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A POLITICAL AND LITERARY REVIEW, MERCANTILE JOURNAL,
AND

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VOL. IX. No. 454.]

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1858.

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3. They may be applied in reduction of the future Premiums.

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Amount of Existing Assurances ..	£4,957,144
Annual Revenue ..	192,717
Accumulated Fund ..	1,099,400

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Civil Service Commission, 3rd December, 1858.

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Review of the Week.

WITH the help of a little patience and the exercise of a little imagination we make out of the fog of ill-spelled telegraphic communications which have come to hand in anticipation of the next Bombay mail, that the fortnight's Indian news, of which we are supposed to have a *résumé*, is, upon the whole, of a satisfactory character. In the first place, the Royal Proclamation is reported to have been published throughout India on the 1st of November, and, according to the reporter, has "given satisfaction to all parties." Upon this point we shall be better able to judge after the arrival of the next two or three mails. In the mean-time, the campaign in Oude has been commenced, but we are left in the dark as to what has been done, except as regards one or two minor successes achieved by our troops at places not to be found on any map of India yet published. The more positive points of the news are: that, for the fourth time, General Michel has swooped down upon the remains of that nine-lived Central India force of rebels led by Tantia Topce. Flying southward, after his defeat on the Betwa, Tantia Topce stopped to rest his wearied men near Curree; here General Michel fell upon him, and, besides slaying a large number of his followers, took all the guns in the field, and sent him once more flying for his life. He has succeeded in making his way into the Sindwarra country, north of Nagpore; and there is a report that, tired of the game he has so long been playing, he had sent an emissary to inquire on what terms he may surrender.

In one way or another, the affairs of the Ionian Islands promise to give no little trouble to the Government. As a foundation for party operations they have been seized upon, and every one of them charged and primed to blow up and scatter the combinations of Sir John Young and of her Majesty's Lord High Commissioner Extraordinary together. But without any Palmerstonian manipulation, the subject of Mr. Gladstone's mission is made difficult enough by the Ionians themselves. Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton has written to Sir John Young to announce the coming of Mr. Gladstone, and the objects of his mission; and Sir John Young has communicated the Colonial Secretary's despatch to the Senate of the Ionian Islands. "The publication of the despatch to the Lord High Commissioner," says the Government organ, "has produced the happiest results, and disposed the Ionians to receive with favour and respect any prudent suggestions for improving the administration of their affairs under British protection." But it is difficult to accept this assurance in the face of the protest entered by the Parliamentary representatives of Corfu against the statement of Sir John Young: they do not

desire to draw the relations between their island and Great Britain any closer than they are. However, Mr. Gladstone, who reached Corfu on the 24th of November, is now on the field of his labours, and, whatever may be the complications he finds there, we may look for at least an intelligible account of them from him. Meanwhile, we have the mystery of the purloined despatches partly cleared up. In spite of the suspicions of some, of the ill-wishes of many, the publication of these despatches appears to have been entirely without the cognizance of the Government. According to a charge officially made at Bow-street, a Mr. William Hudson Guernsey, taking advantage of the temporary absence of Mr. Miller, sub-librarian of the Colonial Office, from the library of that establishment, where he had been admitted on private business with Mr. Miller, surreptitiously carried off the documents from the library-table, and for some reason or purpose not at present clearly explained, published them in the *Daily News*. He is committed for trial.

In connexion with colonial affairs, we have reports of a complimentary dinner given by the leading citizens of Toronto to Lord Bury on the 13th of November. Lord Bury has settled the story which was current at the time of his departure from England, which affirmed that he had gone to Canada on an official, or at least semi-official, mission: he said, "I am here in no political capacity whatever." But Lord Bury has long taken a public interest in the affairs of Canada, and on the question of a federalisation of the States of British North America, he said, "As I happen to be on very good terms with many of the Ministry, I shall not scruple on my return home to communicate to them anything I may observe as to what is the feeling of Canada on that subject." The more immediate object of Lord Bury's visit to Canada, as he explained, is to enlist the interest of that country in the formation of a weekly line of steamers between Galway and Quebec; and not only is he empowered to make arrangements to that end, but he is further empowered to conclude with Canada and the other provinces the terms upon which a railway into the interior, from Quebec to Halifax, may be carried out.

The friends of Sir James Brooke have made another attempt to induce her Majesty's Government to become the possessors of that celebrated little district in the island of Borneo called Sarawak. They waited on Lord Derby on Tuesday, and Mr. Crawford, one of the members for the City of London, acted as principal spokesman, and stated to Lord Derby very many reasons why the possession of this advantageous position in the Indian Archipelago will be more and more desirable as a coaling and telegraphic station on the road to China. But there is, as there has been from the first, a grand difficulty in the way of the transfer of territory which Sir James Brooke wishes to accomplish: it is that Sir

James has no apparent power to transfer the land of which, in the first instance, he made himself master by force of arms, and over which his right of rule was confirmed by the sovereign of Borneo under conditions that put any act of sale or transfer out of the question. At all events, Lord Derby and his coadjutors are not prepared to entertain the offer made by Sir James Brooke's friends.

At the head of the continental news of this week, as last week, is the name of Montalembert. What a wonderful art the Emperor Napoleon has of winning hearts and heads! With what admiring surprise did Christendom note his mode of recognising the anniversary of that glorious political event the *coup d'état*! Montalembert pardoned!—pardoned "on the occasion of the anniversary of the 2nd of December!" Great and touching clemency! How can Count Montalembert have the heart to decline it? How could he bring himself to write such words as these in answer to the *Moniteur's* announcement of the Emperor's grace? "Condemned on the 14th of November, I lodged, within the time specified by the law, an appeal against the sentence of which I am the object. No power in France has the right to remit a penalty which is not definitive. I am one of those who still believe in right, and will accept no favour." Whose face has Count Montalembert now struck? Not that of France.

"Gentlemen, let us be prepared, for it may happen that next spring we shall again have to smell gunpowder," said the King of Sardinia, lately to some of the high military officers about him, on the occasion of a review. An attempt was made by the French press to deny or explain away the very striking words in which Victor Emmanuel chose to let a large cat out of the bag. There cannot be a reasonable doubt as to the perturbed state of Italy at present. At Milan, we have the Italian population almost in arms against their hated Austrian rulers. A few days back we had accounts of "political arrests" at Ancona; and yesterday one of the London papers announced that it had received news from Italy of such a serious character as to induce the editor to withhold it until it had received confirmation. But whether our morning contemporary's Italian news be confirmed or not, the fact will before long manifest that, as a writer in the *Continental Review* says, "Italy is all on fire." Austria is working with strained energy to arm herself with naval protection on the seaboard of her Italian dependencies; and every day her relations with France are becoming less amicable. The readiness of Piedmont looks like a result of the conferences at Plombières; and the King's reference to the possibilities of the coming "spring," suggests his Majesty's eagerness for the completion of the bargain which, it is said, is to give him a greatly extended territory and to make Louis Napoleon King of Rome.

Among the home topics of the week, poaching affrays, with sacrifice of life, are prominently noticeable from their number. The pertinacity with which the landlords cling to their barbarous feudal rights in the face of an improved intelligence that loudly condemns them, and will one day compel them to loose their hold, is a stain upon the morals of the country—an arbitrary exercise of power, under cover of laws obsolete in spirit, that can find no support in reason. The preservation of game is a source of constant trouble and loss to the tenant farmer, a horrible temptation to the peasant, and increases largely both county and poor-rates. The arguments used in favour of the maintenance of the Game Laws will not hold upon being taxed: the strongest is, that to abolish the Game Laws would be to throw private property open to the trespass of the idle and vicious; but would not the present law of trespass amply suffice to guard all the legitimate rights of private property?—do they not amply suffice in all other cases than in this solitary one of the preservation of game? Unfortunately, the force of public opinion is not likely to press for an immediate settlement of this ugly question, the generosity of townspeople not being directly interested in the matter; it is, nevertheless, a question in which the moral reputation of the whole country is involved.

