

... for feeding  
... varieties, such  
... ill act judiciously

... into the House  
... on Friday last,  
... upon the report  
... 1848 to inquire into  
... subject is dealt with

... been made at a  
... Queensland Accli-  
... that over an area  
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... during a recent  
... to habit the above  
... coves that by ordi-  
... a weed which has  
... to look, to get head,  
... to Brisbane, and is  
... its of this scourge,  
... society is enjoying,  
... ing no extra labour  
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... , when the ground  
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... ally struggling to  
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... Exhibition is  
... from August 25th  
... all horticultural  
... the exception of  
... aded, owing to the  
... of the Phylloxera  
... machinery, imple-  
... collections of any  
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... ally summoned for  
... Hanson, a dairy-  
... reason had on many  
... before the magis-  
... terated milk, and  
... able to offer was  
... be condition as he  
... the country. The  
... cost. of water in  
... the defendant was  
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... made with the  
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... Altogether 115  
... lety, of this space  
... implement trials,  
... closed. The site  
... the centre of the

... cluded the appeal by stating: "Contributions in  
... money, clothes, &c., will be gratefully accepted by  
... the superintress."

My object in writing to you on this subject is to  
say, I think those of your readers who are willing to  
respond to the above charitable work should, before  
doing so, be made acquainted with the fact that this  
is a Roman Catholic institution, which might not be  
inferred from the way in which it is inserted in the  
*Chronicle*, notwithstanding the word "superintress" is  
used.

If you will kindly insert this in your paper you  
will greatly oblige.—Yours truly, R. H. CRABB.

## THE HAMPDEN-WALLACE LIREL CASE.

To the Editor of the *Chelmsford Chronicle*.

SIR.—I should not have thought it necessary to  
say another word on the matter between myself and  
Mr. Hampden, had you not last week addressed a  
kind of expostulation to myself. Your remarks show  
that you are ignorant of certain facts which in the  
opinion of impartial lookers on, as well as of all my  
friends, render the course you suggest altogether  
out of the question. I beg, therefore, to be allowed  
to state, as briefly as I can, what these facts are.

1. It is not the case, as you seem to suppose, that  
the experiment I tried was sure to succeed. It was  
to be made on a canal in a few districts, and was  
strictly limited by Mr. H. to the space of a few weeks  
in the months of February and March, 1870. It is  
well known that unusual refraction sometimes raises  
distant objects so as to neutralise or even reverse  
the evidence of curvature. Had this happened on  
the only day we found for the experiment I  
should most certainly have lost my £500. (See  
Flammerion's work on "The atmosphere" for such  
cases of unusual refraction).

2. Mr. Hampden, however, had no such doubts on  
his side, for the excellent reason that he believed  
the experiment had been repeatedly tried on the very  
spot in question, by Parallax himself, the teacher of  
Mr. H. on this matter. In "Zetetic Astronomy, the  
earth not a globe," by Parallax, pages 11 to 12, are  
full details of these experiments, with diagrams,  
which he states have been repeated many times  
during 24 years! This was the very book which con-  
verted Mr. Hampden. If either of us, therefore, is  
liable to the charge of having wagered on what he  
believed to be a certainty, it is Mr. Hampden, not  
me.

3. Mr. Hampden chose for his referee a man who  
had for years been a disciple of "Parallax"—had  
written a book advocating the flatness of the earth—  
and this book (stock and copyright) had been pur-  
chased from him by Mr. H. about two months before  
the experiment. Yet, in face of my written stipula-  
tion that Mr. Hampden's referee should not be a  
"personal acquaintance" of his, this man was ap-  
pointed; and accepted by me in full confidence that  
I should not be deceived. I and my friends, as well  
as the Editor of the *Field* (Mr. J. H. Walsh) con-

FRIDAY, MARCH 19, 1875.

sidered the appointment of this man by Mr. Hampden as grossly improper and unfair at the very outset. (Field, March 29th, 1875.)

From the moment the experiment was made Mr. Hampden has claimed to have won the wager, on the ground that the water is really a plane, and that my experiment showed it to be so! And he still persists in this view, claiming not only the money he lost but my money which he says he has won. I have numerous letters extending over nearly five years, in which he declares that he will never leave me in peace until I have paid him the whole £21,000.

I leave your readers therefore to judge what my position would have been had I given Mr. Hampden back his money (and thus, in his view, have acknowledged my failure to prove what I had undertaken to prove), unless I were also prepared to pay him another £200. They will also judge whether Mr. Hampden's conduct from the first has deserved any such consideration on my part. And finally I leave them to form their own judgment as to whether, after suffering five years of uncessing libels, and after having spent very large sums in the civil and criminal litigation he has forced upon me, and which is not yet terminated, I owe him any such consideration now.

The facts here stated can be almost all proved by reference to papers issued by Mr. Hampden himself and his referee Mr. Carpenter.

ALFRED R. WALLACE.

## TWELVE PARADOXICAL PROOFS OF THE EARTH'S ROTUNDITY.

A correspondent forwards the following, prefaced by a letter, which we withhold because of its personal and irrelevant character:—

"1. That there exists an Order in Council, as well as of both Houses of Parliament, forbidding any allowance, in ordnance surveys, for the curvature of the earth's surface, which same rule applies also to the construction of railroads.

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A Corresponden

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