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The Leader.

A POLITICAL AND LITERARY REVIEW, MERCANTILE JOURNAL,
AND

RECORD OF JOINT STOCK COMPANIES, BANKS, RAILWAYS, MINES, SHIPPING, &c.

VOL. IX. No. 438.]

SATURDAY, AUGUST 14, 1858.

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ALLIANCE

BRITISH AND FOREIGN

LIFE & FIRE ASSURANCE COMPANY,
BARTHOLOMEW LANE, LONDON, E.C.

Established 1824.

(Branch Offices: Edinburgh, Ipswich, and Bury St. Edmunds.)

Capital, FIVE MILLIONS Sterling.

PRESIDENT—Sir Moses Montefiore, Bart.

DIRECTORS.

James Alexander, Esq.	James Helme, Esq.
Charles George Barnett, Esq.	John Irving, Esq.
George Henry Barnett, Esq.	Elliot Macnaghten, Esq.
Charles Buxton, Esq., M.P.	J. Mayer Montefiore, Esq.
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James Fletcher, Esq.	Thomas Charles Smith, Esq.
Charles Gibbs, Esq.	
William Gladstone, Esq.	

AUDITORS.—George J. Goschen, Esq., Andrew Johnston, Esq., George Peabody, Esq.

Life Assurances are granted under an extensive variety of forms, and at Moderate Premiums; the Rates for the Younger Ages being lower than those of many of the older and most respectable offices.

Participation of Profits. *Four Fifths*, or Eighty per cent. of the declared Profits will be divided quinquennially among those entitled to participation.

Non-participating Scales of Premium. Policies issued at minimum Rates without participation in profits.

Life Policies are not liable to Forfeiture by the Lives Assured proceeding beyond the prescribed limits without the cognizance of the holders of such Policies.

Reduced Extra Rates for residence out of Europe.

No charge for Stamps or Medical Fees.

Fire Assurances, both at home and abroad, are accepted at very Moderate Premiums.

The Assured participate in the *Fire Profits* in respect of Policies in force for five complete years at each period of Division.

Losses by *Lightning* are made good; and the Company are liable for Losses by *Explosion*, except when occasioned by Gunpowder, or in cases specially provided for in the Policy.

Detailed Prospectuses will be furnished on application.

FRANCIS A. ENGELBACH,
Actuary and Secretary.

ESTABLISHED 1838.

VICTORIA and LEGAL and COMMERCIAL
LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, No. 18, King
William-street, City.

DIRECTORS.

BENJAMIN HAWES, Esq., Chairman.

THOMAS NESBITT, Esq., Deputy-Chairman.

Charles Baldwin, Esq.	W. K. Jamieson, Esq.
George Denny, Esq.	John Jones, Esq.
J. C. Dimsdale, Esq.	John Nolloth, Esq.
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John Gladstone, Esq.	O'B. Bellingham Woolsey, Esq.
Aaron Goldsmid, Esq.	
Sidney Gurney, Esq.	

The business of the Company embraces every description of risk connected with Life Assurance.

The assets of the Company exceed 265,000*l*.

And its income is over 60,000*l*. a year.

Advances in connexion with Life Assurance are made on advantageous terms, either on real or personal security.

WILLIAM RATRAY, Actuary.

GALVESTON, HOUSTON, AND HENDERSON RAILROAD COMPANY.

The Definitive Obligations, or Debenture Bonds to bearer, of 20*l*. each, with Coupons attached, for the Interest at 8 per cent., payable in London half-yearly, are ready for delivery in exchange for Bankers' receipts.

Attached to each Bond is a Free Share of 8*l*.

The Bonds are secured upon the lands of the Company (10,240 acres being granted in respect of every mile of road constructed) and such Bonds will be paid off by annual drawings, with a Bonus of 10 per cent. The shares will then participate in the proceeds of the sale of the remaining portion of the lands and the whole traffic of the line.

The opening of the second section of the line is fixed for the 1st of October next.

Further information can be obtained from the Committee of the London Agency, at the Offices of the Company, 108, Gresham House, Old Broad-street, London.

THE LONDON ASSURANCE,

INCORPORATED A.D. 1720.

FOR LIFE, FIRE, AND MARINE
ASSURANCES.

Head Office—No. 7, Royal Exchange, Cornhill.

John Alves Arbuthnot, Esq., Governor.

John Alex. Hankey, Esq., Sub-Governor.

Bonamy Dobree, Jun., Esq., Deputy-Governor.

DIRECTORS.

Nathaniel Alexander, Esq.	G. R. Griffiths, Esq.
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Robert Gillespie, Jun., Esq.	David Powell, Esq.
Harry George Gordon, Esq.	P. F. Robertson, Esq., M.P.
Edwin Gower, Esq.	Alex. Trotter, Esq.
Samuel Gregson, Esq., M.P.	Lestock Peach Wilson, Esq.

Actuary—Peter Hardy, Esq., F.R.S.

West End Office—No. 7, Pall Mall.

COMMITTEE.

Two Members of the Court in rotation, and
Henry Kingscote, Esq., and John Tidd Pratt, Esq.
Superintendent—Philip Scoones, Esq.

LIFE DEPARTMENT.

This Corporation has granted Assurances on Lives for a period exceeding One Hundred and Thirty Years, having issued its first Policy on the 7th June, 1721.

Two-thirds, or 66 per cent. of the entire profits are given to the Assured.

Policies may be opened under any of the following plans, viz. :—

At a low rate of premium, without participation in profits, or at a somewhat higher rate, entitling the Assured, either, after the first five years, to an annual abatement of premium for the remainder of life, or, after payment of the first premium, to a participation in the ensuing Quinquennial Bonus.

The abatement for the year 1858, on the Annual Premiums of persons who have been assured under Series "1831" for five years or longer, is upwards of 34 per cent.

The high character which this ancient Corporation has maintained during nearly a Century and a Half, secures to the public a full and faithful declaration of profits.

The Corporation bears the whole EXPENSES OF MANAGEMENT, thus giving to the Assured, conjoined with the protection afforded by its Corporate Fund, advantages equal to those of any system of Mutual Assurance.

Premiums may be paid Yearly, Half-yearly, or Quarterly.

All Policies are issued free from stamp duty, or from charge of any description whatever, beyond the Premium.

The attention of the Public is especially called to the great advantages offered to Life Assurers by the Legislature in its recent Enactments, by which it will be found that to a defined extent Life Premiums are not subject to Income Tax.

The fees of Medical Referees are paid by the Corporation.

Annuities are granted by the Corporation, payable Half-Yearly.

Every facility will be given for the transfer or exchange of Policies, or any other suitable arrangement will be made for the convenience of the Assured.

Prospectuses and all other information may be obtained by either a written or personal application to the Actuary, or to the Superintendent of the West End Office.

JOHN LAURENCE, Secretary.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN BANKING COMPANY.

Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1847.

LETTERS OF CREDIT and BILLS are granted upon the Banks at Adelaide, Port Adelaide, and Gawler. Approved drafts on South Australia negotiated and sent for collection. Every description of Banking business is conducted direct with Victoria and New South Wales, and also with the other Australian Colonies, through the Company's Agents. Apply at 54, Old Broad-street, London, E.C.

WILLIAM PURDY, Manager.

MONEY TO LEND.—THE LONDON AND CONTINENTAL ASSURANCE SOCIETY lends money, repayable by instalments, upon personal or other security. 97, Gracechurch-street, E.C.

THE ROYAL EXCHANGE ASSURANCE.

Incorporated A.D. 1720, by Charter of King George the First and confirmed by Special Acts of Parliament.
Chief Office, Royal Exchange, London; Branch, 29, Pall-mall.

FIRE, LIFE, and MARINE ASSURANCES may be effected with this Corporation on advantageous terms.

Life Assurances are granted with, or without, participation in Profits; in the latter case at reduced rates of Premium.

Any sum not exceeding 15,000*l*. may be assured on the same Life.

The Reversionary Bonus on British Policies has averaged 43 per cent. upon the Premiums paid, or very nearly 2 per cent. per annum upon the sum assured.

The future divisions of Profit will take place every Five Years.

The Expenses of Management, being divided between the different branches, are spread over a larger amount of business than that transacted by any other office. The charge upon each Policy is thereby so much reduced as to account for the magnitude of the Bonus which has been declared, and to afford a probability that a similar rate will be maintained at future divisions.

This Corporation affords to the Assured a liberal participation in Profits, with exemption under Royal Charter from the liabilities of partnership;—a rate of Bonus equal to the average returns of Mutual Societies, with the guarantee, not afforded by them, of a large invested Capital-Stock;—the advantages of modern practice, with the security of an Office whose resources have been tested by the experience of nearly a Century and a Half.

JOHN A. HIGHAM, Actuary and Secretary.

ST. GEORGE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

118, Pall-Mall, London, S.W.

Capital 100,000*l*. in Shares of 5*l*. each.

Chairman.—Henry Pownall, Esq.

Deputy Chairman.—Henry Haines, Esq.

The Leading Features of this Office are—
Every description of Life Assurance on the most favourable terms.

The Assurance of Defective Titles, thereby restoring the property to its full value.

Endowments for Husbands, Wives, or Nominees.

Endowments for Children on attaining a certain age.

Annuities of every description granted on terms peculiarly favourable.

Notices of Assignments of Policies Registered.

Medical Referees paid by the Company.

Age of the Life Assured admitted on all Policies, on reasonable proof being given.

Stamp Duties on Life Policies paid by the Company.

Loans on Real or Personal Security, repayable by monthly or quarterly instalments, from one to five years.

For further particulars, Forms of Proposal and Prospectuses, apply to

F. H. GILBART, Secretary.

ACCIDENTS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

£1000 IN CASE OF DEATH, OR

A FIXED ALLOWANCE OF £6 PER WEEK

IN THE EVENT OF INJURY,

May be secured by an Annual Payment of £3 for a

Policy in the

RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE COMPANY.

A special Act provides that persons receiving compensation from this Company are not barred thereby from recovering full damages from the party causing the injury; an advantage no other Company can offer.

It is found that ONE PERSON in every FIFTEEN is more or less injured by Accident yearly. This Company has already paid as compensation for Accidents 27,988*l*.

Forms of Proposal and Prospectuses may be had at the Company's Offices, and at all the principal Railway Stations, where, also, Railway Accidents alone may be insured against by the Journey or year.

NO CHARGE FOR STAMP DUTY.

Railway Passengers' Assurance Company.

Offices, 3, Old Broad-street, London, E.C.

WILLIAM J. VIAN, Secretary.

DEPOSIT AND DISCOUNT BANK.

FIVE PER CENT. is paid on all Sums received on DEPOSIT. Interest paid half-yearly.

The Right Hon. the Earl of DEVON, Chairman.

G. H. LAW, Manager.

Offices, 6, Cannon-street, West, E.C.

ARGUS LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

39, Throgmorton-street, Bank.
CHAIRMAN—THOMAS FARNCOMB, Esq., Alderman.
DEPUTY-CHAIRMAN—WILLIAM LEAF, Esq.
 Richard E. Arden, Esq. | Rupert Ingleby, Esq.
 Edward Bates, Esq. | Saffery W. Johnson, Esq.
 Professor Hall, M.A. | Jeremiah Pilcher, Esq.
 John Humphrey, Esq., Ald. | Lewis Pocock, Esq.
PHYSICIAN—Dr. Jeaffreson, 2, Finsbury-square.
SURGEON—W. Coulson, Esq., 2, Frederick's-place, Old Jewry.

ACTUARY—George Clark, Esq.
ADVANTAGES OF ASSURING IN THIS COMPANY.
 The Premiums are on the lowest scale consistent with security.

The assured are protected by an ample subscribed capital—an Assurance Fund of 450,000*l.* invested on Mortgage and in the Government Stocks, and an income of 85,000*l.* a year.

Premiums to Assure 100 <i>l.</i>			Whole Term.	
Age.	One Year.	Seven Years.	With Profits.	Without Profits.
20	0 17 8	0 19 9	£1 15 10	£1 11 10
30	1 1 3	1 2 7	2 5 5	2 0 7
40	1 5 0	1 6 9	3 0 7	2 14 10
50	1 14 1	1 19 10	4 6 8	4 0 11
60	3 2 4	3 17 0	6 12 9	6 0 10

MUTUAL BRANCH.

Assurers on the Bonus system are entitled, at the end of five years, to participate in nine-tenths, or 90 per cent. of the profits.

The profit assigned to each policy can be added to the sum assured, applied in reduction of the annual premium, or be received in cash.

At the first division a return of 20 per cent. in cash, on the premiums paid, was declared; this will allow a reversionary increase, varying, according to age, from 66 to 23 per cent. on the premiums, or from 5 to 15 per cent. on the sum assured.

One-half of the "whole term" premium may remain on credit for seven years, or one-third of the premium may remain for life as a debt upon the policy at 5 per cent., or may be paid off at any time without notice.

Claims paid in one month after proofs have been approved. Loans upon approved security.

No charge for policy stamps. Medical attendants paid for their reports.

Persons may, in time of peace, proceed to, or reside in, any part of Europe, or British North America, without extra charge.

The medical officers attend every day, at a quarter before two o'clock.

NORTH RHINE COPPER MINING COMPANY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA (Limited).—Capital, 60,000*l.*, in 60,000 shares of 1*l.* each; 5*s.* thereof to be paid on application for shares, and a further sum of 5*s.* per share at the expiration of two months from the date of allotment.

DIRECTORS.

Charles Cleve, Esq., Crosby-square, London, late of Adelaide.
 Francis Cope, Esq. (Messrs. Cope and Scott, London).
 George Hay Donaldson, Esq. (Messrs. Donaldson, Lambert, and Co. London).
 Philip Levi, Esq. (Messrs. P. Levi and Co., London, and Adelaide).
 William Paxton, Esq., Linden House, Chiswick, late of Adelaide.

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT in SOUTH AUSTRALIA.
 John Beck, Esq., Director of the Burra-Burra.
 Edmund Levi, Esq., Local Director of the Bank of Australasia.

CONSULTING ENGINEER—J. H. Clement, Esq., F.G.S.

SOLICITORS.
 London—Messrs. Pattison and Wigg, 1, Lincoln's Inn-fields, and 10, Clements-lane, City.
 Adelaide—Charles Fenn, Esq.

BANKERS.
 London—Messrs. Hankey, Fenchurch-street.
 Adelaide—South Australian Banking Company.

BROKERS—Messrs. Cope and Scott, 7, Lothbury, City; Thomas Fenn, Esq., 3, Royal Exchange-buildings, City.

MANAGER—T. Hancock, Esq.
 Offices, 1, Charlotte-row, Mansion House, London.

This Company is formed for the purpose of purchasing and working the valuable freehold mineral property known as the North Rhine Mine, situate in the hundred of that name, near Adelaide, South Australia.

The property comprises 366 acres, and contains one of the richest deposits of copper ore yet discovered in this well-known mineral district.

Upwards of 100 tons of copper ore have been raised from this mine, and the yield of the malachite and blue carbonate has shown upwards of 70 per cent. oxide of copper, giving an average to the ore of 32 to 34 per cent. fine copper.

Prospectuses in detail, with maps, may be had on application at the offices, or from the Brokers.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR SHARES.
 To the Directors of the North Rhine Copper Mining Company of South Australia (Limited).

Gentlemen,—Having paid £— to your Bankers, Messrs. Hankey, I request that you will allot to me— Shares in North Rhine Copper Mining Company, South Australia (Limited); and I hereby agree to accept such Shares, or any less number that may be allotted to me, subject to the provisions of the Limited Liability Act of 1856.

Name.....
 Address.....
 Date.....

The above form, when filled up, is to be left with the Bankers on payment of the deposit.

NORTH RHINE COPPER MINING COMPANY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA (Limited).
 No application for shares in this company will be received after Wednesday next.

August 12, 1858. T. HANCOCK, Manager.

ON MONDAY, August 16, the NATIONAL LINEN COMPANY will OPEN their WEST-END BRANCH, No. 130, New Bond-street, corner of Grosvenor-street, W. Price Lists, Samples, and Patterns, post free.

Address, No. 105, Fleet-street, corner of Farringdon-street, E.C.; and No. 130, New Bond-street, corner of Grosvenor-street, W.

MUTUAL ASSURANCE WITHOUT PERSONAL LIABILITY.

NATIONAL MERCANTILE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY, Poultry, Mansion-house, London.

Annual Income, 70,000*l.*
 Accumulated assets, 269,330*l.*

BONUSES.—The reductions in the premiums last year varied from 15 to 62½ per cent., with the option of equivalent reversionary additions, which, on an average, have amounted to 2 per cent. per annum on the sum assured.

VOYAGES by SEA and RESIDENCE in FOREIGN CLIMATES free of extra charge after the expiration of five years.

NON-FORFEITURE of POLICY.—After the expiration of five years the non-payment of premium only will, under any circumstances, vitiate the policy.

JENKIN JONES, Actuary and Secretary.

INDIA.

OFFICERS in the ARMY and CIVILIANS PROCEEDING TO INDIA may insure their lives on most favourable terms in the **MEDICAL INVALID and GENERAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.** The rates of this Company, which transacts the business of the Delhi, Simla, North West and other Indian Banks, are lower than those of any other Office, while the Agencies at Calcutta, Madras, Bombay, Ceylon, and about fifty up-country stations in India, afford every possible facility for the transaction of business.

Prospectuses, Forms of Proposals, and every other information may be obtained of the Secretary, at the Chief Office, 25, Pall Mall.

C. DOUGLAS SINGER, Secretary.

WINE NO LONGER AN EXPENSIVE LUXURY.

PORT, SHERRY, MARSALA, MADEIRA, &c., TWENTY SHILLINGS PER DOZEN, imported by us from the Cape of Good Hope, and only charged half the usual duty by her Majesty's Customs.

"I find it to be pure and unadulterated, and I have no doubt of its being far more wholesome than the artificial mixtures too often sold for genuine Sherry."

"H. LETHBY, M.D., London Hospital."
 A pint sample of either, 12 stamps. Terms, cash or reference. Packages charged and allowed for if returned. Delivered free to any of the London Termini.

Brandy, Pale or Brown, 15*s.* per gallon.

WELLER and HUGHES, wholesale Wine and Spirit Importers, 27, Crutched Friars, Mark-lane.

SOUTH AFRICAN PORT and SHERRY,

20*s.* a dozen; very superior, 24*s.* a dozen.
 H. R. WILLIAMS, Importer, 112, Bishopsgate-street, London, quotes the following extracts of letters addressed to him—originals at his counting-house:—

From a Nobleman.—"The sample of Sherry Lord S. approves."
 From an eminent literary Gentleman.—"July 16, 1858. Mr. — is much pleased with the Sherry."

From a Clergyman.—"July 17, 1858. We like your wine so much that we have mentioned it to several people."

From Major-General ——"July 21, 1858. Sir—I very much approve of your South African Sherry; as I require wine, I shall write for more wherever I may go."

Delivered free to any London Railway Terminus.

H. R. WILLIAMS, Wine and Spirit Importer, 112, BISHOPSGATE-STREET WITHIN, LONDON, Two doors from the Flower Pot.

ALLSOPP'S PALE ALE IN IMPERIAL PINTS.

HARRINGTON, PARKER, and CO., are now delivering the October Brewings of the above celebrated Ale. Its surpassing excellence is vouched for by the highest medical and chemical authorities of the day.

Supplied in bottles, also in casks of 18 gallons and upwards, by HARRINGTON, PARKER, and CO., Wine and Spirit Merchants, 54, Pall Mall.

August, 1858.

HARVEY'S FISH SAUCE.—Notice of In-

junction. The admirers of this celebrated Fish Sauce are particularly requested to observe that none is genuine but that which bears the back label with the name of

WILLIAM LAZENBY, as well as the front label signed "Elizabeth Lazenby," and that for further security, on the neck of every bottle of the Genuine Sauce will henceforward appear an additional label, printed in green and red, as follows:—"This notice will be affixed to Lazenby's Harvey's Sauce, prepared at the original warehouse, in addition to the well known labels, which are protected against imitation by a perpetual injunction in Chancery of 9th July, 1858."

6, Edwards-street, Portman-square, London.

EPPS'S COCOA.—Epps, homœopathic chemist,

London.—1*lb.* and ½*lb.* packets, 1*s.* 6*d.* and 9*d.*—This excellent production, originally prepared for the special use of homœopathic patients, having been adopted by the general public, can now be had of the principal grocers. Each packet is labelled James Epps, homœopathic chemist, London.

CAUTION to Household, Bankers, Mer-

chants, and Public Offices. The Patent **NATIONAL and DEFIANCE LOCKS** can be had only of F. PUCK-

RIDGE, 52, Strand, near Charing-cross. These Locks are important for their security against burglars and thieves, as evidenced in the fraudulent attempt to pick it at the Crystal Palace, in August, 1854, by John Goster, forman to Messrs. Chubb, for the REWARD of 200 Guineas. See Pamphlet and Description, to be had gratis. Fire and Thief proof Iron Safes, Plate and Jewel Chests, Deeds, Cash, and Despatch Boxes, Embossing Dies, &c. Warranted Street-Door Latches, 17*s.* 6*d.* each.

SYDENHAM ALPACA OVERCOATS for

Summer Wear. Admirably adapted for the Parks, Day Festivals, Race-Courses, Country Rambles, Daily Town Wear, or the Sea-Side, and equally convenient for travelling in hot dry weather from the protection which they afford against dust, without the encumbrance of weight, or the restraint of transpiration. These goods are made with a degree of care hitherto unprecedented.

Sydenham Trousers of fine light cloth, 17*s.* 6*d.*; Waistcoat to match, 8*s.* 6*d.*; Business or Park Coat, 17*s.* 6*d.*; Sydenham Summer Overcoats of Melton Cloth, 21*s.*; Complete Suits for Boys, 24*s.*; Gentlemen's complete Evening Dress or Opera Suit, 63*s.* The Sydenham construction as is now well known is effectually directed to secure the most perfect retentive and easy fit in all positions of the body. Made only by the

Inventors, SAMUEL BROTHERS, 20, Ludgate-hill.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL and

MEDICAL COLLEGE.—The WINTER SESSION will commence on October 4th, with an INTRODUCTORY ADDRESS by Mr. COOTE, at 7 o'clock p.m.

LECTURES.
 Medicine—Dr. Burrows and Dr. Baly.

Surgery—Mr. Lawrence.

Descriptive Anatomy—Mr. Skeey.

Physiology and Morbid Anatomy—Mr. Paget.

Chemistry—Dr. Frankland.

Superintendence of Dissections—Mr. Holden and Mr. Savory.

SUMMER SESSION, 1859, commencing May 1.

Materna Medica—Dr. F. Farre.

Botany—Dr. Kirkes.

Forensic Medicine—Dr. Black.

Midwifery, &c.—Dr. West.

Comparative Anatomy—Mr. McWhinnie.

Practical Chemistry—Dr. Frankland.

Demonstrations of Operative Surgery—Mr. Holden and Mr. Savory.

Hospital Practice.—The Hospital contains 650 beds, and relief is afforded to more than 95,000 patients annually. The in-patients are visited daily by the physicians and surgeons, and Clinical Lectures are delivered—on the Medical Cases, by Dr. Burrows and Dr. Farre; on the Surgical Cases, by Mr. Lawrence, Mr. Stanley, Mr. Lloyd, and Mr. Skeey; on Diseases of Women, by Dr. West. The out-patients are attended daily by the Assistant-Physicians and Assistant-Surgeons.

Collegiate Establishment.—Students can reside within the Hospital walls, subject to the rules of the collegiate system, established under the direction of the Treasurer and a Committee of Governors of the Hospital. Some of the Teachers and other gentlemen connected with the Hospital also receive students to reside with them.

Scholarships, Prizes, &c.—At the end of the Winter Session, examination will be held for two scholarships, of the value of 45*l.* for a year. The examination of the classes for prizes and certificates of merit will take place at the same time.

Further information may be obtained from Mr. Paget, Mr. Holden, or any of the medical or surgical officers or lecturers, or at the Anatomical Museum or Library.

MAPPIN'S DRESSING CASES AND TRAVELLING BAGS.

MAPPIN BROTHERS, Manufacturers by Special Appointment to the Queen, are the only Sheffield Makers who supply the Consumer in London. Their London Show Rooms, 67 and 68, KING WILLIAM-STREET, London-bridge, contain by far the largest STOCK of DRESSING CASES, and Ladies' and Gentlemen's TRAVELLING BAGS in the World, each Article being manufactured under their own superintendence.

MAPPIN'S Guinea DRESSING CASE, for Gentlemen.

MAPPIN'S Two Guinea DRESSING CASE, in solid Leather.

Ladies' TRAVELLING and DRESSING BAGS, from 2*l.* 12*s.* to 100*l.* each.

Gentlemen's do. do., from 3*l.* 12*s.* to 80*l.*

Messrs. MAPPIN invite inspection of their extensive Stock, which is complete with every Variety of Style and Price.

A costly Book of Engravings, with Prices attached, forwarded by post on receipt of 12 Stamps.

MAPPIN BROTHERS, 67 and 68, KING WILLIAM-STREET, CITY, LONDON.

Manufactory—QUEEN'S CUTLERY WORKS, SHEFFIELD.

MAPPIN'S SHILLING RAZOR, sold every-

where, warranted good, by the Makers, MAPPIN BROTHERS, Queen's Cutlery Works, Sheffield, and 67 and 68, King William-street, City, London, where the largest stock of Cutlery in the world is kept.

MAPPIN'S SUPERIOR TABLE-KNIVES

maintain their unrivalled superiority. Handles cannot possibly become loose; the blades are all of the very first quality, being their own Sheffield manufacture.

Tblc. Kns. Dst. Kns. Carvers.

Ivory 3½ in. Handle, balanced... 20*s.* 16*s.* 6*s.*

Do. 4 in. do. do. 25*s.* 18*s.* 9*s.*

MAPPIN'S SILVER-PLATED DESSERT

KNIVES and FORKS, in Mahogany Cases.

12 Pairs Knives and Forks, Ivory Handles, in Case..... 80*s.*

12 Do. Pearl Handles, do. 90*s.*

12 Do. Silver-Plated Handles, do. 80*s.*

MAPPIN'S ELECTRO-SILVER PLATE.—

MAPPIN BROTHERS, Manufacturers by Special Appointment to the Queen, are the only Sheffield makers who supply the consumers in London. Their LONDON SHOW ROOMS, 67 and 68, King William-street, London Bridge, contain by far the largest STOCK of ELECTRO-SILVER PLATE in the World, which is transmitted direct from their Manufactory, Queen's Cutlery Works, Sheffield.

Fiddle Double King's

Pattern. Thread. Pattern.

12 Table Forks, best quality.. £1 18 0 £2 14 0 £3 0 0

12 Table Spoons, best quality. 1 16 0 2 14 0 3 0 0

12 Dessert Forks, best quality. 1 7 0 2 0 0 2 4 0

12 Dessert Spoons, best quality. 1 7 0 2 0 0 2 4 0

12 Tea Spoons, best quality.. 0 16 0 1 4 0 1 7 0

Messrs. Mappin Brothers respectfully invite buyers to inspect their unprecedented display, which, for beauty of design, exquisite workmanship, and novelty, stands unrivalled. Their illustrated Catalogue, which is continually receiving addition of New Designs, free on application—

MAPPIN BROTHERS, 67 and 68, King William-street, London Bridge; Manufactory, Queen's Cutlery Works, Sheffield.

GLENFIELD PATENT STARCH

USED IN THE ROYAL LAUNDRY.

And pronounced by HER MAJESTY'S LAUNDRESS to be

THE FINEST STARCH SHE EVER USED.

Sold by all Chandlers, Grocers, &c. &c.

THE SUITS at 47*s.*, 50*s.*, 55*s.*, 58*s.*, 60*s.*, and

63*s.*, are made to order from Scotch heather and Cheviot tweeds and angolas, all wool, and thoroughly shrunk, by B. BENJAMIN, merchant and family tailor, 74, Regent-street, W., and are adapted for either shooting, fishing, promenade, sea-side, or continental touring. N.B. A perfect fit guaranteed.

Review of the Week.

CHERBOURG is deserted by the wondering thousands who a few days ago thronged its quays and choked up its old narrow streets, and fought for its sleeping-rooms, and poured out maledictions on the heads (including the eyes) of its rapacious purveyors of bed and board. The last echo of the last thundering salute has died away, the smoke of the thousand guns blown Heaven knows whither. Her Majesty has returned home for a day or two, and is now in the heart of Germany, on her way to Berlin. The Emperor and Empress have steamed away to Brest, and are enjoying more naval salutes and the vivas of their Breton subjects. Only one or two grumblers have "written to the *Times*," and we may, therefore, conclude that the fêtes have passed off satisfactorily. Even the members of the House of Commons, who, after having the *Pera* placed at their command, were said to have found themselves as badly off as they were at the memorable Spithead review, turn out to have got along famously; they were favourably placed for seeing whatever was most interesting; and even Sir Charles Napier—who may some foul day have to try his hand at silencing the triple-piled batteries of this wonderful stronghold—rolled about the place without the smallest objectionable let or hindrance.

The same free right of way was given to all the honourable members of her Majesty's House of Commons, but special advantage of the license was taken by two of the august party. We don't know all the ins and outs of Cherbourg yet; but we are rapidly making up our minds as to the power of the place as an engine of hostility to this country. We are making up our minds a little too rapidly, and the statements and opinions of Messrs. Roebuck and Lindsay, the two members alluded to, delivered at Tynemouth, on Tuesday, are calculated, in some measure, to help to this undesirable result. It may be quite certain that, as Mr. Lindsay says, the finest ship in the French navy is not a match for such a ship as the *Royal Albert*; that French sailors can never stand comparison with English tars; that the English are born lovers of the sea while the French detest it; it may be perfectly true that, straining every nerve and using every resource, France could not convey one hundred thousand men in arms out of the harbour of Cherbourg in less time than we could collect such a fleet as would safely stop them before they could be thrown upon English ground; but our security is only made certain at the inevitable cost of a frightful amount of blood, and of a sum of money which, with all our riches, we may well desire not to be called upon to pay. Cherbourg is a great fact which it will not do to under-estimate. There may be no danger in it at present; but it will remain when, possibly, the sources of our present security are dried up. Some Napoleon of the future, with whom we may not be on terms of alliance, may be master of Cherbourg.

But in the mean time, Napoleon III.—going out of his way, on occasion of the banquet on board the *Bretagne*—has pledged his word for the continuance, as far as he is concerned, of the present alliance. He disavows the fury of his colonels, the menaces of his ministers. "The facts speak for themselves," he says, "and they prove that hostile passions, aided by a few unfortunate incidents, did not succeed in altering either the friendship which exists between the two Crowns, or the desire of the two nations to remain at peace. Therefore," he goes on to say, "I entertain the sincere hope that if attempts were made to stir up old resentments and the passions of another epoch, they would break to pieces upon public common sense, as the waves break upon the breakwater which at this moment protects the squadrons of the two empires against the violence of the sea." No speech

could be better, and there is nothing in the mere fact of the speaker's having perfected a great military engine that might be employed against us to warrant a doubt of his sincerity. We have nothing seriously to fear from Cherbourg; we have, however, to regret that its completion should compel us to enter upon a course of warlike expenditure at a time of peace of all the advantages of which we have special need.

Returned from Cherbourg, the "honourable" cargo of the good ship *Pera* have scattered themselves through the land for pleasure or for profit, or for both combined. Mr. Osborne was the first distinguished member to show in the provinces. He was down at Dover at the end of last week to meet his constituents; the meeting was celebrated by a speech that is in many respects remarkable. With the Liberals Mr. Osborne is shocked and indignant. "There is an apathy about them," he says, "and the best thing that could happen to this country would be a dissolution of Parliament." Liberal principles he is in no doubt about; they must triumph, no matter what ministry holds office; but of the Liberal party, as a party, his only hope is in the wholesome influence of the constituencies. "However decayed the party may be, it will gain new life as it is brought into contact with them."

A topic of more immediate interest, however, is the formation of the new Indian Council. On Monday, a Court of Directors of the East India Company elected seven of their own body to sit in the new Council, namely, Charles Mills, Esq.; John Shepherd, Esq.; Sir James Weir Hogg; Elliot Macnaughton, Esq.; Ross Donnelly Mangles, Esq.; William Joseph Eastwick, Esq.; and Henry Thoby Princep, Esq. Of the portion of the Council to be nominated by her Majesty's Government, one name is already announced; it is Sir John Lawrence, who is now on his way home; two other names are expected to be announced, namely, Sir Henry Rawlinson and Mr. Willoughby. "Job! job!" is already beginning to resound; and whatever is the policy of the Government and the Company, or whatever may be the necessities of the case, it is certain that, after setting in motion all the ponderous machinery which it has taken a whole session of Parliament to prepare, to effect a great change in the Government of India, the Court of Directors will, under its new title, have everything in its own hands, "just as it was before," as a correspondent of the *Times* pointed out.

The news from India itself is of a character to disappoint in some degree the expectations raised by the previous intelligence. The operations in Gwalior appear not to have had so good an effect upon the enemy as was supposed. One week after their flight they are reported to have been at one place not less than 15,000 strong, including camp followers, and well supplied with ammunition. On the other hand, Brigadier Sir Hope Grant has had a very successful engagement with a large body of rebels in the neighbourhood of Nawabgunge, commanded by the Moulvie. Six hundred of the enemy were cut up, after they had made a desperate stand, and seven heavy guns were captured. Beaten by Sir Hope Grant, the Moulvie retreated towards Shahjehanpore, and, being reinforced, surrounded the palace of the Rajah of Powayne. The Rajah and his two sons went out to give him battle, and in the conflict he was shot. He had no sooner fallen than his head was cut off and sent to the British Commissioner of Shahjehanpore. Both in the Upper Provinces and in Lower Bengal, particularly in the latter Presidency, there are manifest signs of activity on the part of the rebels. In Cawnpore emissaries have been discovered endeavouring to beat up recruits for the rebel leaders. Several cases of atrocity have come to light.

The news from China, which accompanies that brought by the Calcutta mail, is of no great import-

ance or interest. Lord Elgin and Baron Gros were at Tientsien receiving and giving ceremonial visits to and from the Chinese Special High Commissioner. A declaration of war is spoken of as the alternative, if our demands are not promptly complied with.

The news from Canada is of a painful nature. The want of moral as well as legal union between the Upper and Lower Provinces has resulted in difficulties of a serious kind. The act of 1840, which was intended to do away the distinctions of race and language, which had stood in the way of a thorough harmony of intercourse between the mixed population, appears never to have effected its object. There has been a constant struggle going on between the French and English for political supremacy, and many a party cross-purpose besides, and this struggle has been particularly bitter with reference to the question of the choice of a capital for the United Provinces. In the hope of escaping from the difficulties by which the adjustment of this question was impeded by national and party jealousy, the Canadian Parliament referred the matter to her Majesty for her decision. It will be remembered that the choice fell upon Ottawa. Now a Parliamentary majority has repudiated the decision of its sovereign, after voluntarily soliciting it, and the immediate result has been to overthrow the Ministry, without the chance of a minister being found who can command a majority.

Against this uncomfortable piece of news we may put that which comes to us from Australia. The progress of the country is highly satisfactory. The revenue more than doubles the necessary expenditure; and although every penny of it is spent, the surplus is all applied to the permanent improvement of the land, the production of railways, and other great public works.

Day by day we have the pleasant assurance repeated that electric communication continues uninterrupted to and from Newfoundland; and in a very few days more we may hope to commence using the wonderful instrument for general purposes of intercommunication. The circumstantial account which has been given of the third and successful attempt to lay the cable is a fine sermon against despondency. Had the third attempt been unsuccessful, what thousands would have pronounced the undertaking impracticable! But even if it had failed, how practicable it would still have been.

The state of railway property is at the present moment a subject of very serious interest. We have, at an enormous outlay of money and energy, raised a system of railways that is the wonder of the world; the work is successful in all but the one essential—it does not pay. We have had the use of a splendid instrument of national progress, and we have so misused it that half the good results of the produce have been lost. The condition of what promised to be the most magnificent railway of the kingdom, the Great Western, is an example of the all but ruinous effects of the mismanagement which is very nearly general in the working of our railways. In 1845 an 80% Great-Western fetched in the market 205%; at the present moment a 100% Great-Western share is only worth 50%, and will not readily sell even at that price. It is not that the traffic of the main lines of this great system of railways does not or cannot be made to pay; it is that jobbery and incompetency have combined to overlay the original and legitimate schemes of the leading railways with a host of minor schemes, worthless in themselves and fatal in their influence on the others.

Side by side with the record of progress which the accounts of the electric telegraph furnish, we have from Ireland a distressing specimen of the darkness which still hangs heavily over the mind of one portion of the community. In Kilkenny some thousands of rural labourers have banded themselves with the object of destroying all the farming machinery in the country. Riot and violence have had full swing some days, during which time several valuable agricultural machines have been broken to pieces and their owners maltreated, and the rioters have at last been quelled only by the interposition of a body of soldiery. This looks as if the Irish rural population were at least a quarter of a century behind that of England. But there is nothing in the fact that need dishearten the well-wishers of Ireland.

THE INDIAN REVOLT.

THE pause in the progress of events in India continues, and both sides seem resting after their struggles. The rains have by this time begun, and during the wet season operations are difficult. The impression at Calcutta seems to be that circumstances have assumed a more cheerful aspect, but that the danger is far from over, as the Gwalior fugitives are still at large, and Tantia Topee, the Nawab of Banda, and Nana Sahib, are yet at liberty to carry forth their designs. The pause will probably be turned to account by the rebels in instituting an extensive propaganda, in beating up recruits, in repairing their loss of cannon, and in generally making themselves ready for the renewed struggle. On the other hand, it is to be hoped that we shall be equally prepared; to which end further reinforcements from England, on a large scale, appear indispensable. The bullet, the climate, and fatigue, have sadly thinned our ranks.

On the 1st of July, the rebels were forty miles from Jeypore, near Lallsahtoon, and General Roberts's force, was only thirty-four miles distant from the first-mentioned city on the same day. That is the latest news from the disturbed districts.

The Indian Government has supplied to the newspapers the subjoined Service Messages from various districts, bearing date from the 11th to the 27th of June:—

CHUNDAR DISTRICT.—Yukut Rao, the rebel zemindar of Arphelee, in the Chundar District, has been captured by a party in the pay of Luchmeebaee Zemindarin of Aheeree. No particulars received, except that many persons were killed and wounded on both sides.

GWALIOR, &c.—The Maharajah of Gwalior left Agra on the 13th of June for the purpose of joining the Central India field force, now on its way to Gwalior. All was well at Jeypore on the 13th, and Bhurtpore on the 14th. Sir Hugh Rose's force reached Soopoolia on the latter day. The rebel force seemed disinclined for a contest, and there were many desertions. The Sepree Brigade was at Soorjepore on the 10th, and was to be at Mahara on the 11th. Several of the rebels are said to have fled from Gwalior in the direction of the Kotah boundary. "On the day of the general action with the Gwalior rebels, on the 19th inst.," writes Sir Hugh Rose, "the force under my command took, exclusive of the guns in the fort, sixteen guns in the field from the enemy, one of them a brass 24-pounder, a brass 18-pounder, a brass 8-inch mortar, several English 9-pounders and guns of other calibre, great quantities of ammunition, waggons, and warlike stores of every description, and seventy elephants. When the troops went to occupy the fort of Gwalior, after the capture of the city by storm, Scindiah's authorities having reported to me that it was vacated, they found the gate shut, and a detachment of fanatics opened fire on them. Sun having set, I caused the fort to be surrounded, and the next morning a detachment of the gallant 25th Bombay Native Infantry stormed and took it; their brave leader, Lieutenant Rose, was killed. I sent a column of Horse Artillery and cavalry, under Brigadier-General Napier, C.B., in pursuit of the rebels, who fled in great disorder after the defeat of the 19th inst. I also directed another column from Dholepore to cross the Chumbul and pursue the fugitives. Brigadier-General Napier overtook them on the 21st inst. near Jana Allahpore, defeated them, captured twenty-five guns, and cut up a considerable number. Brigadier-General Napier, who has displayed the greatest energy and intelligence in the pursuit, continues it to Subbulghur. The day after the capture of Gwalior I conducted Sir R. Hamilton and Major M'Pherson, with a squadron of her Majesty's Hussars and one squadron of her Majesty's 14th Light Dragoons, to the Palace of Gwalior. The streets were lined by immense crowds, who received the Maharajah with every appearance of attachment." "The party of fugitive rebels from Gwalior who crossed the Chumbul have been largely joined by the other fugitives at Sreemuttia, thirty miles west of Dholepore, and, from information just received, has moved to Maklee-pore. It is supposed they are making for Jeypore, but their movements on the next stage will indicate whether they are bound for Bhurtpore or Jeypore. They have no guns, but have seventeen elephants, and are about seven thousand horse and foot. Captain Orr moved on the 25th towards Goonah. Order is re-established in Gwalior."

HINDOWN, BHURTPORE, &c.—The whole of the rebels from Gwalior reached Hindown during the 24th instant, and by the morning of the 26th their number, with camp followers, was estimated at fifteen thousand. It appears that they have a few zumboorues on elephants. They appear to be divided in opinion as to going to Bhurtpore or Jeypore. Captain Eden writes that the first intelligence of the movements of the rebels caused great alarm; that this had since subsided. Captain Nixon keeps a stout heart at Bhurtpore. Brigadier Showers marched for Futtehpore Sikree last night with a small force, which will be increased as detachments sent to Dholepore, now returning to Agra, can come to Futtehpore Sikree."

Ameerchund Bade, Scindiah's traitorous treasurer at Jowra, has been captured. Tantia Topee and the Nawab of Banda quitted Gwalior before the final contest, and are said to be on their way, with seven guns, to Sobulghur and Jeypore. Brigadier-General Napier has gone in pursuit.

THE CAWNPORE MASSACRE.

An interesting, but somewhat questionable, narrative of the Cawnpore massacre, ostensibly by a survivor, has been transmitted to the *Times* by Dr. W. Knighton, of the College, Ewell, Surrey. The writer is said to be a young lady, the only survivor (as alleged) of the terrible scene. She was subsequently taken to Lucknow with the rebels; and the Moulvie, feeling interested in her, placed her under the care of his aunt, the Begum. Here she made a profession of Mahometanism; and, when the Lucknow garrison was relieved, she accompanied the rebels in their wanderings through Oude, till at length they released her. She then went to Calcutta where she is now living with her friends. We append some extracts; but it is as well to observe that, even the *Times*, which credits the story, points out certain confusions of dates and erroneous impressions. However, we now leave the narrative to speak for itself:—

"I was sixteen years of age when I accompanied my sister and her husband to Cawnpore, about six months before the mutiny broke out, and suffered with the Christians under General Sir Hugh Wheeler. Accounts had reached us on the 17th of May of the disasters at Meerut, and then we were apprehensive of an outbreak at Cawnpore. We were gathered into the barracks on the 21st of the same month, and suffered dreadful privations from want of provisions and water, and from the frequent attacks which were made by the mutineers on our small body of men, about four hundred and fifty altogether, consisting partly of officers of native regiments, and sixty artillerymen.

"An unfortunate treaty was entered into between General Wheeler and the Nana Sahib on the 24th of June; the latter swore by his gods and upon the Gunga to protect us and see us safely taken to Allahabad in boats. We entered these joyfully, never for a moment expecting treachery, and were taken by surprise when we were fired on. The river in many places in the middle had no more than six feet of water, so that most of the boats were soon aground. Some of the small ones managed to push on, and even then with difficulty. The firing at first was irregular, but after a while the balls came whizzing past us as thick as hail, sinking many boats. I was on the deck of my boat, seated stupified with terror and amazement, when I was further convinced of immediate danger by seeing a party of Sepoys enter the boat I was in. I was seized in an instant by the arm by one of these savages—for savages and ruffians they looked. I was asked to deliver all I possessed; money and jewels to the amount of four hundred rupees, the sum I managed to take with me when I proceeded to the barracks, was now snatched from me. On replying in the negative to questions whether I had more money and valuables by me, my person was searched rudely. My senses had very nearly forsaken me. I was in a sort of stupor. The search was made on my person while I was standing, but, to speak more exactly, I was made to stand while I was searched. The ruffian, as if to tantalise me, let off his gun over my head and shoulders in the most deliberate and cold-blooded manner. They afterwards shot two sweet little girls, sisters, who were between the ages of six and eight. The poor creatures were clinging to each other when they committed this diabolical act. Next, they shot an Eurasian, whose name was Kirkpatrick, a merchant in Cawnpore. How many others were killed by the miscreants I could not know, for I felt dizzy, and sank on the deck. For what time I remained in this state I have no idea. I returned to consciousness by feeling myself suddenly and rudely seized, and thrown into the river. The next moment I was buffeting with the water. I managed, with some difficulty, to get to land, and scrambled on shore. I crawled on my hands and knees till I reached a tree about half a mile from the banks, and hid myself as well as I could. My thoughts—oh, Heavens!—were agonising. My sister, her husband, and children had, I had not the slightest doubt, been ruthlessly murdered. I shuddered to think of their dreadful fate. My thoughts next reverted to myself. What was I to do? where could I escape? surrounded as I was on all sides by the dreadful, revengeful, and blood-thirsty enemy. I had no hope of escape. I offered up a fervent prayer to God. 'Gracious and merciful Father, Thou wilt not desert me in the time of need! O Lord! have mercy on me!' and such-like prayers burst forth from my innermost soul.

