building, which was greatly injured during the wars of the 17th century, can now be traced. The town, which was incorporated by Edward IV., formerly belonged to the Marches of Wales, but was assigned to Worcestershire by Henry VIII.

BEWICK, THOMAS, who may be considered as the reviver of wood-engraving in England, was born at Cherry-burn, near Newcastle-on-Tyne, in August 1753. His father rented a small colliery at Mickleybank, and sent his son to school at Mickley. He proved a poor scholar, but showed, at a very early age, a remarkable talent for drawing. He had no tuition in the art; and no models save natural objects. At the age of fourteen he was apprenticed to Mr Beilby, an engraver in Newcastle. In his office Bewick engraved on wood for Dr Hutton a series of diagrams illustrating a treatise on mensuration. He seems thereafter to have devoted himself entirely to engraving on wood, and in 1775 he received a premium from the Society for the Encouragement of Arts and Manufactures for a woodcut of the "Huntsman and the Old Hound." In 1784 appeared his *Select Fables*, the engravings in which, though far surpassed by his later productions, were incomparably superior to anything that had yet been done in that line. The *Quadrupeds* appeared in 1790, and his great achievement, that with which his name is inseparably associated, the *British Birds*, was published from 1787-1804. Bewick, from his intimate knowledge of the habits of animals acquired during his constant excursions into the country, was thoroughly qualified to do justice to his great task. Of his other productions the engravings for Goldsmith's *Traveller* and *Deserted Village*, for Parnell's *Hermit*, for Somerville's *Chase*, and for the collection of *Fables of Æsop and others*, may be specially mentioned. Bewick was for many years in partnership with his former master, and in later life had numerous pupils, several of whom gained distinction as engravers. He died on the 8th November 1828. His autobiography (*Memoirs of Thomas Bewick, by Himself*, 8vo, London) appeared in 1862.

BEYLE, MARIE-HENRI, better known as De Stendhal, the most celebrated of his many *noms de plume*, was born at Grenoble on the 23d January 1783. His father was an *avocat* at the parliament of Grenoble, and his family, though not noble, was of good descent. His early education was conducted mainly by priests, who seem to have misunderstood his very peculiar character, and for whom he ever afterwards entertained a profound aversion and contempt. At the age of twelve he was sent to the École Centrale, newly established at Grenoble, and continued in attendance for four years, during which time he distinguished himself in all his studies. In 1799 he was preparing to become a candidate for the École Polytechnique when his plans were disturbed by an offer from M. Daru, a distant relative, of some appointment connected with the ministry for war. In the following year he accompanied M. Daru to Milan, on the chance of some suitable post offering itself. He was present at the battle of Marengo; and carried away apparently, by the military enthusiasm consequent on