There seems at last to be a chance that the metropolitan railway scheme, of which we have heard at intervals for a good many years, may be brought to bear. A large meeting, called by the Lord Mayor, took place at the London Tavern on Wednesday, to hear a statement of Mr. Pearson's "recent proceedings to obtain improved railway accommodation for the City." Mr. Pearson's scheme, which out of several that are before the public, is the one that finds most popular favour, aims at furnishing remedies for many acknowledged evils, the overcrowding of the streets of the City with vehicles of all kinds, and the more dangerous overcrowding of the dwellings of the working population of the City. He states boldly that for the sum of one shilling per week the workman may be conveyed to a vastly superior dwelling-place out of town, and yield to the Metropolitan Railway Company a handsome profit. The feeling of the meeting, which was attended by Lord John Russell, Baron Rothschild, and a great number of City magnates, was warmly in favour of the undertaking. The Metropolitan Railway Company has already raised 450,000*l.*, and the public are asked to subscribe 300,000*l.* more for the accomplishment of the work. It will be strange indeed if so small a sum is not soon forthcoming.

THE GALWAY OCEAN LINE.—The scheme of an Atlantic Ocean line from Galway, which has been welcomed so warmly by the public, is calculated to promote Irish prosperity in many ways not perceived by the superficial thinker. Already it has greatly improved the formerly deserted and deplorably apathetic town of Galway. There is a healthy bustle under its fine old Spanish gateways, and its shopkeepers display an animated pushing habit quite new to them, and quite English in its aspect. Without seeking to exaggerate the value of the new steam line to the district one cannot but perceive that it has, even now, shaken several Connaught towns, besides Galway, out of their slumber, and induced the inhabitants of Limerick to discover that they have been time out of mind neglecting their superior advantages. A number of the Belfast manufacturers now carry on their linen trade with America *via* Galway, and several of the most eminent Irish cornfactors, millers, and distillers, export and import largely by the same route. The nautical authorities must fight it out among themselves whether Foynes is a better American port than Galway, or preferable to Cork, or half a dozen other harbours that have been dragged into the struggle; that discussion would not be suitable here. It is our part, however, to mention that the facility of communication with Belfast which Galway will enjoy, when a railway now projected has been laid down, must give the Connaught port a strong argument. It would be equally improper to enter, in this paper, into the question whether an Irish line for America will pay; the problem is under solution in an interesting manner, and we are patriotic enough to desire its success, convinced, as we are, that the country will be largely the gainer by that result, not only in the solid advantages arising from increased trade with the States, but in the character which we Irishmen must gather from our new-born sympathy with practical enterprises. — *Dublin University Magazine for December.*

Home Intelligence.

POLITICAL FORESHADOWINGS.

DR. M'HALE ON REFORM.—The apathy of the Irish press and public respecting the Reform question has been remarkable. It has been reserved for Dr. M'Hale, the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Tuam, to break silence on the subject, which he does in a voluminous letter written to a Dublin paper, in which he addresses Lord Derby, and endeavours to impress upon him that the evil felt most acutely in Ireland is the inability of the tenant class to exercise the elective franchise conscientiously without incurring the landlord's vengeance; he points out the Ballot as the only remedy, without which, he says, any increase of the suffrage would only be an increase of the evil. The Archbishop also denounces the Established Church in Ireland, the Queen's Colleges, and the National System of Education.

THE IONIAN QUESTION.—On Saturday there appeared an official article in the *Herald*, denying that the Government has or ever had the least intention of changing the relations between the Crown and the Ionian Republic, established by the Treaty of 1815. The suggestions of Sir John Young's despatch were entirely repudiated. Sir John himself, according to our contemporary, has since abandoned them as untenable.

FORTY SHILLING FREEHOLDS.—A deputation of Scottish Reformers waited, on Monday, on the Lord Advocate, in Edinburgh, and urged the importance of granting the same privileges to Scotland as to England, in the matter of the forty shilling freehold franchise. The deputation was received very courteously, and the Lord Advocate stated that he will not view the question on the narrow ground of technicality in legal forms. No movement of a political character has taken so strong a hold upon the Scotch community as the extension of the freehold franchise of forty shillings to the working classes. A requisition has already received many influential signatures in Glasgow for Mr. Bright to visit that city.

THE BALLOT SOCIETY.—A deputation has waited upon the Lord Mayor, and asked him to head a petition to the House of Commons in favour of the ballot. His Lordship complied with the request, and presented a donation of 5*l.* to the funds of the association.

NEWCASTLE.—A great political demonstration was held on Monday in connexion with the Northern Reform Union. Many hundreds had to go away from the large hall, unable to obtain admittance. William Cook, Esq., President of the Union, was in the chair. The meeting was addressed by Messrs. Joseph Cowen, jun., Charles Larkin, and James Paul Cobbet. It is described as having been one of the most remarkable meetings, both for numbers and enthusiasm, ever held at Newcastle. Manhood suffrage, vote by ballot, and shorter Parliaments formed the burden of the speeches.

PARLIAMENTARY REFORM COMMITTEE.—This organisation has greatly strengthened itself by adherents from all ranks since the recent conference at the Guildhall Coffee-house. Several additions have been made to the committee, and subscriptions for large and small amounts continue to flow into the treasury.

GLOUCESTER.—At a meeting held a few nights ago, a memorial to the Queen, repudiating the Chinese Treaty, and praying her Majesty to refuse to receive the indemnity, was unanimously adopted. Other memorials for the same object are now being extensively signed.

MR. WALTER, M.P.—At an entertainment at Nottingham on Tuesday, this honourable gentleman said:—"We are on the eve of a session pregnant with great and stirring events, perhaps with dangers, of which no man can foresee the result. By a remarkable and unlooked-for combination of circumstances that great party in the State from which we could least have expected a measure of reform has found itself invested, not only with the honours and responsibilities of office, but with the self-imposed duty of remodelling our representative system. The position of a Conservative Administration charged with the preparation of a Reform Bill must be a rather delicate and trying one. I earnestly trust that the ensuing session will not be allowed to pass without the question being brought to a decisive and satisfactory settlement. Nothing is so injurious to the moral or physical condition of a man as the conviction, whether right or wrong, that he is labouring under some constitutional disorder, and, if he is wise, he will lose not a moment in endeavouring to ascertain and to eradicate the cause of his complaint. I am in no degree in the confidence of the present Administration, and, indeed, I must do them the justice to say that, although they have not been uniformly successful in keeping private and confidential despatches out of the columns of the newspapers (a laugh), yet in regard to their measure of Reform they have contrived to keep their secret uncommonly well. My experience as a member of Parliament leads me to the conclusion that, whatever shape Reform may take with respect to the constitution of the House of Commons, it is not desirable that the members of that branch of the Legislature should be augmented. It appears to me that the great principle upon which we

ought to proceed is well expressed in the famous dictum of Burke, that we should 'cherish in our minds the ability to improve with the disposition to preserve,' for by so doing we shall best discharge the duty we owe to our country, and most effectually maintain and ameliorate the inheritance which Providence has committed to our charge."