"I fell by degrees into a sort of drowsy fit, occasioned perhaps from weariness, from which I was aroused by approaching stealthy footsteps. In an instant I sprang to my feet, but, instead of the ruffians whom I expected to see, to my great relief the well-known face and form of Miss Wheeler, the General's daughter, were before me. In a few words I understood that she had been dealt with in the same way as myself—i. e. thrown into the water by the men, who perhaps thought she was not worth a bullet—that, being insensible, she would soon

sink to the bottom of the river. Our agitation and fear, however, were so great that we had not much of consolation to offer each other. We had not been together more than an hour, I should suppose, when a party of the enemy surprised us. We were dragged in different directions, and of Miss Wheeler's fate I knew nothing till very lately. I was pushed and dragged along and subjected to every indignity. Occasionally I felt the thrust of a bayonet, and on my protesting against such treatment with uplifted hands, and appealing to their feelings as men, I was struck on my head, and was made to understand, in language too plain, that I had not long to live; but, before being put to death, that I would be made to feel some portion of the degradation their brethren felt at Meerut when ironed and disgraced before the troops. After a walk of about four hours, I was brought to a place about four miles from Cawnpore, very near Bithoor, where some of the mutineers were encamped. I was almost in a state of nudity, for my clothes had been torn to pieces when I had been dragged along by the men, and I had the mortification of being made a spectacle before these heartless and cruel wretches. Clapping of hands and cries of 'Khoob-kea' (Well done!) burst upon my stupified senses. A circle formed round me. I sank on the ground and buried my face in my hands. Oh, the agony of those moments! At length I heard a voice speaking to my persecutors in rather a conciliatory tone: 'Spare the poor creature and have compassion on her; let her alone, she seems dead already.' I looked up and saw an African. There was something mild and compassionate in his look. He relieved me in a great measure from the shame I was suffering by throwing a covering or chuddur on me. He asked me to accompany him. I immediately followed, and was ushered into a tent, where I was desired by my benefactor to take rest. He made me understand that he would do all in his power to have my life spared. I thanked him for his kindness. After a while he procured me a suit of native clothes, which he said I should put on. 'You are very unwell,' he said; 'your eyes are bloodshot, and face very much flushed.' I knew that I had a strong fever on me, and felt exceedingly weak. I replied that a little sleep would perhaps do me good. I laid my aching head on the mattress and fell fast asleep.

"On waking, I still felt so weak that I could hardly lift my head. I had a chupattie, or hand-bread, and a little dhall served to me, which I could not eat. My sable benefactor I saw no more till I went to Lucknow: he was a eunuch in the King's employ, and had arrived in Cawnpore as an *avant-courier* with some despatches from Moulvie Ahmedoolah, Shah of Fyzabad, to Nana Sahib.

"I heard of some ladies whose lives had been spared, and who were in a building called the Assembly Room. How I wished that my sister, at least, were among the number.

"I had been some time now with the mutineers, and was treated brutally. How I survived my severe illness, having no proper nourishment given to me or care taken of me, is a source of wonder to me now. Sinful as was the wish, I wished and prayed for death, but Providence willed it otherwise.

"As I understood the Hindostanee language thoroughly, I managed to glean from the conversation of the men that spies had come from Allahabad with news that the British were making arrangements to march on Cawnpore. A ray of hope shot through me at the prospect of being thus relieved from the hands of these merciless men.

"On the morning of the 15th of July, on getting up, I found that our camp was in an unusual bustle, news having reached the Nana that the victorious British were marching on Cawnpore, after having routed the rebels first at a place called Khaga, about five miles from Futtehpore, on Monday, the 12th of July; then at Aong on the 15th; and finally at the bridge on the Pandoo Nuddee, or stream.

"An order was issued by the Nana for the women, children, and sick to be removed half way to Lucknow. I vainly hoped to have been excluded from forming one of the number. I was dragged and pushed along in my weak state, and when I actually sank from fatigue I was put on a cart, but not before I had accomplished thirty miles on foot without shoes. On the 21st, we were joined by nearly the whole of the mutinous troops who had evacuated Cawnpore and Bithoor, and I could easily guess from our hurried marches for days that we were in full retreat. Whenever the news came of the pursuing garrahs, or white soldiers, a flight was continued with a perseverance worthy of a better cause. It can easily be imagined from this in what dread the Sepoys held our soldiers.

"I had to accompany the flying enemy, and made a *détour* of a great portion of the North-West Provinces on foot, viz. Bareilly, Rohilcund, Futtehpore, Shahjehanpore, and the district near Delhi. After travelling through all these places, we joined the mutineers at Lucknow."

The reader will notice here a something in the style suggestive of the narrative having been dressed up; but it appears that the story is not directly from the pen of the young lady herself, but has passed through other hands, by whom it has been "treated."

THE ORIENT.

CHINA.

THE latest news from China is contained in an official telegram dated "Corfu, August 6th," which states that our gunboats were proceeding up the river Peiho at the commencement of June, and that "no serious attempt was made by the Chinese to impede the navigation. The gunboats advanced to Tiensin, which commands the river and the great canal, without a mark of hostility. The people supply provisions of excellent quality cheaply. The English and French ambassadors were living on shore in a temple; the Russians and Americans had followed the allies up the river. The second officer of the empire, and the President of one of the six Koards of Government had arrived in Tiensin to negotiate; they are invested with a title which the interpreter describes to convey full powers, and profess their readiness to treat on the demands put forward in the letter to the Prime Minister of China, which had been previously ignored. The first interview was to take place on the 4th of June, after the departure of the steamer. The Chinese continue to consider the proceeding as something between peace and war, but not exactly one or the other."

The Hong-Kong papers contain details of the capture and decapitation of several Europeans, the murder of Sepoys and police on duty, and attempts at incendiarism. "No person feels safe; and one of two things must shortly be performed; either we must entrench the foreign quarter at Honan in such a manner that foreigners may sleep o' nights, or vacate the place altogether."

Some heavy floods in the interior of Chekiang have had the effect of checking the advance of the rebels. At Macao, a fearful epidemic, resembling cholera morbus, has been imported from Singapore, and fears are entertained of its reaching Hong-Kong.

EGYPT.

"A report has reached this island," says the *Malta Times*, "to the effect that an attempt had been made on the life of the Viceroy by one of the fanatical party, who was discovered in his Highness's chamber under his bed. No explanation could be got from the would-be assassin, further than that God had sent him there. He was immediately taken out and decapitated. Four thousand stand of arms, with a large quantity of gunpowder, are said to have been discovered in one of the mosques at Cairo."

PERSIA.

The Persian court and the city of Teheran have been thrown into deep mourning on account of the unexpected death of the young Emir Nizam, who last year was proclaimed presumptive heir to the crown of Persia.

THE CHERBOURG FETES.

THE events attending the visit of the French Emperor and Empress to Cherbourg occurred either so near the end of last week as to prevent the possibility of our giving detailed accounts in our last issue, or absolutely after our time of publication. We therefore now give fuller details of the earlier incidents, and complete our narrative by relating the concluding ceremonies.

THE DINNER ON BOARD THE BRETAGNE.

The dinner given by the Emperor to the Queen and Prince Albert on board the Bretagne was marked by some interesting features. We borrow from the account given by the correspondent of the *Morning Star* :—

"About half-past seven [on the evening of the 5th inst.], the Emperor and Empress, with Count and Countess Walewski, Admiral Hamelin, and other members of the French suite, started, in the Imperial state barges, to convey her Majesty to the Bretagne, she having accepted the Emperor's invitation to dine on board the Admiral's ship. When the Emperor stepped on board the Bretagne, the Imperial standard, which is a tricolor, covered with bees, carrying an Imperial crown on the white centre, was run up to the main, and with it the familiar Royal standard of England. During the dinner, the Society of 'Orpheonistes' of Cherbourg sang the English and French national anthems—the latter to words written for the occasion, and not the usual 'Partant pour la Syrie'—a cantata in praise of St. Cecilia, and a famous old chorus. About ten o'clock, the illustrious party appeared at the gallery of the Admiral's cabin, which was hung with crimson drapery, to witness the display of fireworks. It is impossible to do justice to the magnificent effects which were produced. The principal display was made from the central fort of the breakwater. It consisted of some thousands of rockets, bourbillons, stars, garters, and bouquet of varied kinds, costing on the whole, as it was reported, several thousands of pounds. There was a colossal display of the Royal and Imperial arms, in fireworks, wreathed with lines of glittering fire, which was most imposing. Then, as the Queen and his Majesty descended from the Admiral's ship, the guns on the forts and the ships fired the usual triple salute, and the effect of this seen at night was most imposing. The fire from the guns lighted up the horizon with the momentary glare of broad sheets of red and lurid lightning, and it was difficult to say whether

the sense of sight or hearing was most satisfied by this grand night salute. Up to the time of the Queen's departure from the Bretagne to come on board her yacht, the English ships had taken no part in this grand exhibition; but immediately on her stepping on board the Royal yacht, all the British ships, as if by magic, appeared suddenly illuminated with blue lights burning from every part of the spars and rigging, and myriads of fire balls rose from the deck of the Victoria and Albert. This display was followed by a mass of red, white, and blue fires, which burned along the whole of one side of the Royal yacht. The blending of these colours of the French flag, as well as of the three divisions of the British navy, was most pleasing and effective. As the Emperor was rowed away in his state barge towards the shore, some hundreds of rockets were simultaneously discharged from the deck of the Royal yacht, which, as they soared upwards, or fell in graceful curves, threw a light bright as day over the whole harbour. This was followed by a vast shower of coloured stars, and the display of a newly-invented life light by Captain Fitzmaurice, on board the Diadem.

"Before finishing my account of the proceedings on Thursday, I must state that, at the dinner on board the Bretagne, the somewhat unusual course at Imperial festivities of speech-making was adopted—a proceeding in which the Emperor and Prince Albert were the only performers. The Emperor, as I am informed, proposed the Queen's health, that of the Prince Consort, and the Royal family, in a comprehensive toast; and expressed the gratification which he felt at showing the feelings which he entertained towards his guests on board of one of his own Admiral's ships, and in the port of Cherbourg. Such a circumstance as this, he said, proved, in the most convincing manner, that nothing had occurred to weaken the alliance between the two countries, and he hoped that any attempts to revive the hostile feelings of past times would be as ineffectual as the waves of the ocean against the breakwater which at that moment protected the squadrons of the two nations.

"Prince Albert followed, in a speech in French, saying that her Majesty had desired him to state how deeply she felt the additional proof of friendship which the Emperor had afforded her, in proposing the toast in language which she would never cease to remember with pleasure. The Prince told the Emperor that he was already aware of the friendly sentiments which the Queen entertained towards himself and the Empress, and that the continued object of her Majesty's desires was to preserve a good understanding between the two countries, and was happy at having the opportunity, by her presence on that occasion, of strengthening, as far as possible, the existing feeling of amity and of friendship which, resting on the firm basis of mutual prosperity, would not fail to receive the blessing of Heaven. The Prince concluded by proposing, on behalf of the Queen, the health of the Emperor and Empress."

THE DEPARTURE OF THE QUEEN.

We again quote from the *Morning Star* correspondence:—

"The time fixed for the departure of her Majesty was eleven o'clock in the morning [of the 6th inst.]; but it was nearly half-past twelve before the Royal squadron got under weigh. At eleven o'clock, the Emperor and Empress came off in their state barge to the Royal yacht and breakfasted with her Majesty. The Imperial state barge is covered with a canopy of green velvet, embroidered with the 'busy bees,' and ornamented with deep gold fringe and tassels. The barge itself, from its admirable finish and beauty of decoration, was shown at the Paris Exhibition of 1855. A second barge, which followed with the suite of the Emperor, was provided with crimson awnings, and was not ornamented, as the first one, with the golden Imperial eagle surmounting a colossal globe. After the *déjeuner* her Majesty went on board the Victoria and Albert, and signal was at once made to get under steam. The Royal squadron shortly after moved off in two lines in this order:—

Renown, 90.	Royal Albert, 131.
Diadem, 32.	Euryalus, 51.
Racoon, 22.	Curacao, 31.
	Victoria and Albert.
Black Eagle.	The Fire Queen.
Elfin.	Vivid.
Banshee.	Fairy.

"As soon as the heavy ships had got fairly away from their anchorage, the Royal yacht steamed away between the two lines of ships and frigates, and shot ahead of them out of the harbour. As the Victoria and Albert passed along the ships, the crews on the rigging gave hearty cheers such as English sailors love to give. On the topmost truck of the main, fore, and mizen masts of the Renown, a sailor was perched, and each of these, with recklessly energy, waved a Union Jack in one hand and his hat in the other, and shouted and cheered as though he were secure on the solid earth. Her Majesty, from her own yacht, and the Emperor, from on board the Bretagne, watched with much interest the movements of these daring fellows, who divided with her Majesty herself the cheers of the English visitors who observed them. Of course there was another tremendous salute from the ships and all the forts, and the English squadron gave a parting salute to the Emperor. Directly the ships were in the offing, the wind being favourable, they set full sail, and were soon lost to view.

"A frightful accident was very near occurring as the squadron was leaving the harbour. The Prince Frederick-William, one of the boats of the Dover Mail Packet Company, with a large number of English excursionists, male and female, on board, was following pretty closely—perhaps too much so—in the wake of the Royal yacht. She was passing between the Banshee and the Fairy, when the Banshee suddenly altered her course, and, in the most lubberly manner, ran her bows into the Frederick-William. Fortunately, only a small amount of damage was done. The confusion on board was for a moment most alarming, but most happily no injury was sustained by any person on board.

"The departure of the Royal squadron left a serious gap in the harbour; but there still remained the ten French ships, the immense fleet of pleasure yachts, nearly a hundred in number, the steamers of the Peninsular and Oriental Company, those of the South Western Company, and several from the Channel Islands, from Havre, Brest, and other places. There was, however, still left abundant sources of excitement. At ten minutes past one, the first of the yachts of the Royal Yacht Club, which had started from Cowes in the race for the Emperor's Cup, entered the harbour. It was the Alarm, the property of Mr. T. Weld. About a quarter of an hour later, the Zara, belonging to the Earl of Wilton, entered. The Shark (Mr. Curling,) came in third, the Arrow (Mr. Chamberlayne) fourth, and Fair Rosamond (the Earl of Gifford) fifth. The other yachts which competed were the Aurora, the Minx, the Claymore, the Julia, the Ursuline, the Resolution, the Extravaganza, and the Columbine. The flotilla of pleasure yachts gave a most animated appearance to the harbour."

The rest of the day was passed in various festivities, succeeded by brilliant illuminations and fireworks at night; and the following day (last Saturday) was signalled by

THE FLOWING OF THE WATERS.

The Emperor and Empress arrived at the dockyard at half-past twelve o'clock, entering by the southern gate, where a triumphal arch, thirty-four feet high, had been raised. Various trophies, consisting of cannon-balls and small field-pieces, were erected in the vicinity of the arch and of the bridge leading to the new dock.

"In front of the dock," says *Galignani's Messenger*, "another triumphal arch had been constructed, decorated in the same manner as the others with pieces of cannon and naval articles; the pillars of the arch were moreover ornamented with trophies composed of weapons employed in vessels of war. Above this arch were placed two suns, seven feet in diameter, with the initials in gold of their Majesties represented in the centre. From the centre of the suns issued innumerable sparkling rays formed of polished chisels, saws, and other carpenters' tools. Smaller suns and stars, composed in the same manner, were placed to the right and left of the arch. Altogether, the appearance of this triumphal arch was most original. On each side of the arch was suspended an immense screw, while anchors, boarding-pikes, muskets, hatchets, chains, &c., were grouped in the most ingenious manner around the structure. Their Majesties were there received by the Maritime Prefect and the authorities of the port. Their Majesties and their suite descended into the dock by a staircase made for the occasion, and covered with a handsome carpet; and the Emperor then fastened in its place a plate commemorative of the important event which was about to take place, and a box containing medals and coins. The Imperial *cortège* afterwards reascended to the quay, and placed themselves under a handsome tent, richly decorated, and surmounted by the Imperial flag."

The religious ceremony was then performed by the Bishop of Coutances; the Emperor gave a signal; a mine was sprung; and a section of the vast dam of earth and sand which had been raised at the northern entrance of the dock was thrown down, allowing the passage of the outer waters into the vast hollow. But the explosion had been in some measure mismanaged; the breach was not so large as it should have been; and the water did not at first rush in with that grand impetuosity which had been anticipated. In time, however, the gap was widened by the action of the waves, and the dock then rapidly filled. Meanwhile, the Emperor and Empress (accompanied by their suite, and by several English noblemen, including some of the Ministers) visited the armoury, the building slips, the workshops, &c. The new Imperial yacht, *Aigle* (now on the stocks), was also inspected, and the Empress suggested some improvements in the arrangements of the state cabin and Imperial rooms. At six o'clock in the evening, their Majesties returned to the dock, and the *Ville de Nantes*—a vessel of 90 guns and 900 horse-power—was launched amidst the cheers of the numerous spectators. The Emperor and Empress afterwards dined at the Prefecture, and at nine o'clock attended a ball at the Hôtel de Ville given by the town.

THE INAUGURATION OF THE STATUE OF NAPOLEON I.

The concluding fête—the inauguration of the equestrian statue of the First Napoleon—took place on Sunday. The ceremonies, which were very brilliant, are thus described in *Galignani's Messenger* :—

"At eleven o'clock in the morning, the Emperor and Empress went to hear mass at the Church of the Trinity. Their Majesties were received at the entrance of the building by the Bishop of Coutances, surrounded by his clergy. After mass, the Emperor and Empress, followed by all the Imperial *cortège*, proceeded to the Place Napoléon, to inaugurate the equestrian statue of Napoleon I., which took place in the presence of an immense crowd. On the arrival of their Majesties, the sheet which covered the statue was removed, amidst the most enthusiastic cries of 'Vive l'Empereur!' 'Vive Napoléon I.!' 'Vive Napoléon III.!' while at the same moment salutes were fired from all the vessels in the harbour and from the forts. The Emperor, observing round the statue a number of persons wearing the St. Helena medal, invited them to approach to the foot of the platform. Each of them had in his hand a wreath of *immortelles* or of laurel, and they advanced with the loudest acclamations to the place assigned to them. As soon as silence was restored, the Mayor of Cherbourg ascended the steps of the platform and delivered the following address:—

'Sire,—Cherbourg is, of all the towns of France, that which is most indebted to the Empire. The history of its renovation is written at full length in the special decree of the 6th of June, 1811, which your Majesty has authorised to be placed beneath the pedestal of this monument. It is also from the Imperial era that may be dated the vigorous impulse given to these prodigious works, before which the imagination remains confounded, and the importance of which can only be characterised by these memorable words,—"I have resolved to renew at Cherbourg the wonders of Egypt; I have already raised my pyramid in the sea, and I will also have my Lake Moëris." Towards the limits of the horizon rises majestically that pyramid, standing on its firm foundation in the midst of the waves, the fury of which expires at its feet. Like an advanced sentinel it closes and defends the magnificent roadstead, in which our navy will at all times find an ample shelter. Thanks to you, Sire, our Lake Moëris now also exists. Only a few hours ago, in sight of your Majesty, the sea, amidst the applause of the whole of France, broke into that immense dock, hollowed out of masses of rock which seemed to defy all the efforts of human perseverance. But if it belonged to you, Sire, to complete the vast projects of the mighty founder of your dynasty, it belongs likewise to the town of Cherbourg—and it is an honour which your Majesty will permit it to claim—to raise, as an imperishable testimony of its gratitude, a statue to the memory of its immortal benefactor. Henceforward, therefore, we may here show with pride in one place the venerated image of the hero, and in another the most gigantic work of ancient and modern times, carried on and terminated in the glorious reigns of Napoleon I. and Napoleon III. Confounding thus in one and the same idea both our reminiscences of the past and our impression of the wonders which we have just witnessed, let us sum up our sentiments in the national cry of *Vive l'Empereur!*

"The Emperor made the following reply:—'Gentlemen,—In thanking you on my arrival at Cherbourg for your cordial address, I told you that it appeared to be my destiny to see accomplished in peace the great designs which the Emperor had conceived during war. In fact, not only have those gigantic works of which he conceived the idea been completed, but, in the moral order of things, the principles which he sought to enforce by means of arms now triumph through the simple effect of reason. Thus, one of the questions for which he struggled the most energetically—the freedom of the seas, which ratifies the rights of neutrals—is solved by common accord; so true is it that posterity always takes on itself to realise the ideas of a great man. But, while rendering justice to the Emperor, we must not forget in these places the persevering efforts of the Governments which preceded and followed him. The first idea of the creation of the port of Cherbourg dates back, as you well know, to him who created all our military ports and all our fortified places—Louis XIV., seconded by the genius of Vauban. Louis XVI. actively continued the works. The chief of my family gave them a decisive impulse; and since that time every Government has looked on it as a duty to follow his example. I thank the town of Cherbourg for having erected a statue to the Emperor in the place for which he felt so much solicitude. You have wished to render homage to him who, in spite of continental wars, never lost sight of the importance of the navy. Nevertheless, when there is now inaugurated at the same time the statue of the great captain and the completion of this military port, public opinion feels no alarm; for the more powerful a nation is the more it is respected, and the stronger a Government, the more moderation there is in its councils, and the more justice in its resolutions. The repose of the country, consequently, is not risked to satisfy a vain pride, or to achieve an ephemeral popularity. A Government which is founded on the will of the masses is not the slave of any party; it does not make war, except when compelled to do so in defence of national honour, or of the great interests of the people. Let us, therefore, continue to develop in peace the different resources of France; let us invite foreigners to come and inspect our works; let them come as friends, and not as rivals. Let us show them that a

nation in which unity and confidence prevail resists the passions of a day, and, being under self-command, only obeys the dictates of honour and of reason.'

"The speech was received with loud acclamations from the thousands of persons assembled. The Emperor then descended the steps of the platform and distributed decorations to some soldiers, sailors, custom-house officers, and civil functionaries, who were presented to him. After this ceremony, the troops, the crews of the fleet, and the marine infantry and artillery who had been stationed round the place filed off before their Majesties amidst loud cries of '*Vive l'Empereur!*' '*Vive l'Impératrice!*' '*Vive le Prince Impérial!*' Their Majesties returned at half-past twelve to the Prefecture, and after a breakfast, to which the Emperor invited the chiefs of the army and navy and the principal civil functionaries, their Majesties proceeded to the dockyard stairs, and embarked in the Imperial barge to proceed on board the *Bretagne*. At two o'clock, that vessel, with their Majesties and suites on board, got under weigh and left the harbour, under a salute from all the ships and forts."

THE ATLANTIC TELEGRAPH.

An interesting account of the expedition of the *Agamemnon*, one of the vessels engaged in laying down the Atlantic cable, has been given by the *Daily News* correspondent, who writes:—

"The rendezvous was reached on the evening of Wednesday, the 28th of July, just eleven days after our departure from Queenstown. The rest of the squadron were in sight at nightfall, but at such a considerable distance that it was past ten o'clock on the morning of Thursday, the 29th, before the *Agamemnon* joined them. We were, as usual, greeted by a perfect storm of questions as to what kept us so much behind our time, and learned that all had come to the conclusion that the ship must have got ashore on leaving Queenstown Harbour. The *Niagara*, it appeared, had arrived on the rendezvous on Friday night, the 23rd; the *Valorous* on Sunday the 25th; and the *Gorgon* on the afternoon of Tuesday, the 27th. The day was beautifully calm, so no time was to be lost before making the splice; boats were soon lowered from the attendant ships, the two vessels were made fast by a hawser, and the *Niagara* end of the cable conveyed on board the *Agamemnon*. About half-past twelve o'clock, the splice was effectually made, but with materials very indifferent. Instead of carefully rounded semicircular boards which had been used to enclose the junctions on previous occasions, it consisted merely of two straight boards nailed over the joining, with the iron rod and leaden plummet attached to the centre. In hoisting it out from the side of the ship, however, the leaden sinker broke short off, and fell overboard, and there being no more convenient weight at hand, a 32lb. shot was fastened to the splice instead, and the whole apparatus was quickly dropped into the sea without any formality, and, indeed, almost without a spectator, for those on board the ship had witnessed so many beginnings to the telegraphic line, that it was evident they despaired of there ever being an end to it. The stipulated 200 fathoms of cable having been paid out to allow the splice to sink well below the surface, the signal to start was hoisted, the hawser cast loose, and the *Niagara* and *Agamemnon* started for the last time for their opposite destinations. For the first three hours the ships proceeded very slowly, paying out a great quantity of slack, but after the expiration of this time the speed of the *Agamemnon* was increased to about five knots per hour, the cable going at about six, without indicating more than a few hundred pounds of strain upon the dynamometer. Shortly after six o'clock, a very large whale was seen approaching the starboard bow at a great speed, rolling and tossing the sea into foam all around; and for the first time we felt the possibility of the supposition that our second mysterious breakage of the cable might have been caused, after all, by one of these animals getting foul of it under water. It appeared as if it were making direct for the cable, and great was the relief of all when the ponderous living mass was seen to slowly pass astern, just grazing the cable where it entered the water, but fortunately without doing any mischief. All seemed to go well up to about eight o'clock; the cable paid out from the hold with an evenness and regularity which showed how carefully and perfectly it had been coiled away; and to guard against accidents which might arise, in consequence of the cable having suffered injury during the storm, the indicated strain upon the dynamometer was never allowed to get beyond 1700 lbs., or less than one quarter what the cable is estimated to bear. Thus far everything looked promising of success. But in such a hazardous work no one knows what a few minutes may bring forth, for soon after eight an injured portion of the cable was discovered about a mile or two from the portion paying out. Not a moment was lost by Mr. Canning, the engineer on duty, in setting men to work to cobble up the injury as well as time would permit, for the cable was going out at such a rate that the damaged portion would be paid overboard in less than twenty minutes, and former experience had shown us that to check either the speed of the ship or the cable would be in all probability be attended by the most fatal results. Just before the lapping was finished, Professor Thompson reported that the

electrical continuity of the wire had ceased, but that the insulation was still perfect. Attention was naturally directed to the injured piece as the probable source of the stoppage, and not a moment was lost in cutting the cable at that point, with the intention of making a perfect splice; but, to the consternation of all, the electrical tests applied showed the fault to be overboard, and in all probability some fifty miles from the ship. Not a second was to be lost, for it was evident that the out portion must be paid overboard in a few minutes, and in the mean time the tedious and difficult operation of making a splice had to be performed. The ship was immediately stopped, and no more cable paid out than was absolutely necessary to prevent it breaking. As the stern of the ship was lifted by the waves a scene of the most intense excitement followed. It seemed impossible, even by using the greatest possible speed and paying out the least possible amount of cable, that the junction could be finished before the part was taken out of the hands of the workmen. The main hold presented an extraordinary scene. Nearly all the officers of the ship and those connected with the expedition stood in groups about the coil, watching (with that intense anxiety which is seldom seen except round foreign gaming-tables) the cable as it slowly unwound itself nearer and nearer the joint, while the workmen, directed by Mr. Canning, under whose superintendence the cable was originally manufactured, worked at the splice as only men could work who felt that the life and death of the expedition depended upon their rapidity. But all their speed was to no purpose, as the cable was unwinding within a hundred fathoms, and as a last and desperate resource the cable was stopped altogether, and for a few minutes the ship hung on by the end. Fortunately, however, it was only for a few minutes, as the strain was continually rising above two tons, and it could not hold on much longer, when the splice was finished, the signal made to loose the stopper, and it passed overboard safely enough. When the excitement consequent upon having so narrowly saved the cable had passed away, we woke to the consciousness that the case was still as hopeless as ever, for the electric continuity was still entirely wanting. Preparations were consequently made to pay out as little rope as possible, and to hold on for six hours, in hope that the fault, whatever it might be, might mend itself before cutting the cable and returning to the rendezvous to make another splice. The magnetic needles on the receiving instruments were watched closely for the returning signals, when in a few minutes the last hope was extinguished, by their suddenly indicating 'dead earth,' which tended to show that the cable had broken from the *Niagara*, or that the insulation had been completely destroyed. In three minutes, however, every one was agreeably surprised by the intelligence that the stoppage had disappeared, and that the signals had again appeared at regular intervals from the *Niagara*. It is needless to say what a load of anxiety this news removed from the minds of every one, but the general confidence in the ultimate success of the operations was much shaken by the occurrence, for all felt that at any minute a similar accident might occur.

"On Saturday, the 31st July, observations at noon showed us to be in latitude 30 deg. 23 min. N., and long. 26 deg. 44 min. W., having made good 120 miles of distance from the starting-point since noon of the previous day, with a loss of about 27 per cent. of cable. The *Niagara*, as far as could be judged from the amount of cable she paid out, which, by a previous arrangement, was signalled at every ten miles, kept pace with us, within one or two miles, the whole distance across. During the afternoon of Saturday the wind again freshened up, and before nightfall it again blew nearly a gale, and a tremendous sea ran before it from the south-west, which made the *Agamemnon* pitch to such an extent that it was thought impossible that the cable could hold on through the night. Indeed, had it not been for the constant care and watchfulness exercised by Mr. Bright, and the two energetic engineers, Mr. Canning and Mr. Clifford, who acted with him, it could not have been done at all. Men were kept at the wheels of the machine to prevent them from stopping, as the stern of the ship rose and fell with the sea, for, had they done so, the cable must undoubtedly have parted. During Sunday the sea and wind increased, and before the evening it blew a smart gale. Now, indeed, were the energy and activity of all engaged in the operations taxed to the utmost. Mr. Hoar and Mr. Moore, the two engineers who had charge of the releasing wheels of the dynamometer, had to keep watch, and watch alternately every four hours, and while on duty not daring to let their attention be removed from their occupation for one moment, for on their releasing the breaks every time the stern of the ship fell into the trough of the sea entirely depended the safety of the cable, and the result shows how ably they have discharged their duty. Throughout the night there were few who had the least expectation of the cable holding on till morning, and many remained awake listening for the sound that all most dreaded to hear, viz. the gun which should announce the failure of all our hopes; but still the cable—which in comparison with the ship from which it was paying out, and the gigantic waves among which it was delivered, was but a mere thread—continued to hold on, only leaving a silvery phosphoric line upon the stupendous seas as they

rolled on towards the ship. With Sunday morning came no improvement in the weather. We had passed by the deepest sounding of 2400 fathoms, and over more than half of the deep water generally, while the amount of cable still remaining in the ship was more than sufficient to carry us to the Irish coast, even supposing the continuance of the bad weather should oblige us to pay out the same amount of slack cable we had been hitherto wasting. Thus far, things looked very promising for our ultimate success. During the afternoon of Monday, an American three-masted barque, which afterwards proved to be the *Chieftain*, was seen standing from the eastward towards us. No notice was taken of her at first, but when she was within about half a mile of the *Agamemnon*, she altered her course, and bore right down across her bows. A collision which might prove fatal to the cable now seemed inevitable, or could only be avoided by the equally hazardous experiment of altering the *Agamemnon's* course. The *Valorous* steamed ahead, and fired a gun for her to heave-to, which, as she did not appear to take much notice of, was quickly followed by another from the bows of the *Agamemnon*, and a second and third from the *Valorous*, but still the vessel held on her course, and as the only resource left to avoid a collision, the course of the *Agamemnon* was altered just in time to pass within a few yards of her. It was evident that our proceedings were a source of the greatest possible astonishment to them, for all her crew crowded upon the deck and rigging. At length they evidently discovered who we were and what we were doing; the crew manned the rigging, and dipping the ensign several times, they gave us three hearty cheers. About three o'clock on Tuesday morning, all on board were startled from their beds by the loud booming of a gun; everyone, without waiting for the performance of the most particular toilet, rushed on deck to ascertain the cause of the disturbance. Contrary to all expectation, the cable was safe, but just in the grey light could be seen the *Valorous*, rounded in the most warlike attitude, firing gun after gun in quick succession towards a large American barque, who, being quite unconscious of our proceedings, was standing right across our stern. Such loud and repeated remonstrances from a large steam-frigate were not to be despised, and evidently, without knowing the why or the wherefore, she quickly threw her sails aback, and remained hove-to. Tuesday was a much finer day than any we had experienced for nearly a week, but still there was a considerable sea running, and our dangers were far from past. Yet the hopes of our ultimate success ran high. About five o'clock in the evening, the steep submarine mountain which divides the telegraph platform from the Irish coast was reached, and the sudden shallowing of the water had a very marked effect upon the cable, causing the strain on and the speed of it to lessen every minute. A great deal of slack was paid out to allow for any greater inequalities which might exist, though not discovered by the sounding line. About ten o'clock the shoal water of 250 fathoms was reached. The only remaining anxiety now was the changing from the lower main coil to that upon the upper deck, and this most difficult and dangerous operation was successfully performed between three and four o'clock on Wednesday morning. Wednesday was a beautifully calm day; indeed, it was the first on which any one would have thought of making a splice since the day we started from the rendezvous. We therefore congratulated ourselves on having saved a week by commencing operations on the Thursday previous. At noon we were in latitude 52 deg. 11 min., lon. 12 deg. 40 min. 2 sec. W., eighty nine miles distant from the telegraph station at Valentia. The water was shallow, so that there was no difficulty in paying out. We were almost without any loss by slack, and all looked upon the undertaking as virtually accomplished. At about one o'clock in the morning, the second change from the upper deck coil to that upon the orlop deck was safely effected, and shortly after the vessels exchanged signals that they were in 200 fathoms water. As the night advanced, the speed of the ship was reduced, as it was known that we were only a short distance from the land, and there would be no advantage in making it before daylight in the morning; about twelve o'clock, however, the Skelleys light was seen in the distance, and the *Valorous* steamed on ahead to lead us into the coast, firing rockets at intervals to direct us, which were answered from the *Agamemnon*; though, according to the directions of Mr. Moriarty, the master, the ship, disregarding the *Valorous*, kept her own course, which proved to be the right one in the end. By daylight in the morning of Thursday, the bold and rocky mountains which entirely surround the wild and picturesque neighbourhood of Valentia, rose right before us at a few miles' distance. Never, probably, was the sight of land more welcome to us, as it brought to a successful termination one of the greatest, but, at the same time, one of the most difficult, enterprises which was ever undertaken.

The following message has been received by the Directors of the Atlantic Telegraph Company:—

"Valentia, Tuesday, 5 A.M.

"Newfoundland has commenced the use and adjustment of their special instruments for speaking. Last night, at 11.15, we received coil currents from them at the rate of forty per minute perfectly. They are now

sending the usual letters for adjustment of instruments, and we have received from them the words, 'Repeat, please,' and 'Please send slower for present,' spelt in full. They have also sent the signals for 'Repeat' frequently, proving that, though receiving, the instruments are not yet adjusted with sufficient accuracy for them to get distinctly.

"I forward by this post the slip of signals first transmitted and received across the Atlantic by the Company's instruments. The speed at which the letters come out seems faster than that at Keyham, and the currents are apparently as strong."

IRELAND.

LORD PALMERSTON arrived in Ireland on Monday morning, on a visit to his estates in the county of Sligo.

ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION.—An attempt has been made in the county of Antrim to assassinate Mr. Edward Benn, of Newtoncrommelin, a large landed proprietor. This gentleman had recently announced his intention to remodel the town-lands which form a portion of his possessions, and to assign special enclosures to each tenant. A necessary result of this course would be to dispossess some of the occupants, and this appears to have led to ill feeling. About ten o'clock on the evening of the 26th ult., while Mr. Benn was in the act of closing the inside window shutter of a room in the front of the house, some miscreant fired at him; but the ball, passing under his arm, lodged in the ceiling of the apartment. The would-be assassin was crouching at the time in an adjacent shrubbery; and, immediately after firing, he rushed away.

RIOTS AT KILKENNY.—Some disgraceful riots have occurred during the week in Kilkenny. The rioters were reapers from the neighbouring fields, several men from Connaught, large bodies of peasantry from Tipperary and the King's and Queen's Counties, and a number of disbanded militiamen. These persons entered into a combination (indicating some previous concert) for the destruction of reaping machines and the prevention of the practice of mowing corn with the scythe. On Sunday and Monday the town was quite in their possession, and, after holding a kind of council of war, they proceeded to the residences of various farmers, and broke all the reaping machines they found. A Mr. Howson, a Scotchman, they seriously maltreated, though he was for some time heroically defended by his daughter, who was also somewhat hurt. The rioters again assembled in the town on Tuesday, but dispersed after a good deal of shouting and yelling. Two troops of dragoons were then telegraphed for to the Curragh Camp, and a meeting of magistrates was held at Stoneyford.

AMERICA.

THE latest intelligence from America is that the Fraser River excitement was unabated. The reports from the new gold fields are described as "fabulous." Victoria was crowded with Americans, who had run up building lots to enormous prices. The Hudson's Bay Company was buying dust. The Indians had begun to molest the emigrants on their way to the mines. It was feared the mining region would be overrun by these warriors, and that fighting would follow.

The correspondence of the *New York Tribune* states "that the Washington Administration claims no legal right to interfere with the action of the Hudson's Bay Company, but expects, by the performance of good offices with the British Government, to make arrangements which will prevent any collision; and that General Cass's despatch to Mr. Dallas, in reply to Lord Malmesbury's suggestion for a plan to verify the nationality of vessels, is emphatic that the United States Government has none to propose, and it is certain that none from the other side will be adopted." The President is reported to have appointed Mr. John Nugent, editor of the *San Francisco Herald*, who was in Washington on the 28th ult., as agent to proceed to Fraser River to make proper representations to the citizens of the United States, with a view to preventing collisions or outbreaks in that quarter, the United States Government being satisfied that a liberal policy will be pursued towards them by the English authorities.

From Oregon we learn that the Indians of the Upper Columbia are collecting in large numbers, the object unknown. The commander of the Pacific army is hurrying thither all the troops at his command.

Everything is quiet in the territory of Utah, and the Mormons are returning to their homes. General Johnston had passed through Salt Lake City and encamped thirty miles beyond. Brigham Young was anxious to be tried for treason, provided the jury should consist of Mormons only.

Advices from Rio Grande state that San Luis Potosi had been captured by the Constitutionalists under General Vidaurri, and it was rumoured that General Zuloaga had abandoned the city of Mexico. The Liberals were about to unite against the city.

It is stated at Washington that a considerable naval expedition is in preparation against Paraguay, to enforce satisfaction for an outrage committed on a United States vessel while navigating the Parana.

The Canadian Ministry has been defeated on the question respecting the seat of Government, and has resigned. Mr. Brown, the leader of the Opposition, and the proprietor of the *Toronto Globe*, will probably be the new Premier. He is favourable to the abolition of the Hudson's Bay Company's monopoly, and to the extension of Canadian rule over the whole of the unoccupied portions of British North America.

The English defaulting ex-storekeeper at Weedon has been apprehended in the United States. "He was arrested under a provision of the code of this State," says the New York correspondent of the *Daily News*, "which renders fraudulent or absconding debtors liable to detention in default of bail to double the amount of the debt, to appear to all processes of the court made during the pendency, and all expenses to the close of the suit. His counsel moved for his discharge, on the ground that the British Secretary, the plaintiff in the case, was not the party interested, and had, therefore, no right to sue. The motion was refused on Monday, without prejudice to another, with the same object, on the defendant's own affidavit, denying the facts. This is not likely, however, to help him; and, as he cannot procure bail, he remains for the present in durance."

CONTINENTAL NOTES.

FRANCE.

THE news from France this week is almost entirely confined to the recent fêtes at Cherbourg which we have related at full in another place. Everything else appears going into its usual autumnal sleep.

"I have already alluded," says the *Daily News* Paris correspondent, "to the jealousy excited in France by the news that the order of Malta is about to be revived. It is now said that a meeting, at which several influential ecclesiastics will attend, is to be held this week at the mansion of a wealthy inhabitant of the Faubourg St. Germain, to consider what means can be taken to associate France with the revival and prevent the order from falling altogether under Austrian influence."

On the occasion of the Emperor's fête, there will be a grand review on Saturday, August 14th, in the Champ de Mars, by Marshal Magnan, of the Imperial Guard and the army of Paris.

The Emperor and Empress have arrived at Brest, from Cherbourg, in the midst of the usual demonstrations. They landed in the barge in which Napoleon I. visited the mouths of the Scheldt and the defences of Antwerp in 1811.

The Emperor has decided on the cleansing of the port and roads of L'Orient, for which operation use will be made of the apparatus that served for the same purpose at Toulon, and which belongs to the Department of Marine.

The military commission appointed by the Emperor to proceed to Teheran to remodel the Persian army sailed for Marseilles for Constantinople on Sunday.

PRUSSIA.

Very unsatisfactory accounts have been received at Berlin from Tegernsee of the health of the King of Prussia. The attack of gout has been severe, and has considerably weakened his Majesty. Dr. Schöntein has arrived at Tegernsee, and other physicians have been sent for.

DENMARK.

"A letter of the 7th from Hamburg," says the *Times* Paris correspondent, "states that the minority of the Federal Diet has just sent a circular note to the different Governments, in which it expresses its views on the question of the Duchies, criticising at the same time the opinion of the majority of the Assembly, and especially the report of the representative of Bavaria. A note is also talked of, sent by the Cabinet of St. Petersburg to all the German states, and expressing a wish to see the concessions of Denmark favourably received. This intelligence is confirmed by letters from Copenhagen, which say that the Russian Minister in Denmark has expressed the satisfaction of his Government at learning that the Danish Cabinet, with the object of facilitating an arrangement, was disposed to suspend the action of the constitution granted to the Duchies. It is well known in Denmark, this correspondence adds, that it is the nobles and their friends in Holstein, Hanover, and Prussia who are conspiring to overthrow the constitution of the Duchies. The mass of the inhabitants of Holstein are said to be very much opposed to such a consummation, and are far from desiring to lose the most liberal constitution they have ever enjoyed."

SPAIN.

The Spanish Government has just decided, under the reserve of the approbation of the French Government, that the railway between the two countries shall pass by the valley of Gavarnie, the routes by the valley of Aspo and the Aldades being rejected.

The Queen continues her "progresses," and the papers report the usual amount of "enthusiasm," whether genuine or factitious.

The opposition journals continue to urge upon the Government the necessity of ameliorating the laws on the press, although it appears that these laws are not at present enforced, and that in fact the liberty of the press

exists. The approaching elections to the Cortes are causing great excitement, and threaten to be fiercely contested.

AUSTRIA.

The autograph letter which the Archduke Ferdinand Maximilian lately received from the Emperor of the French (says the *Augsburg Gazette*) had for its object to thank the prince for an offer which he had made to send to his Majesty a copy on a small scale of the statue of Napoleon I., by Canova, at present in the public gardens of Milan. The Emperor, in accepting the offer, expresses himself in the most affectionate terms.

According to the *Borsenhalle*, the Emperor of Austria intends to increase the concessions already granted to his Lombardo-Venetian subjects, and the Archduke Ferdinand Maximilian, Governor of that kingdom, is endowed with full powers to this effect.

GERMANY.

Great damage has been caused in Saxony by severe floods.

HOLLAND.

The King of Holland is contemplating abdication in favour of his son, the Prince of Orange, who will attain his majority on the 4th of September next. In conjunction with this event, it is said that overtures will be formally made on behalf of the young prince, for the hand of the second daughter of Queen Victoria.

The change which took place in the Dutch Ministry last year has resulted in the advent of another of more advanced liberalism. The Prime Minister and President of the Council, who is also Minister for the Colonies, is M. E. E. Rochussen.

ITALY.

It is stated that the political prisoners recently found guilty at Naples are being subjected to more severe punishments than their sentences indicated.

The state of siege under which the Duchy of Modena, now occupied by Austrian troops, was placed under the revolutionary attempt, two years ago, has been raised. The police authority still remains, however, in the hands of the Austrian General.

