

**A SCRATCH TEAM OF ESSAYS, NEVER
BEFORE PUT TOGETHER: BEING REPRINTS
FROM THE QUARTERLY AND
WESTMINSTER REVIEWS, ON THE KITCHEN
AND THE CELLAR; THACKERAY; RUSSIA;
CARRIAGES, ROADS, AND COACHES**

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A Scratch Team of Essays, Never Before Put Together: Being Reprints from the Quarterly and Westminster Reviews, on The Kitchen and the Cellar; Thackeray; Russia; Carriages, Roads, and Coaches by Sept. Berdmore (Nimshovich)

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SEPT. BERDMORE (NIMSHIVICH)

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SCRATCH TEAM OF ESSAYS

NEVER BEFORE PUT TOGETHER.

BEING REPRINTS

From the Quarterly and Westminster Reviews,

ON

THE KITCHEN AND THE CELLAR.—Q. R. 1877.

THACKERAY.—W. R. 1864.

RUSSIA.—W. R. 1867.

CARRIAGES, ROADS, AND COACHES.—Q. R. 1877.

BY

SEPT. BERDMORE (NIMSHIVICH).

"Dites ce qu'on doit admettre que pourra."

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1883.

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11-18-29

P R E F A C E .

THE proprietors of the *Quarterly* and *Westminster*
Reviews have kindly given me permission to
reprint those essays that have appeared in their
pages in which I have a paternal interest.

I have made some additions and notes here and
there, and but few corrections; but I am bound
to say that, inasmuch as the article on Russia
touches on politics, there has been a great deal
in the conduct of her Government, to say nothing
of Nihilistic crimes, which prove to me that I
took too optimistic a view of the nation, and that
the "earth hunger," of which other publicists
have written, was too much veiled from my eyes
by the glamour of a hospitality which I shall
always readily acknowledge.

Some observations due to the Franco-German
war of 1870 are placed here instead of under
"Russia." When she repudiated the Black Sea
clauses of the Treaty that followed the Crimean
war, Gambetta threw away one of those great

chances which might have proved that he was indeed a statesman. The journey of Thiers to the North must have proved to him that France was to have no help from that quarter. To have sent her fleet round to the Black Sea would have proved that, even with Germany on her hands, France had still regard for treaties and intended to have them respected. Whether with the weak men at our helm then, as now, France would have forced our hand for very shame, I cannot guess, but certainly she would have made us blush to accept so calmly the undone work for which, in common with her, we spent our blood. And even to blush is not so bad for a nation when it permits its rulers to do ignoble, or fail to do noble, acts.

By-and-by the working man will have his say as well as the *bourgeois*, and I think he will not allow his Government to turn the other cheek to the enemy. Perhaps also, with a good deal more pride for his country than the Birmingham Radical, he will think that places like New Guinea had better be annexed.

THE AUTHOR.

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SCRATCH TEAM OF ESSAYS.

THE KITCHEN AND THE CELLAR.

ERRATUM.

p. 109, line 14, *for Newcombe read Newcome.*

tion in relation to their food and wines. Would that it were in our power to say that there has been since that day real progress as well in that Art as in the Science of Cookery in England! It would be unreasonable to expect that material prosperity should bring in its train the plain and

* See "Quarterly Review" article on "Gastronomy and Gastronomers," in July 1835, and article on Mr. Walker's "Original," in February 1836.