MR. BEACH, M.P., AND MR. SELATER BOOTH, M.P.—On Wednesday, the members for the northern division of Hampshire met their constituents at Basingstoke. Mr. Beach, referring to late events in France, said Englishmen would sympathise with any one who suffered in a cause so noble as that of the liberty of the press, but how much must that sympathy be increased when they recollected that it was because the Comte de Montalembert had spoken in praise of the institutions of England that he had been subjected to the treatment he had received. He could not avoid expressing the apprehensions he entertained when he contemplated the condition of a neighbouring country; he could not but remember the old adage which reminded them with so much simplicity and truth that their property was always in danger when their neighbour's house was on fire. No thinking man in this country could contemplate without the most serious apprehensions the prospect of a convulsion in France. Turning to the present political condition of our own country, he alluded to the promised measure of Parliamentary Reform. He believed the earnest and sincere desire of the people of England to be not that they should attempt to destroy but to improve the constitution. If that was their opinion it behoved all those who would have to consider this question of Parliamentary reform to be careful how they destroyed, unless at the same time they built up our political institutions, and placed them upon a firmer and sounder basis.—Mr. Selater Booth said that, in one respect, the times were completely changed. The age of violent party faction had vanished, and it was to the forbearance and the liberal interpretation of their acts by the country that the present or any future Government would have to look for its continued existence. He could not but think that there would be the greatest necessity in the next session for the exercise of a spirit of moderation and liberality. He trusted that the Government would be supported until some reference was made on the subject to the people at large.

HON. G. NOEL, M.P., AND HON. G. H. HEATHCOTE, M.P.—At an agricultural meeting at Oakham, on Wednesday, the members for Rutlandshire were present. The Hon. G. Noel said, on the question of Parliamentary Reform, he would never support a one-sided party measure, brought forward by a few for the purpose of aggrandising one class at the expense of another. Nor would he support such a measure as was shadowed forth by Mr. Bright in his speech at Birmingham, and which, if carried out, would destroy all that we in this country held dear—the Queen, the Lords, and the Church. Such a measure would, he thought, be most distasteful to this country in particular, because if England were to be divided into electoral districts, and those districts received representatives in proportion to population only, the most disagreeable results would follow. The hon. member for Birmingham, Mr. Bright, was always holding up America as a model, and would assimilate our institutions to those existing in that country. Now there was no country where so much real liberty was enjoyed in thought and action as in England. In America men were slaves to public opinion, and dared not express their sentiments freely and openly, as we do here. The Hon. G. H. Heathcote said:—"We are likely to have two Reform Bills—one from Lord Derby and the other from Mr. Bright. Mr. Bright is likely to go too far even for his own party. I have the acquaintance of several good reformers, and they think that the hon. member for Birmingham is likely to go too far even for them. In truth, it seems to me that these ultra gentlemen do not altogether agree among themselves. They talk about others being illiberal, but I think they themselves generally look a little to 'number one.' At Edinburgh, for instance, they have been adding a sixth point to the Charter, and they even say that they think they should have some more members for Scotland. Under these circumstances I think it behoves the agriculturists at least to consider what bearing the projected measure is likely to have upon their interest. Many of the small boroughs are situated in the centre of agricultural communities, and their own prosperity depending upon the prosperity of the surrounding districts; they generally return men who have your interests at heart. At present the boroughs return a large share of members; but if you take from the small boroughs and give more representatives to the large towns, you would rather be increasing the anomaly. For we must remember that a county member does not only represent the county, but he also represents the boroughs contained in that county; while a borough member only represents that borough with which he is connected. It is said that there is much more intelligence in the towns than in the counties. Now, I utterly and entirely deny this. When I look around to see whom I am now addressing, I think it is most monstrous to tell me that they possess all the learning in the towns, and that we know nothing in the counties. When farmers, in order

to make the most of their land, require a superior education, a knowledge of machinery and chemistry, I can say that at least they ought to have a fair and just share in returning the representatives of this country."

CRIMINAL RECORD.

THE MURDER IN BLOOMSBURY.—The adjourned inquest on the body of Canty, who was murdered by Tomba, in Gloucester-street, Queen-square, was resumed on Tuesday. The adjournment had taken place to allow of an application to the Home Secretary to have the prisoner brought before the jury, which was complied with. The prisoner was produced, and the evidence already before the public was repeated. Mr. Lewis, who defended the prisoner, raised no question as to his state of mind, although it is evident the man was insane when he committed the act, and the jury returned a verdict of Wilful Murder against him. The prisoner was also re-examined at the Clerkenwell police-court, and committed for trial.

FATAL PRIZE FIGHT.—An inquest has been held at Guy's Hospital, on the body of George Macdonald, aged seventeen, who died from injuries received in a pugilistic encounter with Samuel Asquith, alias Gosway, at Abbey Wood, on Sunday morning. Witnesses proved that the fight, which was for 5*l.* a side, lasted an hour, when deceased wished to give in, but his brutal backers, unwilling to lose their few shillings merely to save his life, urged him on to continue the contest. The result was that the wretched boy in the closing struggle had his neck dislocated, which caused death. The jury returned a verdict of Manslaughter against Asquith; who has been brought up at Woolwich police-court and remanded for the apprehension of his accomplices.

POACHERS AND GAMEKEEPERS.—On Saturday night last another conflict between poachers and gamekeepers, doubly fatal, occurred on the estate of Mr. Ackroyd, in Cheshire. A party of keepers met four poachers, and attempted to take them; but the poachers fired, shot one dead, and mortally wounded the other. The murderers have not been apprehended. It is surely time that something were done to remove this perpetual source of rural warfare and bloodshed.

THE MURDER AT ANDOVER.—An inhabitant of Andover, named Thomas Alexander Banks, a retired publican in good circumstances, has been arrested on suspicion of being the murderer of the deceased Mr. Parsons. An examination of the accused took place at the police-station on Saturday afternoon before the borough magistrates. The examination was a private one, and more evidence was not gone into than was sufficient to justify a remand. The wife of the prisoner is watched by the police.

ATTEMPTED MURDER.—On Tuesday afternoon a prisoner, named Simpson, in the Coldbath-fields House of Correction, quarrelled with the officer in charge about his food, and then stabbed both him and another officer who came to the rescue. Both of the wounded men were seriously injured, and it was at first feared that one of them would not survive.

SUSPECTED MURDER.—A servant-girl named Hannah King was found lying upon the railway near Dalston with her legs broken. She was conveyed to the German Hospital, but died after amputation had been performed. Before her death she made a statement to the chaplain and to her aunt to the effect that she had been met by a person in woman's clothes (but whom she afterwards discovered to be a man) who inquired the way to Park-road, and thus got her into conversation. The stranger gave her something to drink out of a bottle he had with him, which took away her senses. After a while she found herself lifted over the railway-bridge; she rolled down the embankment, and then got up and walked on the line, when she heard a train approach her. Witnesses at the inquest deposed to seeing the deceased thrown over the bridge, and that a train passed immediately afterwards. The person who threw her over was in the garb of a woman, and immediately made off. In answer to the coroner the surgeon stated that some slight violence had been committed on her person. It further appeared that a person answering the description of the party perpetrating this outrage called on the same evening at a house in the neighbourhood of the occurrence, and, on the door being opened by a young woman, asked her if she was alone in the house, but she called her master, and the party ran away. The inquiry was adjourned.

GATHERINGS FROM LAW AND POLICE COURTS.