TURKEY.

Accounts have been received from Canea to the 17th. The following is the text of the articles modified to the wish of the insurgents:—"1. A general amnesty is granted to all who have taken up arms. 2. As regards everything connected with religious worship, the provisions of the Hatti-Humayoun remain in full force and vigour. 3. The mufti has nothing to do with the administration of the property of Christian minors, or with the affairs of inheritance. 4. The councillors of the provinces will be named by the people according to the established regulations. Their services will be gratuitous."

The *Nord* of Brussels states that letters have been received from Ragusa which set forth the conditions on which the rayahs of Herzegovina have offered to make their submission to the Porte. The principal of these conditions is the abolition of taxation, and substitution of a tribute; they also require that the Bashibazouks shall be replaced by regular troops; that the proprietors of the soil shall have a right to only one-fourth of the produce of the soil, and that certain religious privileges shall be granted to them.

RUSSIA.

A serious collision occurred some time ago between the Moscow students and the police. Some high officers of the latter have just been dismissed the service, and one has been degraded to the lowest ranks of the army, as a punishment for improper conduct towards the students on this occasion.

ACCIDENTS AND SUDDEN DEATHS.

An accident of a distressing character, resulting in the death of an excursionist, occurred on Monday morning at Bishopstoke. An excursion train left Salisbury for Southampton and Portsmouth, calling at the intermediate stations. On arriving at Bishopstoke, it was necessary to detach the carriages in order that the portion destined for Portsmouth might proceed on another line. Whilst this was being done, a young man left the carriages (contrary to rule) and entered the refreshment-room. Whilst he was partaking of refreshments, the starting bell was sounded, and he hurriedly left the room and ran along the platform, for the purpose of getting into the carriage he had left. The train was then in motion. On his way, he came violently against a post, and fell between the carriages on the line, a great portion of the train passing over him. His limbs were fearfully mangled, and his head was crushed to atoms.

A fearful railway accident occurred at Gartsherrie (Scotland) last week, in consequence of a large excursion train for Stirling, containing about one thousand scholars and teachers, running into a mineral train at a crossing. The engine was pitched off the line, and about sixty persons were injured, twenty so severely that they were unable to proceed to Stirling. Black eyes and bruises were very abundant, and the hand of the Rev. Mr. Brown was so severely cut that he was obliged to return to Coatbridge in order to have it dressed. Fortunately, the train was proceeding at rather a slow pace, or the consequences would undoubtedly have been fearful.

Mr. John Major, a gentleman who had been invited to a pic-nic near Bridport, on Monday, met with his death while bathing in the morning previously to starting. The greater part of the day passed without his making his appearance at the pic-nic, and in the evening word was brought to his relations that he was dead. It is thought probable, either that he struck his head against one of the rocks in diving, and so, becoming stunned, was drowned, or that he was seized with a fit while in the water.

The Ramsgate station of the South-Eastern Railway has been the scene of an accident. A train filled with passengers was on Tuesday running into the station down an inclined plane, and, owing to the breaks not being applied, a collision ensued with the stationary buffers, and several of the passengers were seriously bruised and lacerated. Some were carried away insensible, but no lives were lost.

The Scotch papers announce the death, by accident, of the Marquis of Queensberry. He had gone out shooting, on Friday week, on his estate in Dumfriesshire; in the afternoon, he was found dead, having been shot through the body. He was probably loading one of the barrels of his gun, when the other went off, and caused his death. The Marquis was only forty years of age. He succeeded his father in 1856. He leaves a large family.

The inquiry into the death of the persons killed by the explosion of the firework factory in the Westminster-road was resumed and concluded yesterday week. After hearing a great deal of evidence, which has already appeared, the coroner summed up, and the jury returned the following verdict:—"That the deceased children, Sarah Ann Vaughan Williams and Caroline Bridges, died in consequence of burns received by the explosion at a firework manufactory in the Westminster-road on the 12th ult., carried on by William Bowyer Bennett [trading under the name of Madame Coton], and this jury finds a verdict of manslaughter against the said William Bowyer Bennett, for having unlawfully carried on such manufacture contrary to the statute 9 and 10 William III., c. 7; and this jury cannot separate without expressing their anxious hope that the proper authorities will take measures to prevent the recurrence of such unnecessary calamities for the future." Bail was taken for Bennett.

Captain Patullo, a gentleman of a Morayshire family, has been drowned while bathing in the sea at Nairn. He was nearly saved by a Mr. James; but the rope that was fastened round the body of the drowning man suddenly slipped, and Captain Patullo was borne beyond the reach of help.

GATHERINGS FROM LAW AND POLICE COURTS.

On Saturday an Italian, who said his name was Antonio La Rosa, and whose age appeared to be about forty, was charged with parading the streets in woman's attire. The description of his dress, according to the report, is—the skirts of a pink muslin dress, duly expanded by means of crinoline and hoops, his legs inserted in lace drawers and military-heeled boots, his by no means handsome face partly concealed by ringlets, and his hands enveloped in light kid gloves. The defendant said it was only done for a frolic. He had only put on his intended wife's bridal dress. The friends of the defendant were sent for, and the magistrate was assured that Rosa was an artist of considerable repute, and a member of the Royal Academy of Naples, besides being the possessor of several foreign and English medals, all attesting his excellence in the profession. Mr. Henry directed the interpreter to tell the defendant that people were in the habit of attiring themselves in women's clothes for very evil purposes, and he would certainly be committed if the frolic were repeated. The practice of assuming women's apparel is by no means rare among foreigners in this country. We would advise the police to look after a Frenchman who keeps a shop in the Haymarket, and who has been seen walking in Regent-street dressed as a woman.

A person described as Arthur Robinson, 7, Hart-street, Bloomsbury, gentleman, was sent to prison for a month for indecently assaulting a young woman in one of the carriages on the North Kent Railway line.

An extraordinary case of child desertion came before the Worship-street police magistrate on Saturday. A gentleman brought to the court an elegantly dressed little girl who, he said, had been placed by a respectable middle-aged woman in his hall, on the previous night, under the pretence that she belonged to the family. The poor little creature could give no other account of herself than that her mother brought her to town in a railway train, and that her name is Louisa Turner. Her dress was in every respect that of a gentleman's daughter, and she is described as a pretty child, of olive complexion. From circumstances which have since transpired, there is reason to suspect that the "gentleman" who took her before the magistrate is her own father.

At the Court of Bankruptcy on Monday, a trader-debtor summons, taken out a short time since against Messrs. Felix Calvert and Co., was heard and dismissed. A petition was presented, praying for an order to wind up the Patent Seamless Leather Company.

William Cox, an accountant, in the service of the Commercial Dock Company, Rotherhithe, appeared on Monday on remand before Mr. Traill, at Greenwich police-court, charged with embezzling various sums of money belonging to his employers. He was fully committed for trial on three charges, but was bailed out by two sureties in 400l. each, and himself in 800l., to appear at the next Old Bailey sessions.

Ten bakers were summoned last Saturday at the New-townwards Petty Sessions, in the North of Ireland, for working at their trade on Sunday night. The men, it appears, began their work between nine and ten o'clock; but, on the masters agreeing that they should henceforth not begin till after twelve o'clock, the prosecution was withdrawn.

William Henry Hunt, a young man of about five-and-twenty, has been examined at the Mansion House, and committed for trial, on a charge of having embezzled between 500l. and 600l. from his employer, Mr. Noel Whiting, colonial broker, 14, Mincing-lane. The accused is what is called the Custom House clerk, and, when there were any duties to pay, it was his duty to fill up the bodies of the cheques for the requisite sums, and lay them before Mr. Whiting. This position he appears to have abused, by appropriating a portion of the money due on several of the cheques.

A cabdriver's trick has been discovered by Mr. Cherry, the veterinary surgeon and inspector of horses to the police. He observed that the horse driven by a cabman in Oxford-street was lame, and he asked the man for his ticket. One was given, but it did not contain the right number. On being told of this, the cabman made an excuse, and gave another ticket, which Mr. Cherry discovered had been "doctored." A certain number appeared on a piece of very thin paper, fastened to the ticket so slightly that on the least pressure it came off, revealing a different number underneath. Mr. Cherry therefore summoned the cabman to the Marlborough-street police-office. Mr. Beadon inflicted a fine, detained the driver's badge, and remitted the license to Scotland-yard, for the Commissioners to inquire into these deceptive tickets.

THE ASSIZES.

Two distressing cases of child murder by mothers, of a very similar nature, and ending in the same verdict, were tried at Wells on Wednesday. The first case was that of Elizabeth Card, who cut the throat of her little boy, and afterwards her own. The wound inflicted on the child's throat was fatal; that on her own, not so. It appeared that the poor woman's husband was a drunken, worthless fellow; that he treated her with great brutality, and put her in fear of her life; that this had driven her into a condition of temporary insanity; and that she had killed her child under fear that it would be starved. She was in a state of pregnancy at the time, which no doubt contributed to her excitement. The jury found a verdict of Not Guilty, on the ground of insanity.—In the second case, Eliza Williams was indicted for the murder by drowning of two of her children. This is the case which we briefly related in our Postscript last week, the events occurring no longer ago than the 3rd instant. The woman was passionately—almost madly—attached to her husband and children; and, on the 2nd instant, she fancied that her husband treated her less kindly than usual, owing to her having made a mistake in paying some taxes. On the following morning, she conceived that his manner was more cordial again; but the previous impression had done its work. She wandered out in a state of moody insanity, and drowned her children in a bay of the Bristol Channel. Subsequently, she gave herself into custody, and made a statement to the police, in which she said:—"I walked about till ten o'clock, and sat on a stone bench near the beach. My children fell asleep in my arms. I walked down with my children in my arms still asleep, with their heads on my breasts. I went with the intention of drowning myself and my children. I met the tide and walked into the sea up to my waist, when I stumbled over a stone and fell backwards, and I did not know what had happened for some time. When I came to myself I saw something floating on the water. I got to it, and found it was my little boy, dead, and I put it down again. I then saw my little baby in the water. I gave a scream, and went away. I walked along till I met two boys, who said, 'That woman is mad.' I asked for a police-station to give myself up." The reading of this statement caused a painful sensation, and many eyes were suffused with tears. Insanity was shown to be in the woman's blood, and the jury found the same verdict in this case as in the previous. The husband, who was outside the court, in great distress of mind, denied that he behaved harshly to his wife on the morning of the 2nd inst.

John Baker Buckwell was tried on Monday and Tuesday at the Wells Assizes for the murder of his grandfather and grandmother at Creech St. Michael on the 12th of April. The facts have already appeared in these columns. The object appears to have been plunder; and, after committing the act, the prisoner set fire to the house. He was found guilty, and sent to death; and he left the dock smiling.

CRIMINAL RECORD.

EXECUTION.—James Seale, the youth who murdered a girl named Sarah Ann Guppy, on the 30th of last April, was executed on Tuesday morning, at the Castle of Dorchester. Attempts, as usual in these cases, had been made to the Home Secretary to mitigate the sentence, but they failed. The culprit denied his guilt for a long time, but ultimately confessed, and made many professions of penitence. When the hour for execution drew on, he was in a state of abject prostration; but his struggles, after the falling of the drop, were brief.

ATTEMPT TO SHOOT A MAN THROUGH A KEYHOLE.—John Townley, a blacksmith, of Summit, near Rochdale, was charged, last Saturday, with attempting to shoot John Atherton, a tailor, through the keyhole. Townley's shop is at one end of a row of houses, and Atherton's house at the other. A clear spring of water, used by the residents of the row, having been repeatedly fouled by Townley cooling his hot irons in it, Atherton had remonstrated with him, and they had quarrelled about it some time ago. On Saturday night, Atherton and his wife, and Mr. and Mrs. Bamford, neighbours, supped at Atherton's, and, a little after eleven o'clock, Atherton removed from the table to the fireside, and was filling his pipe, when a gun or pistol was discharged through the keyhole of the door, the charge passing within twelve inches of him, and striking the wall opposite, while a considerable portion of the wadding fell on the floor. Atherton instantly put on his shoes, ran out, and saw Townley running away. Townley has been committed for trial at the Assizes.

MURDER AND ROBBERY AT ACTON.—The body of Mr. Edward John Bates, a builder, was discovered on Monday night in the high road between Acton and Shepherd's Bush, quite dead, with two stabs close to the heart, and several other mortal injuries. The disordered state of the clothes showed that robbery had been committed; and the features were so mutilated, that recognition was difficult. The murderer is at present quite unknown. The parish authorities have offered a reward of 50*l.*, and the inquest is adjourned to next Tuesday.

OUTRAGES BY COLLIERIES.—The men belonging to the Bedminster collieries, near Bristol, have been on strike now for some months, owing to their employers desiring to reduce their pay; and, within the last few days, several savage outrages have been committed by them on the men who had been engaged in their places. Nine of the offenders have been examined at the Bristol police-office, and ordered to find substantial bail.

ESCAPE FROM NEWCASTLE GAOL.—Robert Boyd, aged twenty-two, an active looking fellow, was sentenced at the assizes on Saturday last to six years' penal servitude for robbery, and committed to Newcastle Gaol. Between six and seven o'clock on the Thursday evening he was locked up in his cell; the door of which was well secured, and was found so after his escape. In several of the cells are placed large iron pipes for the purpose of conveying the rain that falls on the roof of the gaol into the drains. These pipes are concealed by planks screwed into the wall. Boyd was confined in one of these cells, and he seems to have removed without much difficulty the plank that was before the pipe. He then climbed to the top of the cell, and by some means cut away a quantity of lead connected with the pipe at the top, by which a small opening was made, through which he managed to squeeze himself on to the roof of the prison. He then lowered himself into the area below the stone yard. Still he had the outer wall to scale before he was safely into the street, a height of about twenty-five feet. This difficulty he surmounted by a little contrivance. Looking about him he found some bundles of hair. To prevent the revolving of a *chevaux de frise*, he placed the bundles upon it. Having possessed himself of a plank used for whitewashing the prison, he set it upon the bundles and climbed up to the top of the wall, from which he descended to the footpath by means of oakum which he had twisted into a line, and got clear off.

NAVAL AND MILITARY.

THE LASH.—Two privates of the 13th (Prince Albert's) Light Infantry were subjected at Chatham, on Tuesday morning, in presence of all the troops in garrison, to fifty lashes each, for an act of gross insubordination. They had refused to embark at Gravesend with the other drafts proceeding to India in the General Simpson, and had incited the other troops not to embark. They endured their punishment with great bravado. After being cured of the effects of the lash, they will undergo a long term of imprisonment in Fort Clarence Military Prison, Rochester.

ATTEMPT TO LAUNCH THE STEAMER MERSEY.—Thursday was the day appointed for launching the fine screw-steamer Mersey at Chatham Dockyard; but the attempt was a failure. All the supports were knocked away, and powerful screws were applied for propelling her; but the vessel would not stir a hair's-breadth, and it was at length found necessary to shore her up again, and leave her. She is a sister ship to the Orlando, 50, screw-steamer, recently launched at Pembroke Dockyard, and is the second of the immense screw frigates which the late Lords of the Admiralty ordered to be laid down to compete with the large war steamers which have been

constructed for the navy of the United States. The Mersey has been an astonishingly short time in building, having only been commenced in the early part of last year. She is built from the designs of Rear-Admiral Sir Baldwin W. Walker, K.C.B., Surveyor of the Navy, who has taken much interest in her progress. The failure in the launching is supposed to have arisen from the sinking of the ground at the head of the slip on which the Mersey is built, which has carried the "ways" down with it, and so destroyed the incline.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE COURT.—The Queen and Prince Consort left Buckingham Palace at twenty minutes past eight o'clock on Tuesday morning, attended by Lady Macdonald, the Hon. Caroline Cavendish, Colonel the Hon. Sir C. Phipps, Colonel the Hon. A. N. Hood, and Captain Du Platt. Her Majesty and his Royal Highness were conducted to their carriage by the Marquis of Exeter, K.G., the Earl De La Warr, the Earl of Sheffield, the Hon. Mortimer Sackville West, and Colonel the Hon. A. Liddell. The Royal party left the Palace in three carriages, and were escorted by a detachment of Life Guards to the Bricklayers' Arms Station, where a special train was in readiness to convey her Majesty to Gravesend to embark on board the Royal yacht *en route* for Potsdam. The visit to Gravesend, it was generally understood, was to be private; but the authorities were left in the dark as to what to do. A singular incident occurred in connexion with the anticipated arrival of her Majesty at Gravesend. An official letter was sent to the Home Secretary, asking if the Queen would permit any public demonstration of welcome by the townspeople. The letter, in the ordinary course of such matters, was sent to Colonel Phipps, the illustrious K.C.B., who, after some delay, returned for answer a letter containing some packets of clover seed, and nothing more. The authorities were therefore compelled to do the best they could, and something like a demonstration took place. The usual array of triumphal arches, banners, garlands, &c., made the town gay and festive; the inhabitants crowded the streets; a guard of honour was in readiness at the pier; and the Mayor and corporation presented an address. The Queen arrived at half past nine o'clock, and departed soon afterwards. After she had gone on board the Royal yacht, the young ladies who strewed the flowers before the Princess Frederick William on the occasion of her departure presented to her Majesty, for her daughter's acceptance, a graceful *souvenir*. The Queen was met at Antwerp by the Prince and Princess of Prussia; on Wednesday, her Majesty arrived at Dusseldorf, and subsequently at Breidenbach.

THE REFORM PARLIAMENT.—The Government have, on the recommendation of a Special Committee, consisting of Lord John Russell, Lord Elcho, and Mr. Coningham, M.P., decided on the purchase of Sir George Hayter's immense picture of the House of Commons first assembled after the passing of the Reform Bill.—*Athenaeum*.

THE MENDICANT MONKS IN LIVERPOOL.—James Garron and Lewis Corey, the monks who were last week twice examined before the Liverpool magistrates on a charge of begging, were again brought up on Tuesday, and, on their promising not to offend again, they were discharged.

THE COMET.—Mr. Hind, writing to the *Times* on the subject of the comet discovered by Dr. Donati at Florence on June 2nd, says that it "will be visible a little above the horizon in the evenings, in the constellations Leo Minor and Coma Berenices, for about six weeks from this time, and after the 20th inst. it may be seen in the mornings also. About the end of the first week in September, it will rise 3½ hours before the sun, and set at nearly an equal interval after him. The rapid increase in the intensity of the comet's light, which on September 29th will be 160 times greater than on the night of discovery, may very possibly allow of its being conspicuously visible to the naked eye (as already pointed out by several continental astronomers), particularly in the evening twilight, towards the end of that month."

THE HARVEST.—Our reports from the principal agricultural districts give the following as the condition and probable results of the harvest. The wheat crop promises a full average yield, though likely to fall considerably short of last year's extraordinary produce. Barley and oats are both various; the former not likely to yield a very good quality of grain, and both probably under average as to quantity. All late sown spring crops have suffered from the unusual drought and heat of spring and summer. There never was so universal a failure throughout the country as beans and peas have this year exhibited. Swedes and turnips have suffered from the drought and fly, and have to a large extent been resown. Mangold wurzel promises a satisfactory yield. Hay has been rather a short crop, but made in excellent order. The harvest is from ten days to a fortnight earlier than usual. Of potatoes, excepting one or two reports from Essex and Kent, favourable accounts are received, and, if the disease appears at all this year, it will be certainly much later, and we may, therefore, hope less destructive in its attacks than it has been.

NEW PEERS.—Mr. Pemberton Leigh's elevation to the peerage has just taken place. The title selected by the new peer is that of Lord Kingsdown, of Kingsdown, Kent. It was currently reported at Knutsford on Saturday, during the election for North Cheshire, that the father of the new member, Mr. Tatton Egerton (who recently accepted the Chiltern Hundreds), is shortly to be raised to the peerage.

THE DOVER MAIL SERVICE.—A testimonial was presented to Mr. Churchward, the contractor for the Dover mail service, on Saturday, by several peers and members of Parliament, who were enabled, by the assistance of one of the Company's packets, to reach England earlier than the arrangements of the Peninsular and Oriental Company permitted. The address concluded in these gratifying terms:—"The affability you have displayed to all your guests, and the good management that has prevailed under very embarrassing circumstances, assure us that it is a matter of congratulation to the public that the comfort and security of passengers, and the punctual conveyance of the mails between England and France, are entrusted to a gentleman and a staff of officers so well qualified to discharge such responsible duties."

THE LEADING YACHT in the contest for the Emperor's Cup, which arrived at Cherbourg at 1.10 P.M. on Friday week, was the *Alarm*, belonging to Mr. Weld. But the *Ursuline*, the property of Lord Londesborough, according to the conditions of the race, was the winner; she arrived 1.50 P.M.

REDPATH AND ROBSON.—The well-known culprits, Redpath and Robson, are to be sent to Freemantle, Australia, by the Edwin Fox.

CHELSEA-BRIDGE was thrown open on Sunday last to the public, free of toll.

DIVINE SERVICE AT THE EDDYSTONE LIGHTHOUSE.—In the English Channel, on a ridge of dangerous rocks facing the port of Plymouth (says the *Bristol Times*), stands this majestic and highly useful beacon to the mariners of all nations, a structure which has been the means of preventing frequent shipwrecks and the sacrifice of much valuable life. At this spot, far away from the land, are stationed three men, who through a large portion of the year are cut off from all social and religious intercourse with the world. In the summer time they occasionally receive a flying visit from a few strangers, but during the greater part of the year, especially in tempestuous weather, they are left alone to their own society and their own reflections. On the 29th of June, however, a somewhat interesting and novel event took place at the lighthouse—the performance of divine service by a clergyman of the Church of England. The Rev. Francis Barnes, incumbent of Trinity Church, Plymouth, who is also chaplain of the emigrants embarking at that port, and honorary chaplain in the Sailors' Missionary Society, took a trip on the day named with a few friends in a steamer to the lighthouse, and, after landing, availed himself of the opportunity of offering up prayer, and preaching an impressive and appropriate sermon to the assembled party and the men in charge of the lighthouse—a circumstance, it is believed, that has never before occurred since the erection of the edifice, except once last year by the same clergyman. The visitors, before their departure, presented the three men with a supply of fruit, vegetables, and other products of the season, which, on such a spot were, of course, highly prized and thankfully received. We understand these services will be repeated occasionally during the season.

A GENTLEMANLY BISHOP.—At the meeting of the Synod at Aberdeen last week, the Bishop said:—"Before proceeding, I have to remark, that I see persons here who have not my authority for being present. I positively refuse to give my sanction to ladies being present, and, until the ladies withdraw, I shall not proceed with the business." (There were some half-dozen ladies in the front seat of the south gallery.) "If the ladies have any delicacy, they will not remain without permission from me, and I hope any gentlemen, who may have influence with them, will exert their influence to get them to accede to my request." (After a pause, and no stir among the ladies, the Bishop continued.) "If the ladies are determined, I am equally determined, and I will adjourn the Synod to another place." (A pause of some minutes ensued, and yet no sign of the ladies retiring.) The Bishop then said:—"The Synod is adjourned till the ladies retire—for half an hour." The Bishop then retired, but the ladies in the gallery sat still for several minutes. Ultimately, after a good deal of consultative whispering, and having had the benefit of the counsels of a reverend brother, who ascended to the gallery, they retired.—*Aberdeen Press*.

NORTH RHINE COPPER MINING COMPANY.—The prospectus of the North Rhine Copper Mining Company of South Australia has just been issued, containing an influential board of directors, and holding out to the public an opportunity of embarking in an enterprise which experienced local authorities consider promising and advantageous. It is proposed to purchase three hundred and sixty-six acres of mineral property, from which specimens of copper-ore have been obtained equal, it is alleged, to any that have been raised at the celebrated Burra-Burra mines. If the statements set forth be correct, and they are certainly supported by gentlemen of the highest respectability and experience, this

undertaking may be classed among those deserving the patronage of the investing public. A large quantity of the ore has just arrived, and the portions assayed have been reported upon in very favourable terms.

THE METROPOLITAN BOARD OF WORKS.—At the meeting of the Metropolitan Board of Works on Wednesday, a report was adopted, by an almost unanimous vote, recommending that the intercepting scheme of drainage proposed by Messrs. Bidder, Hawkesley, and Bazalgette, should be carried out.

NORTH CHESTER ELECTION.—On the 7th inst., the election of a member to serve in the present Parliament, in the room of Mr. William Tatton Egerton, resigned, took place at Nether Knutsford. Mr. Wilbraham, the High Sheriff, presided, and Mr. Wilbraham Egerton, the eldest son of the late member, was unanimously elected without opposition. He is a conservative.

THE CHANNEL ISLANDS TELEGRAPH.—The submarine telegraph to the Channel Islands has been successfully laid, and communications are now going on between Southampton and Alderney.

THE SOUTH DEVON ELECTION.—Mr. Kekewich, the Conservative candidate for South Devon, was elected yesterday week, without opposition.

AUSTRALIA.—The Australian papers are filled with accounts from the mining districts. A splendid nugget of 2217 ounces has been discovered at Ballarat. A considerable decrease has taken place in the number of immigrants arrived, and a corresponding increase has followed in the demand for labour. The rejection of the Reform Bill by the Legislative Council, has created much excitement in Melbourne. Mr. O'Sharassy has advised the prorogation of the Parliament, with a view, as he informed the House, of re-introducing the same bill immediately on the re-assembling of Parliament, when, if again rejected by the Council, he and his colleagues in the Government would feel justified in asking for an alteration of the constitution. Parliament was accordingly prorogued on the 4th of June, to reassemble on the 8th of July.

THE COUNCIL OF INDIA.—The following gentlemen were elected on Monday members of the Council of India:—Charles Mills, Esq., John Shepherd, Esq., Sir James Weir Hogg, Bart., Elliot Macnaghten, Esq., Ross Donnelly Mangles, Esq., William Joseph Eastwick, Esq., and Henry Thoby Princep, Esq.

NEW LIFE-BOAT.—The Humane Society of Dunkirk last week terminated and launched a life-boat, built on the principle of the Royal National Life-boat Institution of Great Britain, after the design of Mr. James Peake, Assistant-Master Shipwright of her Majesty's Dockyard, Woolwich, and fitted on Mr. Beeching's plan. The experiments clearly showed the excellent qualities of the boat, and the chairman of the committee, after a dinner which was given to Mr. Peake, presented him with a large silver medal in testimony of their satisfaction.

THE EARLY CLOSING ASSOCIATION.—The annual fêtes of this admirable association, which owes so much to the industry and devotedness of Mr. Lilwall, will take place at the Crystal Palace this day (Saturday), next Monday, and the following Saturday. The attractions are very great. Not to speak of the Palace itself and the exquisite gardens surrounding it, there will be displays of all the great fountains; military games and manly sports; cricket matches; athletic feats by the Jamieson family and the Brothers St. Leon; jokes by the celebrated French clown, M. Auriol; negro melodists; a musical *mélange*, &c. All these entertainments (and there will be no lack of amusement even should the weather prove wet) are to be enjoyed for One Shilling—children, half-price; and, as the association is in want of funds, we trust the gathering will be numerous and the receipts large. The tickets (which are to be obtained at the offices of the society, 35, Ludgate-hill) will be available for any one of the days.

GENEALOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN.—The fifth annual general meeting of this society was held on Wednesday at the society's rooms, which were crowded. The chair was taken by Lord Farnham; the report was unanimously adopted; and several interesting papers were read.

RELIGION IN INDIA.—A deputation of gentlemen representing various missionary societies, waited on Lord Stanley last Saturday, for the purpose of eliciting the future policy of the Indian Government with regard to Christianity in India. His Lordship said the Government meant that no steps should be taken, directly or indirectly, to give to the opinions of Europe an apparent preference over those which are found existing in India.

THE CRYSTAL PALACE SUNDAY OPENINGS.—The Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishops of London and Winchester, and two hundred and fifty London clergymen, have signed a declaration that the opening of the Crystal Palace on Sundays to shareholders is, in the opinion of the persons signing, highly undesirable in a moral and religious point of view.

M. SOYER.—The remains of this gentleman were buried on Wednesday in the Kensal Green Cemetery. Many mourners gathered about the grave.

THE EAST INDIA COMPANY.—A meeting of the East India Company was held on Wednesday, to ascertain the exact legal position of the corporation under the new act. No great light was thrown on the subject, and

ultimately it was agreed to take the opinion of counsel, and to appoint a sub-committee.

MR. ROEBUCK AT NORTH SHIELDS.—The new Hall of the North Shields Mechanics' Institute was opened on Tuesday, on which occasion, after Mr. Lindsay, M.P., had made a few observations to the meeting, Mr. Roebuck delivered an inaugural address on the advantages of knowledge, on the great achievements of science in the cause of humanity, and on the success of that stupendous work, the Atlantic Telegraph. Mr. Justice Halliburton was to have been present, but was prevented by a sudden attack of the gout. In the evening there was a *soirée*, at which Mr. Lindsay and Mr. Roebuck spoke, and, alluding to the recent festivities at Cherbourg (at which they had been present) said that the show of French ships was small in number and poor in quality, and that England is still far ahead in that respect.

THE CREMORNE ARISTOCRATIC FETE.—Viscount Ingestre, M.P., has transmitted per the Rev. J. W. Worthington, D.D., a cheque for 12l. 10s. for the City Orthopaedic Hospital out of the proceeds of the Cremorne fête, making more than 900l. already divided amongst hospitals, public institutions, and poor-boxes of magisterial districts.

THE SANDWICH ISLANDS.—The Queen of these islands has given birth to a son and heir.

SIR JAMES BROOKE.—A petition, signed by several merchants, shipowners, bankers, brokers, and others, in the city of London, engaged and interested in commerce with the East, and having reference to the abandonment of Sir James Brooke by the British Government, has been presented to Parliament. It thus concludes:—"Your petitioners pray that the protection of the country may be granted to Sarawak, and that such other measures may be taken as will tend to insure the advantages referred to; that the policy of 1847, for the maintenance of British influence and the peace and security of the coasts of Borneo, may be carried out, so far as may now be found practicable, in order that British interests now seriously compromised by indifference and neglect, may be legitimately secured, and that justice may be done to the honourable motives and services of Sir James Brooke, so frequently acknowledged, but hitherto so inadequately requited."

DISCOVERY OF ANCIENT PICTURES.—Several fine fresco paintings, belonging to the period of Giotto, and attributed by connoisseurs to the pencils of either Agnolo Gaddi or Spinello Aretino, have just been discovered at Florence, in the convent of Carmelite monks, by two of the inmates, who, with great patience and perseverance, removed the whitewash with which they were covered, without injuring them in the least. They represent passages in the life of St. Cecily, and Sts. Valerian, Tiburtius, and Urban.

CHURCH-RATE AT WALTHAMSTOW.—The result of a poll on this question testifies to the growing disapprobation of the system of church-rates, to which the parish has hitherto submitted without dissent. There are 1100 parishioners competent to vote, yet only 115 persons could be induced to record their votes on the side of the clergy, 127 persons voting with the opposition. The majority to the church party has been obtained through plurality of votes, the number of votes being 209 for the rate, and 156 against. At the close of the vestry a protest was made by the opposition against a decision of the chairman.

LEANDER AT LIVERPOOL.—Three young gentlemen, well known on 'Change at Liverpool, swam across the Mersey on Tuesday morning, from New Brighton to the North Docks. The distance, a mile and a half, was accomplished in thirty-six minutes. It was low water at the time, and, for fear of accidents, the swimmers were followed by a boat. The feat was no novelty to one of the gentlemen.

WEST COAST OF AFRICA.—In consequence of the intolerant conduct of the new Spanish governor at Fernando Po, the Protestant missionaries and inhabitants were leaving for Ambaese, where they are about to form a settlement. The Governor of Sierra Leone had not repealed the obnoxious ordinance respecting the press, which Lord Stanley, it will be remembered, ordered to be abrogated, and some excitement existed at Cape Coast in consequence. Legitimate trade was brisk at most of the stations on the coast. Three officers of the navy belonging to H.M. brig Childers, Messrs. Davy, Foulkes, and Stronach, were drowned by the upsetting of a boat on the 24th June.

THE REV. MR. POOLE.—This gentleman having preached on the 4th of July (after his license had been revoked by the Bishop of London) at St. John's Church, Harlow, Mr. James Thornton, of that place, wrote to the Bishop of Rochester on the subject, and received the following reply from his Lordship:—"Sir,—I have written to Mr. Poole to desire that he will not again officiate in my diocese without first obtaining my permission. I much object to many things which take place at Harlow, but there are difficulties in the way of episcopal interference, from a want of legal power to enforce obedience to my directions. I hope that every husband and father will strenuously resist the attempt on the part of some of the clergy to introduce the practice of confession, thereby obtaining an undue influence over their families, in addition to the moral evil it is calculated to produce."

ALLEGED VIOLENCE ON BOARD A SWEDISH MERCHANTMAN.—The Liverpool magistrates resumed on Tuesday an investigation into a charge of desertion preferred by Captain Wickman, of the Swedish ship Phoenix, against Olaus Walstrom, a sailor who had shipped on board the vessel. The solicitor who appeared for Walstrom urged that he had been compelled to leave the ship in consequence of the cruelties of the captain, who, in addition to knocking him down, kicking him, &c., had fired at Walstrom and others of the sailors when they were in the rigging. An affidavit to this effect, made by a boy who had also left the ship, and corroborative evidence given by one of the crew, were adduced by the solicitor who appeared for Walstrom. The captain, who was examined by Mr. T. S. Raffles, denied all the allegations of cruelty, and stated that, on some of the occasions spoken of by the witnesses, he was not on board the vessel. After hearing the case, the magistrate decided that Walstrom should be conveyed back to the Phoenix, which is at present lying at Newport.

OUR MILITARY CITIZENS.—A detachment of the Hon. Artillery Company, in heavy marching order, under the command of Captain Jay, has marched out for eight days' training, and for ball practice. On Monday, they started from London-bridge to Newhaven, from thence marched to Seaford, where instructions had been issued by the Secretary for War to have the fort and tower given up for the reception of the arms and ammunition. The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress and a party of ladies were on the balcony of the Mansion House. The detachment carried arms as they passed.

MYSTERIOUS DEATH BY STRYCHNINE.—A painful occurrence took place at Barugh, near Malton, a fortnight ago. A young lady, named Brown, was taken suddenly ill and died before medical aid could be procured. She was far advanced in pregnancy. At the inquest, the medical man expressed an opinion that the cause of death was tetanic spasms, and an open verdict was returned to that effect. Other doctors have since been engaged in making an analysis of the contents of the stomach. The result of their examination clearly proves death to have been caused by strychnine. The deceased had been in good health only a few hours before her death, had made preparations for her approaching confinement, and had never afforded the least grounds for supposing she thought of committing suicide.

A GLANCE AT IRISH ART.—Irish Art! Have we such a thing? Or, is its existence a myth, and do we delude ourselves when we talk and write about it? The school of British Art is well recognised; its rise and progress from the time of Hogarth can easily be traced—and that Irishmen have contributed their share to its successful development, and to the deservedly high position it now occupies, cannot be gainsaid. But we fear that in Ireland Art has no distinctive school, racy of the soil. The Irish people are highly imaginative—that is conceded. A keen enjoyment of the beauties of nature is implanted in them, and, as a consequence, a ready appreciation of painting, poetry, and music. Nothing is more striking than their love of ornament, manifested even amid the discouragements of poverty. Amongst the English people a love of material comfort is probably the most strongly developed trait; but we constantly see in the Irish a disposition to sacrifice a little of the useful to the ornamental—just the characteristic one would say favourable to the fine arts. Yet, in England, Art stands high, and is generally encouraged and cultivated, whereas in Ireland it is at a decidedly low ebb. To patronise Art, however, requires affluence, which is almost certain to carry refinement amongst its possessors. Wealthy educated people are much the same in every country. But whatever else we in this western isle have been charged with, we have never been called a wealthy people.—*Dublin University Magazine.*

THE EAST COAST OF YORKSHIRE.—The devouring sea rushed higher and higher upon the land, and the cliff, sapped and undermined, fell, and with it the church of Owthorne. In 1786, the edge of the burial ground itself first began to fail; the church itself was not touched till thirty years later. It was a mournful sight to see the riven churchyard, and skeletons and broken coffins sticking out from the new cliff, and bones, skulls, and fragments of long-buried wood strewn on the beach. One of the coffins washed out from a vault, under the east end of the church, contained an embalmed corpse, the back of the scalp still bearing the grey hairs of one who had been the village pastor. The eyes of the villagers were shocked by these ghastly relics of mortality tossed rudely forth to the light of day; and aged folks who tottered down to see the havoc, wept, as by some remembered token they recognised a relative or friend of bygone years whom they had followed to the grave—the resting-place of the dead, as they trusted, to the end of time. In some places, bodies still clad in naval attire, with bright-coloured silk kerchiefs round the neck, were unearthed, as if the sea were eager to reclaim the shipwrecked sailors whom it had in former time flung dead upon the shore.—*Walter White's Month in Yorkshire.*

TITIAN'S DEATH-BED.—An unusual air of heavy melancholy dulness in Titian's last work recalls to mind the wretchedness of his last moments, as given in a

paper by Mrs. Jamieson, but on what authority we do not remember, for it is many years since we met with the essay in question. Titian's life had been an uninterrupted career of health and splendid prosperity, graced, Vasari, his personal acquaintance, tells us, by courtesy and general goodness and rectitude, which do not appear to have been materially tarnished, except by an excessive love of gain, now and then, and by that petty professional jealousy—shown in the ignoble treatment of his more promising scholars—which was so unworthy of his refined and liberal genius. But at last misfortune, hitherto far in his rear, was able to overtake him on his death-bed. Titian, according to the account we have referred to, died miserably. He was stricken by the plague; and when the sanitary officers, in going their rounds, called at his house, they found his son, Orazio, and himself both ill of the pestilence, lying in the same room, deserted by their domestics, and in a neglected and forlorn condition. Orazio's state holding out hopes of recovery, they immediately took him away to the lazaretto appointed for that purpose. But Titian himself—his sickness further aided by the infirmities of ninety and nine years—was evidently past all mortal cure; him, therefore, they left alone to die; and when the next visitors came, they found he was no more. The courted friend and gossip of so many of the leading magnates, scholars, poets, and witty fair ones of the day—the caressed of monarchs, the county palatine, the untaxed of the Signory, had meanwhile died more forlorn and abandoned than many a tattered beggar. And to aggravate even more the dismality of his fate, it was found that between these two last visits, the apartment had been entered and despoiled of some of his favourite articles of taste and costly ornament; and this, perhaps, under his own eyes, before they were finally glazed and fixed by death.—*Art Journal*.

A MAN OF FASHION EIGHTY YEARS AGO.—The man of fashion of this period was a compound of effeminacy and affectation. He painted and perfumed like a woman. His toilet occupied a great proportion of his time; his dress was of the most costly materials, and the most fantastic patterns. Silks and brocades, embroidery, gold lace, and jewellery adorned his person, both in morning and evening costume. He seldom stirred abroad on foot, except to take a turn in the Mall; and if he had to cross the street only from his lodging to a tavern, he was conveyed in a chair. Gaming was his chief employment, gallantry occupied the hours which could be spared from dress and play. He had made the grand tour, and, consequently, knew the world. Of books he knew little or nothing. Men of education he called "prigs" and "pedants." The only literature he cultivated was plays, novels, lampoons, or tracts in ridicule of religion. Such were the beaux and fribbles of the time of Anne and of the Hanover succession. The reader who would know more of the manners and conversation of this class, will find their affectation and ignorance, their profligacy, insolence, and inanity, sketched, without exaggeration, in the "Foppington" of Cibber, the "Fellamar" of Fielding, and the "Whiffle" of Smollett.—*Massey's 1770-1780*.

TIMBUKTU.—The difficulties which a place like Timbuktu presents to a free commercial intercourse with Europeans are very great. For while the remarkable situation of the town, at the edge of the desert and on the border of various races, in the present degenerated condition of the native kingdoms, makes a strong government very difficult, nay, almost impossible, its distance from either the west coast or the mouth of the Niger is very considerable. But, on the other hand, the great importance of its situation at the northern curve or elbow of that majestic river, which, in an immense sweep, encompasses the whole southern half of North Central Africa, including countries densely populated and of the greatest productive capabilities, renders it most desirable to open it to European commerce, while the river itself affords immense facilities for such a purpose. For, although the town is nearer to the French settlements in Algeria on the one side, and those on the Senegal on the other, yet it is separated from the former by a tract of frightful desert, while between it and the Senegal lies an elevated tract of country, nay, along the nearest road, a mountain chain extends of tolerable height. Further, we have here a family which, long before the French commenced their conquest of Algeria, exhibited their friendly feelings towards the English in an unquestionable manner, and at the present moment the most distinguished member of this family is most anxious to open free intercourse with the English. Even in the event of the greatest success of the French policy in Africa, they will never effect the conquest of this region. On the other hand, if a liberal government were secured to Timbuktu, by establishing a ruler independent of the Fulbe of Hamda-Allahi, who are strongly opposed to all intercourse with Europeans, whether French or English, an immense field might be opened to European commerce, and thus the whole of this part of the world might again be subjected to a wholesome organisation.—*Barth's Africa*.

THE OUTRAGE AT GAZA.—A letter from Alexandria gives the following details of the Mussulman outbreak at Gaza:—"On the courier from Suez announcing the massacre of the Christians at Jeddah, the Mahomedan inhabitants expressed joy at the event, and in great numbers went to the caidi and the mufti, where they

concerted plans for attacking the Christians. On the following morning, while the latter were assembled in their church, a body of 300 Turks surrounded the building, broke open the doors, and assailed the Christians. The latter having made a vigorous resistance, the Mussulmans left and proceeded to the Frank quarter, where they broke into several of the Christians' houses, and did considerable damage. The governor, Moustapha Bey, and the chief of the Bashi-Bazouks interfered on behalf of the Christians."

A SAILOR'S TROUBLES.—A young man, named Chambers, applied at the Wandsworth police-court for assistance under very melancholy circumstances. About four months ago, he came to London from Rye to look after a ship, and at that time had good clothes, money, and necessaries. He fell in with two men, who appeared to be sailors, and they took him to a house in Kent-street, where he was drugged, stripped of everything, and had no clothes to put on. The robbery so affected him that he lost his senses, and he broke some glass, and was fined 15s., or six weeks' imprisonment. Upon his removal to prison, he was found to be insane, and an application was made to the Secretary of State to have him at once transferred to the County Lunatic Asylum, Garrett, Wandsworth. He had been there ever since until the 7th instant, when he was discharged as cured. He had no friends and no home, and had been twice stopped by the police, who supposed him to have escaped from the asylum. He was sent by the magistrate to the workhouse, where he was admitted.

A FACT IN ACOUSTICS.—The sound of the Cherbourg salutes was heard distinctly at Lyme Regis, on the coast of Dorsetshire, a distance of about eighty-five miles.

THE "INTERESTING SCOTCH GIRL."—The girl, Margaret Robertson, whose adventures in London have been noticed in the newspapers, has been brought up at the police-court (Perth) before Bailie Richardson, charged with stealing a small sum of money (about 2l.) from a house in Barrett's-close, George-street, where she had been staying for a day or two. The evidence, however, was defective, and the charge was found "not proven."—*Perth Courier*.

FIRE IN THE HAMPSTEAD-ROAD.—A destructive fire broke out shortly after two o'clock yesterday morning on the premises of Messrs. Green, Randell, and Co., Eagle Brewery, Hampstead-road. The malt mill, its contents and machinery, were destroyed. The fire was caused by the heat from the shaft of the furnace-flue. These premises were on fire in June, 1854, and December, 1856. Owing to the timely arrival of the fire-engines, an immense amount of property has been saved.

THE STEAM PLOUGHS AT CHESTER.—The judges, Messrs. Clarke, Druce, Shackel, and Wilson have at length presented their report. It is beyond question, they say, that Mr. Fowler's machine is able to turn over the soil in an efficient manner, at a saving, as compared with horse labour, on light land, of 2½ to 25 per cent.; on heavy land, 25 to 30 per cent.; and in trenching, 80 to 85 per cent.; while the soil in all cases is left in a far more desirable condition, and better adapted for all the purposes of husbandry. They are therefore unanimously of opinion that he is fully entitled to the prize of 500l.

COMMITTAL OF A TRADESMAN FOR THROWING STONES AT A RAILWAY ENGINE.—James Williams, curb and chain maker, residing in St. Paul's-row, Park-street, has been charged at the Guildhall, Walsall, with having maliciously thrown three bricks or stones at an engine on the South Staffordshire Railway, at Walsall. There appeared to be some suspicion that the man was not quite sane; but he was committed for trial at the Assizes, and admitted to bail.

A CRIMEAN MONUMENT IN THE BROAD SANCTUARY, WESTMINSTER.—A space of ground situated in the above locality, near Westminster Abbey, and adjoining the entrance to the Westminster Schools, has been granted by her Majesty's Commissioners of Works for the purpose of erecting a monument to the officers (naval and military) who were educated at the Westminster Schools, and who lost their lives either by death in battle or by fever in the Russian campaign in the Crimea.

EXPERIMENTAL STEAMSHIP.—A steamship of a novel construction has arrived at Harlepool from Greenwich, where it has been built by Messrs. Joyce, to test the utility of an ingenious contrivance for detaching portions of the vessel and leaving entire cargoes at any port on her route. The vessel, which is about ninety feet in length and very narrow in the beam, is built of iron, and consists of three separate movable compartments, which fit together in sockets and are fastened by strong iron stays. The foremost section is occupied by the crew, the middle compartment contains the entire cargo, and the aftermost part the engines. It is said that the central section can be disconnected from the other two in a few minutes, and an empty hold substituted in its place, so that the vessel can proceed on its course either with a fresh cargo or in quest of one. The steamer is now loading with coal for the London market, and will take in between thirty and forty tons. If the experiment should answer a vessel of two thousand tons burden is to be forthwith constructed on the same principle.

Postscript.

LEADER OFFICE, Saturday, August 14th.

THE ATLANTIC TELEGRAPH.

THE following message has just been received at the office of the Atlantic Telegraph Company, from Valentia, by British and Irish Magnetic Telegraph:—"The receipt of a message of twenty-six words yesterday evening from Newfoundland, relative to signals and instruments, has satisfied me as to the cause of delay in the full and free interchange of messages. They now read and acknowledge our words accurately. We can receive at very good speed from them, while they can as yet only receive from us slowly. I hope to be able to transmit the message from her Majesty to the President this afternoon."

CONSPIRACY FOR THE MASSACRE OF THE CHRISTIANS IN TURKEY.

The *Courier de Constantinople* of the 4th inst. states that the late collisions in Bosnia, in Turkish Croatia, and in Montenegro, have caused a state of panic in the capital. The Mussulmans and the Christians were living in mutual fear. The Sultan, to show his own confidence, has gone in the fleet on an excursion to Smyrna and the Archipelago.

A plot, having for its object the massacre of the Christians, has been discovered at Smyrna. The Governor has made a seizure of arms, and sent the guilty persons to Constantinople.

A scandalous rise has been effected in the exchanges; but the Divan having given orders to the bankers to reduce them, a fall has begun.

The Turkish Government has announced that a pension of 12,000fr. will be allowed to the heirs of the Page family, and that 1,000,000 piastres have been granted to the other victims of the Jeddah massacre.

THE CONTINENT.

The Canton of Neuchâtel is again greatly agitated. It may be remembered that, after the resignation by the King of Prussia of his alleged claims, a constituent assembly was charged to draw up a draft of a constitution. This has been rejected by the people by 6532 votes to 5925. At Locle and La Chaux-de-Fonds, the centre of Radicalism, great commotion prevails, and it is thought the Government will be forced to intervene to prevent disturbances.

It has been reported that the mission of M. Rios Rosas to Rome will not lead to alterations in the concordat concluded by the Narvaez Government under the auspices of M. Mon. A letter from Madrid in the *Nord* contradicts this statement. It says—"General O'Donnell believes now in the necessity of the disamortisation in an economical point of view. He knows positively that he can draw from the sale of property in mortmain 1500 or 2000 millions of reals, which he requires in order to supply the always increasing deficit of the treasury, to develop a plan of national works of public utility, to increase our navy and army, &c. Thus you may be certain that M. Rios Rosas will go to Rome to negotiate a recommencement of the sale of church property." Already this negotiation has been indirectly commenced.

News has reached Paris that the Emperor and Empress left Brest on Thursday morning at eight o'clock, and proceeded on their journey through Bretagne.

"A religious reform," says a letter from Warsaw, "has taken place in Russia. The Government has limited the powers of the Orthodox Greek clergy in certain matters, and has suppressed some ridiculous ceremonies which had been introduced into public worship in order to strike the imaginations of the ignorant and superstitious populations. It has also resolved to reduce the number of the United Greek clergy, so as to have one pope for every thousand souls instead of one for every three hundred. Lastly, the schools which were set apart to the priests' children have been converted into communal schools."

GREAT WOOL ROBBERY.—George Smith, a carman lately in the employ of Messrs. Chaplin and Horne, the extensive railway carriers, was yesterday brought up on remand, charged with having stolen, last Saturday, a van containing twenty bales of wool, value 400l., from the premises of the London and North-Western Railway Company, Aldgate. A man who is supposed to have been an accomplice, and who had been questioned by the police, has committed suicide by hanging himself. Smith was again remanded.

ALLEGED BRUTALITY OF A STEP-FATHER.—George Wingrove, a labourer living at Sydenham, was yesterday examined on remand at Greenwich on a charge of ill-using his two step-sons. The little boys were seen about the village, with a log of wood chained and padlocked to their legs, and being frequently struck with a cane by Wingrove. The flesh of their legs was broken by the friction of their chains; but it appeared that the device of the logs of wood was actually attributable to the mother. The prisoner was therefore discharged.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice can be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer; not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of his good faith. It is impossible to acknowledge the mass of letters we receive. Their insertion is often delayed, owing to a press of matter; and when omitted, it is frequently from reasons quite independent of the merits of the communication. We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

The Leader.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 14, 1858.

Public Affairs.

There is nothing so revolutionary, because there is nothing so unnatural and convulsive, as the strain to keep things fixed when all the world is by the very law of its creation in eternal progress.—DR. ARNOLD.

CONDITION OF THE TURKISH EMPIRE.

THE hopes entertained by many at the close of the Crimean struggle, that the Turkish Empire was about to enter into a new phase of progress and regeneration, do not seem likely to be fulfilled. Could the promised change have been wrought by dint of diplomacy, or could the spell of evil habit have been broken by the magic of words spoken and written at the Conferences of Paris, the Ottoman dynasty would, undoubtedly, have been by this time in the enjoyment of the renewed lease of power and stability which the European Sanhedrim decreed it. The Porte was solemnly declared to be admitted into the fraternity of European Governments. The integrity of the Moslem empire was formally placed under the guarantee of Christendom. International relations were initiated upon the footing theretofore subsisting between the civilised nations of the world. No end of good advice was confidentially offered by France, England, and Austria, as to the best mode of hastening the renovation of their valetudinarian *protégé*; and even Russia, after a little, began to be equally communicative of disinterested counsel to the sick man who had had so narrow an escape of her exclusive care. But as far as it has gone, the new system of competitive protection of the Sultan by his imperial neighbours does not work either satisfactorily or promisingly. Neither the moral or material interests of Turkey appear to thrive under it. Whether it be that the sense of self-preservation as an active impulse has been weakened, or that the jealousy proverbially felt by the weak for the intermeddling of the strong in its affairs has become morbidly intense; whether it be that the mischief lies in the apathy and indifference, confirmed, if not created, by being publicly taken in and done for by the joint-stock wisdom of Europe; or whether it be that all consistent policy at home or abroad is paralysed by the conflict of embassies at Constantinople, and that in the multitude of counsellors there is danger,—certain it is, that things just now are going ill with our invalid ally on the banks of the Bosphorus, and that his condition, albeit he does not very loudly complain, is one calculated to cause no small anxiety on his account. In truth, the very absence of complaint is one of the worst symptoms of disease in cases of the kind. There is, as we all know, what was called by Sheridan "unconscious dying at top." A fracture, however complicated, may be set; a fever, however high or delirious, may be overcome; congestion of the vital organs may be reduced by prompt and vigorous treatment; and most other maladies may be wrestled with, and conquered. But no cure has yet been found for softening of the brain, in either the political or the bodily frame.

The only recompense sought by the Western Powers for the sacrifices made by them during the Russian war, was that the Christian subjects of the Sultan should be placed in all respects on an equal footing with the Mahomedan population. This was unreservedly promised, and there is no reason to suspect the Porte of any wilful breach of faith regarding it. But the resolution and energy necessary to carry it into effect were, and are wholly,

wanting. The celebrated tanzimat, ordaining the future equality of all creeds in the eyes of the law, was promptly issued; and great was the satisfaction expressed in speech and print throughout all Christian countries. But it soon appeared that the tanzimat was likely to have little efficacy throughout the provinces of the empire. As a general rule, the Christian population were destitute of arms and organisation, while their hereditary oppressors in each locality exercised undiminished powers of exaction without limit, and insult with impunity. Everywhere the Christians were led to expect that their sufferings were about to terminate, and that France, England, and Sardinia had secured for them and for their children immunity from extortion, outrage, and humiliation on account of their attachment to the Cross. But two years have rolled by, and everywhere the hope has been belied. Wherever any effort has been made to take possession of the civil rights thus promised and guaranteed to them, a storm of indignant resistance has burst forth on the part of the chagrined and jealous Turks. With few exceptions, the local authorities have lent their countenance to the disloyal asserters of extinct laws; and in most cases they have overawed and suppressed any ill-concerted efforts at resistance.

In Candia and Bosnia matters have assumed a serious aspect. During the long and enlightened administration of Mehemet Pasha (favourably known to the English public during his residence here as ambassador), the Candioties had been taught habits of mutual forbearance and respect unlike anything that had existed elsewhere. The Moslems had learned to appeal to the law instead of private vengeance in their quarrels with one another and with their misbelieving neighbours; while the Greeks, strong in their numbers, intelligence, and property, while tacitly permitted to retain the possession of arms, had been dissuaded to renounce all thoughts of using them in civil contentions, and to rely for protection on the justice of the Sultan's lieutenant and those acting under him. Their homes were secure, their churches splendid, their commerce flourished; and Candia was pointed to continually by superficial travellers and politicians as a proof that the Turks could govern well. But from the reaction in Java of Islamism, which seems to have commenced even before the conclusion of peace in 1856, the Turks at Candia have unfortunately not been exempt. Petty squabbles, the origin and particulars of which are already lost in oblivion, and which at any other time might have borne no weighty fruits, have, under a timid and vacillating administration, led to a state of things the most fearful and revolting. Turks and Christians had alike appealed to the authorities in the island to espouse their cause. A recent decree of the Porte, at the instance of its foreign advisers, had separated the civil from the naval and military administration; and the military governor in Candia, taking an opposite view of affairs to that avowed by the civil head of the executive, no timely agreement as to measures of repression could be come to, and the fanatical Turkish rabble terminated the dispute in their own brutal way. Finding the authority of the Sultan thus prostrate, the Christians turned for protection to the consuls of the European Powers, and made their public appeal to them in terms not likely soon to be forgotten. On receiving intelligence of the commotions in Candia, the Porte wisely resolved to send thither once more Mehemet Pasha, armed with plenary powers to restore order; and for a season it is possible that, by dint of his personal influence, he may succeed in doing so. But it is plain enough that this is but to rely on a temporary expedient for the means of holding society together; and that the mere fact of a majority of the population having been driven to appeal to the representatives of foreign states for protection to their altars, properties, and lives, is in itself the most comprehensive proof of their utter unbelief in the power of the Sultan's government to govern. In Bosnia, under circumstances widely dissimilar, results ominously identical have occurred, the main causes being the same. The Turkish conquerors of that fertile and populous province became the territorial lords of the soil, and adopted and perpetuated the feudal tenures they found existing there. The occupiers, as in Ireland, adhered to their ancient faith; and the traditional enmities of race and creed were mingled with the conflicting interests of class. On every side beyond their frontiers the Bosniacs saw their Christian neighbours exempt from the hardships and mortifications they were forced to endure. In Servia and Transyl-

vania they beheld their fellows secure in the peaceful enjoyment of the fruits of their industry and the rites of their national faith; nor were the examples of Wallachia and the Herzegovine lost upon them. It was with difficulty they could be restrained from rising in insurrection on various recent occasions; but promises of redress were continually reiterated, and at the peace of 1856 they were more disposed to permanent submission to the Porte. The miserable disappointment of the hopes then held forth to them has now alienated the Bosniacs more than ever; and while we write rumours reach us that the state of smouldering civil war is such that Austria affects to consider it a sufficient justification for collecting large bodies of troops near the southern portion of Hungary, to be ready, doubtless, on the first pretence, to enter and take military occupation.

Of what has happened lately at Jeddah, and what is too likely to ensue in Moldavia and Wallachia, should the people of those provinces learn that their interests and rights have been sacrificed to Turkish obstinacy and Austrian intrigue, we have not space here to tell. On all sides weakness and disunion mark the condition of the Turkish Empire. The old prestige of absolutism governing by the sword is gone, and the paper sceptre of an exotic legality seems to have already proved too heavy for the effete hand into which it was thrust two short years ago. The Porte is daily beset more and more by the rival admonitions of the Austrian, French, and English embassies. When Lord Stratford de Redcliffe resigned, it was supposed that in this respect a different system would be inaugurated; and that M. Thouvenel and Baron Prokesch would no longer find in the dandyism and dilettantism of his successor provocations or pretences for keeping up the dictatorial tone so bitterly complained of. But even this gleam of amendment, equivocal as it was, has suddenly been withdrawn. Lord Stratford is about to proceed as Ambassador Extraordinary to Constantinople. The ostensible pretext for this singular step is that he may take leave of the sovereign whose ablest adviser he has been for more than twenty years; the real purpose, no doubt, is that he may for a few months longer maintain, if possible, the ascendancy he has hitherto exercised in the councils of Stamboul. Sir Henry Bulwer, it is felt on all hands, has neither the force of character, knowledge, or ability to hold the Sultan on his tottering throne; and he is therefore for the time to be superseded by his energetic predecessor. But what a picture of imperial decadence, decrepitude, and decay is here? Lord Stratford may avert a catastrophe during his intended sojourn at Constantinople, but what will become of the desponding and distracted councils of the empire when he is gone?

ENGLAND AND AMERICA.

A DISPUTE is always in a bad way for settlement when the parties to it accuse each other of bad faith. Unfortunately this sort of accusation is the constant attendant on all our disputes with the United States, and it is always we on this side of the Atlantic who bring it into play. Reason goes for nothing with an adversary who *will* be right. It is of no use to tell those who have set their hearts, and to a certain extent staked their reputations, on the suppression of the slave-trade, that in ceasing to board American ships on suspicion of their being engaged in the prohibited traffic, we have not given up any right or privilege; it is of no use to tell them that high legal authorities, both in this country and in America, have determined that question beyond the shadow of a reasonable doubt. The slave-trade is to be put down, and America, whatever may be her wants or wishes, is "false, perjured, and forsworn" if she does not let us do what we want to do, and, moreover, help us to do it. Like Bramston's man of taste, we say to her,

This is true taste; and whose likes it not,
Is blockhead, coxcomb, puppy, fool, and sot.

Our contemporary, the *Economist*, is "earnestly" protesting against the suspension of the practice of boarding and searching American ships suspected of being engaged in the slave-trade; such an arrangement it considers to be "wholly unjustifiable." "The practice once discontinued," it says, "it will become far more difficult to resume it, without a quarrel, however notorious it may become that the American searching squadron per-

forms its work, as it has uniformly hitherto performed it, languidly and without any real wish to prevent the slave-trade." Here we have strongly set forth the determination to be right whatever the state of the case may be. But the *Globe*, making a hash of the *Economist's* joint of yesterday, and highly seasoning it with pepper to give it flavour, goes far beyond its leader in "earnestness." In all the late arrangements made between the two Governments, the *Globe* will have it, there has been nothing but "bubbling" on the side of America—Lord Napier and Lord Malmesbury have both of them been taken in by General Cass; Lord Malmesbury's "flagrant gullibility," in fact, would disgrace the veriest tyro in diplomacy. The Whig journal will be right. It is nothing to the party for whom the *Globe* strikes in that we have not the right to compel America to send a single slave-preventive vessel into Cuban or African waters; or that we have done nothing to prevent Spain from acting in open violation of treaty on this very subject of slave-trading; or that, indeed, all our efforts for the permanent suppression of the trade have been unavailing. "But the Northern and Southern United States," says the *Globe*, "are—so far as regards the Slavery question—two nations, Anti-slavish and Pro-slavish. Till one of the two national divisions definitively triumphs, all transactions with a Government which cannot afford straightforward action in the matter, can only be conducted on our part with a tacit consent to being made dupes, or with increasing risk that the two nations, as we have termed them, in America may, on some such pretence as this recent one about 'British outrages,' be diverted from their domestic difference by a time-serving and subdulous statesmanship, and combined in common antagonism to the 'old country.'"

Now the danger, to our way of thinking, is precisely in this angry and contemptuous mode of dealing with a question which is peculiarly a two-sided one. The rights of the "Southern" division of the American nation are really not a whit less certain than its power; and the policy of American statesmen may very well be regulated in accordance with those rights, without being either time-serving, in the offensive sense of the term, or "subdulous." America is not at one with herself upon the subject of slavery; how then can she—or should she be expected to—act as if the anti-slavery opinions were dominant throughout her confederated states? Her needs of black labourers are absolute; on what footing the negro is standing with reference to the white population, is a problem yet to be worked out by the Americans, assuredly not under coercion from us. It is for us to be content with the reward which comes to us from our sense of having done well in abolishing slavery in our own colonies: if slavery is a stain upon the national honour of America, it is for that country to purify its title to the world's esteem—as we did, not so very long ago.

But it does nothing towards helping America to reach our high moral standard to be continually abusing her statesmen, and charging them with bad faith, because they do not do the thing which we demand of them, without having right or title on our side. The readiness of the anti-slavery party here to believe any story of American diplomatic tergiversation or dishonour is a painful sign of spirit in which we are dealing with that country. In connexion with Mexico and Cuba, almost any story of double-dealing and rascality on the part of the American Government is credited here. Filibuster Walker's partisan, "General" Henningsen, has only to give an apparently circumstantial account of an official communication made to him with a view to provoke a war between Mexico and Spain, under favour of which Mr. Buchanan was to bring about his long-cherished scheme of adding Cuba to the number of the United States, and the story is taken almost for gospel. But the desire of Mr. Buchanan to secure Cuba is so well known, his views have been so plainly expressed, that the idea of his resorting to any plan of realisation so nefarious as that described by Henningsen would never for a moment be entertained, but for the wilful determination of this party always to think and believe the worst of all men and all things American.

Mr. Buchanan's policy has always been adverse to the admission of Mexico into the Union, and it is accepted by all sound American politicians. His policy is that of having no *outlying* states, and it was on that principle that the Federal Government declined to take possession of the Sandwich Islands.

A wide track of debateable ground separates Mexico from the United States; it has a large alien population, speaking a foreign language; and the country is in debt. These would be sufficient reasons to deter Mr. Buchanan from making any attempts to annex it, and at the same time to do away the idea of his making a bargain with such men as Henningsen and his chief for its acquisition, even as a road to Cuba.

No one acquainted with Mr. Buchanan's views denies that Cuba is an object of desire to him, and it stands upon a footing totally different to that of Mexico. Spain cannot keep order there, or protect friendly commercial visitors. Complaints of American traders are frequent. She cannot prevent the slave-trade. There is no doubt of the fact that a considerable body of its Spanish inhabitants would be glad to place it under a strong government. The chief opponents of annexation are the officials, with whom the collection of revenue and perquisites is a chronic job. Another party is the Court of Spain, which simply *defers* the sale of Cuba to America—Mr. Buchanan's proposition—on account of the large amount it screws out of the islanders annually, though strongly tempted by the offer of ready money to close the bargain. Mr. Buchanan's idea of buying Cuba is a matter of history; but should a war break out with Spain, or any European power, purely naval and military considerations would oblige the Federal Government to take possession of the island; and that, no doubt, with the hearty concurrence of the more energetic portion of its inhabitants.

We have stated all this before; but it cannot be too often repeated. The English journals are remarkable for their want of information on American affairs; for such information as they have is supplied to order, American statesmen being painted to pattern. General Cass is a rough and ready man, a block upon which the razor-edge of professional diplomacy may very readily blunt itself; a man certainly not pleasant for those to deal with who *will* be right. Mr. Buchanan is a lawyer, cautious, far-sighted, the servant, not of any section of the Union, but of the Republic. Perfectly independent, he did not canvass for the Presidency; and he has not made his administration a canvassing for re-election. These men, then, are not to be called time-serving or subdulous statesmen; they are not the men to attempt to maintain foreign relations by "bubbling" the representatives and ministers of great friendly powers; and they are certainly not the men to strike a bargain with "General Henningsen" to get up a quarrel between two countries to cover an act of simple brigandage.

COLLEGIATE REFORM AT CAMBRIDGE.

THE time having expired for making legal objection to the changes recommended by the Cambridge Commissioners in the constitution of the University, the mortifications so suggested have acquired the force and validity of law, and will henceforth be embodied in the permanent code which regulates that great institution. As was clearly foreseen, however, the real work to be done in the way of reform lies not so much in the broad and common way of the University, as in the devious and antiquated paths of the various colleges. These, as most people are aware, were founded at different times, by persons differing not more widely in station and fortune than in the ideas and objects with which they endowed them. Some of the colleges are very rich in lands and livings, benefices and books: some are comparatively poor in the scope of their endowments, and disproportionately limited in the attractions and benefits they hold out. In others, again, the enjoyment of such benefits is rigidly restricted to persons educated at particular seminaries, or qualified in other special ways, the reasonableness and utility of which no longer appears. For centuries the letter of the founder's will has been scrupulously adhered to, to the neglect or forgetfulness of its obvious or presumable intentions. The result has been an infinitely varied disparity and inconsistency in collegiate endowments considered as stimulants to national education. We are as much opposed as any to the application of blind rules of uniformity in educational matters. We love diversity, for nature loves it, and we believe that its preservation is necessary for the true development of national mind and feeling. But there are inequalities and associations which time has generated in our collegiate institutions that certainly ought to be corrected; and there are prevalent usages which have survived the wants and

ideas of a mediæval state of society or the caprice of later periods, which every enlightened and impartial man desires to see reformed.

The Cambridge Commissioners have, judiciously we think, resolved to deal with the statutes of the two principal colleges, Trinity and St. John's, in the first instance. The bulk of Cambridge men, as they are called, are enrolled in the books of these two learned and opulent corporations. Both have rendered inestimable benefits to science and to letters; and we have no sympathy with those who would approach the reform of either with a rash or irreverend hand. We do not mean to insinuate that the Commissioners have done so, although it is certain that some of their suggestions are regarded with sentiments of irritation and even anger by many influential persons connected with the two colleges. The changes they propose are numerous and sweeping. Many of the details are too complicated and minute to be easily made intelligible to non-collegiate readers; but the principal points are simple and appreciable enough. The Commissioners propose to levy an income-tax on the revenues of the colleges, so far as these are enjoyed by the masters and fellows, for the purpose of creating a fund wherewith to add to the professorships of the University. We have reason to know that the utility of this change is seriously questioned by some of the best and wisest friends of educational reform. There is no general unwillingness on the part of the heads of houses to some contribution being levied from their superfluities, if its application be really useful; but it may fairly be doubted whether the creation or enrichment of University chairs is the best way of appropriating the means so obtained. Another and far more important change is that of relieving those who have obtained fellowships from the necessity of taking holy orders within a given time. We cannot too highly approve of this wise and liberal proposition. The condition was originally imposed with a view of securing for the service of the Church a number of learned men; and at the time when it was imposed a necessity for it may have existed, or seemed to the founder to exist. But no one can seriously argue that any such necessity exists now; and practically we know that the working of the rule is, in too many cases, fraught with mere mischief to the interests both of learning and religion. Clever men, without a spark of devotional feeling, who have won their position in their respective colleges by their intellectual abilities and attainments, find themselves compelled suddenly to forego their just reward, or to go through the profane farce of taking vows of ordination which they have neither the desire nor the moral capability to keep. It is not necessary to say a word or hint a thought of flagrant and notorious scandals arising out of this compulsory system; the evil is palpable and deep enough in its most veiled and varnished form. Men who are in every other way fitted to be useful, honourable, and consistent members of society at large, and exemplary teachers and guides to the youth around them, are by this unhallowed and unblest compulsion tarnished and soiled with the conscious guilt of hypocrisy, and are thereby maimed in the first and best of functions—that of the moral influence they ought to exert over those about them. As for inducements voluntarily to enter the Church as a profession, they are already abundant; and it is not proposed in any way to lessen them. Both Trinity and St. John's have a considerable number of benefices in their gift; and there is no probability that any of these would ever want a fellow who was a clerk to fill them. For the rest it is infinitely better that good scholars who have no vocation for the pastoral office should not be tempted into nominally assuming it, and by permitting young men who are looking to other professions to compete for fellowships, the general tone of the competition will of necessity be raised. A third important change is in some degree necessitated by that to which we have been referring. It is proposed that fellowships should be held for a term of ten years, and not, as they are now, for life. Great objection will undoubtedly be taken to this alteration; and we candidly admit that the subject is fraught with difficulties which cannot be overcome by any summary method. That the present system tends to jobbing is incontestable. A provision for life has a certain mesmeric power over a certain class of minds which no countervailing influence can resist. Everybody admits that sleeping partners, however useful in trade, are thoroughly good for nothing in learned or scientific societies. Some reasonable motive to continuous exertion amongst men who

have in their earlier years shown intellectual energy is eminently desirable. But an arbitrary and indiscriminate rule like that suggested for terminating all fellowships on the expiry of ten years, seems to us about as stupid and indefensible as that for which it is meant as a substitute. It savours to us too much of the *doctrinaire* spirit of bureaucracy, and to lack the wisdom of adaptation to varying circumstances and conditions which we should consider indispensable if the new system is seriously intended for permanency. Why every able and studious man should be banished from his college at two or three-and-thirty, merely because he has spent the prime of his youth within its walls, without any regard to the loss or benefit his banishment may be to the institution, we cannot, for the life of us, perceive. Surely some plan might be devised for winnowing the wheat from the chaff, and for getting rid only of the latter.

IMPRISONMENT FOR DEBT.

WHEN will the commercial mind of this commercial country cease to demand that misfortune shall continue to be dealt with as a crime? Will the time ever come when we shall be disposed to regard an honest debtor in any other light than that which is held to be the true light by a nation—shall we say, a clique—of shopkeepers? When, in short, shall we be disposed to look at the question of debtor and creditor in its correct point of view, and reform our legislation accordingly? Why should we continue to cage a man, possibly for the sole reason that he has not been able to do trade enough to get profit enough from his customers to pay his creditors in full? We contend for the broad principle that no man ought to be deprived of his liberty on account of honest unavoidable debt. But then we shall be told by the hard-fisted creditor, if we abolish imprisonment, we shall be opening a wide door to fraud and to the swindler. To this we answer, that where fraud or swindling is proved, or even suspected, let justice be strictly dealt out on the offender.

When a man is unable to pay his debts in full, we would not, as a preliminary step to releasing him from his liabilities, abstract his body from his business and his wife and children, and lock him up in Whitecross-street after having stripped him, wife, and family of money, movables, and the means of very existence. But such is the course taken alike with honest and fraudulent debtors.

Would it not be better, more conformable with right reason, humanity, common sense, and Christianity, first to ascertain the origin and cause of insolvency before sentencing a man perhaps to unmerited punishment? Yet this sort of Jedburgh justice we do daily on our debtors.

No man, we think, will contend that, where debt is the result of circumstances which have no taint within them of dishonesty, and which could neither have been foreseen or avoided, the debtor should be called upon to receive the preliminary punishment of a prison. First, we say, let an investigation show that a debtor has contracted debts and liabilities well knowing he had no present or prospective means of payment, never intending to pay, or we will go further and say, hoping only to be in a condition to pay at some future time, but not at the time stipulated for, and then let the weight of the law follow. But, in the case of the honest debtor, let there be no imprisonment or needless delay in granting protection. Our attention has been called to this subject by a report from Captain Hicks, the Governor of Whitecross-street Prison, relative to the abuses of the system of imprisonment for debt and the hardships and injustice sustained by debtors. The petition sets forth the extortions of legal harpies who infest these prisons, and who undertake, for a stipulated sum, to get debtors through the Insolvent Court. Captain Hicks suggests certain changes as desirable. His report states:—

A great change in matters is most desirable, and under that conviction I offer certain suggestions the adoption of which will inevitably be attended by—

1. The expeditious discharge of prisoners.
2. Economy of charitable funds.
3. Increase in the number of cases relieved.
4. The absolute freedom of the prisoner on his discharge.
5. The prevention of extortion on the part of the solicitor.

These objects obtained, a death-blow to most pernicious practices would be struck.

To effect them, a "prison solicitor" should be appointed to conduct all charitable cases, at the same sum for

each, calculated on the average of both the great and small ones.

These changes may do some good, but they will not reach our case, nor will they carry out the principle for which we contend. That principle is to punish fraudulent debtors as heavily as you please, but to inflict no punishment whatever on the unfortunate debtor.

Take the ordinary process of arrest for debt. The debtor is removed from his business, or home, to gaol. All his property, except a few articles of clothing, is taken from him by the officers of the Insolvent Court. A beggar before, but now reduced to absolute destitution, deprived of the means of exerting himself in his business or vocation whereby alone money can honestly be earned, he is required to go through a legal process—comparatively speaking, to him an expensive process—necessitating the employment and payment of a lawyer before he can get his discharge. He must file his petition, must wait in prison a certain time before he can be discharged by an Insolvent Debtor Commissioner, who possibly has in his own person just before exemplified the process of getting white-washed. Now how, in the name of common sense, can a debtor, reduced by the action of the Insolvent Debtors' Court to the very lowest grade of positive beggary, obliged to take an oath that he has made a true return in his schedule and retained nothing from his creditors, but given up everything to the uttermost farthing,—how is he, without committing perjury, to find the means of satisfying lawyers, and, we believe, the fees of the court and the prison? It is true there are good Samaritans who may be appealed to for help, but we contend that the honest debtor ought not to be reduced to the necessity of soliciting his discharge from prison through the aid of charitable funds subscribed by strangers—he ought not, having committed no moral offence, to be placed in a condition in which either his personal liberty or his feelings are outraged.

We are not among those who regard the mere fact of incarceration, or the regulations adopted in debtors' prisons, at least in those of the metropolis, as matters of any very great hardship. From what we have seen and heard, we are satisfied prisons are frequently havens of peace and material comfort to many debtors—they are not without their advantages, nay, they have their pleasures too. Some of the jolliest fellows we ever met with were men who had contrived to bring themselves within the four walls of one of her Majesty's suburban retreats, who found the place so much to their liking that they voluntarily sought to have detainers lodged against them to prevent their release. But say what you will, there is an indelible mark left upon a man who has once visited a prison, whether as debtor or criminal, innocent or guilty. It is because we would shield innocence from that reproach, not on the individual only, but on his family also, that we would ask for a reconsideration of our laws as far as debtors are concerned.

REGENERATION OF LONDON.

"THE degeneracy of the age" is a cry so often repeated by the shepherds of society, that it has become a disregarded cant; but the wolf has sometimes arrived at last, and at present he is devouring the flock rather voraciously. The Registrar-General reports that, during the past quarter, there were in England and Wales alone 27,000 deaths from preventable causes. "The arrangements of society," therefore, are clearly convicted of homicide. The *Times* goes beyond the statistics of the Registrar-General, and declares that they do not sufficiently measure the diminution of life which is taking place in the country, as exhibited in various forms. For instance, the recruiting officers have a greater difficulty in finding men of the requisite height and health. It is notorious that the merchant navy extends, as the population does, at a rate disproportionate to the supply of able seamen. The *Times* points to the condition of people inhabiting the poorer districts in towns, who show the low scale of vitality in their outward aspect; and it draws a graphic picture of the pale, helpless, shrunken creatures that haunt the thickest neighbourhoods of the metropolis. Other writers have done the same, years back; the difference now is, that the number of these creatures is largely increasing, and that with the expansion of our towns such unhappy people are more than ever cut off from any reviving influences that they could formerly snatch. The proportion of town population and country population is

daily changing in England as well as France, and there is a corresponding increase in the numbers of the sickly over the healthy. Moralists and physiologists ask whether this is to go on? The practical statesman sees that with the steady decline of vital energy in this country the materials of national power decline. And if a comparatively sickly people can tend the machinery which is gradually supplanting hand labour, it is not that kind of life that can man our ships or our land forces; while statesmanship itself must grow sickly when based upon a steadily degenerating nation. "Something must be done," therefore, to arrest the decline.

But what? Every circle can point to "the cause" of the decline, and has its own "remedy" at hand. "It is all the dreadful state of morality!" cry some. "That arises," others aver, "from ignorance," as they prove by the better conduct of the better educated classes; the remedy, therefore, is more schools. "It is putting the enemy into his mouth that leads him astray," cries a third circle; "the public-house is the true abyss of destruction, and the Maine Liquor Law the true salvation, the Band of Hope the true pioneers of national redemption." A large number of gentlemen in black declare that the cause is "spiritual destitution;" "the public," they say, "are in the most frightful state of destitution,—that is, they have no adequate supply of us." There is not enough church; there is only standing-room in the metropolis for thirty-seven per cent. of the population, and that is pre-occupied in the main by the well-to-do classes. Nor is there any money to pay for proper ministration amongst the poor. A fund must be raised to the extent of 3,000,000*l.* in order to pay the apostles. Another circle of gentlemen, with Lord Shaftesbury at their head, discover that the true source of immorality is the ill construction of houses in town and country, and they proceed on a mission of amateur house-building on favourable terms; but the movement is not upon the whole in very profitable circumstances. It is not much better off in its exchequer than the Great Western Railway; and if model lodging-houses languish upon a poor subscription, the lodging-houses that are the reverse of models, continue to draw immense rents from the lowest classes of the population. Another circle takes a larger view, and would purify the house from without. With these gentlemen the rescue of the Thames from its disagreeable condition with a handsome drainage for London—upon which they cannot agree—is the true nostrum for the regeneration of the people. According to these several prescribers, we are to find the recovery either from a new system of drainage, from ragged schools or mechanics' institutes, from churches transported out of the City, or newly built with a recruitment of one thousand clergymen from the Band of Hope—when it shall grow up and forget any kind of wine but the unfermented juice of the grape, which, according to the Band of Hope, is the orthodox wine sanctioned by the Scriptures. Each of these nostrums is tried, but, it must be confessed, not on a scale commensurate with the want.

There is a higher class of regenerationists who object to these systematic efforts. *Aurora Leigh*, for example, inculcates the sublime doctrine that life must be developed from within. Having the sculpture entirely in her own hands, she is enabled to model the Lion or the Man as vanquishing at pleasure, and as she is the Lion she conquers; her cousin Romney being overthrown. Her tale has a "happy ending," with her own doctrinal victory, and the admonition to the world that if we begin by cultivating the life from within, we shall, by a process slow but sure, so regenerate, that life will become more and more beautiful, until it finally becomes "amethyst!" An object no doubt most desirable to be attained, if one only had a clue to this *ab intra* process of improvement. These grander teachers would make us base the regeneration of our people, perhaps not altogether unduly, upon our becoming "moral;" but they have not been precisely agreed as to what is "moral." They distract us all with conflicting injunctions. There is scarcely a branch of education, tectotalism, spiritual-destitution-supply, model lodging-houses, or even drainage, that has not its Papist and its Protestant dogmas. Mr. F. O. Ward represents the High Church drainage, as Mr. Thwaites a church so low that it is almost Evangelical. Shall we, then, wait to hope for the improvement of our population from more "morality," when we have not settled what is moral and what is not?—the moral of one set of teachers being precisely the sin from which others warn us.

It appears to be equally useless to depend upon this development of life from within, or to determine which of all the nostrums is the one which we should accept. The fact is, that the morbid condition of our resident population, and especially in the towns, arises from a great multitude of causes, each one of which becomes most distinct to that circle which especially examines it. It is not by trusting to one alone, and abandoning all the rest, that we shall really improve. This kind of engineering Christianity has its sects as well as the theological; sect, by its very nature, being antagonistic to the essentials of religion, which should be catholic. It is far too late in the day to take a hopeless view. Much has been done, and much is doing. If we are still without an adequate supply of churches, schools, or drains, nothing is more obvious than the fact that opinion on all these subjects is rapidly becoming mature, and growing strong enough to supersede the divisions that now separate sincere agitators. The Marriage Act of the session before last extended justice to a class of the population for whom it had before seemed unattainable, most especially the oppressed wives in the poorest ranks of society; but an introduction of justice in those low levels is an immense stride in civilisation. The sewing-machine is but one of many improvements which are facilitating the acquisition of work; and machinery introduced into the country districts is at once relieving the labourer and elevating him—lightening his work, giving him better wages and cheaper food, with new ideas and some chance of education.

An utopian, in correspondence with the *Times*—scarcely a novelty at this day—throws out a hint for treating our town populations in a thoroughly scientific manner. It used once to be the boast that there was no street in London from which foliage could not be seen. Modern improvements have gone far to abolish trees. Another modern invention has largely illustrated the truth, long known, that animal and vegetable life are compensating to each other. The now familiar aquarium exhibits to us animals living in water unchanged for years, because the presiding philosopher of that little world, keeps up a nice adjustment of vegetable existence within the same microcosm. Shall all this care be wasted only on reptiles? Shall not trees be planted about the huge vivarium of the human specimens? Great improvements have small beginnings. This letter in the *Times* is the first suggestion of treating society as scientifically as we treat molluscs or sea anemones. Intermingle foliage with town buildings, purify the river by a reasonable drainage, perfect the measures for abolishing smoke, amend the Building Acts so as to give better edifices than those on a fifty or even a ninety-nine years' building lease, and London itself might become a garden, inhabited by healthy beings, contented with life, and therefore with their Government.

THE NEW LORD AND THE NEW BARONET.

SIR COLIN CAMPBELL has been made a peer for his gallant services in India. Sir John Lawrence, who has shown equal gallantry, and whose services have been of far more importance, has only had his knighthood turned into a baronetcy. What was the principle which governed this meting out of royal favour to these two distinguished men? We do not grudge the honour bestowed on Sir Colin Campbell—had the reward been much higher we should have held that it was well deserved; but we do protest against the inadequate recompense bestowed on Sir John Lawrence. Are we to assume that the old jealousy has been allowed to prevail? that the ridiculous distinction between Queen's Service and Company's Service has had its influence in the present instance? We are afraid the fact is so, however unwilling we may be to admit it. We have but little faith in the New India Administration from this early specimen of truckling to prejudice. Sir John Lawrence, had he not been a Company's servant, would have been Governor-General, that is, if reputation for great merits and superiority over his Indian contemporaries were qualifications for such an elevated post. The old system was once broken through in the case of Lord Metcalfe, but this was found to be so unpalatable that he was removed from the position of acting Governor-General of India, for which his experience and ability eminently fitted him, to Canada, where his peculiar qualifications for discharging

important public duties were in a measure rendered unavailing.

Sir John Lawrence is to be one of the new Indian Council. This is, probably, a sop to the discontented public; but we believe we shall have some inquiry into this matter as soon as Parliament reassembles. If Sir John Lawrence is all his admirers represent him to be, surely his proper post is that filled by able, industrious, but inexperienced Lord Stanley.

By the way, we may notice the laboured attempt of the *Times* to deny the existence of dissatisfaction in India at Sir Colin Campbell's unsuitable tactics, by which the mutiny is protracted and so many valuable lives sacrificed. The *Times* has proved too much. In the mean time, we adhere to what we previously stated.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

(SPECIAL.)

PARIS, Thursday, 6 o'clock P.M.

THE tone of a section of the French press—not the most respectable for its influence, intelligence, and honesty—in relation to recent doings at Cherbourg, has been particularly offensive and vulgar towards other nations. The display of overwhelming military and naval force on French soil, in the presence of the English Queen, against the security of whose dominions it is directed, is conceived by these writers to be an example of "greatly daring," an instance of noble and lofty courage. The organ of the Protectionists, which is also the instrument of M. Ferdinand de Lesseps's questionable propaganda in favour of the Suez Canal, is particularly warlike, and crows most fiercely. As England has inaugurated Free Trade, and declines to place her wealth at M. de Lesseps's command, to make his fortune and that of his parasites, she is doubly obnoxious to the publication in question.

The Legitimist and Orleanist journals—save and except always the *Journal des Débats*—join in the howl against the greatness and prosperous fortunes of England, and they talk vaguely of the future, when that greatness shall be abased, and those fortunes dashed by means of the works which England, through her sovereign and her representatives, assisted to inaugurate. The utterers of such rubbish do not contemplate taking any active part in these future operations, and so far, doubtless, exhibit the better part of valour—discretion. If we may judge of the quality of their courage by the description they give of it, it must bear a strong family likeness to that of Bob Acres, be liable to ooze out of the fingers' ends when most needed. One writer tells his readers that if England continues to interfere with French policy, and puts obstacles in the way of the development of the commerce and force of France, the peaceful expressions in the Emperor's toast at Cherbourg will be no guarantee for the future. Moreover, that if England is not as desirous of peace as is the Emperor, or that if she forgets that the world does not belong to her alone, the Emperor will take his measures. The meaning of this circumlocution is to convey a meaning to the reader that unless the British Government dance as the Emperor hopes, Cherbourg will grow into something more than a permanent menace. Nor is this all; another writer, alluding to the speeches and toasts of the Emperor, says, "That which gives value to these beautiful declarations is, that they issued from the mouth of a Napoleon, that they came forth after the taking of Malakhoff by the French armies, and on the morrow of the construction of a great maritime work of great importance." I should not trouble you with these quotations, did I not think it desirable that the reader should hear both sides of the question, and that he should know that in the eyes of a considerable portion of the population—not the less considerable because it is the most ignorant—the effect of the doings at Cherbourg is to make it appear that French policy is supreme, that England is reduced to quite a secondary position, and that the Emperor makes the British Government do just whatsoever he pleases. You cannot go into a café, or into society, without hearing these expressions constantly repeated—if by a Legitimist, with a provoking sneer; if by an Imperialist, with an air of Pecksniffian beatitude; or if by a Republican, with an air of sincere regret that England has not been able to resist the will of the Emperor. Those who are curious in speculating on the future would, perhaps, be puzzled to decide whether peace is likely to be maintained or jeopardised by the spread in the French provinces of these delusions. The prestige of a nation for success in war has often served as a defence from attack; and, not long since, the naval and military prestige of England stood very high in France. Among the educated it does so still, but among the illiterate it is now far otherwise. That literary "unfortunate," the *Gazette de France*, said, on a late occasion, that the Anglo-French alliance had proved of no benefit to

France. Had the journal published England instead, the truth would have been more nearly approached. For, by the union of the two armies in the Crimea our own soldiers were cheated of their share of glory—albeit they had more than their share of hard work to do—and the same sleight of hand is being practised in China. For these, and many other reasons, English residents in France regard the close alliance as a mistake, and would be heartily pleased were it to cease tomorrow, and we should return to the ordinary state of peace, such as existed previously to the *entente cordiale*, under the cover of which, *ce cher Aberdeen* was completely mystified by M. Guizot. Meanwhile, the Court continues its Imperial progress. Brest is now the honoured city, and the Bretons prove, despite their reputation for a certain independence and rough frankness, that they can flatter as grossly as any of the *plats valets du pouvoir*. Listen to the Mayor of Morlaix:—"Sire,—Happy for a favour which softens the regrets not to have possessed your Majesty, the arrondissement of Morlaix offers, by our organ, the homage of its love and gratitude. Profoundly touched by the solicitude which has induced you to come here to study, yourself, the desires and wants of Brittany, our energetic and loyal populations become more and more attached to the sovereign who has saved France; to the Empress, his noble and gracious companion, whose charity is so touching; to the Prince, whom God in his goodness has been pleased to grant to their prayers. Sire, the moment is a sweet one for us, when we are permitted to tell your Majesty how much we love you, and that you may always rely upon the hearts and arms of your faithful Bretons." It must be admitted that for Legitimists this is very Imperialistic language, and that in the course of time the Bas-Bretons may hope to rival the Lower Greeks for their indifference to old principles of steadfast honour, the facility and unblushing ease with which they change sides, and the courtly tone of their language. From Brest the Imperial progress will proceed to Lorient, where doubtless the same species of ovation will be repeated, and which will be noticed next week.