The mystery regarding the publication of the Ionian despatches was cleared up at Bow-street last Saturday. One William Hudson Guernsey, a person in the position of a gentleman, and who formerly held a commission in the Turkish Contingent, was charged with having stolen copies of the despatches of Sir J. Young. This is the man who sent them to the office of the *Daily News*. The prosecution is, of course, a Government one. The evidence adduced went to show that the prisoner had frequently called upon Mr. Miller, sub-librarian at the Colonial Office, with whom he had some acquaintance, and that he had been left there alone on one occasion

when printed copies of the despatches were lying on the library-table. On the part of the Colonial Office it is imputed that Mr. Guernsey was induced to take the course he had done in revenge, not having received place and pay according to his application. It was further proved that the prisoner was the person who supplied the *Daily News* with the copies from which the despatches were published. The prisoner, who offered no defence, was committed for trial, bail being refused.

A thief, named Richard Barry, who practises child-stripping, was placed in the dock of the Thames police-court, where a crowd of his victims and their parents were in attendance to charge the rascal with his mean villanies. A police-constable said he was prepared to substantiate a hundred cases of theft against him, perpetrated in all parts of the metropolis. Mr. Selfe sent the prisoner for trial, as he did not consider the highest penalty in his power to inflict adequate to the deserts of the case.

At the Westminster police-court, a grenadier guardsman, named Hudson, was charged with having most brutally assaulted a poor old woman, seventy years of age, who came into a public-house where he was drinking, and asked him to buy a song. The prisoner was remanded. The frequency with which assaults are perpetrated by soldiers at the West-end calls for the exercise of rigorous punishment.

The disgusting case of Marchmont v. Marchmont has terminated in a verdict for the petitioner, and she is now, therefore, judicially separated from her husband. The judge, in his summing up, did not spare either party—both alike received at his hands a well-merited castigation.

Thomas Edis, grocer, Aylesbury-street, Clerkenwell, and Benjamin George Clements, Elder-walk, were each fined in the mitigated penalty of 25*l.*, by Mr. Jardine, at Bow-street, for adulterating coffee with chicory.

Thomas Higgins and George Davis were charged at Westminster police-court with conspiring to obtain the signature of Mr. Charles Grunberg, proprietor of Ashburnham Nursery, King's-road, Chelsea, to a number of bills of exchange and a bill of sale for a large amount. The evidence, given at great length, was to the purport that the prosecutor's ignorance of English law had been taken advantage of to plunder him to the extent represented by the documents to which he had been induced to attach his name. Mr. Paynter found it necessary to remand the case, and refused to take bail.

We regret to find that further evidence has been brought against the wretch Rutledge which leaves no doubt as to his detestable conduct to his daughter. He and his wife have been committed for trial. There will be another indictment preferred against him, for the violation of a girl named Ellen Saltmarsh, who had lived as a servant in his house.

At a meeting of the Middlesex magistracy on Thursday some discussion took place on the much-vexed question of the position and authority of coroners. A severe censure was passed on the Registrar-General for having in his report condemned the conduct of the magistrates in allowing certain fees claimed by the coroners for the holding of inquests, which they deemed unnecessary. Reference was then made to the measures adopted by Mr. Wakley and jury sitting on the body of the man recently murdered in Gloucester-street, to secure the presence of the individual accused of the murder at the remanded inquiry. The right of the Home Secretary to authorise this infraction of the ordinary custom was stoutly denied. The subject then dropped.

A remarkable case of robbery and perjury by a boy has just come to light, by which a foul aspersion is removed from the character of some innocent persons. About three weeks ago a burglary was committed in the premises of Messrs. Kent and Co., Great Marlborough-street, when 51*l.* in money was carried off. There was a boy, fifteen years of age, named Edward Herbert, in the service of the firm, who, on oath before the magistrate, charged two men in the same employ with the crime, saying that he had received a sovereign not to speak of it. The police, however, had some suspicions of the boy; and, being watched, he was observed the other day digging up some sovereigns in Hammersmith Churchyard, and, when brought before Mr. Bingham, confessed that he was guilty of the robbery. The prisoner was remanded for a week.

THE STATE OF SARAWAK.

A DEPUTATION, consisting of the following gentlemen—Mr. Crawford, M.P., Lord Goderich, M.P., Mr. Gregson, M.P., Mr. Horsfall, M.P., Mr. Ewart, M.P., Mr. Drummond, M.P., Sir Dalrymple Elphinstone, M.P., the Mayor of Manchester (Mr. Mackie), Mr. William Fairbairn, Mr. Thomas Fairbairn, Mr. Pender, Mr. Ross, and Mr. Simpson, from Manchester; Mr. Charles Turner, Mr. M'Clintock, and Mr. Adam Gladstone, from Liverpool; Mr. Nicol, from Glasgow; Mr. Ingram Travers, Mr. Coulson, and Mr. John Smith—had an interview with the Earl of Derby on Tuesday, in reference to the propriety of retaining the State of Sarawak under the protectorate of the English Government.

The proceedings, which were of great length, may be thus summed up. The deputation, which represented

some three hundred of the most eminent and opulent firms of the kingdom, informed his lordship that they consider it would be much for the advantage of trade if the British Government would take possession of the territory of Sarawak, which is offered to it upon any terms it may be pleased to name.

The Earl of Derby said he had listened with great attention to the statements made upon this subject, which was one of considerable importance, but one of considerable difficulty. He wished to speak of Sir James Brooke with the highest respect. He was a man of great energy and influence, and there was not the least doubt that to his personal influence and efforts the improvement was owing in the state of Sarawak. The propositions of the deputation his lordship met with a negative, refusing altogether to discuss the commercial points which they brought under his consideration. These he put aside, and based his refusal, first, upon the ground that great inconveniences would arise from the precedent of sanctioning such undertakings as the one which has been carried to so wonderful an issue by Sir James Brooke; secondly, because he is not clear as to Sir James Brooke's title; and, thirdly, because he and his colleagues are opposed to territorial extension altogether. With regard to Sir James Brooke, he did not conceive he had a claim upon the Government in respect of what he had done for his own purposes and objects; his was a half political and half commercial speculation. At the present time the views of the Government were not favourable to the adoption of any of the propositions laid before them.

DEATHS FROM GRIEF.

We have a number of deaths caused by grief, recorded in Michaud's *Biographie*, for the truth of which he is responsible. The number of learned men who died of grief in consequence of various accidents is very considerable. Tribolo, a Florentine engineer of the sixteenth century, died of grief (and of illness, adds the *Biographie*) for having caused the inundations in the territory of Florence. Viglius, a German lawyer, died, in 1577, at the age of seventy, in consequence of the ingratitude of the prince whom he served.

An English writer died, 1557, at the age of forty-three, for having been forcibly converted; the famous heretic of the twelfth century, Amaury, died from the same cause, having been forced to deny his belief. The Benedictine Lami ended his days at seventy-five because a young man whom he had converted from heresy, relapsed again into its fatal errors.

Sibouyah, an Arabic grammarian of the eighth century, died, it is said, of grief, because the Kaliph Haroun-al-Raschid decided in favour of another savant on a grammatical point on which they differed. The Spanish theologian Valentia betrayed equal susceptibility; he died in 1598, aged fifty-two, because the Pope had reproached him with falsifying a passage of Saint Augustin. The historian Avrigny, born at Caen, in 1675, died of grief at sixty-six, in consequence of some alterations made by Lallemand in his works.

The Scotch Chancellor Elphinstone died, they say, of grief occasioned by the loss of the battle of Flodden Field; he was, it is true, eighty-five years of age. The Italian philosopher Rhodiginus, died of grief in 1525, because Francis the First was made prisoner at Pavia, he being at the time seventy-five. The English architect Jones, who could not survive the execution of Charles I., had attained the age of sixty-nine. The physician Fabricius, whom the misfortunes of the King of Denmark made succumb, was more than seventy.