The effect of the speeches at Cherbourg was translated on 'Change by a rise in all kinds of securities, but to-day the reaction has taken place. The Three per Cents., which closed yesterday at 69f. 15c., after having gone as high as 69f. 30c., opened this morning at 69f. 05c. The fall towards the close yesterday filled speculators with alarm. The buyers of Wednesday are sellers on Thursday, and securities of almost every description were offered in abundance at a considerable depreciation. During the first half-hour the fall was very remarkable, especially in railway shares, although they had mostly been purchased for the account. Shortly after mid-day several large purchases were made, and the prices of securities rose, but not before the Three per Cents. had gone down to 69f., rallying afterwards, and closing at 69f. 15c., yesterday's prices. Bank shares were asked for at 3100f., to-day being fixed for closing the monthly account. Rumours are afloat of a large increase in the reserve of notes and of securities, which last, if confirmed, would prove an improvement in commercial affairs. An augmentation in railway receipts is likewise reported, particularly on the Eastern, Western, Lyons, Orleans, and Southern lines. The shares of the latter have suffered a severe fall in consequence of the announcement of a break off in the negotiation between the company and the Government. In the railway market the following are the fluctuations:—Austrians fell from 640f. to 637f. 50c.; François-Joseph, which rose so unexpectedly yesterday to 490f., have to-day receded to 470f.; Lombards stand at 590f.; Saragossa at 480f.; Russian at 502f. 50c.; Victor Emanuel at 425f. to 430f., with more sellers than buyers; Orleans fell from 315f. to 287f. 50c.; Lyons-Mediterranean from 810 f. to 795f.; Eastern from 700f. to 675f.; Northern from 950f. to 935f.; Western from 635f. to 617f. 50c.; Southern from 555f. to 527f. 50c., subsequently recovering to 535f.; Geneva from 610f. to 595f., and no buyers; Dauphiné from 532f. 50c. to 522f. 50c.; and Béziers from 175f. to 167f. 50c. Towards the close a slight improvement took place. In the general share market, Crédit Mobilier fell from 710f. to 670f., rallying to 680f.; Crédit Foncier stood firm, at former prices; Railway Bank went down from 315f. to 310f.

The rates of exchange are the same as given in last number.

In the Paris market the price of corn per 100 kilog. has not varied from the figures given last week, and bread of course remains unchanged, as well as flour. The price of meat has fallen, the figures from the Sceaux market on the 9th, for quantities sold and prices, being:—oxen, 1945, 1f. 30c., 1f. 20c., 1f. 08c., according as the meat was ox first, second, or third quality; heifers, 327, 1f. 14c., 1f. 02c., or 82c.; calves, 310, 1. 47c., 1f. 34c., 1f. 26c.; and sheep, 15,727, 1f. 44c., 1f. 32c., 1f. 24c.

SUGARS.—Martinique and Guadeloupe, 130f. the 100 kilog.; beetroot, 142f. to 143f.

SPRITS.—Montpellier, 86 deg., 142f. to 143f.; fine, best quality, 90 deg., 77f. to 78f. the hectolitre.

COLZA OIL, the tun, 112f.; refined, 120f.; soap, mottled, 80f. the 100 kilog.; white, 117f., with 8 per cent discount. Suet has fallen 1f. the 100 kilog., 122f. outside the gates.

Literature.

Critics are not the legislators, but the judges and police of literature. They do not make laws—they interpret and try to enforce them.—*Edinburgh Review*.

NAPOLEONIC BOOKS.

Lettres de Napoléon I. Paris.
L'Antichità dei Bonaparti. Di F. Stefano. Venice.
Histoire de L'Impératrice Joséphine. Par M. Joseph Aubenas. Paris.

TOWARDS the end of February was published the first volume of the *Correspondence of Napoleon I.* It is a goodly volume, large quarto, issued from the imperial printing-press with unequalled typographical magnificence, "regardless of cost;" and, so far as printing, paper, and binding are concerned, the work will take high rank, among rare editions, in the libraries of bibliomaniacs, for it is a remarkable specimen of typography as a fine art. The Roxburgh Club will doubtless give it the place of honour in their collection. The very magnificence of the work, however, renders it a sealed book to the million. Accordingly, the present month is to witness its publication in a cheaper and more homely form for general circulation, in order that the earliest Napoleonic ideas may permeate the masses and take root in the popular mind. Whether such a result will be ultimately achieved is a question which time alone can decide. Meanwhile, one thing is certain; the publication of the *Correspondence* and its quotation piecemeal in the *Moniteur* have ruffled the national spirit in Austria, and irritated the Austrian army, from the Emperor downwards, to a degree quite unexpected and altogether unprecedented. If we are to credit the rumours in circulation, the revival, with so much pomp and in so significant a manner, of the opinions entertained by the victor of Marengo of the Austrian Empire and its most illustrious servants, has been the cause of that coolness evinced by Francis-Joseph towards his imperial brother, which the learned Thebans of the *Constitutionnel* have endeavoured to resent in language as violent and discourteous as may be found in the *Italia del Popolo*, and which would fill Barclay's draymen with delight.

The *Correspondence* has been edited by a commission appointed by the Emperor, and composed of Marshal Vaillant, Minister of War, president; that versatile prohibitionist and modern Admirable Crichton, the Baron Dupin; General Aupick (since dead); Count Boulay (de la Meurthe); De Chabrier, Director-General of the Archives; Count de Champagny; M. Chassériau, Council of State; Cucheval-Clarigny, Conservator of the Sainte-Geneviève Library; General Count Flahaut; M. Armand Lefebvre, Councillor of State and Director at the Foreign Office; M. P. Mérimée; General Baron Pelet; and M. Perron, chef de division in the Ministry of State. It is not likely that the result of this joint-stock editorship will falsify the old adage about "too many cooks," as we shall presently see. The volume opens with a report from the Minister of State upon the "lofty importance of this publication," which is followed by a copy of the decree instituting the commission, and by the report of the latter to the Emperor. This report is intended, apparently, to serve as a preface, and it is to be regretted, perhaps, that the claims upon the space in the columns of the *Times* will not admit of its translation *in extenso*, for it must henceforth be regarded as a model of dedicatory literature which leaves Grub-street far behind. Whether it be mere fancy or not, one sees in the report, or dedication, traces of that fine roman hand which noted down the military, naval, and commercial forces of Great Britain years ago, and which has praised and abused every system of government in turn. "The ruling passion conquers reason still." Nevertheless a few quotations may be acceptable. The report commences in the following independent and grandiloquent strain:—

Sire, Augustus placed Cæsar in the number of the gods, and dedicated a temple to him, the temple has disappeared, the *Commentaries* have remained. Your Majesty, wishing to raise to the chief of his dynasty an imperishable monument, has ordained us to collect and publish the political, military, and administrative correspondence of the Emperor Napoleon I. Your Majesty has comprehended that the most brilliant homage to render to this incomparable genius was to make it altogether known. No one is ignorant of his victories, the laws with which he endowed our country, the institutions that he established and which have remained immovable after so many revolutions; his vic-

torious and reverses are in all mouths; History has related what he has done, but she has not always known his designs; she had not the secret of the many admirable combinations which fortune baffled, of the many grand projects for the execution of which time alone was wanting. The traces of the thoughts of Napoleon were dispersed, it was necessary to unite and bring them to light.

After dwelling with complacency upon the fact of having read over some thousands of letters, and expressing regret for the few breaks that occur in the continuity of Napoleonic thought, the editorial commission pitches its notes in a loftier key:—

But that which the reading of a correspondence so varied offers of the most surprising (character), perhaps, is the power of that universal intelligence which nothing escaped, which in turn rose, without effort, to the most sublime conceptions, and descended with the same facility to the lowest details. Anon, soaring above the world, Napoleon traces thereon the limits of new states, sometimes his care is directed to the humblest hamlet of his empire; his glance embraces questions in their entirety, plunges there in all directions, and penetrates their smallest parts. Nothing seems unworthy his attention when it becomes a question of carrying out his designs, and it is not enough for him to give orders the most precise, he superintends the execution himself with indefatigable perseverance. The letters of Napoleon cannot add to his glory; but they make his prodigious destiny the better understood, the prestige he exercised over his contemporaries, the worship of which his memory is the object, in fine, the irresistible impulse by which France has replaced his dynasty upon the summit of the edifice he had constructed.

Of course the publication has not been undertaken from personal motives, nor yet to glorify the recorder of the reigning dynasty:—

These letters afford, moreover, the most fruitful instruction. Thus is it in a vein of general utility that your Majesty has conceived the idea of a publication which, always serious and practical, is addressed to peoples as well as to governments, to military men and statesmen no less than to historians.

From the work, those letters which relate to private life have been omitted. It is not probable the omission will be felt to be a serious evil so much regretted, seeing the curious and copious information supplied in the History of Josephine on this point. But the editorial commission, if it has exercised the right of rejection, has abstained from any alteration of the original text of the letters beyond correcting the orthography. The crude and harsh criticisms of Napoleon on his contemporaries are maintained, and it may be easily imagined how harassed and annoyed many must feel to find their fathers spoken of in such terms. Grammatical errors have been carefully preserved under the disguise of "slight incorrections of language," for a reason which seems strange to come from Members of the Institut. These blunders "denote the impetuosity of the composition, and in many instances cannot be corrected without weakening the originality of an energetic style, going straight to the object, brief and precise, like the word of command."

The commission boasts of having examined upwards of ten thousand works published on Napoleon or his reign, and of having revised numerous documents from all parts of the world, among which are signalled letters to the sovereigns of Russia, Austria, Bavaria, Sardinia, Sweden, Wurtemberg, and Hesse; the collection, in forty-seven volumes of documents, relative to the campaigns of Italy and Egypt; the correspondence with the Prince Eugène, and with the dignitaries of the Empire. The commission also examined 40,000 documents in the archives of the Empire, 20,000 in the War Office, 2000 in the Foreign Office, 1500 in the Admiralty, and 1100 in the other offices of state and libraries, besides the columns of the *Moniteur*. The first volume of the actual *Correspondence of Napoleon I.* opens with the siege of Toulon, in the year II., and comprises a portion of the Italian campaigns, terminating with the defeat of Wurms in the year IV. It contains 1018 documents of varying interest, the major part of which have not been published before. The French people who have been accustomed to look upon the republican armies as composed of unselfish patriots, will doubtless be surprised to learn that Napoleon did not at all view them in that light. In the very first letter signed, by-the-by, "Bonaparte," the young Commander of Artillery of the Army of the South, wrote to the Committee of Public Safety: "I have had to contend with ignorance and the base passions it engenders," and he asked that a general might be sent "who might, by his rank even, contribute to the consideration and impose upon a

lot of ignoramuses of the staff with whom he is obliged always to capitulate and dogmatise to destroy their prejudice—4th Brumaire, year II. (Oct. 25, 1793). Of the engineers and artillery of the Army of Italy, General Bonaparte does not appear to have formed a more favourable opinion, for he wrote to Carnot, 27th Germinal, year IV. (April 16, 1796), "The corps of engineers and artillery are given up to most ridiculous gossiping; they never think of the good of the service, but always the convenience of individuals." And the troops that by mistake fired on and killed General Labarpe, he qualifies as "cowards."—General Orders, 20th Floréal, year IV. (May 9, 1796.) The pillaging propensities and peculiar characteristics of the Army of Italy are the subject of constant comment. In a report addressed to the Directory, 19th Germinal, year IV. (April 18, 1796), the General Bonaparte stated that he had found "this army not only destitute of everything, but without discipline, and in a perpetual insubordination," and he moreover stated what is not so generally known, that a Dauphin's company had been formed in which royalist or counter-revolutionary songs were sung, and that he had sent before a council of war two officers accused of having cried *Vive le Roi*. The 3rd Floréal of the same year (April 22, 1796), the General issued an order of the day, in which, after expressing satisfaction at the bravery of the troops, he said, "But he (the General Bonaparte) sees with horror the frightful pillage to which perverse men give themselves up who rejoin their corps after battle to indulge in excesses the most dishonourable to the army and to the French name." Instructions were issued to arrest officers who, by their example, had authorised the pillage that had then existed for two days, and moreover to shoot, according to the nature of circumstances, officers and soldiers who, by their example, may have excited others to pillage. In a letter to the Directory, 5th Floréal of the same year (April 24, 1796), describing the battle of Mondovi, it is stated: "The soldier without bread is guilty of excesses of furor which makes one blush to be a man. The capture of Cera and Mondovi may give the means, and I am going to make some terrible examples. I will restore order or I will cease to command these brigands." The republicans still affect to consider it an insult that this epithet should have been applied to their fathers by the royalists; it is scarcely probable they will change opinion because the term was freely used by General Bonaparte. The generals commanding the Austrian Army are certainly not flattered. Argenteau was beaten *à plate couture*, and Beaulieu is represented as disconcerted, calculating badly, and constantly falling into the traps laid for him, possessing the audacity of fury but not of genius, while the Austrian Army is characterised by anecdotes which it may be presumed were intended for Buncomb, and which represent twelve soldiers going down on their knees before one French carabineer who fell upon them sword in hand, and, like Marlborough's Irish soldier, surrounded them.—Letter to the Executive Directory, 18th Messidor, year IV. (July 6, 1796). Of course the English fare no better. They are represented, in a letter to Citizen Dupin, 4th Nivose, year II. (Dec. 24, 1793), as having retreated at Toulon with such "unheard-of precipitation" as to have left a great part of their tents and baggage in the hands of the republican army. And in a letter to Major Bonelli, dated "Head-quarters, Castiglione, 2nd Thermidor, year IV." (July 20, 1796), praising the endeavours to promote the union of Corsica to France, they are held forth as "*ces orgueilleux Anglais*."

(To be continued.)

ENGLISH SURNAMES.

English Surnames, and their place in the Teutonic Family.
By Robert Ferguson. Routledge and Co.

SOME apologue similar to the familiar story of *Eyes and no Eyes* may probably be found in the literature of every nation. To the botanist the barren granite bears an interest in its scattered lichens: to the naturalist the meanest insect has its history and associations. Everything, we suppose, has its special power to interest and instruct, could we but find the key to it. Mr. Ferguson has opened the last issue of the *Post Office London Directory*, and has found it—if not such a companion as an ordinary man would care to sit under a tree with on a sunny afternoon—at all events not a dry book. Its endless lists of streets, squares, and alleys, and trades, and professions—its double, close-printed

columns, and unwieldy bulk, have nothing repulsive in his eye, for these are associated with its million of names, and in this million of names, dull and uninteresting as they are to common readers, he finds endless illustrations of his philological studies, and infinite suggestions of the remote past. The world has ever rated, and we suppose ever will rate, students and scholars such as he among the dry and dusty prosemen—patient grubbers after Saxon and Scandinavian roots, whom no bright vision ever visits: yet a few names of simple London traders bring to him pictures of life from two thousand years ago, when the northern races on the seaboard were fierce pirates or bold sailors, who put forth upon the stormy seas to find a resting-place, and keep it with the sword; when the old Viking loved the water so, that he would have his grave overlooking the sea, and be buried in his trusty boat with his weapon by his side, or in a barrow made in the shape of a ship-keel upwards, or more often buried in the salt seaweed. To Mr. Ferguson the name of Coutts has no vulgar association with sovereigns, or bank-notes for enormous sums ostentatiously framed and glazed; Toots no good-natured imbecility; Whitbread no porter-brewing notoriety; Addlehead no particular presumption of stupidity; Almack no saltatory smack; Till and Ledger no connexion with ink-splashed and dingy counting-houses or sordid money-getting; Fullalove no fondling foolishness. Hardly could Box and Cox be to him devoid of the sublime, or unallied with the glories of King Alfred and the summer days of Saxon rule.

Mr. Ferguson is of opinion that a very large number of our English surnames may be indisputably traced to Teutonic or Scandinavian words. Surnames are generally held not to have been in use before the Conquest. From the Scriptural times when plain Isaac, or Jacob, or Paul, or Luke served to distinguish one man from his fellows, down to the days of Harold in England, men and women are commonly said to have had but one name. Mr. Lower, however, accepts this belief with slight doubts. In the grant of land from Thorold, Sheriff of Lincolnshire, to the Abbey of Croyland, dated 1051, he finds some double names; and Mr. Turner, in his history of the Anglo-Saxons, quotes a document in which members of one family of the yeoman class are distinguished as Tate Hatte, Lulle Hatte, Werlaf Hatte, and otherwise. This document is conclusive in favour of the assertion that a little before the Conquest additional names, so common afterwards with the Normans, had begun to be taken in England. However this may be, it is certain that Hatt is the oldest hereditary English name upon record. It corresponds with the old German name Hatto and others, signifying "war." A vast number of these old Saxon names, in fact, express in some way violence or strife, a fact significant of the "good old times."

The Anglo-Saxons liked a name compounded of two words which had frequently little connexion, showing that the art of naming had by their time entered its second phase, in which the original meaning of the name was lost or overlooked—as men will now speak of a quarterly journal, although the word refers to days. The Normans took to the additional complication of more than one name, and their aristocratic descendants now glory in a dozen. To come to the fountain of names we must go back to the earliest northern invaders of our coasts, whose names were always simple and generally expressed some idea. Mr. Ferguson is of opinion, and the *Post Office Directory* corroborates his view, that even in the Anglo-Saxon times the mass of the people did not use the compound names, but kept mainly to their old style, which they have retained to the present day. The consequence is that we have now more of old Saxon, or Teutonic, than of Anglo-Saxon names. In those ancient seats from which the earlier settlers came the same names are still current:—

There is a people, (says Mr. Ferguson,) or rather a remnant of a people, who once owned a large portion of the German seaboard—now much broken up and intermixed, but still in some insulated places, holding their nationality with little change—very near relatives of ours though few know more of them than the name. Of all the ancient dialects none has a more close connexion with the Anglo-Saxon than the old Friesic—of all the modern dialects perhaps none has such strong points of resemblance to the English as the new Friesic. On all the wide continent of Europe they alone use the word 'woman' like ourselves.

It is, in fact, from these 'hardy Norsemen' that our most ancient names have come. The Norman's boast of old family is a mere delusion; nay, even

the Anglo-Saxon may be sneered at by plain Brown as an upstart. Mr. Ferguson remarks that:—

Some which we are not wont to consider as of much account were names of honour long before the Norman time. As a general rule, it is not among our noble families that we find our most ancient names. Various causes have contributed to produce this result. The system of compound names which sprang up, more peculiarly Anglo-Saxon, was, according to my theory, somewhat of a matter of fashion, and did not pervade the mass of the people, who still held mainly to those old and simple names which they brought with them. Hence, it is among them that we have probably had preserved through the Anglo-Saxon times those names which recal the common heroes of the Teutonic epics; and not among the nobler classes who invented, so to speak, a new system of nomenclature for themselves. Again, many noble families have taken their names from their estates, while the mass of the people had no such temptation to change. Still there are some of our noble families who can show names dating far beyond the Conquest.

Howard is one of these which has been traced to a Saxon word, signifying the keeper of a fortress; but was more likely from the common Scandinavian name of 'Hawart,' meaning a high guardian.

The ancient English names were derived from the mythology, from their hero-worship, from the names of animals, trees, plants, metals, and from terms of war, &c., and seem to have been given in many cases arbitrarily, like signs to houses in illiterate times, or the badges of heraldry; but many signified some moral quality, some office, or occupation, or some locality. The latter, generally supposed to have been a fruitful source of names, is believed by Mr. Ferguson to have been comparatively unproductive—places being as often named from men as men from places. For whatever reason, however, these names may have been given, investigation appears to show that there is little in a name. The commonplace 'Hincks' is a corruption of Hengist or Hingst, signifying a stallion. So 'Hinksey,' in Berkshire, is supposed to have been named after that misty hero. Huggins and Muggins are supposed to have been originally Huggins and Munnins, the two traditional ravens of Odin. Other comfortable theories are suggested for persons in the predicament of Charles Lamb's "Mr. H."—holders of unfortunate names. Mr. Hog, which is synonymous with the name of the great French poet Hugo, means simply, in its Anglo-Saxon derivative, "prudent, thoughtful." Bugg turns out to be a name of reverence rather than contempt, meaning simply a spirit or ghost. Addlehead is merely Adelherd, from which comes the lady's name Adelaide. Wiggins, who figured so strongly in the facetious sporting stories of thirty years ago, means simply "warlike," though with a diminutive termination which had not always a contemptuous meaning. Unromantic Steggals is simply a form of a word signifying a deer.

Even "Ass," which at first sound seems clearly connected with that patient animal so much figuratively patronised by wits and satirists, may be simply from "Assa," the eagle. Our old plebeian friend Brown is, oddly enough, one of the most respectable fellows among us. "Talk of coming over with the Conqueror," says Mr. Ferguson, "the first Browns came over with Hengist and Horsa—the second with Halldene and Hastings." Nor do the female names among the surnames necessarily indicate illegitimacy at some bygone period, as has been supposed—the strong distinction between men and women's names being comparatively of modern date. The names which flourish in Madame Tussaud's Chamber of Horrors are not by any means, as a rule, disagreeable in a philological ear. Mr. Manning is only a brave and valiant man, Mr. Tawell, a dove. Turpin, in his first root word, a namesake, like Thurtell, of the god Thor. Pig is merely from Piga, a young girl.

Some names have in their signification something like appropriateness with the character of their most celebrated owners. Coutts signifies famous. Outram, strong in counsel. Washington (Wass), keen, bold. Watt, so closely linked with our iron roads, is the original of Watling, the mythical builder of all the Watling streets. But some are less happy. Mr. Duffy has certainly, in no other than an etymological sense, a connexion with a dove. This is what Mr. Ferguson has to say of another famous name.

Very famous in early English history was the Danish hero Havelok, of whom some traces are still to be found in the local traditions of Lincolnshire. There is a street in Grimsby called Havelok-street; and a stone, said to have been brought by the Danes out of their own country, and known as "Havelok's stone," formed a land-

mark between Grimsby and the parish of Wellow. That the Danes would take the trouble of bringing a stone out of their own country is not very probable; but it is possible. The stone in question may have been a *hauta* or memorial stone; and some Northman, from a motive of superstition or of pious friendship, might wish to consecrate the shores of his new home with the memorial of a revered ancestor. But the stone was called "Havelok's stone" and it might be more probably a memorial of Havelok himself. . . . Havelok was not a common Danish, as it is not a common English, name. I have not met with it in old Norse documents; but I should assume its Scandinavian form to be Hafeik, from Haf, the sea, and leika, Anglo-Saxon, to sport.

No more curious facts are contained in Mr. Ferguson's book than those which relate to our nicknames. Peg has not much resemblance to Margaret, nor Patty to Elizabeth, nor Polly to Mary. The reason is simple. In most cases our nicknames are not abbreviations, but totally distinct names with different meanings. How Peggy came to belong exclusively to Margaret and Patty to Elizabeth does not appear. As in the case of the erudite witness, whose true name being Jones informed the judge that he was commonly called "old Skin-a-flint" for shortness, the association of brevity and nicknames appears to be an error. Mr. Ferguson deems the study of names of high importance:—

They contain words (he says) which are to be found nowhere else; they exhibit the links which connect old forms and new. An eminent modern scholar, Dr. Donaldson, has remarked that, "though generally very much corrupted in authority and pronunciation, those names often preserve forms of words which have been lost in the vernacular language of the country, and so constitute a sort of living glossary." Nor is their value less as a record of past modes of thought. There is not one of them but had a meaning once—they are a reflex of a bygone age—a commentary on the life of our forefathers. Dead and withered they lie here [in the *Directory*] page after page and column after column, like the corpses in a vast necropolis. At first you can only here and there, by the likeness to the living, read the features of the newly dead; but beyond, all is dark. Look again—look steadily—look till the blinding outer light has died from your eyes—and you will see further in. Here are our Saxon fathers—heathen and Christian, king and priest, and churl and serf—the first who came with Hengist, the last who died with Harold. Among them the Vikings—terrible strangers—now so mixed you can scarcely pick them out. By-and-by you can distinguish families and groups—you can tell the women and the children. There were some you thought at first were women, but they were men. Look again; there is a darker corner still. Here lie old Frankish kings—heroes of Teutonic myths—Goths that overthrew the empire. These are our ancestors whose names we bear—the great and the little among us. Come out now, and talk more humbly of your Norman blood.

Mr. Ferguson, as his previous writings show, is an enthusiast for the Northmen. Perhaps this may occasionally give a slight colouring to his theories. Surely Daniel may be a Hebrew and not a Scandinavian name; may not Portico be an Italian name? And was not Billingsgate, that famous well of English defiled, most likely simply Billings' gate or the (water) gate of one Billings, like Dowgate and Irongate, and not Billingsgagat, as Mr. Ferguson suggests?

GUILLAUME DE GUILLEVILLE.

The Ancient Poem of Guillaume de Guileville, entitled "Le Pèlerinage de l'Homme," compared with the "Pilgrim's Progress" of John Bunyan. Edited from Notes collected by the late Mr. Nathaniel Hill, of the Royal Society of Literature. With an Appendix, Portrait of Bunyan, Woodcuts and Facsimiles.

B. M. Pickering.

A BOOK full of interest for literary archaeologists—one of those curiosities which show much ingenuity in tracking the steps of a popular writer, and bringing to light the original weeds which, transplanted into the richer soil of his genius, have blossomed into rare and beautiful flowers. It is fortunate for Homer's reputation that he lived so long ago, that all the originals from which he may have borrowed perished long before the introduction of the printing-press, or what a host of commonplaces a Greek critic would have to wade through to establish the title of Homer himself to the *Iliad* or the *Odyssey*. We are not content with Solomon's assurance that there is nothing new under the sun, but we must make assurance double sure by proving that Shakespeare was indebted to books he never could have read for many of his finest passages, that Milton was even a greater plagiarist, and that Dante was no better than he should be. Who cares, in the abstract, to follow the most ingenious of these tracking critics through the contents of his *Shandy*

Library, nor do we find that after all his toil and labour there is one reader the less of Sterne's masterpiece for all the time consumed by Dr. Ferrier on those celebrated *Illustrations of Sterne*. It is true he has bared the base metal; but the delicate manipulation that converted it into gold is only enhanced by the discovery of the little value of the original ore.

Of all religious allegories—and the early literature of modern Europe teems with them—there is only one which is pre-eminently destined to go down to posterity. It is one of three books selected by Dr. Johnson as forming the entire catalogue of those which everybody wishes were longer, and a work placed on the level in point of lasting popularity with *Robinson Crusoe* and *Don Quixote*. Yet it is upon the originality of the idea and construction of this book that the reader is now called upon to decide; but this idea had probably another origin than the *Pèlerinage de l'Homme*, as we shall here suggest. In the year 1780, Mr. Wontner, of the Minorities, by accident met with a copy of Fox's *Acts and Monuments of Memorable Matters happening in the Church*, which is better known as *The Book of Martyrs*, in which the margins were much scribbled over with doggerel rhymes, such as:—

Hear is one stout and strong indeed,
He doth not waver like as doth a Reed;
A sign he gives them, yea last of all,
That are obedient to the heavenly call.

On the title-page appears in large uncial characters the signature JOHN BUNYAN, and scattered through the volume, in various places, in a greatly improved style of writing, and occasionally dated, are the words *Jo. Bunyan, lib. ij.* This precious relic passed afterwards into the hands of Mr. James Bohn, and from him to the Bedford Town Library, the most fitting place for its preservation.

John Bunyan, as we all know, was born in 1628, at the village of Elston, near Bedford, and bred to the business of a brazier. The copy of Fox's *Acts and Monuments* to which we have alluded was evidently acquired by him about the time that he joined the Parliament forces—perhaps even it may have formed part of the plunder of some noble mansion. According to his own statement it was at that period that he became converted and joined the Baptists. In 1656 he was already a popular preacher, a self-educated, pious, and truthful man; but at the Restoration he was imprisoned on account of his preaching, and kept in confinement for twelve years. It is more than probable that during this long confinement he first planned the allegory of *Pilgrim's Progress*, which was to make his name immortal, and the marginal dates referred to prove that the *Acts and Monuments* of John Fox were the solace of his prison. Shortly after the succession of James II. to the throne, the celebrated declaration for liberty of conscience was issued, and Bunyan, who had been released some few years previously through the kind offices of Bishop Barlow, settled at Bedford, and became again a popular preacher amongst the Baptists, where he remained to the date of his death in 1688. During these last years of his life he completed his celebrated allegory, and whatever may have been its original plan and form, he would appear, beyond all doubt, prior to its publication, to have borrowed some few ideas from the *Pèlerinage de l'Homme* of Guillaume de Guilleville. And it is to show how many thoughts, and how much of his plan he owes to a book which in turn owes its sole celebrity to these circumstances, that the notes of the late Mr. Nathaniel Hill, which are the foundation of this volume, have been so diligently collected and so carefully edited.

Our space will not allow us to follow the curious and interesting deductions made by the editors in proof of the premises raised by them. Those who feel interest in tracing the prevalence of allegorical writing in the middle ages; in comparing the earlier productions of De Guilleville, of Piers Plowman, Walter Mafer, Hampole, and others, with Bunyan's celebrated allegory; or in studying the quaint translation, by Lidgate, the Monk of Bury, of the *Pèlerinage de l'Homme*, will look with pleasure upon this beautifully printed and illustrated volume, which is executed in the old style, and illustrated with facsimiles of old cuts and illuminations, after the manner which has rendered the twin names of Whittingham and Pickering so deservedly popular with the lovers of bibliographical curiosities.

From the preface we extract the following fragment from Churn's *Lectures on the Pilgrim's Progress*, as likely to be both new and interesting to our readers:—

The education of Bunyan was an education for eter-

nity, under the power of the Bible and the schooling of the Holy Spirit. This is all that the pilgrims in this world really had to make them good, great, powerful; he has given an account of his own conversion and life, especially of the workings of the grace of God and the guidance of His providence, in a little work entitled *Grace Abounding to the Chief of Sinners*. It is powerfully written, though with extreme and studied plainness; and almost all the material obtained and worked into various shapes by his various biographers was gained in this book. In it you see at every step the work of the Divine Artist on one of the most precious living stones that ever His wisdom and mercy selected in this world to shine in the glory of His living triangle. Nay, to lay aside every figure but that employed by the Holy Spirit, you see the refiner's fire, and the crucible, and the gold in it, and the Heavenly Refiner Himself sitting by it, and bending over it, and carefully removing the dross, and tempering the heat, and watching and waiting for His own perfect image. How beautiful, how sacred, how solemn, how interesting, how thrilling the process!

In laying Mr. Hill's collection of papers before their readers the editors trust, in the words of Chaucer, that out of them some few grains of corn may be gleaned:—"For out of the olde feldis, as men saith, cometh all the new corne fro yere to yere; and out of olde bokis in gode faeth cometh all this new science that men lere." And if, as we know to have been the case, a true knowledge of Greek particles has been sufficient to secure for its possessor high and responsible office, industry like that of the late Mr. Hill must no less merit reward; and though not appreciated by the many, any more than would be a bishop's critical acumen as to the value of Greek inseparable prepositions, still there are many who delight in this species of literary geology, and to whom the beautiful structure is not the less pleasing because they have first ascertained from which quarry every stone has been taken which forms part of the harmonious whole. To them we cordially recommend this *Book of the Pilgrimage of Man*, as one that is peculiarly suited to please them.

TWO BOOKS ON PICTURES.

Artistic and Descriptive Notes of the Most Remarkable Pictures in the British Institution Exhibition of the Ancient Masters, Pall-mall, 1858. By George Scharf, Jun., F.S.A., F.R.S.L. Bosworth and Harrison.

A Long Vacation in Continental Picture Galleries. By the Rev. T. W. Jex Blake, M.A.

John W. Parker and Son.

UNDER the auspices of the Government, Mr. Ralph Wornum wrote a very admirable catalogue of the pictures in the National Gallery, which had the additional advantage of being carefully revised by Sir Charles Eastlake; we have thus the benefit of the combined knowledge of two gentlemen, either of whom was by his learning, taste, and antiquarian research relative to the fine arts, as proved by other evidences, well qualified to undertake and to fulfil the specific requirement. Whereupon Mr. Scharf, F.S.A., F.R.S.L., Secretary to the National Portrait Gallery, Professor of Fine Art at the Queen's College, London, and late Director and Art Secretary of the Manchester Exhibition, an opportunity offering, seizes it to demonstrate, Coriolanus-like, "alone" he'd do it, forgetful of Emerson's axiom, "He who imitates commits suicide." This Mr. Scharf's unconscious incapacity soon develops. Because Mr. Wornum in his Catalogue adopts the alphabetical arrangement, Mr. Scharf does "also, but not likewise," for he forgets that in the National Gallery every frame round a picture has the name of the painter placed on it as well as the number in the Catalogue, and in the British Institution the number only; the consequence is, as we know by unpleasant experience, "confusion worse confounded." So inadequate are the means to an end, that the first thing Mr. S. does is to break through his own rule of alphabetical order by beginning with Leonardo da Vinci! It is true he qualifies this by a note "that the extraordinary interest of these three pictures" induces a departure from the rule. The question of "extraordinary interest" is a matter of judgment and taste, and we must confess, from the evidence before us, we have no trust in the development of either as exhibited by Mr. Scharf. He prints, "These pages are not intended to form a complete catalogue, they are only supplemental notes of the best and most interesting pictures. The latter comprise also that very important class of works which, for want of merit, attractiveness, or a knowledge of the circumstances connected with them, would otherwise be passed over." Now the number of pictures in the Gallery are 187, and the works mentioned in the

Catalogue 139, then why did he not include the 58 unnamed? Was it because they had merit, attractiveness, &c? But we must confess the above quotation is an enigma to us.

Of Mr. Scharf's judgment in exclusion our readers will form their own conclusion when we inform them that a very fine "study of a head," by that "last of the Venetians," Trepolo, and an "extraordinarily interesting" oil miniature (on the screen) by Hans Holbein, are amongst the number.

As a proof of his taste, he writes:—"In portraying the effect of a raging tempest with swelling waves, Backhuysen stands unrivalled!" Of a great sprawling picture, a combination of David and Le Brun, by Camuccini, "A truly grand historical composition, uniting in a very rare degree for modern times all the best qualities of composition, drawing, and colour!" Botticelli's Virgin's head "is especially beautiful and grand in its approach to a sculptor's treatment!!!" He calls a very poor Moreland "very refined in feeling;" and as a proof of his critical acumen on originality, he doubts not Nos. 71 and 78 being by Murillo, and never even hints at the questionableness of No. 150 being by Hilton. With regard to the two former, let him look again; and of the latter, let him ask Mr. Rothwell's opinion.

In writing on a picture by Uwins, R.A. (No. 186), he delivers himself of the following extraordinary paragraph:—

One of those contrasts of grief and mirth which ensure a certain amount of success to all who adopt it. How different would have been the treatment, had one of the earnest men, called pre-Raphaelites, undertaken the same theme!*

Ay, truly! and if Mr. Scharf had not written this Catalogue, how would that remarkable body of men called Grub Street have treated the subject? And now, a last few words about Mr. Scharf's antiquarian knowledge, and that on a subject, in consequence of the stir that is now being made, and has been agitated for some years, even the meekest tyro is thoroughly well acquainted with, namely, the foundation of the Royal Academy. In the biographical notice of Sir Joshua, he writes that Reynolds "travelled in Italy and other countries from 1749 to 1752. Founded the Royal Academy in 1768." Now, so far from the knight having anything to do with the founding he studiously held himself aloof from any public demonstration of knowledge that such formation was going on, and there is little doubt that he played a very astute part throughout the whole game. It is notorious that the Royal Academy was planned and proposed by Chambers, West, Coates, and Moser; further, it had been arranged with the king, that Reynolds, although not in the secret nor consulted respecting the formation of the academy, should be president, which honourable position he first of all refused, but was afterwards induced to accept through the bribe of knighthood. In justice to other men we avail ourselves of a sentence of one of our contemporaries, adding thereto one word. "Mr. Scharf is (not) our best antiquarian Art-critic."

The Rev. Mr. Blake's book is the result of notes made during two several tours on the Continent in the year 1857; it contains historical, critical, and biographical notices of pictures and painters in the following cities and towns:—Antwerp, Berlin, Bologna, Brussels, Dresden, Florence, Frankfurt, Ghent, Hesse Cassel, Lille, Milan, Munich, Padua, Rome, Venice, and Vienna, and fully satisfies the pungent necessity of its birth. All who have travelled abroad with a desire to see the art wealth have suffered from the expense, cumbrous inconvenience, and insufficiency of foreign catalogues, whilst many have been and are precluded from gaining any information on the subject from the fact of their being written in a foreign language. Mr. Blake has now supplied a desideratum, lucid in style, comprehensive in matter, cheap and portable in form. The plan upon which he has raised his superstructure is thus stated:—

Pictures of every school and every kind are noticed freely, from the wish that none might be missed which could be at all worth looking at, rather than that all should be omitted which were not decidedly fine. Still the traveller will find that much time has been saved by omitting all really inferior works, going straight to the best, and proceeding systematically round the room.

This enunciation of principle and declaration of design must meet with our fullest approbation, because it proves a keen insight of the requirements and develops a power for their fulfilment. The in-

* We would call Mr. Scharf's especial attention to a quotation underneath, quoted from the Rev. Mr. Blake.

fluence that actuates and spirit that guides the reverend gentleman, are so admirable in feeling and generous in sentiment that we would earnestly have them impressed upon the minds of all the gentlemen connected with art criticism; thus writes the reverend author:—

"The writer has endeavoured to criticise in no exclusive spirit; to appreciate excellence of every kind, at the same time he has wished to see with his own eyes, and to write

Nullius addictus jurare in verba magistri.

The first step towards understanding a man seems to be to look at him from his own point of view; and never to condemn him, because he has not the merits of another. To see no grandeur in Rubens, because his flowing outline has not the symmetry of Raphael, nor his liberal colour, the depth and warmth of Titian—to find fault with Gian Bellini, because he has not the freedom or science of Michael Angelo—to despise even the minute reproduction of Gerard Dow, because it has none of the energy of Tintoretto—to carp at the dryness or harshness of the Van Eycks, because they have neither the suppleness nor softness of Andrea, the grace of Corregio, nor the glow of Giorgione—to forget the wonderful truth of Holbein, because his fac-imile portraits have neither the romance of Titian nor the penetration of Leonardo—to think, in short, little of one man because he has not the soul of another involves, in the first place, a complete loss of all the enjoyment that a wider range of taste would give, and, moreover, displays an absolute ignorance of the first principle of all excellence and all originality—do your best; and dare to be yourself."

Impressed with such large views, and imbued with such generous philosophy, how could the writer's work be other than satisfactory? We will now take the last sentence from our first notice, omitting one word and substituting another; thus: Mr. Blake is one of our best art-critics."

HADJI IN SYRIA.

Hadji in Syria; or, Three Years in Jerusalem. By Mrs. Sarah Barclay Johnson. Philadelphia: J. Challen.

EVERY man who occasionally loiters at second-hand book-stalls knows what a random dip in the "six-penny box," in the hope of lighting upon something rare or curious accidentally dropped there, is most likely to produce. If it be not a volume of old sermons, it is a hundred to one but the expected prize in his hand will be a "Howadji in Egypt," or a "Month in Mesopotamia," or a "Scamper from Gravesend to Grand Cairo," or a "Cantab in Candia," or a "Lawyer in the Levant," or "Smith in Smyrna," or "Jones at Jericho," or "Beyrout and Back Again," or "Figs and Gilaf," or some one of the minute variations of which such titles are susceptible. The manner and sentiment of such books will be found to be reducible to one or two types. There is the audacious imitator of Eöthen, who scorns all vulgar details of steamboats from Marseilles, sea-sickness, exorbitant hotel-keepers, troublesome custom-houses, rapacious consuls, and dashes boldly into the thing—wakes you up in Cairo as if you had been there all your life, or startles you on the opening of his first chapter with "Buck-sheesh, O stranger!" so said the dark-haired camel-driver, as we were lazily lounging," &c. This kind of traveller is always sentimental, vague, metaphysical, and addicted to strange words. The evening with him "greys" and "glooms," the river "shimmers" and "sheens," the fields are "greened with golden plenty." He asks the palm-tree what it sings in its melancholy waving—waxes philosophical upon the infinite and the finite, and is not above writing a comic chapter by way of change. There is also the matter-of-fact traveller, who rises early, and after performing ablutions and partaking of a hearty repast, consisting of omelettes, rice, figs (he never spares you one item), goes down to see the marvels which his guide-book has described before him. Better than this is the heavy traveller, who reports learnedly upon the manners, religion, history, commerce, &c., of the country; but of all bores, the gentleman or lady who travels in the East with a view to confirming Biblical history is by far the worst. We know what he or she will say at every stage of the pilgrimage. At Cæsarea we hear that "it was here that Paul spoke so eloquently before Felix Agrippa." At every point about Jerusalem we are favoured with such ejaculations as "Gethsemane! what magic is there in the name! Who is not familiar with the sad story connected with its sacred soil?" At Jericho, or at Tyre, we exclaim again, "How deplorable the change, and complete the desolation following the curse of an offended deity!" At Bethlehem "a multitude of associations come thronging in upon the soul at the mention of that name which will never cease to be

cherished in the inner sanctuaries of the heart." The recollection of the sepulchre will never fade from the enthusiastic voyager's mind "while memory performs her functions." The sight of some group of natives justifies the information that "with the Mahomedans the shaving of the head is never neglected, leaving only a small tuft of hair, by which they believe Mahommed will one day elevate them bodily to heaven." And forthwith, *à propos* of the bare mention of the name of that "self-styled Prophet," we open a dreary chapter with, "Mahommed was born at Mecca A.D. 569."

Poor "Mrs. Sarah Barclay Johnson" is a specimen of this latter class. She is no doubt a very worthy and pious lady, but unfortunately her book is not readable. She has nothing new to tell, and wearies her reader intolerably with scraps of guide-book knowledge. National peculiarities which she details are frequently no peculiarities at all, as where she describes the collection of octroi duties at the "Jaffa Gate," in Jerusalem. As a specimen of her political economy, we may mention that she considers this "heavy tax" as falling on the country people who bring in their wares, and therefore accounting for their dread of the soldiers who collect it. Mrs. Johnson's search for Scriptural coincidences and evidences of Biblical truth is laudable enough, but it should not be forgotten that the best cause may be injured by unreflecting zeal. It is not by discovering that customs described in Holy Writ are still in existence that writers like Volney and Voltaire are to be met, or "the infidel" convicted of obstinacy. Such coincidences prove nothing but that the Scriptures are of Oriental origin, which not even "the infidel" denies. The "truth of the Bible" must rest on other arguments. In manuscript, Mrs. Johnson's record of her "Three Years in Jerusalem" might have been valuable to her family and friends, who, if the excuse for publication in the preface be not an idle and a hackneyed fiction, did her no good service in sending it to the printers.

FRAMLEIGH HALL.

Framleigh Hall. 3 vols. Hurst and Blackett.

WE take it that the object of the writer of these volumes is to show the effects of constitutional timidity and morbid diffidence on the fortunes, character, and mind of an individual. In this, though the writer has only partially succeeded, he has, nevertheless, in the delineation of his hero, worked out very cleverly a character by no means removed from the everyday walks of humanity, and one which, if all its qualities have not been met with in the same individual in our peregrination through life, certainly in their separate peculiarities they have been encountered in separate persons. The hero, Maurice Delamere, the victim of a too sensitive and shrinking nature, arising from deficiency of physical robustness, combined with a too delicate mental organisation, is, to his misfortune, arbitrarily placed in situations for which his nature totally unfits him, mainly by the mistaken notion his father, Sir Arthur Delamere, has of his real character.

The portrait of the stern-minded and able-bodied father is beautifully balanced by the soft, lovable, and pitying character of the mother. After undergoing at home, at school, and in the army all the torments and *contretemps* which his peculiarities bring upon Arthur Delamere, we find him suddenly in love with Eugenia Churchill—a charming creature, affianced to Captain Mortimer Grenville, his tormentor at Eton, and in after manhood his foil in all that regards manly externals. This love is reciprocated; Eugenia begins to discover the superiority of the sterling qualities of the one over the brilliant superficiality of the other, and she breaks off the match. This has a prostrating effect on Captain Grenville—who, after in vain trying to provoke Captain Delamere to fight a duel, breaks a blood-vessel; and while lying in a helpless condition in Sir Arthur's house, is rescued from certain death from a fire, which happens at the mansion, by the gallantry of Captain Delamere. The rescue so works on the better nature of Captain Grenville, that he acknowledges the error into which he has fallen throughout in considering Captain Delamere to be a "coward," and he solicits and obtains forgiveness just before he yields up his breath. There is a collateral love affair, of great interest, made to spring out of the chief incidents of the story; and as the *dénouement* is pleasant, we have no doubt the work will find a tolerably large audience.

BOOKS RECEIVED THIS WEEK.

The Works of Lord Bacon. By J. Spedding, R. L. Ellis, and D. D. Heath. Vol. V. Translations of the Philosophical Works, Vol. II. 8vo. Longman and Co.
The Aquarian Naturalist. By T. Rymer Jones. Post 8vo. Van Voorst.
Humble Creatures. By T. B. Hicks. Post 8vo. Van Voorst.
A Journey due North. By G. A. Sala. Post 8vo. R. Bentley.
The Mutinies in Oudh. By M. R. Gubbins. R. Bentley.
The Parsees. By D. Frangee. Post 8vo. Smith and Elder.
Durbrook. By Miss Martineau. Smith and Elder.
Stanford's Paris Guide. With 3 Maps. E. Stanford.
Guide to Jersey, Guernsey, Sark, &c. By F. Dally. E. Stanford.
Guide to Cathedrals of England and Wales. By M. Walcott, M.A. E. Stanford.
The Photographic Art Journal. Parts 4–6. W. Lay.

A Book for a Corner. By Leigh Hunt. (Bohn's Illustrated Library.)—Anything from Leigh Hunt will be welcomed by all classes of readers. This book is, to use this popular favourite's own words, "a collection of passages from such authors as retain, if not the highest, yet the most friendly, and, as it were, domestic hold upon us during life, and sympathise with us during all portions of it." We here meet with the choicest extracts from the choicest authors—all old-established favourites—which will have their popularity extended, if possible, by the fine taste and judgment of the selector, who has introduced each author with a notice such as Leigh Hunt only could have written. The work is charmingly illustrated, and will be found all that Leigh Hunt himself designed it should be, namely, "a book for all lovers of books at every time of life, from childhood to old age, particularly such as are fond of the authors it quotes, and who enjoy their perusal in the quietest places."

Pebbles and Shells. By Elizabeth Wilmshurst French. (R. Hardwicke.)—A first essay by a fair "Prentice in the Art of Poetry," with a modest and retiring preface, which is sure to disarm severe criticism. The volume is, probably, chiefly intended for the circle of the writer's friends, and we have no doubt that they will, in the words of the preface, find "some thought, some cadence, that may linger in the memory." There is promise of this in the "Swallow's Song," with which the volume concludes.

LITERARY GOSSIP.—We have sincere pleasure in announcing that Mr. Prescott, the historian of Philip the Second, as well as of Ferdinand and Isabella, has recovered from the severe attack from which he suffered, which caused so much concern not only to his immediate family and friends, but to the world of letters generally. The first number of Mr. Bentley's new review, to be published quarterly, is announced to appear on the 1st of December next.

The Arts.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Mr. Lumley, who by this time must have been consoled by the liberal countenance of the lower million for the loss of his formerly sole position before the upper ten thousand, as *primo impresario assoluto*, gathered an ample auditory at the last performance of *La Traviata*, on Saturday last. This intrepid manager, who, in the face of strong competition, has courageously put forward artistic novelties against the trained celebrities of the rival Opera-house, has, we hope, no reason to complain in his own proper person of public fickleness. The ancient prestige of the theatre he has so admirably managed has, of course, stood him in good stead during the season he last night brought to a close, and his prescience in effecting successive, and we hope permanent, engagements with such artistes as the fascinating Mdles. Titiens and Piccolomini, and the melodious Giuglini, has been warmly endorsed by a not undiscerning public, mainly of his own creating. We must not be interpreted, however, as hinting that this beautiful salle is forsaken by the rich and noble amateurs because, or as soon as, reduced prices opened its doors to the "public, to fortune, and to fame unknown." The reports of such of our contemporaries as enjoy the pleasure of knowing an immense circle of noble and illustrious personages by sight, if not more intimately, inform us, from day to day, that while her Majesty and Court are absent from London, while the gatherings in the parks and Regent-street are wasting visibly, and brown holland blinds invade with dusky pall the "houses' eyes" of all the western arrondissements,—a number of the aristocracy who, if themselves utterly insensible to the charms of cheapness, are clearly not scared from their accustomed haunt by its invasion, have continued to patronise Mr. Lumley. The lessee has, all through this very long season, applied unflinching energy, perfect appreciation of the requirements of the public, and, speaking generally, the best of management, to the maintenance of his posi-

tion; and as far we have had opportunities of judging, has been met more than half way by public feeling and opinion. The heroine's part in the *Traviata* has been as brilliantly supported during the past season as it was heretofore created before a London audience by Mdle. Piccolomini, and was sustained by her on Saturday night with undiminished spirit and, indeed, success. She also, with Signor Giuglini, sang an extract from the Italianised *Bohemian Girl*, from which the audience selected "You'll remember me" for an encore. In the course of the evening the national anthem was introduced, in compliance with time-honoured custom; and the performances closed with a ballet, in which Madlle. Boschetti was the leading artiste.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.—We are somewhat at issue with our German friends and contemporaries, who find the *Martha* of Herr Flotow a masterpiece of comic opera; but we are in no wise inclined to censure the light, music-loving portion of our opera-going public who so enthusiastically applaud its silver strains at each repetition. To the latter, we look upon music as agreeable, in proportion to the relief it offers from all the cares and ills that Britons of all quality seem doomed to inherit. The former, who have time and brains to spare for the appreciation of more serious works, have, we sometimes think, really no business to have installed such operas as *Martha* among operatic successes. Our dear national "Last rose of summer" is alone sufficient to account for our sympathy with the composer, who has so flattered our taste as to set it as a gem among the minor sparks of his own device; and on Saturday, as erst, this choice *morceau* carried the burden of the entire composition to a brilliant success. Mr. Gye has effected arrangements which have enabled him to "have the last word" in the operatic campaign. While Piccolomini is *en route* for America, and Mr. Lumley perhaps, with characteristic diligence, already on the move in search of novelties, the Covent Garden management has presented the *Don Giovanni*, on Monday, and, on Tuesday, Herold's *Zampa*. The simple intimation, the hero's part is taken by Signor Tamberlik, is sufficient to assure the reader of its correct reading and lyrical treatment. The marine picture in the second act was a perfect masterpiece of scenic art. Thursday's opera was *Les Huguenots*, and that for to-night, the closing one, will bring, we trust, to a satisfactory end the three months' season of 1858. Having opened under circumstances of considerable disadvantage, and having had an up-hill game to play against those ill-founded rumours of deficiencies and unhealthiness which it is so very safe and pleasant for the *laudatores temporis acti* to indulge in upon the inauguration of every new theatre or place of public resort, where capacity for sound and public comfort are especially demanded, Mr. Gye has, to our thinking, redeemed with marvellous exactitude his promises to the portion of the public whose support he most courted. Ten operas have been produced during the season, and we fully agree with a contemporary, who says that, when it is considered that every scene, every dress, and every piece of machinery was of necessity new, it is impossible to over-estimate the spirit, diligence, and zeal of the administration, or to withhold the praise which is justly due to the managers of each and every department.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Mrs. Howard Paul having sufficient engagement in her entertaining entertainment of *Patchwork* at the Egyptian Hall, and Mr. Ira Aldridge having quitted us for Prague, where his powerful Shakspearean delineations find even more favour than in this country, the Lyceum Theatre has subsided from tragedy and operetta into drama and farce. We had sincere pleasure on Saturday last in welcoming once more our old favourite, Mr. Leigh Murray, whom ill health has long parted from his London admirers. As we hoped—but that, alas! was against hope—for the return of Tyrone Power, we so have hoped for one more season of Murray, a comedian whom it is no exaggeration to style unapproachable in his particular line of parts. Considering how full the town is of emptiness, the Lyceum, we thought, could boast of an ample audience on Saturday, who were mainly collected by the magic of a name. *Still Waters run Deep* was the comedy selected for the *rentrée* of Mr. Murray, and though manifestly only convalescent, and therefore something below the mark in physical power and nervous fire, we were glad to hear the familiar words of the gifted author in the once familiar voice of our favourite actor. Mr. Murray had not, we believe, before played the part of *Mildmay* in a metropolitan theatre, and from this cause, possibly, or from that previously hinted at, his reading of the part struck us as somewhat too unimpassioned for even such a cool hand as the *John Mildmay* of Mr. Tom Taylor's conception. In the great scene, again, with *Captain Hawkesley* (Mr. Fitzjames), he had to contrast with a something too highly coloured, and, at that time, imperfect performance, and to this may in some measure be attributed the "paleness" of his reading.

The farce of *Sarah's Young Man*, which succeeded the play, is an eminently successful importation from the Surrey Theatre, let us always say, when it brings with it its own "sloe-leaf," Mr. H. Widdicomb. In certain shades of his rapid intonation this gentleman has one singular peculiarity. He reminded us one moment of Mr. Charles Kean, and another of Mr. Robson. He has some little mannerisms which seem to combine those of the latter gentlemen and Mr. Wright. But as no trace of servile copyism appeared on the surface, we can only leave it to more accurate critics to decide whether these resemblances are singular and original coincidences or involuntary tints of imitation. It seems to us that an artist possessing so much genuine *vis comica*, will, with some little direction and correction of exuberances, be a most valuable acquisition to the cispontine theatrical world, at present lamenting the unavoidable absence of the old Adelphi favourite, Mr. Wright.

MONS. JULIEN has, we hear, secured the Lyceum Theatre for a series of promenade concerts to commence in November next. His reason for removing this entertainment from its now accustomed domicile at Her Majesty's Theatre will be supplied, we suppose, when the winter arrangements of Mr. Lumley shall transpire.

ROYAL STRAND THEATRE.—During a provincial journey, in which she is accompanied by an important part of her dramatic company, the fair and popular lessee has resolved by way of experiment on keeping open house at the Strand, the part of the hostess being omitted. She has, however, left a fairly strong detachment to do the honours in her absence. On Monday last was revived with considerable care and elegance Mr. Planche's highly-finished little comedy, *Court Favour*, in which the principal parts were supported by Miss Marie Wilton and Mr. Emery. This gentleman's performance of the *Duke of Albemarle* was not more crude than might have been expected of an actor transferred from the line of strong character parts in which he is so successful to that of the fast man of the Restoration epoch. Miss Wilton is as rapidly advancing in popular favour, as her aptitude, sense of humour, and industry deserve. As the *Lucy Morton*, which is a long part and sustains the chief burden of the comedy, this lady conducted the intrigues which deceived the time-serving old guardian, *Sir Andrew Allsides*, lured on and put to use the vicious *Albemarle*, infused energy into her stupid lover with unflinching wit and perseverance, and carried the drama to a successful end, we might almost say on her own shoulders. Mr. Belford, as *David Brown*, was conscientiously correct. His utter simplicity was a little too near the borders of the stupid; although, on reflection, any deviation from the yet more terrible inanity of the traditional stage lover, any infusion at all of characteristic into his ordinary unshaded character, ought to be acceptable. The *mise en scène* was, with the exception of a strong anachronism in Miss Wilton's first dress, remarkably good: and, to conclude, this very creditable attempt of the management to domicile elegant comedy at their little theatre was received with considerable favour by a numerous audience. Mr. Charles Selby's farce, *Hunting a Turtle*, has been given at the Strand during the week as second piece, Mr. Belford, as *Levison*, sharing well-deserved honours with Marie Wilton, as *Mrs. Turtle*. Mr. Clarke, as *Timothy Dandelion*, requires a little toning down. If he introduces no more of physical force demonstrations than is set down for him, we recommend him to reduce on his own responsibility the needlessly strong relief in which that feature of the part has been cast by his author. We may add, too, that the introduced song of "Down in the West Country" could be fitted to a much more successful, yet still comic, air of its class. This artist, and Mr. H. J. Turner, who played *Smatter*, the "gentleman's gentleman," form together a strong force of low comedy in so small a company, and in *Hunting a Turtle*, especially, contributed in no small degree to the delight of the visitors by their contrast of town and country servant-manners.

IN RE HERR OTTO MÜNDLER.—A long and interesting communication, signed "One of the Public," has appeared in the columns of more than one of our contemporaries. "One of the Public" is a friend of our late expert *de la Galerie Nationale de Londres*, and professes to refute and explain away what he styles Lord Elcho's egregious misrepresentation of facts. In our opinion he corroborates the noble lord's statement; nor are we prepared to acquiesce in the unsupported assertion of an anonymous writer that no more eligible a person than Mr. Mündler could have been found to represent our fine art departments abroad, though we admit, at the same time, that he may have been a hard-working, learned, and honest man. It never appeared to us that the enhancement of the market price of pictures by his known presence at the marts or near the ateliers of the copyists was imputed to the travelling expert as a crime or even as a fault. "One of the Public" has raised this imaginary "charge" only to

combat it. Were the writer of the defence himself (whom we shrewdly guess at through his disguise), or any of the other learned and competent persons eligible for the post, to travel as the representative of the trustees avowedly and openly, the same thing would occur. Sensible buyers who ransack Europe for pictures and curiosities do not, certainly, send heralds before them and announce their quality on their visiting cards; but setting even that aside, we doubt if any public *commissionnaire* could preserve so strict an incognito as to escape the vigilance of fine art dealers, who are quite as alive to their own interests as other tradespeople. To assert that Herr Mündler's services have mainly contributed to that conspicuous enrichment of the National Gallery which the last three years have effected, and that his services are of such calibre as to demand our gratitude, is sheer nonsense. It is evident that no buyer of ordinary judgment, with even the limited purse of the National Gallery trustees at his back, could have failed to add as many square yards of well-covered canvas to the collection; and as to the taste of the selection the aggregate public have not the same abounding confidence in it as its single atom which takes the lists for Herr Mündler. We sincerely hope that the discharged expert—if he really be a deserving man—will find a more easy bed than the British service. He has not been overpaid and he has done some work. He may possibly have made a mistake. He may have been taken in. But the cleverest occasionally blunder, and Lord Elcho himself may have been, as "One of the Public" suggests, the dupe of disappointed and mendacious witnesses. But even if not guilty upon the indictment, we should still regard his sacrifice as a necessary evil, or, if his champion will, piece of cruelty. If we could not have had the subordinate, we should have called for Sir Charles Locke Eastlake to be delivered to the Parliamentary fine art Furies, who, by the way, quite represent the feeling out of doors. The fall of Herr Mündler was acceptable, not because people disliked him, cared about him, or believed half the tales against him—for he was thoroughly immaterial and insignificant—but because he was a little wheel in an objectionable train which could be dispensed with without throwing the whole machine out of gear. He hardly stands in need of his amiable friend's defence against Lord Elcho. His dismissal was a convenient form of expression for want of confidence, and involves very little reflection upon either his character or talents. Lord Lyndhurst has given notice that he should draw attention, at an early period of next session, to the Royal Academy, and their tenure of the National Gallery. As an amateur and the son of an artist, the noble lord has, as he says, a good right to take a lively interest in all that concerns the body; but it is sincerely to be hoped that the weight of his splendid talent will not be thrown into the scale, now trembling on the beam, against the loudly-expressed wishes of the public. The decree has gone forth that the Academicians' occupancy must terminate, and were even Lord Lyndhurst to array himself with the defenders of the abuse, the removal must soon take place. A return of correspondence between the Treasury and the trustees of the National Gallery with reference to the employment and services of the travelling agent, has been laid on the table of the House of Commons. It appears, from a letter of Sir Charles Eastlake, that the purchase of the Pisani picture above the market value was effected by order of the Lords of the Treasury themselves, in spite of his own advice upon the subject. Sir Charles echoes "One of the Public," who might have signed himself, we think with propriety, "A Friend of the Family," and concludes his letter by an impertinently worded request for compensation to Herr Mündler for his abrupt dismissal. A year's warning is enough in all conscience; and if the director-general and his lieutenant could not take the very fair notice given a twelvemonth back, they must have been obtuse indeed.

GOVERNMENT FINE ART MOVEMENTS.—It is stated that upon the recommendation of a special committee, composed of Lord John Russell, Lord Elcho, and Mr. Coningham, M.P., the Government intend to purchase Sir George Hayter's large painting of the first meeting of the House of Commons after the passing of the Reform Bill. It is expected that the erection of a National Gallery for Ireland will be forthwith put in hand at Dublin. The expense will be defrayed by a grant of 5000*l.*, passed in this year's estimates, another of 7000*l.* promised by the Chancellor of the Exchequer for next year, and a sum of 11,000*l.* already applicable to the purpose in the treasury of the Royal Irish Institution.

A DANGER AT THEATRES.—"A Subscriber" to the *Times* complains of the careless way in which people attending the theatres place their opera-glasses on the fronts of the boxes. He mentions an instance of one tumbling down into the pit stalls at the Royal Italian Opera last Saturday evening; and we believe that this is of not unfrequent occurrence. The peril to those below is of course very great.

INDIA.

MR. EWART'S COMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN COLONISATION AND SETTLEMENT IN INDIA.—THE LAND REVENUE SYSTEMS.

Our readers, we think, will welcome a continuation of our notes on the evidence given before this committee. In a recent notice we quoted the causes alleged by European settlers to account for the total absence of that class in entire provinces, and their small number anywhere. Our chief cause, as we pointed out, is the state of the land tenures, as resulting from the systems of raising the land revenue. Throughout India the land tax is the chief source of revenue; it amounts to sixteen or seventeen millions sterling, or two-thirds of the whole revenue; and it is assessed on the principle that the Government is the lord of the soil, and entitled as such to all that share of the profit of cultivation which constitutes *rent*, and belongs to the private landowner. This principle has been applied in different ways in different parts of India, according to the opinions for the time being of the ruling authority; and no fewer than three very different systems have come in this way to be established. The importance of the principle will be readily appreciated, and it will not be difficult to describe an imaginary case which will convey a very fair idea of the manner in which it has been acted upon by the East India Company. Suppose, for instance, one great ducal landowner, resolved to grant no leases for terms, and to have dealings through his steward only with actual cultivators. The tendency of this system would certainly be to cover his estate with a pauperised tenantry; and it would be very difficult at any future time to introduce capital and reparcel the estate among great farmers. Suppose next, on the contrary, the same great landowner resolved to have no connexion at all with the peasantry or actual cultivators, and to renounce his ancient *jus proprietatis* and secure a fixed fee-farm rent, and nothing more, in perpetuity, for himself and his heirs for ever; suppose again the same great landowner to come to a new estate, and on which he finds a landlord class in receipt and enjoyment both of land and of rents, and also a cultivating peasantry,—as lord paramount (which he declares himself to be), he becomes jealous of the old landlords, and regards them as an encumbrance to the land, or as useless; but, from a certain equity of temper, he wishes to exercise his new power with moderation, and at the same time that he fixes the rent of the land as absolute owner, he allows a percentage of it to the old proprietor, and grants a lease for thirty years to the cultivators, holding himself free to do as he pleases with the reversion when the term shall expire. Of the East India Company we may now say, the Company has been exactly such a landowner; and such are the different courses it has pursued in India. The first case supposed is a type of what exists in Madras and Bombay; the second case is that of Lower Bengal, with its permanent and Zemindar settlement; and the third case is the North-West Provinces.

The question, then, arises, How have these different systems answered? For the East India Company's own opinion we need only turn to their celebrated "MEMORANDUM" on its administration, published when the Court was first threatened with extinction; and it is curious to observe that, of its three systems, the only one which to the last it dislikes is the permanent settlement. In the ryotwar settlement it is admitted that great mistakes were made; but, then, remedies are being applied to them, and the North-West Settlement is regarded as a prodigy of practical wisdom and a model system; but the permanent settlement, it is said, began in wrong, and is a standing injustice to the Government: it made, it is said, those proprietors who were only collectors; deprived the Government of all power of protecting the *ryots* (cultivators) from the proverbial cruelty of private landlords, and of all power, also, of profiting by the improved value of the land tax or rent. Such is the view generally which the East India Company takes of these different systems. We shall not stop here to controvert them, beyond remarking that the two last objections to the permanent settlement savour of inconsistency, and the first of them is not true in fact. The *ryots*, it is assumed, have been oppressed, and this is imputed as a consequence of the permanent settlement; but the truth is, that the power of legislating in the interests of the *ryots* was reserved by the express

terms of the settlement, and the oppression is rather chargeable against the Government, which never exercised its reserved power, and neglected its duty towards the population.

We must now return to the evidence, which required these introductory statements to make it quite intelligible. The view which the European witnesses took of these reserved systems was quite the reverse of that presented in the "Memorandum." In Madras and Bombay there are no European settlers, and the reason is, that they cannot get a footing in the country under such a revenue system; and were this difficulty removed, the system has so pauperised the mass of the population and split up holdings, that the operation of the capitalist would be practically impossible. In the North-West Provinces, the settlement is unfavourable to the capitalist, and consequently to the settlement of Europeans. In Lower Bengal alone Europeans find a system, in its main features, favourable to them, but it is impaired by faults which jeopardise all capital. Its merit consists in the fixed character of the land tax. The tax was assessed in 1793; it remains the same in the present day, and such it will remain for ever; but in case of non-payment, the Government has a statutory execution, more summary and severe than the *extents* of the Crown in England, and they sweep away, by the mere fact of the sale in execution, all leases, and hand over a clear estate, such as it was in 1793, to the new purchaser. This it is which places capital in a state of insecurity much complained of by all the witnesses.

EVIDENCE REFERRED TO IN PAGE 666.

WITNESS: N. THEOBALD, ESQ.

SUBJECT: THE RYOTWARREE SYSTEM.

THE witness having spoken of the land tenures as preventing Europeans from getting settlements in some parts of India, is asked—

To what do you refer when you speak about the land tenure preventing the settlement of Europeans, &c.?—I refer to the ryotwarree settlement, as it is called—a term very well known in this country; under that tenure the Government is the immediate landlord, and in its transactions with the *ryots* and cultivators is represented by an army of what I should call revenue police, who, I think it sufficiently appears now, by the Madras Tontine Report, are men of no principle whatever. I am now referring to the Madras territory, and I believe that the same revenue settlement, that is, the ryotwarree settlement, exists to a great extent in the Bombay Presidency; in all where that state of things exists, that is, with the Government as the landlord, and being represented by such a police as exists there—an army of something like sixty thousand—I apprehend it is self-evident that with a pauperised tenantry the capitalist cannot possibly get a footing; and he cannot get a footing for another reason, that the settlement is an exclusive settlement, and does not involve any plan for introducing a class of landlords intermediate to the Government. I state that as the conclusion of my own mind as to that settlement.

Would your answer be represented by the opinion that the frequent interposition of the Government agents between the producer and the consumer is productive of much evil?—By the interposition of the existing class that is the case. The existing class is a revenue police; large numbers of them are very ill paid, and from what we have lately learned, through official reports, they are a very unprincipled, rapacious class of men, who pauperise the population; and I think it is stated in Mr. Kaye's book, that the Government are of opinion that they cannot extend cultivation any farther (I do not know whether they admit under that settlement), although there are large tracts at present uninhabited, and large numbers of persons are constantly migrating eastward from the Coromandel coast, where this settlement prevails, for employment elsewhere.

Do you ascribe that to the revenue system?—That would be the conclusion of my own mind. It excludes the capitalist and prevents that expansion of prosperity which the introduction of capital leads to.

CROSS-EXAMINED BY MR. MANGLES ON THE ABOVE EVIDENCE.

You said that at Madras, in consequence of the ryotwarree system, capitalists cannot get a footing?—Yes; that was the expression which I used.

A capitalist can buy land of the ryot at Madras, can he not?—Yes; from a ryot no doubt he can. I believe now the ryot has a saleable interest, but I should think it a perfect impracticability for a capitalist to buy out a whole population, because it would come to that, and what is to become of the population when it is bought out? The question supposes a thing to be practicable which is only theoretically possible.

Are you not aware that many of the *ryots* have large holdings?—Yes, I think it is very likely. I am not aware whether they are numerous. I understood that the mass of the ryot population had very small holdings, and were in a pauperised condition, something like the

Irish peasantry until the exodus which followed the famine.

You said that the people were emigrating, &c., in consequence of the revenue system of Madras?—I stated, certainly, that there was an unusual emigration, &c., and by conjecture I imputed it to the difficulty of living on the spot. The native of India does not emigrate very willingly, and I have ascribed it to the condition of the permanently settled population.

Are you not aware that the wages of labour upon that coast are extremely high?—No; I have no information on that subject.

Therefore, having no information, you thought it best to ascribe it to the undue amount of the Government assessment?—My information led me to draw the conclusion that it was owing to the revenue system, and not merely to the amount of the assessment.

SAME WITNESS, ON THE PERMANENT SETTLEMENT.

What is the nature of the revenue settlement that you refer to in Lower Bengal, and what faults do you impute to it?—The settlement is known by the name of the permanent settlement. It is also called the Cornwallis Settlement, because it was established by Lord Cornwallis under the authority of an Act of Parliament, and with the full consent, and after great consideration of the Court of Directors here, it was established by Lord Cornwallis. I mention that because I have seen publications in which it appears to have been imputed to Lord Cornwallis as rather an arbitrary act, arising out of a prejudice of that nobleman for the institution of great landlords; but I believe that was the origin of the permanent settlement. It was Lord Cornwallis acting on the views of the first-class statesmen of that day, and it was called the Permanent Settlement because the settlement already established had been only for ten years, which was converted into a settlement for perpetuity. Then, with reference to the faults of that settlement, the Government imposed very stringent terms on the zemindars for the purpose of realising its revenue—such as, if there was any default in the payment of the revenue, what we should call in England a statutory execution might immediately issue, that is, the mere fact of default entitled the collector immediately to sell the zemindar. That was done, and it had the effect, I believe, of sweeping away the zemindars who were the proprietors, and most of the great families who were the zemindars, when that settlement was established. I think that proves that it was, as respects the terms of the settlement and the amount of the revenue, not a particularly favourable settlement. Then the condition of the settlement, to which I adverted, and to which I should refer as a fault in the settlement not particularly favourable to us, was this, that, whenever an estate had to be sold for default of the payment of revenue, all under-tenures created subsequently to the date of the settlement (1793) were swept away by the fact of the forfeiture; and that affects us in this way: we take parts of a zemindar, perhaps on a lease or some other tenure, such as a putnee tenure; we thereby become perpetual householders of a part of the zemindar, and that interest is forfeited by the zemindar being sold free from all under-tenures. Our lease is cancelled by the act of sale, and as the tenant or putnee-holder has not necessarily, or had not originally, notice of the forfeiture, his property is lost without his being at all aware of it. Since I have been in India there has been an improvement in that respect.

Does that grievance exist now?—To a much less extent than it did formerly, and it has been under the consideration of the Government of India.

The sub-renter is affected by the default of the superior landholder, without the priority of the settlement to it?—Yes, he may have given 10,000% for a valuable lease, and also be under an engagement to pay a portion of the Government revenue accruing in respect of that lease, and that is swept away. It is a forfeiture which cannot be appealed against. . . . That is quite a recognised grievance, and Mr. John Peter Grant, a man of very distinguished ability undoubtedly, brought in a bill for the purpose of removing this inconvenience and altering the law. The Indigo Planters Association entirely approved of the object of the bill, but the new law would have produced practical inconveniences, which obliged the Europeans to oppose that form of the law, and, as too often happens where we partially oppose, and on grounds so strong that the measure is postponed, we did not get the better measure which we ourselves suggested. We are, therefore, still under the old arrangement and the old law. Although a reform of the law was undertaken by a member of the Government in consequence of our partial opposition, the matter appears to have been dropped.

Do Europeans seriously suffer under the existing state of the law?—Yes; I believe they do. It affects the value of their property as a security.

I understood you that the grievance is simply this—that the rights of the sub-renter are swept away together with the proprietorship of the zemindar?—Yes, all such interests created since 1793.

Can putneers save their tenure from the effects of a sale for arrears of revenue by depositing their own rent with the collector?—I think not merely by depositing their own rent; I think they have to deposit also the rent of the zemindar.

Are indigo planters generally holders of landed property?—Yes, both as zemindars and as izarahdars (leaseholders), and as putneedars (perpetual leaseholders); every sort of interest in the land they acquire; it gives them a position of safety.

The principal object of the indigo planter is security in holding the land which produces the indigo?—Of course; that is his primary object.

And that he has not got at present?—Not to the extent desirable. Of course everything that puts capital to hazard, even theoretically, diminishes the value of the security. If you want to borrow money upon your interest, a lawyer looks at your title; and if he sees that it is dangerous, although the danger may be very small, yet, owing to the defect of the security, abstractedly it has a diminished value for the capitalist.

The following cross-examination of the same witness by Mr. Mangles relates to the above evidence:—

You said that there is danger to capital from the revenue system in Bengal; what is the danger?—In stating that, I also referred, as a proof of it, to Mr. Grant's view on that question, and who, in consequence of the view which the Government has taken, brought in a bill for the purpose of so amending the revenue system as to give proper security for capital.

You said that Lord Cornwallis was unjustly charged with having made the permanent settlement precipitately; are you aware that Sir John Shore, then the senior member of Council, afterwards Lord Teignmouth, earnestly pressed upon Lord Cornwallis not to make the permanent settlement without more careful inquiry?—There was some difference of opinion in Council, I believe, about it, but Lord Cornwallis was supported by all the most eminent men of the East India Company's service, by the Court of Directors, and I presume also by the Parliamentary statesmen; and that that was the case I think is also corroborated by this circumstance, that the next settlement was in the Northern Circuit; and although that was only a settlement for a term of years, it was made professedly with the object, and under a sort of promise to the parties concerned in that settlement, that it should be a permanent settlement; but it was a mere question of trial as between Lord Cornwallis and any of the Council when it should be made permanent, and I have no doubt Lord Cornwallis took a wise resolution, and that the settlement was a wise one the result has shown.

Do not you think it was precipitately made?—Approving of the measure, I think it was not precipitate.

Do not you think that there was a great sacrifice of all subordinate rights to the zemindar?—No, I think it was the salvation of the country; for if the Government settlement had not been established there, we should have been under the influence of those opinions which led to the ryotwarree settlement; and then Bengal would have been under the ryotwarree settlement.

Did not the thirty years settlement in the North-West Provinces result in very beneficial effects?—Not such beneficial effects as the permanent settlement; and I rather think that the civil rebellion which has supervened upon the military rebellion is very much to be ascribed to the effects of that revenue settlement. The old talookdars were displaced by that settlement; they were the persons analogous to the zemindars in Lower Bengal, and they are now returning to their lands, having the affections and respect of the people, and are resuming the place which they had before we took possession of their provinces.

THE THIBET TRADE AND TREATY.

THE attention of persons in this country has naturally been much directed to the trade of India by its seaports, but that trade, which is carried on by its long land frontier, has been far from receiving due notice. Some endeavours have been made to open trade with Tartary, Western Thibet, and Central Asia, by our Punjab provinces, and with considerable encouragement, though not carried to the required extent. There is some trade with Nepaul, and from Darjeeling a small trade with Sikkim, Bootan, and Eastern Thibet. The whole line of frontier, however, leads to districts beyond, more or less productive, and the intercourse with which would, under careful administration, bring a great addition to the resources of India.

We say under careful administration, because the obstacles are considerable, and it is by care and by steady action that they are to be removed. In this country it would be scarcely credited that there are many of our towns and ports on our Indian frontier where an English trader and traveller cannot go beyond a few miles, and where the countries even in sight are not allowed to be trodden by his foot; the impediments to his access being perhaps some petty hill clan, or the distinct action of a Chinese mandarin.

These impediments, however, are such as to be overcome by steady action, although in some places they have stood in our way for half a century. They arise either from physical difficulties, from immediate causes, or from some distant influence. A small stream, which the local tribes cannot bridge, may be the means of

blocking up an important route, while the expenditure of the requisite sum by the English commissioner would open the route, and repayment of the outlay would be effected, either by a slight transit tax or by increase of the general revenues of the settlement. In many cases the frontier stations have such a direct interest in opening up the country beyond, that they can afford the outlay in improving the roads beyond their bounds. There must, however, be the authority to effect this, and it is very difficult to obtain it from the supreme Government of India, absorbed in great wars or in great administrative questions; and yet there are stations where a hundred a year laid out in this way would materially strengthen English power and the resources of the people and treasury. There are avenues to be cut through jungles, mountain-bridges to be carried across ravines, roads to be cut along precipices, tunnels to be made through necks of hills, halting-places to be built in desert passes, and one of these works will perhaps throw open twenty miles of road before tracked only by men, and will enable it to be traversed by pack beasts, or by wheel carriages.

The exactions of mountain tribes, but still worse their animosities, close not only their own districts to traffic, but the intercourse of very distant countries. It sometimes happens now that there is no provision, and systematically there is no provision, for making the necessary arrangements in such cases. The hill commissioner or superintendent may not be able to leave his station for years, nor can he perhaps give the time needful to reach the distant chief, nor the weeks to be passed in childish negotiations, and there are few resident commissioners, as there ought to be, in the nature of consuls or assistant commissioners, dispersed among the hill tribes, and systematically placed at station after station on the great routes of trade. The exertions of such assistant commissioners would be directed to form conventions with the hill tribes, and to maintain their execution, to obtain commutation of transit duties, and generally to keep the routes open.

One constant effort of our Government in its foreign relations should be to throw open the countries now under the paralysing influence of China. This is particularly the case with Eastern Thibet and the neighbouring countries, with which we communicate by way of Darjeeling. This hill town was formed for the sole purpose of being a sanatorium for Bengal invalids, but its situation is so favourable that it has not only become a thriving settlement, but a seat of trade. It was formed on a portion of territory obtained from the petty Rajah of Sikkim, and the territory has since been increased by that obtained in compensation from the rajah for his imprisonment of Dr. Campbell, superintendent of Darjeeling, and Dr. Hooker, engaged in scientific explorations. The Rajah of Sikkim is now a recognised dependent of England. Sikkim, English and native, runs up from the Bengal Presidency into the Himalayas, between Nepaul and Bhotan, and touching Thibet.

The political position of Sikkim is, therefore, important, not only as commanding an independent route to Bhotan, but by placing a barrier between Nepaul and Bhotan. Our ambitious neighbours in Nepaul, balked for a time in their designs on Bengal, have turned their attention to Bhotan as a field of conquest, and Jung Bahadoor will give any price for permission to march across Sikkim and occupy Bhotan, when we should have a long frontier of Ghoorkas ranging along the north of the Bengal Presidency. The late advance of Ghoorka allies into the Bengal Presidency during the mutiny was an unhappy concession forced on the Governor-General by public opinion in England, and was too well calculated to keep up the self-confidence of the Ghoorkas, and to create a moral impression as to their military prowess among the population of the plains. The Ghoorkas are now back in the hills of Nepaul, never, we hope, to return, and Jung Bahadoor may, perhaps, consider this a suitable time to press for the small favour of demanding honourable satisfaction from Bhotan, but, we hope, to be refused, as he has been heretofore refused. Before leaving the subject of Ghoorka troops, we may observe that any Ghoorka recruits that are wanted can be obtained at Darjeeling, where Dr. Campbell enlisted them by hundreds in a few days, and where they are obtained from various hill regions, and are independent of their allegiance to Nepaul.

It is as an avenue to Eastern Thibet and to the interior of China that Darjeeling is particularly valuable, but unfortunately Lassa and the whole of that region, formerly open to us, are now closed. The Rajah of Sikkim, perhaps, because weak, has given no cordial assistance in promoting our intercourse with Thibet, but, on the contrary, has impeded our access to his own territories, although always suing for pecuniary aid. The imprisonment of the officials, already referred to, is a notable proof of his indisposition to give free access to our citizens and subjects. Thus, in order to obtain the necessary freedom of intercourse with Thibet, we have first to overcome the indisposition of the Sikkim Rajah, and then the indisposition of the Chinese authorities, whose influence closes to us the frontier of Thibet, although within sight and within reach of our own territory at Darjeeling. This matter is so important that Mr. William Ewart, the member for Dumfries, brought it before the attention of the Government in the House of Commons, with the view to make the free communi-

cation by land, and the withdrawal of Chinese pretensions in Thibet, a part of the negotiations of Lord Elgin at Pekin. Although no satisfaction was at that time got, we have every reason to believe some impression has been made on the Government, and that Lord Elgin will take due notice of the matter.

It is, however, with the Indian Government the chief responsibility rests, and the first thing is to obtain a clear and distinct recognition of our position in Sikkim. It is in the highest degree essential that the Rajah should not be allowed to trifle with us, but that his promises shall be made effectual, so that English travellers and traders may enter the district freely and reside in it, and that our native subjects may have the same opportunities. We must also obtain the assurance that no difficulties shall be interposed to our intercourse with Nepaul, Thibet, and Bhotan. It is true that we have routes from our part of Sikkim into Nepaul and Bhotan, but in many instances it is desirable to pass over the Rajah's frontier.

The circumstances of the Sikkim Rajah are very favourable for bringing him to terms, as he is constantly in debt and difficulties, and a small increase of the allowance made to him would obtain such a recognition of his duties as will admit of enforcement. The station of Darjeeling is yearly making progress, and there can be no doubt, from the reports made to the Indian Government, that it is one of the chief countries in India suitable for European occupation, and on the completion of the railway will be more rapidly settled. We shall then require greater scope for the energies of our settlers, and there can be little doubt every available site in Sikkim will be occupied for industrial purposes, and that the trade of that district will be greatly expanded by the application of greater capital and enterprise.

If it were merely on account of Darjeeling, the negotiations with Sikkim and Thibet are of importance, but it is on account of Bengal generally that they are more particularly to be regarded; for not only may a great trade be created with the interior of Asia, corresponding to that which the Government has fostered in our Western Provinces, but Darjeeling will be strengthened as a barrier against Ghoorka ambition.

We press this matter forward, because it is essential it should not be lost sight of, and the home Government should at once renew its instructions to Lord Elgin, so as to secure the recognition of our right to free access with China and its dependencies on the southern border. However difficult at present the communication is with the south-west countries of China, the progress of Darjeeling and Assam is so rapid that it is safe to predict a very material and favourable influence will be exercised on those remote and now little-known regions of the world, containing the upper valleys of the great Indo-Chinese and Chinese rivers. The question is pressed in reference to Darjeeling, because Darjeeling is better known to English officials and travellers, but Assam has, perhaps, a deeper interest, because Bhotan, lying between it and Thibet, and in some cases only the narrow territory of mountain tribes intervening, many of the paths and routes over the mountains debouch on the Assam territory, and will become natural channels of trade, as that by Durrung and Khegumha to Lassa, for instance.

BOMBAY JOINT-STOCK COMPANIES.

AMONG the means of progress with which India has been endowed by the English, not the least important will prove to be the system of joint-stock companies for the aggregation and distribution of capital, and for which of late years the Indian legislature has afforded greater facilities. This will be in time an instrument for carrying out more extensive enterprises in India than all that the Government with the resources at its disposal can be expected to effect. The system is as yet in its infancy, but is rapidly working its way.

In Bengal, besides banks and railways, partly of home origin, steamboat, coal, and gas companies are in operation. In Bombay there is another variety, and in each city there is a regular share list, the herald, we presume, of a future stock exchange. The last list we have seen of Bombay companies includes several banks, the railway, various press companies, a land company, and a steam navigation company. Most of these undertakings are at a premium, for cotton-presses have been found very remunerative, and in this way one means of promoting the cotton trade has been effectually established. The Colaba Cotton-press Company is in shares of 700*l.* each. The last quotation was 265*l.* The Apollo Press Company is in shares of 2000*l.* each, and its shares are quoted at 2300*l.* The Hydraulic Press Company is in shares of 400*l.* each, and the price is 710*l.* The Cotton Spinning Company is in 400*l.* shares, which are quoted at 650*l.*, and the Oriental Weaving and Spinning Company is in 120*l.* shares, quoted at 170*l.*

The Celaba Land Company is not so flourishing in the market, for its shares of 1000*l.* each are at 850*l.* The Bombay Steam Navigation shares are barely at par, and of the Great Indian Peninsular Railway shares the same is to be remarked. Still there is a local market for stock paying only 5 per cent., a feature encouraging for the

future of Indian enterprise, because it shows there is a demand for security as well as for large returns, which will bring in capital for investment.

Among the bank shares which are of local sale in Bombay are those of the Bombay Bank at 38 per cent. premium, of the Oriental Bank at 55 per cent. premium, of the Commercial Bank and the Mercantile Bank. All these are at premium, and there are likewise others.

EASTERN BENGAL RAILWAY.

Among the recent additions to the Bengal railway system is the Eastern Bengal Railway. The promoters obtained the guarantee of 5 per cent. in consequence of the high opinion entertained of the line by the Government of India, which went to the length of recommending the line to the home Government, not only on the ground of its commercial and political advantages, but likewise on the opinion that the guarantee will be only formal, as the profits of the railway will certainly pay more than the guaranteed interest of 5 per cent. This is a step in advance for the Indian Government, for hitherto the guarantees have been granted on the speculation that the lines may not pay, and that the guaranteed interest, or some considerable portion of it, may have to be disbursed out of the Government revenues. The recognition of the Eastern Bengal Railway was therefore the recognition of the principle that lines having adequate local traffic shall have the encouragement of a guarantee, and if this policy be persevered in, India will be more rapidly covered with railways.

The first guarantee, in the case of the Eastern Bengal Railway, is on a capital of one million sterling, of which a quarter was called, and as some shares have been paid up in full, an amount more than equivalent has been raised and paid into the Treasury here. The line on which this guarantee is given, and which is first to be constructed, is 108 miles long, and only extends to the Ganges at Kooshtee, but is to be continued to Decca, which may be considered the commercial centre of Eastern Bengal.

The line now in hand is a direct line as far as its terminus on the Ganges at Kooshtee, at a point where it is accessible from Calcutta, and where it saves the circuitous course of navigation through the Soonderbunds, a navigation irregular because it is dangerous. The Eastern Bengal Railway is, however, essentially a trunk line, for starting from Calcutta direct, it passes through some of the suburbs, and, at sixteen miles distance, reaches the great military station of Barrackpore, and thence proceeds through numerous towns, more or less important, on the eastern bank of the Matabanga branch of the Ganges, being so situated as to command the traffic of various branch lines, which will certainly be constructed. At Ranaghaut, about fifty miles from Calcutta, branches can be thrown off east and west. To the east, the large town of Jessore is reached by a branch of about twenty-five miles, which is very little beyond the distance of the direct route, while it only requires a limited extent of railway to effect the communication. From Ranaghaut another northern line will be run, though at a later date, by Kishnagur, following the east side of the Bhagiruttee, to Burhampore and Moorshedabad. We say later, because the operations of the company will naturally be first directed to Eastern Bengal rather than to a district more nearly approaching the territory which is served by the East Indian Railway Company. The Jessore branch admits of extension through the delta to Furreedpoor and to Burrisol, which latter may, in the course of time, become of great importance.

From Ranaghaut, the main line proceeds by, or near, Rajapoor, Kissengunge, and Doorgapoor, to Kooshtee. At Kooshtee will be found one of the main engineering labours of the line, namely the passage of the Ganges. It will take much of the river traffic between the Rajmahal station of the East Indian Railway and Kooshtee, while there will be exclusive possession of the river traffic from the Burhampore districts, which year by year are rapidly improving.

From Kooshtee to Dacca a large bend is made, and considerable engineering works have to be undertaken to cross the river channels. One of the extensions, which will ultimately become of importance, is to Silhet and Chirra Ponjee, on the Silhet hills; as a place of healthful resort, it will be found valuable to the residents at Dacca and the neighbourhood.

The works to Kooshtee will, however, occupy the directors for some time, as they will take till the year 1861, and measures have now been organised for their prosecution. The directors propose that the works shall

be carried out by contractors from this country, which will perhaps be the best step for their vigorous prosecution, as there is great want of qualified superintendents in Bengal; and were the engineer of the Company to undertake the management of the works, the whole of the labour organisation has to be effected, which is in itself a work of time.

That the traffic will be productive there is strong reason to believe: first, because there is a large existing traffic sufficient of itself to pay a good dividend; secondly, because the countries to the north and west are greatly advancing and sending forth new products; and thirdly, because a railway of itself creates traffic, which could not be conveyed without its aid. The passenger traffic from the countries beyond the old Bengal collectorates is likely to be of a valuable character, because the population engaged in the new cultivations and operations is of an active and enterprising character, by whom the value of quick transit is better appreciated. The railway will afford to the north-west a better supply of superintendence and labour, and thereby increase the products of the soil available for transport.

The meeting of the proprietors last week went off very satisfactorily. The report was adopted unanimously. The directors showed the great advantages of the line, not only to the country it proposed to traverse, but in a commercial point of view, and particularly pointed out the benefits that would be derived to Calcutta by the facilities which would be afforded of reaching the Sanatorium at Darjeeling. The contracts were nearly all let, and altogether the undertaking was progressing favourably. Votes of thanks were passed to the directors and officials.

GREAT INDIAN PENINSULA RAILWAY.