Various persons died, they say, of grief occasioned by the assassination of Henry IV. They cite, amongst others, the celebrated chief of the partisans of Vic.

Duprat, Bishop of Clermont, died, in 1560, at seventy-two years of age, because the canons of his chapter wished to force him to cut his beard.—*Irish Quarterly Review*.

CENTRAL RAILWAY STATION.

PURSUANT to a requisition, signed by three hundred of the principal firms in the City of London, and addressed to the Lord Mayor, a meeting was held on Wednesday, in the London Tavern, to receive the report of Mr. Charles Pearson, City Solicitor, as to his recent proceedings to obtain improved railway accommodation for the City, and to consider the propriety of appointing a committee to inquire and report whether any and what measures can be adopted to diminish the overcrowding of the principal thoroughfares, and to obtain for the working classes better habitations than they are now able to procure in the close and ill-ventilated courts and alleys of the City. The Lord Mayor presided, and was supported by a large number of the most influential merchants and bankers; Lord John Russell was also present. Mr. C. Pearson, previous to presenting the report, called attention to the objects contemplated by him, and to the advantages that "would arise from carrying his project into effect. One of the speeches was made by Lord John Russell, who supported the objects contemplated. The first resolution spoke of the overcrowding of the streets of London, and the second of the overcrowding of the dwellings of the poor. The Central Railway Station project was advocated upon the

special ground that the working classes could not, for the want of such an outlet, get to better homes on the outskirts of London than they possessed within its boundary. No representative of the operative class gave any expression of opinion at this meeting; perhaps it was not deemed necessary. The resolutions were unanimously adopted.

FRENCH SPECULATIONS IN ITALY.

THE Paris correspondent of the *Continental Review* reports the following rumours:—"The relations between the French Government and the Court of Rome are far from being amicable. Besides other matters, which have led to a coldness between Napoleon's Government and the Holy See since the Mortara affair, must be added the discovery, recently made by the Court of Rome, of a correspondence which exposes the whole of the plans formed by the Emperor for the re-arrangement of Italy. According to this plan for the campaign, France was to be placed in Italy with 80,000 men, Piedmont with 60,000 men, besides a reserve of 40,000 men. No one doubts that if the main features of this *coup d'état* are correct, and if the diplomatic manoeuvres of France should succeed in isolating Austria, that this latter power will be promptly and completely expelled from Italy. Then Italy will (such at all events is the report) be divided as follows:—Piedmont will receive the Duchies of Modena, Parma, and Placenzia, besides some portions of Lombardy. The ancient kingdom of Italy in Lombardy and Venice will be re-established in the person of Prince Napoleon, and the real object in placing that prince at the head of the department of Algeria and the colonies is to give him habits of business and to prepare him for the affairs of government. The Romagna will be separated from the States of the Church and united to the kingdom of Italy under Prince Napoleon. The intention is that the dynasty of Murat should be re-established at Naples; and it is very certain that the only object of the diplomatic rupture with the King of the Two Sicilies was to prepare for this end. The dynasty of Murat would add the whole of the Pope's dominions to the kingdom of Naples, with the exception of Rome itself, and the Campagna of Rome, which would be the only temporal territory left to the Pope; and as the pontifical sovereignty would be so much reduced as to be insufficient for the decent support of the position of his Holiness as head of the Catholic Church, an arrangement would be made between all the catholic sovereigns, with a view to their raising a subvention themselves which would indemnify his Holiness for the loss of his territorial possessions and power. The whole of this grand comedy is to be completed by the establishment of universal suffrage as practised with so much success in France—that is to say, all the arrangements would be submitted to the ratification of the people under the form of acclamation for the first act, and of *vote universel* for the second act of this great Napoleonic farce. I give you all this as I hear it, and without guarantee. All I can say is, that it is believed in high places, and that the belief is universal here that we are on the eve of grave events."

IRELAND.

THE SHIP INDIAN EMPIRE.—The ship arrived at Broadhaven Bay on Friday, the 26th ult., having been out thirty-four days from New York. She experienced heavy south-easterly gales from the day of sailing, and when within 800 miles of Galway her fuel was expended. She lay to under canvas, in hopes of obtaining a fair wind, from the 11th to the 21st, when, as a last resource, it was determined to tear up the decks, and with the cargo (cotton) endeavour to reach the nearest port, which was accomplished on Friday week. All well on board, and great praise is due to all the passengers for their untiring exertions in assisting the crew.

THE SHIPPING INTEREST.

THE SUNDERLAND SHIPOWNERS.—At a general meeting of the shipowners of this port held on Monday, Mr. R. Brown moved the first resolution:—"That the shipowners of Sunderland unite cordially in the present movement for securing reciprocity to British shipping, and for placing British ships trading to and from foreign ports on the same footing as the ships belonging to such ports." Alderman Joshua Wilson said he did not believe that the depression in shipping arose from a want of reciprocity, for the other nations had never reciprocated with us, and there had been good times and bad times in spite of the want of reciprocity. He considered that to endeavour to force reciprocity upon other nations would not make much difference to us. He maintained that we could not retaliate upon other nations without injury to ourselves. He advocated free trade for the British shipowners and community, and said that the British shipping was going ahead of every other nation's. He thought there would be no advantage in putting in force the retaliatory measure, and he therefore opposed the resolution. The resolution was put and carried, as was also one approving of petitions to Parliament praying for the removal of all those dues in British corporate seaport towns which create invidious distinctions in favour of the shipowners who are freemen of such towns;

and another, approving of an address to her Majesty, requesting that efforts might be made to induce foreign states to concede to British trade and shipping the same advantages we have voluntarily granted to them, or in the event of a refusal to reverse the present restrictive system, to consider the expediency of exercising the powers of the 16 and 17 Vict., c. 107, s. 324. Mr Fenwick, M.P., in reply to a vote of thanks for the attention he had bestowed upon the shipping interest, said he believed many causes had produced the depression, but that the main cause was a natural cause, over which the Legislature could have no influence.

NAVAL AND MILITARY.

COURT-MARTIAL ON TOLE.—The general court for the trial of private Thomas Tole, for deserting to the Russian enemy in the year 1855, has again assembled at Chatham Barracks. It was proved that Tole, since he has been in the service, has always borne a bad character, and that he had been once before tried by court-martial, and convicted of desertion. After deliberation the court closed its proceedings, the general impression being that the prisoner is found guilty, from the circumstance of the adjutant being called to prove a former conviction, which is rarely done when a prisoner is acquitted.

KNELLER HALL.—It is rumoured (says the *United Service Gazette*) that Mr. W. Balfe, the celebrated composer, is to succeed the present superintendent of Musical Instruction at Kneller-hall.

INVALIDS FROM NEW ZEALAND.—A party of invalid troops belonging to the 65th Regiment, arrived at Fort Pitt from New Zealand, and have been medically inspected. The invalids left Wellington on the 19th of August. Many of them are suffering from disease in the eyes, which is said to be rather prevalent in New Zealand.

THE BOMBAY TRANSPORT.—On the 27th ultimo, at noon, the barque Amazon spoke the Bombay transport, in lat. 62.15 N., lon. 20.39 W., with three masts gone to the deck, in want of assistance, crew engaged in rigging jury masts. The Henry Crook spoke the Bombay on the 21st of November, and learnt that the unfortunate ship had lost her chief officer and half of her crew.

THE CANNONADING AT QUEENSTOWN.—A court-martial has been held at Queenstown, on board her Majesty's ship Nile, on Lieutenant Edward Alfred Luckraft, second lieutenant of her Majesty's ship Hawke, on a charge of having acted in an improper and unofficerlike manner on the night of the 31st of October. The alarm caused to a large portion of the residents of Queenstown on the night of Sunday, the 31st of October, by a loud and prolonged cannonading from the Hawke, must be still fresh in the minds of the public, and the proceedings were an investigation of the charge against the officer who had ordered the cannonading, Lieutenant Luckraft. The evidence of the gunner was to the effect that the prisoner was drunk; according to other witnesses he had been "drinking." The gunner did all he dared to prevent the orders for the cannonading from being executed. Witnesses were examined for the prisoner who spoke as to his habitual sobriety, and gave evidence to show that he was labouring under disease of the brain caused by sunstroke while serving in China. The decision of the court, in consideration of the medical testimony which had been produced, and his previous good conduct, was:—That he should be dismissed from her Majesty's ship Hawke, and rendered incapable of serving in her Majesty's employment again. This sentence does not deprive him of his half-pay.

COAST DEFENCES.—The sea defences at Sheerness, which include five bastions, to enclose and protect the dockyard, barracks, and stores, are undergoing extensive alterations and improvements, and rapid progress has been made. In the centre bastion there are already built four extensive magazines and two large buildings, with walls of immense thickness, so placed as to act as traverses to cover the men and guns from the fire of an enemy. Twenty-one guns of large calibre are to take the places of smaller guns removed. Within the last fortnight buildings, earthworks, and walls have grown up with much rapidity.

H.M.S. SAPHO.—The Superintendent of Chatham Dockyard, Captain Goldsmith, has written to the Secretary of the Admiralty, expressing his opinion that no reliance is to be placed on the statements which have been made public relative to the supposed wreck of the Sappho. It is, however, of no use disguising the fact that from the circumstance of the Sappho not having been heard of since January last very grave doubts are entertained as to the safety of that ship. The following officers sailed from the Cape of Good Hope in the Sappho: Commander Fairfax Moresby; Lieutenant Francis P. Staples; Master, Mr. Frederick Wills; Surgeon, Mr. William Evans; and Paymaster, Mr. Thomas J. Loy.

THE YELVERTON ESTATES.—We understand that the demise of the Marchioness of Hastings, which took place at Rome on the 19th ult., will open the question of the rightful succession to the Yelverton name and estates under the will of the last Earl of Sussex, also Viscount Longueville and Baron Grey de Ruthyn.

Foreign Intelligence.

CONTINENTAL NOTES.

FRANCE.

THERE is a report in Paris that the Emperor of Russia is to visit that city next spring, and that he will afterwards go to London.

It is not expected that the French Court will return to the Tuileries before the 5th.

A superior council for the administration of Algeria and the Colonies is in course of formation at the Colonial Office to assist Prince Napoleon.

A deplorable accident has occurred at Vincennes. General Ardent, of the Engineers, who was assisting at a trial of guns being fired at a target, was struck on the head by a projectile, and killed on the spot. The Minister of War, Marshal Vaillant, was standing near him at the moment, but escaped unhurt.

The *Moniteur* of Thursday announces that the Emperor, in consequence of the anniversary of the 2nd of December, relieves M. de Montalembert from the penalties of the sentence passed upon him. (*Fait grace à M. de Montalembert de la peine prononcée contre lui.*)

M. de Montalembert, it is said, did not intend to leave France when his term of imprisonment had expired. At the weekly sitting of the French Academy, M. Berryer and M. de Montalembert, who are members of that learned body, attended in their places. They were received with great applause—in fact, their entry was quite an ovation.

A Paris letter says:—"The razzia against the English press still continues. All the London daily papers of any moment were seized on Monday; and I now find that nearly every respectable weekly journal has met with the same fate. You can scarcely imagine the excitement and annoyance created among the English colony here by these arbitrary and puerile measures. Many old residents seriously talk of leaving at once."

A double duel took place on Wednesday between M. de Villemessant, editor in chief of the *Figaro*, and M. Naquet, on the one hand; and between M. Lucas, editor of the same journal, and M. Plunkett, director of the Palais Royal Theatre, on the other. The weapons used were swords, and all four combatants were wounded, but none seriously.

PRUSSIA.

The results of the elections in Prussia are even more favourable than was announced. The majority of the Constitutionalists is overwhelming. The *National Gazette* of Berlin thus classifies the successful candidates:—Ministerialists 128, Advanced Liberals 95, Conservatives 39, Catholics 38, Poles 18, Feudalists 27. The Feudalist party, which had the upper hand in the last Chamber, has suffered most, and is completely defeated. The *Kreuz Zeitung*, the name of which that party often bears, laments, in its issue of the 27th, that territorial influence has almost everywhere had to give place to personal qualifications in these elections. The *Official Prussian Gazette* publishes an article on the result of the elections, which, it is said, give room to hope that the Ministry and the Legislature will co-operate with cordiality, each respecting the other's privileges and obligations. But, it is added, the Government cannot permit any political party to take the initiative in measures. Government by party is totally inconsistent with the spirit of the system of the Prussian monarchy.

In the prayer for the royal family, offered up in the Established Church of this country, a passage has been inserted imploring divine assistance for the happy confinement of the Princess Frederick William.

The Prince of Wales is but little seen in the streets and theatres of the capital.

SPAIN.

Admiral Jose Maria Quesada, Spanish Minister of Marine, having promoted two naval officers without consulting Marshal O'Donnell, that minister offered to resign, but the Queen refused to accept his resignation, and Admiral Quesada himself resigned. The two officers so promoted by Admiral Quesada had not been displaced. The Marshal has been appointed Minister of Marine *ad interim*.

The *Madrid Gazette* contains a royal decree, which appoints some new Councillors of State in the room of the Marquis de Pidal and others, who had resigned. A meeting of deputies had resolved to support M. Martinez de la Rosa, the ministerial candidate for the presidency of the Chamber. According to the *Novedades*, 106,000 electors voted in the late elections, and 78,000 of them supported ministerial candidates.

A letter from Madrid of the 24th mentions the general feeling there that the nomination of Echague as Captain-General of that capital, which was looked upon as certain, is considered as a strong indication of a military dictatorship being resolved upon if the Cortes prove ungovernable. The sentiments of O'Donnell on that head were that the Queen had now quite changed for the better, and that she had become a "great Queen," that she had perfect confidence in her Ministry, but that her Majesty, as well as her Ministers, saw clearly that no liberty could exist in Spain but by means of a military domination; that it was nonsense to talk of English principles or institutions in Spain, which, though they

might answer for a Protestant, would never do for a Catholic country, in which the people are accustomed to obedience, and that the material prosperity of a people could be founded by a despotic system alone in Spain, as in France.

Letters from Melilla, on the Riff coast, state that efforts had been made to ransom some Spanish officers taken by the Arabs, or to effect an exchange of prisoners; but the Arab chief refused to give up his prisoners unless the cannon taken from him were given back, adding, that in case his demand was not complied with he would shoot his Spanish prisoners in sight of the fortress.

The bridges and embankments of the Seville and Cordova Railway have suffered great damage by the late storms and inundations.

LOMBARDY.

Telegraphic news from Milan, which comes through Paris, states that a popular movement has broken out in that city threatening to the Austrian dominions, that insurrectionary cries are heard, and that the Austrian authorities have thought it necessary to patrol the town.

A letter from Milan, in the *Opinione*, says:—"The population complains of the conscription and the new money. Bread and cigars, the objects of the first necessity, have undergone a rise in price in consequence of the change of money. People say that after the battle of Novara, it was not a peace that was concluded, but an armistice for ten years, which is about to expire. The preference cigar is that called Cavourino (from the name of Count Cavour), a Sardinian cigar smuggled into the country. The police are alarmed at these symptoms. Some disorders took place at the School of Fine Arts, which ended in the expulsion of several pupils."