ALTHOUGH the works on the remaining portion of the Bore Ghat are still in a backward state, communication between Bombay and Deccan, on the main junction line to Madras, will be opened by the end of September, and then one hundred and five miles of the railway will be at work in the Deccan. During the delay in the completion of the Bore Ghat works, for which the directors held the constructor responsible, arrangements have been made to keep up the communication through the Ghat, but, till this is complete, the passenger and goods traffic must be much interfered with.

The great feat of conveying the locomotive and carriages up the Bore Ghat allows the Deccan line to be successfully worked, and the company will thereby save traffic, and come into earlier possession of a revenue from that portion of its outlay. The receipts on the old portion of the line, 88½ miles from Bombay to Campoollee, have been very satisfactory, for the traffic in the half year ending 31st December, amounts to no less than 32,867, being an increase of 83127. on the corresponding half year, or about 33 per cent. The expenses increased only 7.54 per cent., being altogether 15,3967, or 46.84 per cent on the receipts. The directors observe that this result has occurred notwithstanding some parts of the interior have been in an unsettled state, and much of the traffic ordinarily on the road not coming forward during the half year.

Passengers can already be booked through from Bombay to Deccan, 187 miles, and when the break is closed up the operation of such a length of line will be looked forward to with some interest. Sholapore will be duly reached by the works now in progress, but the Madras railway is in arrear, and it will be long before the junction between Bombay and Madras can be effected, and the full effects of the traffic be felt.

Of the line by the Thull Ghat a favourable report of progress is made. The North Eastern extension is proceeding as far as Bhosawul, and the steepest gradient on the Thull Ghat incline has been determined at 1 in 37.

The traffic receipts already include some interesting entries. Parcels and excess of luggage, which some years hence will amount to thousands, are now entered for the half-year at 8227, carriages, horses, and dogs at 1357, and live stock at 5907. The movement of cattle from the interior, though now represented by such a trifling amount, and considered as of little importance, will become in such a climate as India no mean source of revenue, for in time cattle, and when due provision is made, dead meat, will be brought down to Bombay and other cities in such condition as nothing but railway conveyance can effect. In England the railway saves a great part of the waste in driving beasts, which is very large, and which provides a saving of a great amount of meat in the course of the year, which before the introduction of railways was lost to the food of the population. In India the saving and the quality of meat and other articles of food will be a matter of consideration.

Mercantile and Commercial.

THE LONDON JOINT-STOCK BANKS.

THE extraordinary dividends paid by the London Joint-stock Banks subsequent to 1853—never lower than 10 per cent., and rising to 26 per cent.—and the large share they had in the late commercial excitement, created great anxiety for them last year, and their reports at its close were looked for with intense interest. With equal interest, too, their reports for the half-year which expired with June were looked for, to learn the effect on them of the current low rate of discount. They are now made, and are more favourable than was expected. The declared dividends were, at the close of 1857 and at the end of June, 1858, at the following rates per annum:—

	Dec., 1857. Per Cent.	June, 1858. Per Cent.
London and Westminster ...	14	16
London Joint-Stock	22½	22½
Union Bank of London	15	15
London and County	12	10
Commercial Bank of London	6	6
City Bank	5	8
Bank of London	5	5
Unity Bank	nil	nil
Western Bank	nil	nil

The chief of them, therefore, have not suffered apparently either from the convulsion or the low rate of discount prevalent during the first half of the year, and still pay extraordinary dividends. The London and Westminster is not quite so prosperous as in 1856, the Joint-Stock not so prosperous as in 1854 and 1856, and the Union not so prosperous as in any year since 1854. Two of them—the Unity, established in 1855, and the Western, established in 1856—have not yet fulfilled the hopes of their shareholders. There have been also two or three abortive attempts to establish other banks, and the scandalous failure of the Royal British is fresh in the public recollection; but, on the whole, the London joint-stock banks have been amongst the most successful of modern undertakings. They have acquired the public confidence to an extraordinary degree, and have been entrusted with deposits to ten times the amount of their capital. We transcribe from the published accounts the particulars of this peculiar feature:—

Name of Bank.	June, 1858.		Current and Deposit Accounts.	
	Paid-up Capital.	Guarantee Fund.	Dec. 1857.	June, 1858.
	£	£	£	£
London and Westminster	1,000,000	165,204	13,889,021	12,443,745
London Joint-Stock	600,000	189,819	10,737,580	10,287,623
Union Bank of London	600,000	105,000	9,645,913	9,032,134
London and County	500,000	103,000	3,533,425	4,178,283
Commercial Bank of London	300,000	75,000	821,626	935,081
City	300,000	30,000	1,338,933	1,252,250
Bank of London	300,000	8,000	1,114,843	1,059,352
Unity	161,305	None.	139,774	103,447
Western	200,000	2,243	...	228,662
Total	3,961,305	740,266	41,271,115	39,520,537

Thus at the end of last year, when the guarantee fund was 708,1977, and the paid-up capital, together with this fund, amounted only to 4,669,5027, these banks were entrusted with 41,271,1157 of other people's money. Nor does it appear now that the confidence in them is in the least abated. The falling off in the deposits and current accounts is not greater than may be explained by the annihilation of much fictitious capital and the greater rate of interest obtained on securities as compared to the rate of interest allowed on deposits. In two of the banks, the London and County and the Commercial, the amount of deposits and current accounts is greater in this June than last December. On the whole, the value of the capital and the guarantee fund of these banks is now something less than 12 per cent. of the money entrusted to their care.

The contrast between their position and that of the Bank of England is remarkable. Its secured capital is 14,553,0007; therest, 3,412,3877; together—7,965,3877; and the deposits and current accounts, public and private, amount only to 18,422,1387, or only half a million more than its capital and guarantee fund. The private deposits, though bankers place their reserves in its care, are only 14,319,0087. There is a similar contrast in the rate of dividends, 11 per cent., on Bank of England Stock, never of late higher, and 22½ per cent. on the London and Joint-Stock Bank at present, or 26 per cent. in the first six months last year. The explanation of the difference lies in the fact that the joint-stock banks allow interest on deposit accounts at the rate of 1 per cent. below the Bank rate of discount, while the Bank adheres to the practice, latterly, of English bankers, and allows no interest on deposits. The joint-stock banks, therefore, get in proportion to their

capital eight times as much deposits as the Bank of England. This is a serious matter. There is a wide difference in the modes of conducting banking business, and as the advantages offered to the public are on the side of the joint-stock banks, they receive, in truth, a much larger share than the Bank of England of the capital which fosters trade.

It has been supposed and asserted that this practice of allowing interest on deposits is a novelty. This is a mistake. The Bank of England, when it was first established, allowed interest on deposits, and the public writers of the day wished that the Bank should be prohibited from "allowing interest on running cash, because the ease of having 3 or 4 per cent. without trouble must be a continuous bar to industry." At that time the Bank frequently borrowed money on notes bearing interest. The very essence of its monopoly was, that other companies were forbidden to borrow at interest for less than six months. The goldsmiths, too, before the Bank was established, allowed interest on money if it remained a single month in their hands.* When the Bank ceased to allow interest on "running cash," we are not aware; the Scotch banks appear unbrokenly to have continued the practice. The banks in America have done it for a long period, if not always. Why the mercantile classes in England, and other depositors in banks, should have suffered themselves to be worse treated than other bank clients, till the old practice was revived by the joint-stock banks, we cannot say; unless it were that they had a great reverence for the Bank of England, and that this dignified body, as it became more and more identified with the Government, and never allowed interest on public deposits, which came to be at times a large part of its resources, made non-allowance the general rule of its conduct; and in this other bankers delightedly, and the mercantile classes humbly, acquiesced. Now, however, that the practice has been revived, found generally advantageous, and not incompatible with security, it seems likely to become general. Why should the Bank of England, which makes the public pay interest on all its advances on Deficiency bills, not pay interest on the large sums of public money it frequently has in its hands? At least, we have long heard it said by high authorities, and believe that the Bank of England will ere long consent to do as the joint-stock banks do, and allow interest on deposits, or get very few except those which must be placed in it.

If we may decide from the conduct of the New York banks, this seems now to be a necessity. In March, forty-three out of the forty-six banks in that city, while yet smarting under the general stoppage which had been forced on them by their depositors in the previous autumn, entered into a written agreement not to allow interest on deposits. They could not, however, persuade the Bank of Commerce, the Bank of the State of New York, and the Bank of St. Nicholas to act with them, and so the agreement fell to the ground. It is the business of a banker to borrow money at one rate of interest and lend it at another; and the objecting banks of New York were aware that if the existing establishments refused to allow interest on deposits, other establishments, perhaps under a different name, would certainly do it, and, in the end, to carry out such an agreement would be merely destroying themselves. The New York banks, therefore, by consenting to give interest on deposits, secured to themselves the advantage of dealing with their clients' money.

It is also remarkable that the London joint-stock banks, though their profits are greater than those of the Bank of England, are not allowed to share its exclusive privilege of issuing bank-notes. The joint-stock banks issue none. Probably the prohibition to issue them is not disadvantageous to the banks. It necessarily limits their obligations to persons of considerable means. They are not indebted, like the Bank, to the promiscuous and timid multitude. Whatever may be the case with the public at large, who would be benefited by perfectly free competition amongst bankers, and would then habitually obtain loans on easier terms, the joint-stock banks lose nothing by being denied the coveted power of issuing notes. They have no interest, and other bankers have no interest, in getting rid of the existing monopoly, and those persons who desire free trade in banking should not trust the cause to the advocacy of bankers.

It will be found, on examining the accounts of these banks, that the London Joint-Stock, of which the paid-up capital is the smallest in proportion to the amount of deposits, uniformly pays the highest rate of dividend; and the Commercial Bank of London, of which the capital is the largest in proportion to the amount of deposits, uniformly pays the lowest rate of dividend. The source, therefore, of the profits of the joint-stock banks is the money placed in their keeping. They trade with the deposits on which they pay interest, and are obliged, therefore, in order to prosper, to make the best possible use of the money. In proportion as their own capital is large their profits diminish. Their character, ensuring them the confidence of the public, is their best and largest capital. Their shareholders, a fluctuating and unknown body, offer very little guarantee to the public,

and their paid-up capital, with the petty and mocking dribblets called a guarantee or reserved fund, is a very poor security. In the case of the London Joint-Stock Bank, the two together only amount to 7.67 per cent. of the deposits; and in the case of the London and Westminster, only 9.36 per cent. of the deposits; and the public places its confidence neither in the paid-up capital nor in the guarantee fund, nor in the respectable body of shareholders, but in the character acquired by the banks. Confidence, or credit, then, is as essential to success in trade as capital; and it is not in vain that honesty and fair dealing are inculcated on traders, though they need the injunction no more than other classes, for without them success cannot be assured.

All such great and successful enterprises spring, it is good to remember, from some great social fact or some great want; and it is not difficult to trace the success of the joint-stock banks to the vast increase of capital in the community, particularly of share capital, within the last few years. The chief securities in which the public could invest savings at the beginning of the century were the Funds, the Stock of the East India Company, of the Bank of England, and the South Sea Company. Now there are scores of well accredited railways foreign and native, joint-stock banks, miscellaneous companies, &c., with a capital altogether not much less than the national debt. All this serves banking purposes. The vast income derived from it passes into the hands of bankers; much of the dividends as they are paid, and capital, as it otherwise accumulates, are invested in them, as opportunities are favourable, and till then the money is lodged with the banker. The joint-stock banks, therefore, though they have contributed to the general movement of society, are its creatures, and especially the creatures of the great increase of share and other capital.

It must be remembered, however, that except as companies may be necessary to ensure a large number of clients, and stand up against the Bank of England—the great privileged joint-stock bank of the empire and the world—private banks would have answered, and have to some extent answered the same end as joint-stock banks. The banking accommodation required could have been given by an increase of private bankers. We may suspect, indeed, from the success of the joint-stock banks being due chiefly to character and competition, that individuals, in whom the sense of responsibility is stronger than in companies, would have done at least as well as joint-stock banks all that these have done for society. It is now thoroughly ascertained that the outcry against private banks, and the demand for joint-stock banks in 1826, from which period they all date in England, were founded on errors, and we know that the legislation which then called them into existence, and the subsequent legislation of 1844 on the same subject, led to many miscreations, like the Royal British Bank, and to many disastrous failures. That they have lately succeeded so well in London is obviously more due to the care of the individual managers than the legislative principle of their existence, which did not prevent the Great Northern Bank, the Liverpool Borough Bank, and several others, from inflicting great injury on large masses of careless shareholders and credulous clients.

The first of the successful banks, the London and Westminster, was established in 1834, the Union in 1837, and the London Joint-Stock in 1840. In 1850, the total deposits in the whole of them was only 12,525,000*l.*; in the summer of 1857, the deposits amounted to 43,100,000*l.* If such a sudden and vast accumulation of power should have turned the heads of their managers, it would not have been surprising. Lord Palmerston, from a less success, forgot his duties and lost his place. Probably, the competition betwixt them saved them from such an extreme disaster. They are accused, however, and not unjustly, of having fostered excessive speculation by a reckless use of the great means entrusted to their keeping. If they helped to give consistency to some of the accommodation paper, of which the spurious system that came to an end in 1857 was erected, they took care to get out of the way before it fell.

On Wednesday, a meeting of the Oriental Inland Steam Company took place, when the report was adopted unanimously. Two steam trains, consisting of twelve vessels in all, have been despatched to India with a supply of the necessary stores, provisions, &c., usually provided in England, sufficient for the first six months' consumption. About sixty carefully selected workmen have also been sent to form the nucleus of an establishment to put the vessels together on their arrival, and to keep them in thorough working order. A barrack has been provided for the accommodation of the men, and all the requisite arrangements have been carried out in a way calculated materially to abridge the difficulties which must necessarily be encountered in India. An agreement has been executed with the East India Company, by which a subsidy of 5000*l.* is granted for ten years, on the condition that two trains are established yearly on the Indus. An increased subsidy of 10,000*l.*, with four trains instead of two, was offered by the Government, but declined. The chairman and managing director are about to proceed to India to inaugurate the company's operations. The accounts show a balance of cash in hand, at interest, &c., of 2543*l.*, without any outstanding liabilities.

THE LONDON AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

THE loss of 176,000*l.*, less 12,000*l.* by reductions in working expenses, was a matter that the proprietors of London and North-Western Stock had a right to call upon their directors to account for in the fullest manner; but the public at large had a deeper interest in being put into possession of the circumstances which of late years have had a constant and an injurious action upon the value of railway property, and which, if permitted to continue, appear not unlikely to reduce dividends to the vanishing point, and to prostrate an interest second only to the funded interest in amount—but first, however, if numbers, influence, and effect on national progress and prosperity are taken into combined account.

The lucid and practical speech of the Marquis of Chandos, chairman of the London and North-Western Railway, yesterday officially enlightened the shareholders and the public as to the causes which have occasioned the reduction in the traffic and led to the general depreciation of railway property.

It will be well if the railway interest at large lend a serious ear to the statements of the noble chairman, and to the remedies he suggests as the best and only practical means of putting an end to a condition of things which was truly described as "disgraceful to all parties concerned."

We have already indicated, in previous articles, and to-day in another portion of our journal, that the policy of the London and North-Western Company is to be regarded as a "defensive" policy—and, of course, that the policy of its rivals is to be viewed as an "aggressive" policy. This will not be an unfair distinction, when it is recollected that the London and North-Western was the first to occupy a particular district, and that it has had throughout to defend the traffic of that district from younger, and of course competitive assailants. Bearing this distinction in mind, we shall be able to understand the value of the noble chairman's statement—the force of his facts and explanations, and the importance of his remedial suggestions.

Commencing with the diminution of traffic, the noble chairman clearly showed that no weight could be attached to the suggestion that the diminution ought to have been met by reduction of expenditure—that suggestion being impracticable, because, as regards the weight of goods carried, an equal or a larger amount was carried this year as compared with last year. Adverting to the causes of this diminution of traffic, the noble chairman laid it down broadly—"That no rules of policy to guide railway companies, in case of disputes, had been laid down by Government, and that until Parliament shall adopt some better rule for guiding committees to their decisions than that of individual opinion and individual views, it was hopeless to expect any modification of the existing state of things." The only way to re-establish railway prosperity, to put an end to railway contests, costly and uncertain in their results, was for Parliament "to lay down some definite rule, and to adhere to it permanently." The noble chairman clearly indicated that the primary source of mischief to railway property was to be found in Parliamentary legislation. Let the public bear this in mind; it is in that direction they must bring the weight of public opinion to bear, and, once brought to bear, the remedy will immediately follow. The noble chairman pointed out the difficulty of dealing with Parliament, declaring that he should despair of success until all parties combined—railway directors, shareholders, and the public at large—but with such a legitimate combination success was sure.

The origin of the rivalry for the Manchester traffic was then detailed. Here Parliament again was the very head and front of the mischief, by granting to a rival company the power to establish a second route, without taking the slightest security against reckless competition and ruinous rates. The London and North-Western directors, in defence of the proprietors' interests, set on foot negotiations with their rival, but they failed from causes which may be easily understood. By the help of a few plain figures, the noble chairman disposed of the assertion that the rival company accommodated the public on a more liberal scale, and established the fact that the London and North-Western gave at least equal facilities and at lower rates.

Then came that portion of the noble chairman's speech in which the public will take the most, be-

* See the *Annals of Commerce*, or *British Review* for April, 1858.

cause it has the deepest interest. The noble chairman contended, unless full power were given of stopping "reckless competition and ruinous rates," that no real good would be effected. If Parliament hesitated to give that power, then let proprietors come forward at meetings and insist on suitable rates being established. There were hopes that this would eventually be the case, from what had been done by proprietors at various meetings during the last two or three months. The noble chairman suggested that "some tribunal for the settlement of disputed railway questions should be established, but he admitted there would be great difficulty in arranging such a tribunal, though certainly he did not conceive the difficulty to be insurmountable. He would suggest that, in adjusting the rates, the company having the shortest line should settle the tariff"—a suggestion well worthy of consideration. The question of subsidising other companies to buy off opposition—a practice not inaptly described as analogous to levying "black mail"—was then alluded to, and very properly condemned. A railway tribunal, suitably constituted, would very soon put an end to this scandalous tax on the fair profits of leading railway companies.

That the desire of putting an end to the scandals now prevailing in the railway interest, both as regarded legislation and competition, was approximating towards the universal, would be proved by the fact that the holders of 130,000,000*l.* of railway stock had already given in their adhesion to the system by which railway disputes should be referred to arbitration and finally settled. This was the only way by which injurious competition could be extinguished. The noble chairman, in conclusion, declared that he "looked with confidence to every railway company responding to the appeal, and yielding such an assent to the principles laid down as would morally effect the observances of them."

We need hardly say that the noble chairman was listened to with attention throughout, and warmly applauded at the conclusion. The proprietors, and they were numerous, appeared to be of one mind that something should be done to put an end to competition, and they appeared to share in the hopeful feeling of the noble chairman, that competition once ended, and disputes with rivals amicably adjusted, there was a hopeful future for railways.

There is nothing specially to remark upon in the report or proceedings beyond the circumstance that we think must be obvious to all, after an examination of the accounts, that proper economy has been exercised in the various departments of this vast concern, and that a very considerable reduction of expense has been made at Wolverton, without impairing the efficiency of that establishment, or curtailing the accommodation of the public.

We are of opinion that this meeting will do much to quiet the public mind, which has been needlessly alarmed on the question of the stability of railway property, by parties who possibly have special interests to serve, or who are not well acquainted with the subject.

To bear out the noble chairman's statement at the meeting, that the traffic arrangements of the London and North-Western Company were quite as good as their rivals, and that the Manchester people were quite satisfied with the accommodation afforded to them, we make the following extract from the cross-examination of Mr. Warth, manager of the extensive firm of Messrs. Cook and Sons, warehousemen, St. Paul's-churchyard:—

You are well accommodated by both lines?—Yes, we are. Have you any reason to complain of the accommodation given by the London and North Western?—No. Before August last?—Not any whatever. They give you, and have always, or for many years, given very fast trains to London for your goods?—They have given us great attention; we have been satisfied with the attention they have given. By the Committee:—Did you ever apply for a reduction of the rates?—Not that I am aware of.

GENERAL TRADE REPORT.

London, Friday Evening.

With the single exception of the branches connected with iron and hardware, the trade reports from all parts of the country continue most satisfactory. There are symptoms of a permanent return of confidence everywhere, without undue extensions of credit. Indeed, credits are being curtailed, and as there is little or no tendency to speculation, there perhaps never was a time when commerce looked more healthy or more sound. There are few rumours of disaster. Such as have prevailed have proved either temporary or altogether unfounded. The prices of all leading manufactures are improving, employment is general, and there is an amount of consumption of raw materials going on as large, if not larger, as in any previous year within our recollection. The harvest is now in full operation over the greater part of the country; and the reports of the yield are upon the whole satisfactory. An average crop is certain, while the potato crop in Ireland will be more abundant than any for the last ten years. Under these circumstances, particularly as capital is cheap and abundant, and there is a cessation of political anxieties, the commercial tone has been very cheerful throughout the week, and there is no immediate prospect of any unfavourable reaction.

In Manchester, business has been active all the week, and extreme prices have been realised for most descriptions of goods. With regard to yarns, there has been a good demand for export; and spinners, finding the India and China buyers still operating to a considerable extent, as well as the Greeks and Germans have, after a hard struggle succeeded in giving an upward direction to values. They have been most successful in warps and certain descriptions of cops, all of which are scarce. On the whole, the extreme prices of last week have been generally and more readily obtained, even where no advance has been possible. Some counts of twofold have been found easier to sell. Twist and pin-cops, for home use, have been extremely firm, and an advance of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per lb. has been established. The rise, however, has partially restricted business in this branch, as purchasers have only bought for immediate use. The aggregate business in the middle and lower counts has been considerable. The principal buying has been in bundles and warps of water twist up to 30 for export, and in Indian qualities of mule. For these the advance is fully $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per lb. In doubled yarns there has been a fractional improvement; and the Bolton spinners of single have also obtained rather better prices. The cloth-market continues extremely steady. For domestics, T-cloths and 36-inch shirtings, the demand is good, and prices are hardening. India and China shirtings were in active inquiry on Tuesday, and again to-day, most makers being well engaged. All the home warehouses are doing a good business.

With regard to the woollen trade at Leeds, no alteration can be reported. Cloth and wools are about the same as last week, but prices are hard, and apparently likely to advance. The public markets have been active in goods for the season, and also in those for winter use, for which there are considerable orders from the United States. In the warehouses a good trade has been done, particularly in heavy goods, for the fall trade. All the manufacturers are busy, and the operatives have no cause for complaint. The flax trade of the district is more lively than it has lately been, and stocks are moving off a little more to the satisfaction of the spinners. The other staples of Leeds are in a satisfactory position, with the single exception of the machine trade, which is only quiet at present.

In Bradford a good steady business has been done in English wool. Prices are very stiff, and as regards bright-haired qualities, higher than last week. Noils and brokes are firm at late rates, while the amount of business doing remains about the same as it has been during the last few weeks. The demand for worsted yarns for export continues without any abatement whatever, and there is also a good demand for home consumption. Prices have still an upward tendency, and buyers in many instances find considerable difficulty in placing orders, as the principal spinners have engagements which will last for some time to come. With regard to piece goods, there is a steady demand both for export and home consumption. Old stocks have been cleared off; and as manufacturers are fully occupied with orders, they are firm in their requirements, and prices are going up. There are, however, complaints from some of them, that though well employed, these are not making great profits.

At Halifax there is continued activity in wool and worsted. Both yarns and piece-goods have considerably increased in demand, and decidedly higher prices have been obtained. Long wools of the bright-haired classes are higher, and altogether the prospects are in favour of sellers both of the raw material and of goods. The carpet trade, of which this is a great seat, is steady, and employment full.

At Huddersfield, the home and the export houses have been operating freely, and they have made large deliveries of goods without diminishing the demand. The manufacturers, therefore, are busy, and a cheerful tone pervades the district. Union fabrics, especially trou-

serings, have been chiefly in request for shipping, but a good deal has been done in broadcloths. Among the home dealers similar goods have been in request, and in addition they have taken largely in all qualities of doeskins and checks. The descriptions of fancy trouserings most in demand are brown and white and black and white chevrons. These are being most extensively manufactured. The demand for woollen and Bedford cords has suddenly revived again, and very few pieces are now to be found in the market. Large orders are being again freely given to manufacturers of these goods, more especially for drab Bedfords at from 3*s.* 8*d.* to 4*s.* 6*d.* per yard. Although there is no perceptible variation in the prices of goods of all kinds offered for sale, the offer of prompt cash in the Cloth-hall this morning has in several instances effected purchases at reduced prices. There is a slight improvement in the demand for pilots and thick linings, which have not, as is usually the case, been much inquired for during the summer months. The local wool trade continues steady; manufacturers as usual buying carefully and in small parcels. The Entre Rios, Chilian, Peruvian, and other South American wools are now being more extensively used in the low goods manufacture of this district than heretofore. Prices continue firm.

The Leicester hosiery trade has been good, particularly for plain articles, and fancy descriptions continue in fair demand. In the country districts the people are fully employed. Wools and worsted yarns continue in request at full prices.

Owing to the season, the home demand for Nottingham lace has been dull, but the prospects for the autumn are considered to be very good. For export the demand is brisk, and some continental houses are busy. Plain goods are yet in request, but in fancies there is not yet much doing. Upon the whole, workpeople are rather better employed. Silk remains firm, at late prices. In hosiery there has not been much doing for the home trade this week, and but few buyers have been in the market. Manufacturers are for the most part busy with orders previously on hand, and there continues to be a fair demand for shipping goods. The glove branch is flat. The stocks on hand of all descriptions of hosiery goods are unusually light. Yarns are firm, with an upward tendency, and manufacturers complain that they are more difficult to purchase than they have been for some time past.

The accounts from Norwich are satisfactory. The manufactories are fully occupied. The shoe trade is quiet.

The silk trade in Coventry, Macclesfield, Manchester, and Spitalfields is improving, although there are exceptional complaints of distress. The deliveries of the raw material last month were the largest ever known; and it is satisfactory to observe, that the nature of the operations indicated a resumption of a really healthy trade, the demand evidently being for consumption.

The linen trade at Belfast is upon the whole in a satisfactory state. At the local flax markets, all the supplies have been quickly bought up at the extreme prices of last week, and as the stock of foreign flax is very limited, some effect has been produced upon the value of yarns. They have rather advanced, and where the spinners have required extreme rates, business has been somewhat curtailed. The light stocks previously reported are not, however, increasing. Towls are wanted chiefly for export. Brown linens at the country markets, at Armagh, Lurgan, and Ballymena, including diapers and damasks, were in active demand, and in most cases an advance in price was obtained. Light handloom linens for bleaching have been in brisk request, but demand checked by the advanced rates asked. Stocks moderate. The demand for drills is improving, and stocks decreasing. In diapers, with small stocks, little has been doing. Lawns, cambrics, and handkerchiefs met increased sales; stocks of these goods getting reduced. Goods for hollands and dyeing have been active, at an advance of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. to $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per yard. Stocks moderate. Power-loom linens have not been so active; but prices are firmly maintained. White linens for export are wanted. The home trade has been dull. But for all this class of goods prices are hardening.

In Dundee the demand for the better kinds of flax continues good, and prices are maintained; but inferior descriptions have attracted little attention. Yarns and linens are about the same as last week. Certainly, there is no improvement either in the price or in the demand.

Trade at Glasgow is improving, particularly in cotton, linen, and mixed fabrics; but there is depression in the iron and metal markets. Employment, on the whole, is good.

The hardware trades of Birmingham, Wolverhampton, and the neighbouring places have not yet undergone any improvement worth notice; but within the last few days a more hopeful feeling has sprung up. In some departments the home trade is more active; but these indications of reaction have before manifested themselves, to disappear almost as suddenly, and before more than a very partial reaction had been experienced. The bulk of the factors and travellers have again resumed their journeys, and as a natural consequence there are more orders coming in than there were a month ago, but these are so small as to be almost inappreciable, and are barely sufficient to enable the manufacturers to

POOR-RATES AND PAUPERISM.—2,127,715*l.* was expended in the half-year ended Lady-day last, in 643 unions and parishes for the relief of paupers in and out of doors. The population of the places referred to was 17,626,865. For irremovable paupers 452,314*l.* was spent in 610 unions and single parishes. The cost of relief to the irremovable paupers was 30.8 per cent. on the cost of relief to the other paupers, the proportion having risen 2.1 per cent. The number of paupers in receipt of relief on the 1st of January last (the middle of the half-year) was 902,032, and the number of able-bodied paupers, 165,770.

avoid putting the workpeople on shorter time. At present there is nothing stirring in the way of autumn goods, and no stronger evidence could be obtained of the languid condition of the home trade than the fact that the splendid harvest weather and the abundance of the crops has failed to produce cheerful, much less sanguine, anticipations as to the prospects of the autumn trade. In the district of South Staffordshire there are no signs of improvement in any of the manufacturing trades. The lockmakers at Willenhall are very badly off for work; and the rapidity with which orders for hollowware are executed at West Bromwich and in other parts of the district where that manufacture is carried on, is pretty good evidence of the state of that branch. The iron trade continues very much depressed, and an opinion is gaining ground that it would be better to have reduced the price 1*l*. per ton at quarter-day. Nearly all the leading firms have now reduced the price 10*s*. per ton, but at present there are no indications that this has stimulated the trade. Pig iron is quoted a fraction lower in consequence of the limited demand. At Sheffield things are looking better.

RAILWAY INTELLIGENCE.

WE are rejoiced to find that the clamour of the press on the subject of railway legislation, and the condition of railway property, is making itself heard; for then we may be sure it will eventually make itself respected and attended to. We are glad to have even the *Times* on the side of railways, because that journal, for good or evil, always has a certain weight with the public. But then our satisfaction is somewhat chastened when we call to mind how large a share the *Times* has had in producing that very mischief which it affects to lament. It is not so long ago but that railway shareholders can recollect to their cost, after giving every possible encouragement to the development of railway enterprise—even to the fostering of a countless number of bubble projects—that in November, 1845, the *Times*—at a period most advantageous for stock-jobbers, but ruinously disastrous to thousands of families who had embarked their all, and in thousands of other instances more than their then all, in what they were induced to believe were the most legitimate and national undertakings of the day—came out with an article denouncing the whole series of railways, projected and partly completed, as something in the nature of swindles; and asserting with matchless hardihood that the hundreds of millions already expended were hopelessly and profitlessly buried in embankments and excavations.

But it suits the purpose of the *Times* now to patronise railways, as it suited the purpose of the *Times* then to decry them—(are the sympathies of the *Times* excited by the wailings of Stock Exchange jobbers, who want to see a revival of speculation on the part of the pillaged public?)—and all we can hope for is—attention being directed to the subject—that means will be taken to amend what is amiss, and to avoid mistakes and jobbing for the future. From the City article of the *Times* on Thursday we make the following extract. Referring to the depressed condition of the railway interest and the gradual diminution of dividends, the *Times* remarks:—"In the report of the London and North-Western—the largest English company—published on Monday, that concern is alleged, through the conduct of Parliament, to have been made the sport of its 'reckless and unscrupulous' rivals. It would not be safe for an outside observer to stigmatise any railway board in this way; but the public assume that these boards must be good judges of each other's nature. Probably the rival lines will in the current fashion retort the charge, and all that can be arrived at is that there is unscrupulousness somewhere, that no efforts are made to remove the unworthy, and that meanwhile the holders of some forty or fifty millions of stock are paying the penalty. These are not respectable facts to be laid at the door of any legislature, but they are the result of meddling with concerns with which Parliament has no legitimate business. It has assumed the responsibility, and must not complain when it is reproached for the consequences. The speech of the chairman at the half-yearly meeting of the London and South-Western, published on the same day, is even more explicit. 'He appealed to shareholders in general to combine in defence of their property against the Legislature, just as the merchants of feudal days may have been stirred to band themselves for mutual protection against their lords. Referring to the proceedings of Parliamentary committees, he said, caprice, and not argument, seemed to regulate their conclusions. Decisions in one committee were opposed in principle to those of another committee in the next room. 'It was impossible,' he added, 'for any man, be his experience ever so great and the case ever so strong or ever so good, to form the least idea of what was the chance of success until after the committee was selected. Then he could give a pretty good guess as to what sort of decision would be arrived at.' The remedy, he considered, was in the hands of shareholders themselves—"they should combine and form associations for the protection of their property."

With reference to the report of the London and North-

Western Directors, it is too true that the vast interests of this Company have been made the sport of its reckless and unscrupulous rivals. But the (rivals have been made "reckless and unscrupulous" solely by the aid and with the countenance of Parliament. Competition has been the bane of railways, and competition was openly patronised by the late Sir Robert Peel. The case of the London and North-Western rests on a different basis to that of most other lines. What the London and North-Western Company is charged with doing against other lines was in self-defence. The London and North-Western appears to have been first threatened or attacked before retaliation was resorted to. This ought to be borne in mind when considering the question of the condition of railways, and the causes which have produced that condition.

With reference to the South Western chairman's report, we do not quite agree in his remark that "the remedy was in the hands of shareholders themselves, they should combine and form associations for the protection of their property." Now, we assert that shareholders, individually, are practically powerless, and that it is difficult, if not impossible, to get them to act in a body as if of one mind. Any benefit that is to be obtained through the unity of shareholders may be regarded as visionary. But the general remedy is not unattainable. Lay down some intelligible basis of action in the first instance, test encroachment by ascertained rules, define the respective limits of different companies, leave the companies unfettered to work out their regeneration their own way, and then we shall have some hope for the future of railways.

As far as the markets are concerned there is no particular feature to dwell upon. Fluctuations have occurred in the leading lines, and, in some instances, a small advance in prices has been obtained. We may note among the lines that have indicated improvement, the London and North-Western, the Lancashire and Yorkshire, and the Great Western.

In the report of the London and North-Western, it is stated the balance of net revenue applicable for dividend for the past half-year is 450,704*l*. The expenditure of capital during the same period has been 454,194*l*, of which 330,183*l*. was for working stock, lands, and buildings, and the remainder for lines in which the company have an interest. The entire traffic receipts were 1,379,999*l*. against 1,556,519*l*. in the corresponding six months of 1857. The decrease has taken place in about equal proportions in goods and passengers, and the diminution in the actual profit is stated at 164,976*l*. The working expenses show a saving of about 10,000*l*. The falling off in the revenue is attributed—first, to the depression of trade; secondly, to the income in May and June, 1857, having comprised exceptional receipts from the Manchester Exhibition; and, lastly, to the continued competition of the Great Northern and Sheffield companies. The loss from the last cause is estimated at 75,000*l*. Hitherto forbearance has been exercised in using the powers of retaliation in the hands of the North-Western; but it is observed that such forbearance must have a limit. The large claims of money said to be due to the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire are denied. The bill for a union with the Chester and Holyhead has been sanctioned. A dividend is recommended at the rate of 3½ per cent. per annum, leaving a balance of 59257*l*.

The proposed dividend on the stock of the Eastern Counties Railway Company is officially announced at the rate of 2½ per cent. per annum, against 2½ per cent. per annum for the corresponding period of last year.

LONDON AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY COMPANY.

THE half-yearly meeting of the London and North-Western proprietors was held yesterday at the station, Euston-square, the Marquis of Chandos in the chair. Mr. Stewart, the secretary, having read the notice,

The Chairman said that in the tabular statement appended to the report he observed that the depression of traffic during the last half-year arose principally at four points—London, Manchester, Liverpool, and the South Stafford district. In the South Stafford district they had had no competition, and therefore the falling off in the traffic was wholly attributable to the depression of trade. At the other points they had had a most active competition. It might be said that under the circumstances there ought to have been a larger reduction of expenditure; but it was, he thought, a sufficient reply that the weight of goods carried between Manchester and London was in excess of that conveyed in the corresponding half of last year, and that the weight of goods carried between Liverpool and London was only slightly diminished. The loss had arisen not from an abstraction of traffic but from the destruction of profits. As regarded the preliminary contests they were left, as other expenses were, entirely to the chance of the individual views of the members of the committees; and until Parliament should adopt some one view by which its decisions were to be guided on questions affecting, not only railway companies, but many other interests, the shareholders must expect the result of parliamentary contests to be costly and ruinous. The hopes once formed of a favourable change in that respect had been

disappointed, and he saw no chance of a proper state of things unless railway directors were joined in their action by the whole body of proprietors. (Hear, hear.) Parliament had recently thought fit to grant a second route to Manchester, regardless of existing interests. On the other hand, it had refused to allow the construction of a line connecting their main line with the Yorkshire line, and had thus left them in that district at the mercy of other companies. He then entered into some minute explanations with regard to the recent negotiations with the directors of the North Staffordshire Company, for the purpose of showing that there had been no unfair delay on the part of the North-Western directors. He was still of opinion that some arrangements should be adopted between the two companies, but care must be taken that they were such as would be satisfactory to both companies. As regarded the competition by which the company had so severely suffered, he remarked that when that competition commenced the directors had to consider the past history of railway companies in reference to that subject. The usual course at first was for rival companies to enter into mutual arrangements with regard to fares and rates, the effect of which was to prevent a ruinous competition between them, though it was not satisfactory to the public. Other and smaller lines then sprang into existence, and new arrangements were formed embracing the new companies. These arrangements continued till within a year or two ago, and there was a large system of traffic agreements by which the whole country was in fact cut up into territorial districts. Under that system the old companies paid large sums to the new ones; but, on the whole, the system worked advantageously to them. Parliament then determined to put an end to the existing arrangements, and the Midland and the Sheffield arrangements, and the Gladstone award, were severally set aside. Under these circumstances the North-Western directors apprehended that rates would be reduced to an extent which in many cases would leave no profit; and after fully considering the matter, they came to the conclusion that the only satisfactory settlement would be the establishment of a fair and profitable system of charges for the whole country—a settlement which they felt convinced would leave them a good share of profit. With this view he had felt bound to resist the competition which had been forced upon them. What was the result? Their own traffic had not been abstracted to any very great extent; while the Midland, the Sheffield, the North Staffordshire, and other companies had gained nothing by competition. It was for railway shareholders themselves now to take up the question, and to endeavour to secure the establishment of a fair scale of averages. They had been accused of having formerly made extortionate charges; but he denied that there was any ground for such an accusation, while they charged 42*s*. for first-class conveyance between London and Manchester, the charge made by their competitors was 50*s*.; and between London and Liverpool the comparison was equally in their favour. (Hear.) The present competition was discreditably to the railway management of the whole kingdom—(cheers)—and until it was checked there could be no security for railway property. The rates which the directors of this company desired were the rates which would, they believed, be most conducive to the public interest, affording them all necessary accommodation, and at the same time ensure to railway proprietors that profit which they might justly expect. (Hear, hear.) On the last occasion when they met, he held out a hope that a satisfactory settlement would soon take place. Subsequent events tended to disappoint that hope; but what had occurred during the last two months had revived it. It must depend on proprietors whether fair and reasonable rates should be established and maintained throughout the country, profits being left to be derived from the just and free course of public traffic, and not to be won by extortion or abstraction. He was of opinion that some tribunal should be established for the settlement of rates throughout the kingdom; and although it might be difficult to establish such a tribunal, still he could see no other course to be pursued. (Hear.) The board of directors had come to resolutions which were to be sent to all railway boards of the kingdom, urging the establishment of a uniform system of rates among all the lines of the country, and that in cases of difference between any companies on this point the subject in dispute should be referred to arbitration. (Cheers.) These resolutions had received the assent of 130,000,000*l*. of railway property. The Sheffield Company had objected to assent to this proposition. He looked forward with confidence to the result of the appeal which was thus being made to the various railway companies. He looked to railway proprietors to secure the general adoption of the principle which he had advocated; and he believed that from that time railway profits would improve. The state of things which had existed during the last six months was, he repeated, a disgrace to all connected with railway management; and it was for shareholders to say whether the settlement for which he contended was a proper one.

Mr. Puncher, in a long speech, raised several objections to the working of the line and to what he called the extravagance of the arrangements and staff. He condemned the management on the ground that there

were more hands engaged than were required, and recommended a stringent reduction by which the efficiency of the line, he considered, would be improved. After entering into a variety of subjects and suggestions, he concluded by moving two resolutions—1, that the system of "Engaged" carriages should be abolished; and, 2, that no carriage belonging to an express train should be detached, unless the train stopped to take up passengers. He felt satisfied if his plan were carried out 100,000l. a year would be saved to the company.

Mr. Riley drew attention to a statement in the report of the Manchester and Sheffield Company relative to certain charges for goods in connexion with the Manchester traffic.

The chairman emphatically denied the truth of the charges in the report.

Mr. Hadleigh thought the directors were not entitled to any credit for the results of the half-year's working, inasmuch as from the low price of railway material they ought to have been enabled to make up by economy the loss of 76,000l. occasioned through competition. He renewed the charge so often refuted as to the London and North-Western Company having refused arbitration in the case, and added that the directors ought to have taken upon themselves the responsibility of fixing the rates.

The chairman quoted the evidence before the House of Commons to show that the charge of refusing to arbitrate was unfounded, and that the company had never been asked to fix the rates, but had followed the rates of other companies.

Mr. Bassett proposed a resolution recommending the shareholders to support the directors in their defence of the Manchester traffic.

Mr. Haley urged the adoption of the resolution proposed by Mr. Bassett.

Mr. Dickenson complained that the expenditure and capital since 1850 had been upwards of five millions, and he should like to know where they were going to stop. He objected to the sum of 260,000l. due on the rail account having been transferred to capital instead of being placed to revenue as it arose. As to an application to the Legislature for assistance, it was laughable to expect relief, as, if granted, it would rob the members of their emoluments. If the noble marquis would give an assurance of an end being put to the system of capitalisation, he should have some hope of the company. He did not approve of the report, or place much faith in it.

Mr. Wrigley, in a very able speech, but in no hostile spirit, laid great blame on the management for not having effected that amount of economy which might have been effected by a company having a revenue of 1,500,000l. a year. With such a revenue, there should be an elasticity in the company's resources quite equal to keep the dividend at 5 per cent. He believed the time had gone by when the traffic of any particular line could be secured in its present condition by the old policy of guarantees, subsidies, and private agreements. He considered that traffic must be left to take its true course, competition must be allowed to have its full run, and then with the attention paid to an ordinary business, regard being had to the advantageous position of the London and North-Western Company, there could be no fear of increased profit and prosperity to the shareholders. He recommended an alteration in the constitution of the board. He contended that the system of the London and North-Western Railway had so expanded that it was quite ridiculous to suppose it could be kept in control by any central authority. He thought there should be a separate section for London, Manchester, Liverpool, and other large emporia of traffic.

Mr. Abel, after inquiring about the Chester and Holyhead lines, referred to the system of proxies, to show how dangerous it would be if the large interests held by contractors and others in the Chester and Holyhead line were allowed to bear upon the question of terms of amalgamation.

In reply to questions, the chairman said, notwithstanding the low price of the shares of the company, there had only been a slight change in the register of holders.

The chairman, in reference to accidents on the line, said it was a general rule to discharge servants who were shown by their neglect to have been the cause of it.

After a short further discussion, the chairman rose to reply generally, and remarked with satisfaction to the large attendance, and the disposition of the shareholders to discuss questions with the directors. Complaint had been made as to the increasing capital account. It was the anxious desire of the board to keep the capital to the narrowest amount. Any increase of capital they looked upon as dangerous, and they watched it closely. It was their policy not to encourage any increase of capital. In reference to the recommendation of a proprietor that the board should be divided into sectional divisions, it would be found on inquiry that the system was practically carried out in the constitution of the present board. A proprietor also had recommended that the capital account of the company should be placed in different hands, so that no possible temptation to tamper with revenue and capital should exist. He would not pronounce on the efficacy of such a recommendation, but he begged to assure the hon. proprietor that

his conviction was, that no greater care could be taken than was taken by this company to keep the capital entirely distant from revenue. He begged to say in reply to Mr. Puncher, that the exercise of the privilege of engaging carriages was highly valued by a portion of the public, and was a great convenience. In a particular instance, there had been an abuse of this privilege; but that was no reason why it should be abolished entirely. As to the practice of detaching carriages from express trains, objected to on the ground of economy, the object was to reduce the train mileage, and to accommodate the public.

The report was then adopted.

Mr. Bassett's resolution was adopted.

After some discussion, Mr. Puncher withdrew his first resolution, and his second was lost by a large majority.

A resolution was moved, "That the Company viewed with great concern the continued increase of capital, and they desired that it should be closed at the earliest period." The resolution was lost by 21 to 32.

The other resolutions were then carried. The ordinary votes of thanks to chairman and secretaries were unanimously carried.