SWITZERLAND.

The negotiations entered into between France and Switzerland on the subject of the Valley of the Dappes still meet with serious difficulties. The Swiss Federal Government showed itself very well disposed to cede to France the territory in question; and the military authorities of the Confederation have expressed favourable opinions on the subject, but since then the national susceptibilities have found voice, and raise against the projected settlement an opposition which will not easily be put down. This opposition meets with an echo abroad. An article published in the *Gazette Militaire* of Vienna gives to the Valley of the Dappes a very great strategical importance, not only for the defence of Switzerland, but also for that of Italy.

SARDINIA.

Speaking of Villafranca, a correspondent at Nice writes:—"The very nature of this retired port, with its splendid bay, is calculated to awaken mistrust in others, and inspire mischievous ideas in Russia, even if they do not exist, and if Villafranca has been really patronised at St. Petersburg with the sole view of facilitating the movements in the imperial navy. In this out-of-the-way port, the ships of Russia dispersed over the south might concentrate, with the best prospects of being unperceived by those powers who have nothing to gain by the extension of Russian influence over the members of the Greek Church in these waters. It could not be supposed that the sudden concentration in the bay of Villafranca of a strong Russian squadron would at the present moment give moderation to the politicians of the Ionian Isles, or would improve the relations existing between the Sultan and his Greek subjects. Not an objection could be raised by the most fanatical Russophobe to the fact of Russian vessels repairing at Villafranca, and of thus availing themselves of resources otherwise condemned to decay. But it certainly is desirable, in the interest of all the great powers save France, that the number of Russian vessels in the port should be subject to restriction."

Another letter says:—"The first vessel to enter the Sardo-Russian port was the sloop Polkan, and she was soon followed by the liner Retriusan and the brig Castor. The rest of the squadron, which will for a time be under the command of the Grand-Duke Constantine, must have already reached Villafranca. According to the Genoa papers Russia is to bear half the expense of the fortifications which are to be constructed at Spezzia, and in return she is to be allowed to keep her men-of-war in that port during the winter season."

Seven Russian vessels of war were expected to arrive at Nice on the 21st or 22nd inst. According to the Sardinian despatch, these seven ships, with the two which have already arrived, are to form a squadron "for the protection of the commercial interests of Russia in the Mediterranean."

A correspondent of the *Daily News* writes from Turin:—"Sir James Hudson, the Minister of Queen Victoria, has returned hither from Scotland—I believe from a visit at the mansion of Lord Malmesbury. No man is better calculated than Sir James to keep alive the friendship which should exist between Great Britain and Piedmont, seeing the great confidence which he inspires in both Governments. He possesses a thorough knowledge of this country, and of the rest of Italy; and I hope he may have convinced your Minister of Foreign Affairs of the necessity of effectually aiding the Italian cause, if he wishes to remove one of the permanent and

most perilous causes of an interruption of the peace of Europe. That eminently national party amongst us, of whom I have frequently spoken, and who would desire to see Italy arise gradually by her own strength, turn their eyes always towards England, a power which must regard this design with favour, as one both just and advantageous to all the world, except to grasping aggressors."

TURKEY.

A telegraphic despatch from Belgrade, received in Vienna on the 25th, announces that the Ottoman Commissioner, Kabouly Effendi, had arrived there the evening before, and had been immediately received by Prince Alexander. The despatch adds that the garrison of the fortress of Belgrade had been augmented by a battalion of Nizam. It is inferred from this that the Porte does not see without disquietude the convocation of the Skuptschina, or Servian Parliament.

Agitation in Candia is said to be increasing, on account of oppression and violence of the Government. The inhabitants are buying arms and ammunition. Sami Pasha, fearing a general rising, has applied for fresh reinforcements.

Government intends increasing the taxes in the whole empire, especially on tobacco, and to establish a tax on landed property.

We have news from Constantinople, *via* Marseilles, to the 24th of November. It announces that the Sultan had intimated his firm determination to maintain the actual Cabinet, with Mehemet Pasha at the Admiralty.

The news from Candia is bad. The attitude of the population is still threatening.

The telegraph from Constantinople to Rodosta is in operation.

BELGIUM.

The Belgian Chamber of Representatives has adopted unanimously by sixty-five votes the ensemble of the Imprisonment for Debt Bill, the final vote on which had been postponed.

The Belgian association for promoting reforms in the customs duties has just met at Brussels for a fourth time. A resolution was adopted unanimously at the first sitting that it was necessary to continue the most active exertions, by petitioning and agitation, in order to bring about, even during the present session, the changes which seem imperatively called for.

THE IONIAN ISLANDS.

A letter from Corfu of the 23rd says:—"The Perseverance troopship sailed last evening with the 3rd Buffs for Alexandria, *en route* for Calcutta; their departure from this place was much regretted. The Terrible, with Mr. Gladstone, from Trieste, is expected to-morrow. Our island was never so full of English families as this winter, and others are expected."

Advices received from Corfu to the 27th ult. state that the ten deputies of Corfu have protested against the statement of Sir John Young, that the inhabitants of Corfu desire incorporation with Great Britain, and have expressed, at the same time, their desire of being annexed to Greece. This protest has been forwarded to the Colonial Minister, Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton.

ROME.

A letter from Rome says:—"As there are many contradictory reports in circulation respecting the conduct of the French Government in the Mortara affair, it may be as well to give you some reliable information on the subject. Neither France nor any other power has officially intervened in favour of the parents of the boy, but both the Duke de Grammont and M. von Thiele (the Prussian Minister at the Papal Court) have endeavoured to persuade Cardinal Antonelli to restore the child to his natural protectors. The French Ambassador was very urgent, but his eloquence was *en pure perte*, for he could make no impression on the stony heart of the Roman Minister."

Five men lately went in a carriage to the railway station at Bologna, at which they alighted, and demanded of the officials all the cash in the strong-box. This being politely delivered to them, they re-entered their vehicle with their prize and drove off, no one attempting to stop them. They wore masks. This occurred about two in the afternoon.

RUSSIA.

Advices from St. Petersburg state that the Emperor has not ratified the project of the commission charged to regulate the question for emancipating the serfs in Poland, on account of its being but little in accordance with the spirit which dictated the Imperial decrees on the subject. It is, therefore, presumed that the rules adopted in the other parts of the Russian Empire will be likewise applied to Poland.

In a recent treaty between Russia and China it is stipulated that there shall be a monthly mail communication between Kiachta, on the Russian frontier, and Peking, the communication to be effected in fifteen days, for the convenience of the two Governments, as well as for the wants of the Russian ecclesiastical mission at Peking. This mission consists of ten persons—never more—but may be less, from death or other causes. They reside within the city of Peking, near the imperial palace; have a Chinese guard of honour, but are unrestricted in their movements. The Chinese have a school of twenty-four young men selected from the descendants of the Cossacks made prisoners at the capture

of Albasin, on the Amoor river, in 1680, in the war with Russia, and who were removed to Peking. These boys are taught the Russian language, and any documents coming from Russia is sent to this school to be rendered into Chinese, as well as such Russian books or writings which the Emperor of China wishes to be informed of.

According to a decree of the Emperor, the serfs in the mines held on leases from the State are to be free men in the space of six months.

MONACO.