A special meeting was then held, for authorising the conversion of a portion of the capital into perpetual debenture stock, bearing interest at a rate not exceeding four per cent. per annum. Carried unanimously.

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN PRODUCE MARKETS.

REVIEW OF THE WEEK.

Mincing Lane, Friday Evening.

THE general features of trade in connexion with these markets are still promising. In one or two of the larger articles considerable activity prevails, and in many there is an extension of business, whilst current values are almost without exception very fully sustained. Statistical returns continue to evidence a large consumption, and the continental letters have this week brought some increase of orders for export. As an indication of the growing confidence with which the future is regarded, a disposition to venture more freely upon speculative operations may be instanced.

SUGAR.—A considerable business has again been done at prices establishing a further advance of 1s. to 1s. 6d. per cwt. The trade have bought with increased freedom, and several important purchases have been made speculatively. Floating cargoes for outports continue much in request. The clearances have shown a marked extension, whilst the imports have somewhat diminished, and the stock, which is reduced by 1300 tons, is now but some 5500 tons in excess of last year's. From places of growth accounts are still favourable. The next crop of Mauritius is estimated at 120,000 tons, but the surplus is expected to be required to meet the increasing demand for Australia, so that not more than an average quantity will probably arrive here.

WEST INDIA.—The sales comprised 4595 hogsheads, including Barbadoes at 40s. to 46s.; St. Lucia 36s. 6d. to 42s. 6d.; Jamaica 39s. to 43s. 6d.; and other descriptions 39s. to 42s. per cwt.

MAURITIUS.—Including the auctions, about 9000 bags have changed hands, low and good middling yellow 38s. 6d. to 45s.; brown 32s. 6d. to 36s.; grey 39s. to 44s. 1d. per cwt.

BENGAL.—7087 bags in auction, realised 45s. 6d. to 47s. for good and fine Gupattah, and 27s. 6d. to 36s. 6d. for low yellow and brown Dumma date.

MADRAS.—Grocery descriptions have met a very stormy competition, and have made the largest advance above quoted; 7891 bags at public sale brought 47s. to 49s. for good and fine crystallised yellow, very low brown to good brown refining 28s. to 35s. 6d. per cwt.

PENANG.—3164 bags have sold at 32s. for low, and 37s. to 45s. for good brown to good yellow.

FOREIGN.—2597 bags Siam brown refining, 31s. to 32s.; fine and superior yellow, 44s. 6d. to 46s. 6d.; 6000 bags clayed Manilla, 38s. to 38s. 9d.; 1500 barrels foreign muscovadoes, Cuba, 39s. 6d. to 41s. 6d.; Porto Rico fine brown to superior grocery, 38s. 6d. to 48s. 6d.; 3000 boxes Havannah, at 39s.; 44s. 6d. for No. 8 to No. 11 standard; 1751 boxes Mexican good mid. strong yellow, 42s. to 50s.; a landed cargo Pernambuco, 5600 bags, at 36s.; one white Maroim, 320 chests, at 45s.; and one Porto Rico, 268 casks, at 41s. 6d. to 42s.; nine floating cargoes Havannah, together 16,500 boxes, for the United Kingdom, Nos. 10 to 10½ at 28s., Nos. 11 and 12 at 29s. to 29s. 6d., Nos. 12½ to 13 at 31s. to 31s. 6d. per cwt.

MELADO.—835 hogsheads partly sold at 36s. to 38s. 6d. for fine dry, and 29s. to 33s. for low to good.

REFINED.—The advance in raw sugars added to the firmness in this market, and prices are about 6d. per cwt. higher. Undried goods have sold freely, but other descriptions are taken off in moderate quantity only. Brown lumps have been currently quoted at 53s. 6d. per cwt.

MOLASSES.—Prices are again rather higher, but the sales are only 600 casks. Trinidad at 16s. and 16s. to 17s., Cuba 15s. 6d. per cwt.

COFFEE.—The demand is inactive, and the supplies brought forward, although not large, have exceeded the demand. Prices are somewhat irregular, but current quotations without material change. 1400 casks, 1200 barrels and bags Plantation Ceylon were partly sold at 58s. 6d. to 61s. 6d. for ordinary to fine fine ordinary, 62s. 6d. and 69s. for low middling to middling, and 73s. 6d. to 84s. for good middling and fine. Good ordinary Native sold privately at 47s. 300 bags common quality in auction were taken in at 44s. 6d. and 47s. A floating cargo of Rio, 2630 bags, has been taken for the Continent at 44s. 9d., insured free, of particular average. The clearances continue very active, and the stock, although large, contrasts less heavily with that of last year. The continental markets are firm, but quiet. The valuation of good ordinary Java in the forthcoming sales in Holland is fixed at 30½ to 31 cents, and the increased rates of consumption, which, in the absence of any adequate stocks in second hands, must be mainly supplied at these sales, favours the opinion that, notwithstanding the large quantity declared, the demand will prove sufficient to prevent any material declension in value.

TEA.—The market is firm but quiet. Common congou, 10½d. The present stock in the kingdom is 68,000,000lb., against 83,000,000lb. last year; but the quantity on the way is 21,484,579lb., against only 7,263,611lb. last year. The China advices have had no perceptible influence on the market.

COTTON.—The high prices required check operations, and the week's sales are only 950 bales. At Liverpool the sales are 45,000 bales, and the imports 44,500 bales. Prices are without quotable change.

WOOL.—The colonial sales progress with spirit, at fully previous rates.

PROVISIONS.—Irish butters have sold largely, at 108s. for Carlows and first Cork landed; and 106s. f.o.b. English butters are a slow sale; Friesland have declined to 100s. for fine. Bacon has sold steadily, at 68s. to 70s. for Waterford; and 64s. to 66s. for Limerick sides. Shipping provisions are still in very limited request.

COCOA.—Guayaquil has declined 2s. to 3s. per cwt., sales of about 1000 bags having been made at 46s. 6d. per cwt.; 4799 bags in auction were withdrawn at 50s.

RUM.—A moderate business is passing: Cuba at 1s. 8d.; Leeward Islands, 1s. 7d.; Demerara, 1s. 11d. to 2s. per gallon, proof.

RICE.—Transactions continue of very limited extent, but prices are steadily supported. The deliveries are tolerably well kept up, and no further increase of stock has taken place. Privately the dealings are confined to some 8000 or 10,000 bags, including 1000 bags old Rangoon, at 6s. 3d.; and 3000 bags new at 7s. ex. ship; and the residue, principally damages; 4082 bags fine white Bengal in auction, were withdrawn at 12s., with bids at 11s. 6d. per cwt. Two floating cargoes sold to-day at 7s. 9d. for Bassien and 8s. 6d. for Necranzie.

SPICES.—Public sales have manifested a better tone in the market generally. Mace and nutmegs are 1d. to 2d. per lb. dearer. White pepper firm, black steady, and Penang cloves rather dearer. Ginger is exceptionally depressed 1s. per cwt. The sales have comprised 2408 bags. Penang pepper at 3½d. to 3½d. for ordinary dusty, and 3½d. with a lot or two, 4d. for good; 152 bags of Penang white, 9d. to 9½d.; 100 bags of Pimento held 3½d. to 3½d.; 25 casks of Penang cloves, ordinary to fine, 1s 1½d. to 1s. 2½d.; 22 casks of mace, red, 1s. 4d. to 1s. 7d.; good pale, 1s. 10d. to 1s. 11d.; 115 casks nutmegs, bold middling to good, 2s. 2d. to 2s. 8d. per lb.; small and export, 1s. 8d. to 2s. per lb.; 338 barrels of Jamaica ginger, 53s. to 75s.; and 600 bags of African, 23s. to 23s. 6d. per cwt.

SALTPETRE.—The market is barely so good, but the week's business is nearly 7000 bags, and prices have not varied above 6d. per cwt; 10 to 11 per cent. sold at 39s. to 39s. 6d.; 9 to 9½, 39s. 6d. to 40s.; 8½ to 8½ at 41s.; 7½ to 7 at 42s. to 42s. 6d., and 5½ to 5 per cent. at 44s. 6d. to 45s. 6d. per cwt; Bombay, 49 to 23 per cent., 33s. to 34s., and fine 9½ at 37s. to 37s. 6d. per cwt. Refined saltpetre has been advanced 1s. per cwt.; the corrected stocks turn out 200 tons less than computed.

METALS.—The general character of the market is firmer, but the only movement of importance has been in Scotch pig iron, which has advanced considerably, 56s. having been paid for mixed members, immediate cash, and 57s. quoted for usual prompts. The advances however, had the effect of bringing out sellers, and a reaction of 1s. per ton has followed. The price to-day is 55s. per ton. Last week's shipment were 12,736 tons against 11,443 tons in the corresponding week last year. Some few sales have occurred in spelter at 23½ 15s., but 23½ 17s. 6d. to 24½ are the prices currently asked. Tin, copper, and lead are without alteration.

JUTE.—2450 bales sold steadily at 15½ 5s. to 18½ per ton.

HEMP.—About 100 tons St. Petersburg clean hemp sold, "on account of whom it may concern," at 28½ to 28½ 5s.; but current quality and ordinary trade is quoted 29½ 220 bls. Manilla only partly sold at 26½ to 26½ 10s. for fair and spring.

DYES.—Indigo is rather more inquired for. The overland accounts are, on the whole, unfavourable in reference to the prospects of the growing crops. Cochi-

neal is about 1d. per lb. dearer. Turmeric firm; of 750 tons Lima wood offered, some 200 tons sold at 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ 15s. to 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ for third to first pile.

INDIA-RUBBER.—Sales for cash made at 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ for good East India.

HIDES.—Public sales of 121,157 East India went with spirit at $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ for the advance on the middling descriptions, of which the assortment chiefly consisted. Since January the imports have been 1,349,995 hides, against 1,571,458 last year, and the sales 1,475,475 hides, against 1,419,000. Present stock 710,000 against 280,000 in 1857.

TURPENTINE.—Arrival of 2000 barrels, and a part disposed of at 9s. 3d.; American spirits of turpentine are arriving freely, and offering at 38s. per cwt.

OILS.—Sperm advanced to 87 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 89 $\frac{1}{2}$ 5s. at public sales of 106 tons; but 100 tons southern whale sold at the reduced price of 35 $\frac{1}{2}$ 15s. to 37 $\frac{1}{2}$ per tun. Large supplies of palm were withdrawn at current quotations, there being no bidders. Olive is more in demand at 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ for Mogadore, and 45 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 45 $\frac{1}{2}$ 19s. for Gallipoli. Linseed is flat at 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ s., and rape at 48s. to 49s. for pale, and 44s. to 45s. for brown.

TURPENTINES.—2000 barrels rough have come in this week and partly sold at 9s. 3d. With large arrivals, American spirits of turpentine are offered at 38s. per cwt.

TALLOW.—After a large week's business at rather enhanced prices, the market closes rather flatly. Y. C. on the spot, 48s. 9d. to 49s.; last three months, 49s. 3d. The arrivals this week are only 281 cks., and the deliveries 1771 cks. Market letter; town tallow, 50s.; rough fat, 2s. 7d.; melted stuff, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ s. 6d.

JOSEPH TRAVERS AND SONS' WEEKLY CIRCULAR.

19, St. Swithin's-lane.

TEA.—The market is exceedingly buoyant, and purchases cannot be made on such favourable terms. Common Congou has been sold at 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., and the improvement in black-leaf kinds is fully 1d. per lb.

COFFEE.—Pending the Dutch Trading Company's sale of Java, advertised for the 1st of September, transactions have been limited—but prices are firm.

SUGAR.—Raw sugar opened with considerable excitement, a general advance of 1s. 1s. 6d. was soon established, and a very extensive business was done both by the refiner and the trade, whilst large purchases were also made on speculation. Towards the end of the week, however, a quieter tone has prevailed, prices have been well maintained, and the market closes at 1s. advance.

REFINED opened at the beginning of the week with a very brisk demand, and has advanced fully 1s. per cwt. As this advance, however, arose more from a speculative feeling than from any real demand, and the retail trade not proving ready purchasers, the animation subsided yesterday, leaving a dull market, and little doing. We quote crushed, pieces, and bastards at 1s. higher. Molasses have advanced 6d.

FRUIT of all kinds is still in very slight demand. The reports of the coming crops remain favourable, and our supplies will no doubt be very early. The price for Valencias is still unfixed, although an attempt has been made to open it at 4 dollars, which, with steam freight, would hardly allow of a lower opening price here than 45s.; but this rate, it would appear, is not satisfactory to many of the growers, and it is most likely that the first cargoes will be shipped at an open price. However this may be, we are confirmed in our opinion that, at whatever rate the Fruit may open, we shall soon see a falling market here. CURRANTS:—The Patras and Vostizza portion of the coming crop are reported to be of fine quality, though less in quantity than last year. Other growths but ordinary. Advices from Malaga show a general absence of competition, and we hope, therefore, for lower prices in Muscatel Fruit, which, we are informed, will prove good, though from long continuance of dry weather the grapes are reduced in size. The Fig crop promises to be a very plentiful one.

SPICES.—We have to notice an improved demand in this market, and for some articles an advance has been obtained. Nutmegs were actively competed for at a public sale, the small sorts selling freely for export at fully 2d. per lb. advance. Common cloves, from the large quantity on hand, are dull of sale, but as the season for consumption advances, we think full stocks may be held to advantage; fine Penang are scarce and dearer. The crop of Caraway seeds this year is reported to be fully an average one, with a large quantity of old seeds still remaining: we advise purchases for immediate wants only.

RICE.—The demand for cleaned has been small, but without materially affecting prices. We alter our quotation of finest Carolina to 42s.

THE INDIAN COUNCIL.—We are at liberty to state that Sir John Lawrence, who is now on his passage home, has been offered and has accepted a place in the new Indian Council. It is stated that Sir Henry Rawlinson and Mr. Willoughby will also be among the members nominated by her Majesty's Government.—*Times*.

MONEY MARKET AND STOCK EXCHANGE.

CITY, FRIDAY EVENING.

THE result of the past week is, on the whole, very satisfactory. It is true we see no rapid development of home trade, no sudden inflation of exports, no simultaneous demand for discounts, or commercial accommodation; but we see the signs of steady, healthy progress, of legitimate trade, and we rest content with the prospect of the future. The mode of arriving at something that shall approximate closely to the truth with respect to the condition of commerce—taking commerce in its enlarged sense to mean foreign trade, import and export, home manufactures, and the labour market—is by ascertaining the general features which each of the commercial divisions present. First, we find that, though the shipping trade is not without complaints, there is an increasing amount of tonnage employed, and a tendency, if anything, to improved freights. The returns of the Board of Trade also show no indication of great falling off anywhere. Next we look to our manufacturing districts, and though we miss the preternatural activity of 1856-7, we have satisfactory proof that a steady amount of business is doing, and that the manufacturer is patiently waiting for increased orders both for the home trade and for exportation. We then look at the shopkeeper, and here we must say there appears to be well-founded complaints, though certainly no well-founded cause of alarm. There is, comparatively speaking, less trade of a profitable character doing now than has been the case for some years past. But a glance at the causes of this dullness will show that they are of a temporary character, and that they are gradually disappearing. The financial and mercantile collapse at the end of last year, the high rate of money, and the consequent sacrifices and losses of that class from which the tradesman derives his largest profits and his largest orders, sufficiently account for the deficiency of profitable retail business in several directions, and satisfactorily prove that as the prevailing causes die out of themselves a positive revival of trade must take place. Then, if we look at the labour market, we shall see that a fair amount of employment is found for the majority of the working classes. The good harvest has had its share in setting the labouring population to work, and the benefit of comparative abundance, coupled with low prices, will have its influence in various beneficial ways.

With respect to the money market we find money almost a drug. Any amount may be had on the Stock Exchange at nominal rates, say 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ or 2 per cent., of course in the shape of short advances on stock or first-class securities. But the Stock Exchange rate must not be taken as any sound indication of the current value of money; we must look to the Bank of England and to Lombard-street if we want reliable information on that head.

At the Bank, the applications have been such as to justify the belief that accommodation was only required for the purposes of legitimate commerce, and that a steady advance to a better and a sounder condition of things than has prevailed during the last nine months is being made. It is hopeless to expect that speculation can ever be extinguished entirely in such enterprising and wealthy communities as are to be found in the main centres of commerce—London, Liverpool, Manchester, and Glasgow. There will always be speculation, or something approaching to its character, for the peculiarities of commerce are such that only a very fine line can be drawn between positive speculation and many transactions of a purely business character. Nor can we hope to find that experience of the ruinous consequences of over-speculation, however recent, will be sufficient to check the mania when once it is set afloat. Even the severe lessons of the last year have been unable to extinguish the spirit of speculation in some trades. We know that indications have shown themselves of this spirit in more than one direction; we will instance the trade in mahogany. But we have reason to believe that, as far as this spirit can be discouraged, it will be discouraged by the precautions adopted by the Bank of England, and, we firmly believe, acted upon, also, by the discount houses and joint-stock banks.

FLUCTUATIONS IN THE STOCK AND SHARE MARKETS DURING THE MONTH OF JULY, 1858.

	Price on 1st July.	Highest Price.	Lowest Price.	Present Price.
Consols	95 $\frac{1}{2}$	96 $\frac{1}{2}$	94 $\frac{1}{2}$	96 $\frac{1}{2}$
Exchequer-bills, June }	18s. pm.	26s. pm.	16s. pm.	

A prospectus has been issued of the Malta and Alexandria Telegraph Company, with a capital of 800,000 $\frac{1}{2}$ l., in 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ shares, to complete the Mediterranean portion of the line to India. A cable is proposed from Malta to Candia, whence lines will diverge respectively to Constantinople and Alexandria.

The subscription-list of the North Rhine Copper Mining Company, &c., will be closed on Wednesday

next, as it is understood nearly all the shares are already subscribed for.

The Funds opened dull to-day, but afterwards became firm. Consols, 96 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 96 $\frac{1}{2}$.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending on Wednesday, the 11th day of August, 1858.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued	31,010,240	Government debt ..	11,015,100
		Other securities ..	3,459,900
		Gold coin and bullion	16,535,240
		Silver bullion	
	£31,010,240		£31,010,240

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' capital ..	14,553,000	Government securities ..	£.
Reserve	3,414,011	Dead Weight Annuity	10,371,054
Public deposits (including Exchequer, Commissioners of National Debt, Savings Banks, and Dividend Accounts) ..	4,668,793	Other Securities ..	15,316,000
Other deposits	13,902,964	Notes	10,419,815
Seven Day & other Bills	771,171	Gold and Silver Coin	703,010
	£37,300,930		£37,300,930

M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.
Dated the 12th day of August, 1858.

LEGISLATION.—CHEQUES AND COMPANIES.

THE public has been informed that the "general banking legislation" of the past session consists of an act imposing a penny stamp on cheques, an act to amend the law relating to crossed cheques, and an act for enabling joint-stock banks to avail themselves of limited liability. What the general tailoring legislation, shoe-making legislation, farming legislation, or cotton-spinning legislation of the session comprises, the public has not been informed. In truth, legislation troubles itself very little with these or other businesses, and the public is left very much in the dark as to the reasons why it devotes so much attention to banking. It arises probably from the notion that bankers deal exclusively in money, that everything which concerns money is a part of the prerogative of the Crown, which, having undertaken to regulate the coinage, is bound to look especially after those who deal in money. If this were at any time a valid reason it scarcely applies now, when bankers have no more to do with the Queen's coin than any other class of men, and carry on their business with Bank of England notes, bills, and all kinds of mercantile and other securities. In theory, all kind of special or class legislation, all laws for particular persons and businesses, is very much condemned, and there is nothing in the particular laws of 1858, concerning banking, which make them an exception to the theory.

The act passed early in the session for charging with a stamp duty of one penny all draughts or orders for money payable on demand, drawn on "any person acting as a banker," is obviously a partial and special law limited to the class who keep accounts with bankers, and falling very heavily on the little masters who pay a large number of persons small sums weekly or monthly by cheques, and very lightly on the great merchants and others who never draw a cheque for less than 50 $\frac{1}{2}$ l., and whose principal dealings are with cheques of 1000 $\frac{1}{2}$ l. and upwards. The smallness of the charge on each cheque made persons careless about it, and no remonstrances were made against it; nevertheless, we can only characterise it as an act of partial taxation, and a departure from the wise plan of making every member of the community contribute equally and fairly to the expenses of the State. The penny tax on receipts and drafts yields upwards of 800,000 $\frac{1}{2}$ l. a year. That portion of it which falls on receipts approximates to a general tax, that portion of it which applies to drafts, and now the additional tax of cheques, fall exclusively on bankers and their customers. That no complaints are made cannot exonerate from blame the statesmanship which has recourse to such partial, petty taxation, and imposes a vast deal of trouble on the taxpayers to gather a few thousand pounds for the Exchequer. It reminds us of the paltry expedients to get money in the time of Charles I. and II., which made the kingship look very like land piracy.

The act to amend the law relating to crossing cheques has been justly characterised by a competent authority as another illustration of the mode in which legislation is hastily attempted on commercial subjects. A practice originating in the clearing-house had grown up amongst bankers of not paying a crossed cheque unless presented through a banker. The cheque was sometimes crossed to a particular banker and was thus made his property. It asks advice to secure the payment of the cheque to the proper person, and grew like the cheque itself from the business of the banker. In levying stamp

duties; however, on other species of commercial paper cheques were recognised as payable to bearer, and then the crossing making the cheque, virtually payable to a particular person, was in opposition to legal technicalities. When the Government put a tax on drafts payable to order, the opposition to the law assumed the appearance of an evasion of a tax; and an occasion arising for an appeal to the courts, they ruled that the payment of a cheque drawn to bearer could not be restricted by a crossing to a particular person. Thus, a little unthinking legislation, not so intended, and the ruling of the courts of law, more attached to legal quiddities than useful practises, deprived the cheque of some of the qualities for which it had been invented and for which it was prized.

It could not be borne that the law should unintentionally destroy such a useful instrument, and an act was hastily passed in conformity with the practice, requiring a banker, on whom a cheque was drawn and crossed only, to pay it to some other banker. But this law begot a new legal difficulty. As long as the bankers had only to deal with their clients the two could and did, practically and mutually, make suitable regulations for their own business; but under this law, a cheque was stolen, the crossing was effaced, the banker paid it, and was sued for paying a crossed cheque otherwise than through a banker, though the crossing was not perceptible. Another alteration of the law thus made injurious to bankers became necessary, and in the late session the Attorney-General introduced a bill, making the crossing of a cheque, when issued, a material part of the document, and requiring the banker on whom it is drawn only to pay it to the banker to whom it is crossed, or to a banker if the crossing be not specific and only to "— and —"

The legal meaning of the word *issued* necessarily limits the power of crossing to the drawer. It is impliedly done before being issued, which again deprives the cheque of some of its useful properties by preventing any one who receives an uncrossed cheque from crossing it. To meet this difficulty the law further enacts that any lawful possessor of an uncrossed cheque may cross it, and the banker on whom it is drawn must not pay it except to the banker with whose name it is crossed. The law makes it a felony to obliterate or alter that crossing with the intent to defraud. To this part of the act the bankers objected while it was yet in the condition of a bill, as giving to the casual holder of a cheque, "with whom the banker has no privity," the same power of crossing it as the drawer has who is connected with him; and the bankers got a clause inserted, exonerating them from responsibility for the payment of any cheque which on being presented does not plainly appear to be or to have been crossed, unless he acts with negligence or *malâ fide*. So the law, as passed in the late session, now stands; it does not settle the practice, and it leaves the questions doubtful—What is to be considered negligence on the part of the banker? and whether he be not bound, as he has the cheques fabricated, to take all kinds of precautions to make it impossible to obliterate or alter a crossing?

The distinction between what the banker, in prosecuting his business, may find out and do to secure himself against damage from any perversion whatever of the great inducement of his business, is very different from what the law can effect, which is necessarily ignorant of the banker's power of invention. He may be safely trusted to take care of himself, and so may his clients, while the law which attempts to prescribe his practices can only do mischief, as it has already done whenever it has interfered with them. We learn, too, from a letter published in the *Times*, which we can have no hesitation in ascribing to a high authority in Lombard-street, that the law, as now existing, so interferes with practises that it must be violated. It requires that a cheque crossed to a particular banker shall be paid only to him, so that cheques on a London banker crossed to a country banker, which are numerous, cannot be paid to his London agent; not but it is the practice to pay them, and, in violation of the law, this practice must be continued.

The third act concerns joint-stock banking companies, which were expressly excluded by the "Limited Liability Act" from its provisions, and which may now be included in them on fulfilling certain conditions. Banks issuing notes are still excluded, and subjected, in respect to such issue, to unlimited liability; for the whole amount of the issue, in addition to the sum for which they would be liable as shareholders of a limited company registration, must be effected in the terms of the act, and heavy penalties are imposed on each director of a bank for neglecting to place in the registered office of the company, and correct it twice a year, a statement of the number of shareholders, the liabilities of the bank, the number of deposits, and all the particulars of its condition. Such complicated and onerous regulations impede enterprise without promoting honesty. They only stimulate ingenuity to evade them. We are unable to understand why persons should not be as completely at liberty to form joint-stock banking companies as engage in any other of the multifarious enterprises which are necessary to feed, clothe, and lodge society; and we are every session of Parliament made thoroughly aware that all the legislation hitherto attempted on this subject from 1826 to 1858 has been unsuccessful. It perpetually requires revision, and the object proposed—a

satisfactory system of banking—is never attained. In fact, no part of the essential business of society seems more imperfect and more unsatisfactory, as compared to cotton-spinning or iron-smelting, than banking, which here and abroad has been the special object of legislative care.

After much experience to the contrary, it seems still to be supposed that legislation and paternal prosperity are identical, and that it is only necessary to make laws for trade to keep it healthy and ensure its success. The reverse is the truth. Ever since 1822, when the removal of commercial restrictions was begun, we have gone on removing them one after another with unvarying and unhopd for success, and, nevertheless, every year like the last. New regulations are made and new restrictions are imposed on trade, as if it would perish were it not hourly taken care of by Parliament. The Attorney-General, the Solicitor-General, and other professional bill drawers, imagine themselves infinitely wiser than our greatest statesmen. They acknowledge the failure of their predecessors, and propose to remove restrictions from the statute-book because they have become absolute nuisances. Nevertheless, with something like insatiation, they persist year after year in encumbering commerce with new restrictions. It seems to quiet observers as if the professional framers of laws felt themselves affronted by society prospering as restrictions have been removed, and bound to take every opportunity of revenging themselves by hastily making new ones whenever some petty evil induces fretful impatient people to demand or to bear them. Or it may be that their professional importance is threatened by society prospering in spite of them, and they labour continually to keep it within their thrall.

As in the case of crossed cheques, no sooner is some little evil experienced, though it be caused by their interference with the natural course of trade, than they set to work to correct, and are sure to increase, the evil. Cheques are naturally the instruments of the banker's business, as ploughs are of the farmer's and axes of the carpenter's, and it is for those who use them—bankers and their clients—to settle between them the conditions on which they shall or can be used. For their convenience they are issued crossed or uncrossed, and it is for them to determine how they shall be dealt with. The whole of the plague experienced on this subject during the last two years has clearly been caused by professional bill framers undertaking to direct bankers and their clients how they are to manage their own instruments. When disputes arise, and an appeal to the courts is made, the courts ought to ascertain the practice of bankers and their clients, and judge accordingly, not prescribe the practice. But this humble usefulness does not satisfy the lofty aspirations of attorney-generals, judges, and legislators, and they continually cause an immense deal of evil by prescribing regulations for a growing business of which they know nothing. They are ambitious to do good; but in making laws for particular branches of business, they do mischief. Commerce is regulated by its own laws, and it is a part of our duty, as free-trade journalists, to remonstrate against all ignorant interference with them.

THE METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT OF THE BOARD OF TRADE.—A report from the meteorological officer of this department of the Government, Mr. R. Fitzroy, was published on Friday week. It is dated the 22nd of June, 1858. It states that better wind and current charts, for all parts of the world, for each month of the year, and for considerably smaller spaces of ocean, are much required. Much information has been recently collected from various seas, from many foreign stations on land, and from the Pacific and Atlantic oceans. By very numerous trials the specific gravity of nearly all the oceanic surface has been ascertained, and it is believed that these results will render further observations of the kind unnecessary, except in peculiar and limited localities, for some special object. Distilled water being taken as 1.000, the specific gravity of oceanic water is found to be nearly 1.027. The lowest temperature hitherto recorded (between 2.300 and 2.500 fathoms below the surface) has been 35 deg. in the North Atlantic, South Atlantic, and Indian oceans, and 86 deg. the highest temperature anywhere at sea on the surface. The total pressure of the barometer varies so little throughout the year within certain limits of latitude near the equator, or rather at about 5 deg. of north latitude in the Atlantic, that (allowing for the six-hourly change) any ship crossing that part of the sea may actually compare her barometer with a natural standard, invariable within those small limits of 2.100ths to 3.100ths of an inch. Hygrometric inquiries are steadily, though slowly, proceeding. Magnetism has not occupied much thought, because it is zealously attended to in other departments of the Government. The report rather gives a general idea of what is being done than the actual results of the labours of the department.—*Times*.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—Twelve hundred deaths were registered in London in the week ending Saturday, August the 7th. In the ten years 1848-57, the average number of deaths in corresponding weeks was 1172; but as the deaths now returned occurred in a population which has annually increased, they can only be compared with the average after the latter is raised in pro-

portion to the increase, a correction which will make it 1289. It is necessary, however, to remark that the series of weeks from which the average is drawn comprises two weeks—viz. one in 1849, another in 1854, when the cholera was epidemic and caused excessive mortality: and if the comparison is made only with seasons not so distinguished, it will appear that the mortality of last week was not low, but rather exceeded the average. It is satisfactory to observe that the deaths from diarrhoea, which had risen from 127 to 168 in the last week of July, declined again last week to 130. The corrected average for ten corresponding weeks is 172; and, in the first week of August last year, the number from this complaint rose to 258. Fifteen deaths were reported in the previous return from cholera; the number now returned is only 5, two of which are those of adults, a brewer who died from "English cholera" in Bermondsey, and a labourer in Woolwich Arsenal, who died of cholera after a few hours' illness. Scarlatina appears to be increasing; the deaths from it in the last three weeks were 58, 78, and 86. Mr. Simpson, the Registrar of St. Giles's North, registered 5 deaths from scarlatina last week; he states that it is much on the increase in his sub-district, and mentions a house (25, High-street) where three fatal cases of the disease have occurred within a week.—Last week, the births of 795 boys and 758 girls, in all 1553 children, were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1848-57, the average number was 1505.—From the Registrar-General's Weekly Return.

MODERN LEGISLATION.—A new act is scarcely passed before it becomes necessary to pass another either to explain or amend it. The mass of useless legislation that is thus accumulated is a standing discredit to the legal ability which is presumed to be called into operation before an act becomes law. Here we have two amendment acts, on two acts that have hardly come yet fairly into operation.

THE NEW DIVORCE ACT.—The Act to amend the Divorce and Matrimonial Causes Act of last session is printed. In the new statute there are 23 sections. The Judge Ordinary may sit in chambers, and the Treasury is to provide proper chambers. The registrars are to do all acts heretofore done by surrogates. The evidence on which a divorce has been obtained prior to the new law may be used in support of a petition under the new law. Some alterations are made with respect to wives. It is provided that wives deserted by their husbands may apply to the judge for an order to protect property acquired by them with additional powers. The provisions respecting property of a wife are to extend to property vested in her as executrix, &c. The order of protection is to state the time when the desertion occurred. Corporations are indemnified for making payments under orders afterwards reversed. The following provision has reference to a well-known cause, which has been adjourned:—"In all cases now pending, or hereafter to be commenced, in which, on the petition of a husband for a divorce, the alleged adulterer is made a co-respondent, or in which, on the petition of a wife, the person with whom the husband is alleged to have committed adultery is made a respondent, it shall be lawful for the Court, after the close of the evidence on the part of the petitioner, to direct such co-respondent or respondent to be dismissed from the suit if it shall think there is not sufficient evidence against him or her." Persons who administer oaths under the 20th and 21st of Victoria, cap. 77, are to administer oaths under the 20th and 21st of Victoria, cap. 85. The bills of proctors and attorneys are to be subject to taxation, and power is given to enforce a decree for costs. Affidavits may now be sworn before different persons. It is declared to be felony for any person to forge the seal or signature to any document of the Court.

THE NEW PROBATE ACT.—The Act to amend the Probate and Letters of Administration Act of last session has been issued. There are 38 sections in the new statute. The Judge of the High Court of Admiralty and the Judge of the Court of Probate may now sit for each other. Serjeants and barristers "shall be entitled from and after the passing of this Act to practise in all causes and matters whatsoever in the Court of Probate." The Judge may sit in chambers, and proper chambers are to be provided. An additional registrar may be appointed. Articled clerks may be admitted proctors in the court. The Act provides that where the personalty is under 200*l.* the County Courts are to have jurisdiction. All non-contentious business depending in any Ecclesiastical Court at the time when the Probate Act came into operation is to be transferred. There are clauses with respect to affidavits and the duties of executors, as also a provision for the absence of any of the officers of the court. The Judge of the court is to have and exercise over proctors, solicitors, and attorneys practising in the court, the like authority and control as are now exercised by the judges of any court of equity or common law over persons practising therein. Further, there is a provision in the Act for the expenses of indexing, &c., documents required to be removed under requisition. The present Act is to be cited as "The Court of Probate Act, 1858," and the former Act, now amended, as "The Court of Probate Act, 1857." The senior registrar is to have 1600*l.*, the second 1400*l.*, the third, 1200*l.*, and the fourth, 1000*l.* a year.

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.				Name of Company.				Name of Company.			
No. of shares.	Amount of shares.	Amount paid up.	London.	No. of shares.	Amount of shares.	Amount paid up.	London.	No. of shares.	Amount of shares.	Amount paid up.	London.
			T. F.				T. F.				T. F.
84543	12	10		Ambergate, &c.	65	65		Clydesdale Junction.	106	106	
Stock	100	100		Birkenhead, Lancashire, and	100	100		H. Lincolnshire, guar. 6 per cent.	143	143	
				Cheshire Junction.	71	71		Gloucester and Dean Forest.	113	113	
Stock	100	100		Bristol and Exeter.	95	95		Hull and Selby.	113	113	
Stock	100	100		Caledonian.	82½	82½		— Halves.	113	113	
Stock	100	100		Chester and Holyhead.	39	39		— Quarters.	113	113	
3301	50	50		Cork and Randon.	8000	25		London and Greenwich.	14	14	
15300	50	50		Dublin and Belfast Junction.	8000	12½		— Preference.	24½	24½	
Stock	100	100		East Anglian.	11136	20		London, Abury, and Southend.	96	96	
Stock	100	100		Eastern Counties.	17	16½		Manchester, Buxton, and Matlock.	24	24	
Stock	100	100		Eastern Union, class A.	63½	63½		Midland Bradford.	99	100	
Stock	100	100		— class B.	49	48		Northern and Eastern, 5 per cent.	60	60	
3554	25	8½		— New A. late E. U. Thirds.	33	33		Royston, Hitchin, and Shepreth.	142	142	
28000	25	25		East Kent.	15	15		South Staffordshire.	10½	10½	
Stock	100	100		East Lancashire.	93	93		Wilts and Somerset.	91	91	
Stock	100	100		Edinburgh and Glasgow.	65½	65½					
Stock	100	100		Edinburgh, Perth, and Dundee.	26½	27					
Stock	100	100		Great Northern.	103	102½					
				— A stock.	84	83					
Stock	100	100		— B stock.	133	133					
Stock	100	100		Great Southern and Western (I.).	105	105					
Stock	100	100		Great Western.	51½	51½					
18000	50	50		Lancashire and Carlisle.	90	90					
18000	16½	14½		— Thirds.	p13	p13					
24000	16½	15		— New Thirds.	p13	p13					
Stock	100	100		Lancashire and Yorkshire.	94½	95					
48441	16	6		— F. 16½.	d½	d½					
87500	9	7		— 9½ shares.	d½	d½					
11900	11½	11½		London and Blackwall.	6½	6½					
Stock	100	100		London, Brighton, and South C.	109	110					
Stock	100	100		London and North-Western.	93½	93½					
244000	12½	7½		— Eighthths.	d1	d1					
Stock	100	100		London and South-Western.	97	97					
6700	25	25		Londonderry and Coleraine.	100	100					
4240	25	25		Londonderry and Enniskillen.	100	100					
Stock	100	100		Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincoln.	35½	36					
50000	10	3		Metropolitan.	96½	96½					
Stock	100	100		Midland.	67	68					
Stock	100	100		— Birmingham and Derby.	100	100					
20000	50	50		Midland Great Western (I.).	100	100					
22220	25	25		Newport, Abr., and Hereford.	100	100					
Stock	100	100		Norfolk.	65	62					
60000	50	3½		Northern Counties Union.	3½	3					
Stock	100	100		North British.	54½	55					
Stock	100	100		North-Eastern—Berwick.	94½	96					
64115	25	16½		— G. N. E. Purchase.	d1	d1					
Stock	100	100		— Leeds.	47	47½					
Stock	100	100		— York.	74½	75					
Stock	100	100		North London.	101	101					
168500	20	17½		North Staffordshire.	d5½	d5½					
Stock	100	100		Oxford, Worcester, and Wolvn.	28	28					
Stock	100	100		Scottish Central.	112	112					
Stock	100	100		Scottish N. Eastern Aberdeen Stk.	28½	28½					
Stock	100	100		— Scottish Midland Stock.	83	83					
Stock	100	100		Shropshire Union.	46	46					
Stock	100	100		South Devon.	36	36½					
Stock	100	100		South-Eastern.	72	72					
Stock	100	100		South Wales.	83	83					
27582	20	20		South Yorkshire and River Dun.	15	15					
3273	20	18		Do do.	d4	d4					
Stock	100	100		Vale of Neath.	100	100					
Stock	100	100		Waterford and Kilkenny.	100	100					
15000	50	50		Waterford and Limerick.	100	100					
16065	20	20		West Cornwall.	100	100					
LINES LEASED				AT FIXED RENTALS.							
Stock	100	100		Buckinghamshire.	103	103					

ENGLISH STOCKS.

	Fri.		Fri.
Bank Stock, div. 5½ p. c. 1-year.	228	Do. do. Scrip.	..
3 per ct. Reduced Anns.	97	Do. Bonds, 4 per cent., 1000l.	..
Ditto for Opening.	96½	Ditto under 500l.	..
3 per cent. Consols Anns.	96½	Bank Stock for account Aug. 5.	..
Ditto for Opening.	97	3 p. ct. Cons. for account do.	..
New 3 per cent. Anns.	97	Ditto for Opening do.	..
Ditto for Opening.	..	India Stock, for account do.	..
New 3½ per cent. Anns.	..	Exchequer Bills, 2d. and 1½d. p. day.	..
New 2½ per cent.	..	Ditto 1000l. "	228 p
5 per cent.	..	Ditto 500l. "	259 p
Long Anns. Jan. 5, 1860.	1 11-16	Ditto Small.	..
Anns. for 30 years, Oct. 10, 1859.	..	Ditto Advertised 1½.	..
Ditto exp. Jan. 5, 1860.	..	Ditto Bonds, A 1858 3½ p. ct.	..
Ditto " Jan. 5, 1860.	1½	Ditto under 1000l.	..
Ditto " April 5, 1865.	..	Ditto B 1859 "	100½
India Stock, 10½ per cent.	..	Ditto under 1000 "	..
Do. Loan Debentures.	98½		

* Ex. Dividend, or ex. New.

FOREIGN STOCKS.

	Fri.		Fri.
Austrian Bonds, 5 per cent.	..	Russian Bonds, 1822, 5 p. ct. in 2 st.	..
Brazilian Bonds, 5 per cent.	..	Ditto 4½ per cent.	100
Ditto 4½ per cent. 1858.	..	Sardinian Bonds, 5 per cent.	43½
Ditto 5 per cent., 1829 and 1839.	..	Spanish Bonds, 3 per cent.	..
Ditto 5 per cent., 1843.	..	Ditto 3 per cent. Deferred.	..
Ditto 4½ per cent., 1858.	..	Ditto Passive Bonds.	..
Buenos Ayres Bonds, 6 per cent.	..	Ditto Com. Cert. of Coupon not fd.	..
Ditto Deferred 3 per cent.	..	Turkish Scrip, 6 per cent.	104½
Chilian Bonds, 6 per cent.	..	Ditto 4 per cent. Guaranteed.	..
Ditto 3 per cent.	..	Venezuela 5 per cent.	..
Danish Bonds, 3 per cent., 1825.	..	Ditto Deferred 2 per cent.	..
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6000	5½ per cent.	Bank of London	100	50 0 0	50
20000	6½ per cent.	British North American	50	50 0 0	59
32200	5½ per cent.	Char. of India, Australia, and China.	20	10 0 0	33½
4500	5½ per cent.	City Bank	100	50 0 0	65
20000	6½ per cent.	Colonial	100	25 0 0	..
25000	6½ per cent.	Commercial of London	100	20 0 0	..
25000	6½ per cent.	Eng. Scot. and Aust. Chartered	20	20 0 0	17
35000	6½ per cent.	London Chartered Bank of Australia.	20	20 0 0	21
20000	12½ per cent.	London and County	50	20 0 0	31
80000	22½ per cent.	London Joint Stock	50	10 0 0	33
50000	14½ per cent.	London and Westminster	100	20 0 0	47
10000	16½ per cent.	National Provincial of England.	100	35 0 0	..
25000	16½ per cent.	Ditto New	20	10 0 0	..

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25000	20½ per cent.	New South Wales	20	20 0 0	48
50400	12½ per cent.	Oriental Bank Corporation	25	25 0 0	40
25000	..	Ottoman Bank	20	20 0 0	16½
20000	14½ per cent.	Provincial of Ireland	100	25 0 0	0½
4000	14½ per cent.	Ditto New	10	10 0 0	..
12000	5½ per cent.	Ionian Bank	25	25 0 0	..
12000	12½ per cent.	South Australia	25	25 0 0	..
4000	..	Ditto New	25	12 10 0	..
32000	10½ per cent.	Union of Australia	25	25 0 0	53
8000	20½ per cent.	Ditto New	10	10 0 0	51
100000	..	Union of Hamburg	15	3 0 0	..
60000	15½ per cent.	Union of London	50	10 0 0	26
3000	3½ per cent.	Unity Mutual Bank	100	50 0 0	..
4000	3½ per cent.	Western of London	100	50 0 0	d18

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, August 10.

BANKRUPTS.—EDWIN BENJAMIN COLLINS, New Peckham, Surrey, and Charlton, Kent, market gardener—MARIA ELIZABETH CARTWRIGHT, Sharnborne, Norfolk, hop merchant—THOMAS HODGSON, Aldine-chambers, Paternoster-row, bookseller—ROBERT ADOLPH FARMAR, Mount-street, Lambeth, chemist—THOMAS MACHIN, Peterborough, contractor—JOHN GODFREY and JOHN THOMAS GODFREY, Widgate-street, and Half Moon-street, Bishopsgate-street Without, coopers—JOHN HARRISON and JOHN GARFORD BRIGGS, Austin-friars, City, oil and seed brokers—EDWARD LEE, Shrewsbury, ironmonger—WILLIAM GREATOROX and JOHN GREATOROX, Leicester, boot manufacturers—JAMES WILSON, Birkenhead, Cheshire, engineer—WILLIAM RICHIEU HODGES, Manchester, merchant.

SCOTCH SEQUESTERATIONS.—E. BUCHANAN, Glasgow, builder—J. ROBERTSON, Westmains of Gleneagles, Blackford, farmer—P. O'DONNELL, Glasgow, provision merchant—J. DUNN, Irvine, grocer—T. GEMMELL, Glasgow, wire rope manufacturer—A. ATTI, Glasgow, tea merchant.

Friday, August 13.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.—HENRY TATHAM, Charing-cross, gunmaker.

BANKRUPTS.—CHARLES IRESON, Northampton, builder—CHRISTOPHER DENMAN, Ripley, Derbyshire, linen draper—SAMUEL FISHER, Birmingham, tailor—DAVID HUGHES, Gresham-street, City, scrivener—JOSEPH FOSTER, Little Horton, Bradford, grocer—WILLIAM NAISH, Newport, commission agent—THOMAS WELDON, Peterborough, grocer—JAMES SAUNDERS and WILLIAM SAUNDERS, Abergavenny Monmouthshire, seedsmen—EZRA FRANCE, Dudley Hill, Bradford, worsted manufacturer.

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