A correspondent of the *Times* informs us that during the Russian war—in 1854 or 1855—the needy descendant of the Grimaldis ceded his principality to the United States. A convention was concluded on the subject between the Washington Government and the Prince of Monaco. "The convention was never ratified," says my informant, "because some of the European Governments entered a protest against the transaction." There is reason to believe that General Cass, who was then the representative of the United States at one of the Italian Courts, carried on the negotiations with the Prince and his official advisers. Some years ago the place of rendezvous for the American cruisers in the Mediterranean was Port Mahon, in the Island of Minorca, but, for some reason which is unknown to me, they received notice from the Spanish Government that their presence was not agreeable. They afterwards went to Spezzia, and while cruising about in the neighbourhood the 'cute Yankee captains were greatly struck by the "capabilities" of the port of Monaco.

PORTUGAL.

The Count de Pavia, the Portuguese Ambassador in Paris, is at present in London. The *Continental Review* says:—"The Belgian papers have announced that he is unwell, but there is reason to believe that his illness is of a political character. The French Government is annoyed at the mode in which the affair of the Charles-et-Georges has turned out. The French Minister at Lisbon has complained, in the name of his Government, of the obnoxious clause in the King's speech, and insists upon a note being inserted in the Lisbon official paper to the effect that 'the documents which are to be laid before the Cortes with respect to the whole of that affair will prove that France did not use any sort of pressure to induce Portugal to yield.' His Portuguese Majesty refuses to comply with this second humiliation, and until the affair is settled, it is thought as well that M. de Pavia should pass his leisure time either in London or in Brussels."

THE PRINCIPALITIES.

Letters from Bucharest state that on the 28th an attempt was made on the person of the Kaimakan. A jectile was thrown, but happily nobody was wounded. Advices from the same place of the 25th ult. state that the 17th of December is fixed for the close of the electoral lists. A letter from Vienna, however, draws a very unfavourable picture of the state of feeling in the Principalities. The agitation, it is said, caused by the approach of the elections, has lately assumed so alarming a character that the three Kaimakans named by the Sultan have been under the necessity of resorting to rigorous measures to prevent the disturbances which were on the eve of breaking out among the partisans of the different candidates for the post of hospodar. In Moldavia there are no less than six candidates. The continued presence of the Turkish commissioner at Jassy tends very much to keep up this agitation among the people. The Democratic party claim complete emancipation from all suzerainty, and the authorities have been obliged to call out the armed force and arrest the most turbulent among them. According to accounts from Vienna, the Austrian Consul-General at Jassy has refused to sign passports issued by the Kaimakanie of Moldavia with the heading of "United Principalities." There is no doubt, adds the writer, that his Government will approve of what he has done.

HOLLAND.

A letter from the Hague states that the Minister for the Colonies has just presented to the Legislature a bill relative to the emancipation of slaves in the Dutch East India colonies. As by the vote of the Legislature in 1854 these slaves become free on the 1st of January, 1860, the present bill is merely to regulate in time the manner in which that emancipation is to take place.

DENMARK.

The *Flensburg Gazette* states that great dissatisfaction prevails in Iceland, where the people are desirous of governing themselves. The committee on finance of the Second Chamber at Copenhagen declares that the time has arrived for according to them the right of managing their own affairs.

AUSTRIA.

A Vienna paper contains the following strong remarks:—"The oppressed nationalities know that the French, when in foreign countries, are arrogant, impudent, and oppressive, and consequently they are not very likely to desire their active support. The foreign policy of France is essentially aggressive, for England, Turkey, Austria, and Portugal have in their turn been attacked. Can this state of things last? In our opinion it cannot, and the French Government will do well to remember that the patience of Europe has already been tried to the utmost." This appeared in an independent paper, which is frequently called to account by the authorities for

daring to call things by their right names. This plain speaking finds an echo in the hearts of the great bulk of the Austrian nation.

The report that Austria has recently addressed a note to the Sardinian Government, requesting it to state why such great armaments are being made, deserves no credit. The story of the march of some thousands of Croats to Italy is also an idle invention, for Austria has already quite as many troops in the Lombardo-Venetian kingdom as are considered requisite.

We learn from Milan that a medal, bearing the motto "Emmanuel, King of Italy," is being secretly distributed. The most absurd rumours are in circulation. One of the current stories is that Russia having demanded 200 millions from Austria for the expenses of the war in Hungary in 1849, Austria, having no other means of payment, proposed to sell Lombardy to Piedmont.

WEST INDIES.

THE Parana arrived at Southampton on Wednesday, bringing news from Jamaica to the 11th ult.

JAMAICA.

The Legislature was opened on the 10th by a lengthy speech from Governor Darling. The island was healthy and weather much colder, but more rain was required. Business operations were very limited.

Her Majesty's ships Imaum, Devastation, and Valorous were at Port Royal. Commodore Kellett returned from Greytown on the 10th of November in the Devastation.

BARBADOES.

The weather had improved and crops looked better. The Legislature met on the 2nd, and both Houses presented addresses to the Governor in reply to his opening speech. The House of Assembly adjourned for three weeks, and a new Education Bill will be read a second time at the next sitting. The island continued healthy.

HAYTI.

The town of Jacmel has been visited by a fire, the loss by which was estimated at 1,000,000 piastres.

DEMERARA.

The Court of Policy met on the 29th of October. The principal business related to measures for preserving the sea defences. The Court met again on the 5th and 8th ult., and entered at considerable length into the long-vexed immigration question.

MEXICO.

By the ship America we learn that at New Orleans rumours were current that the city of Mexico had been attacked by the Liberals and four hundred of Zuloaga's soldiers killed; also that the whole country was in possession of the Liberals, with the exception of the capital. Another despatch says:—We have received Vera Cruz advices of the 9th ultimo. Guadalajara was recaptured by the Liberals on the 28th October instead of the 18th. It was most desperately defended, and the Liberals had to be reinforced by a thousand men. The people were rejoicing at their success. Zuloaga was anxious to retire from the field, but the clergy had offered him another million not to do so. Mazatlan was in possession of the Liberals. San Blas was the only town on the Pacific held by Zuloaga.

SOUTH AMERICAN STATES.

THE steamship Parana, which arrived on Wednesday, brings the following news:—

In Chili a strong opposition was manifested against the existing Government, but the President met it in a firm and determined manner. No breach of the public peace was anticipated. Commercial matters wore a brighter aspect; the panic which had lasted for many months had given way to a better feeling, but great inconvenience was felt from the want of circulating medium, gold and silver coin having been almost entirely exported from the country.

Several attempts at a revolution in the Republic of Bolivia had been successfully put down.

The President-Elect of Peru, General Castilla, was proclaimed on the 24th of October, and for a time Peru was at peace. General Echenique had commenced to foment revolution in the south, while a war with Ecuador was threatened in the north. The Peruvian steam-ship Callao was in the river of Guayaquil, ready to blockade the river and burn the town if the final proposal respecting the boundary question was not acceded to.

AMERICA.

THE Fulton has arrived at Southampton, with American mails and advices to the 18th ultimo. The greater part of her news has been anticipated. Later advices from Bermuda announce a terrific hurricane, doing great damage. Letters from San Francisco announce the close of the Oregon war, the Indians having sued for peace. The miners were returning from Fraser River, the gold found being insufficient to pay the diggers' wages.

By the steamer America we learn that orders are to

be forthwith sent to the naval forces in Central America, having in view the enforcement of the President's anti-filibustering proclamation.—A letter from Havannah says: "The Spanish fleet, expected here daily, will unite with the English in maintaining the independence of Nicaragua, and no filibustering will be permitted. The British and American Governments will probably demand the adjustment of all disputes concerning the isthmus by mediation."

A fire at Providence, Rhode Island, had destroyed the theatre and other property, valued in all at 200,000 dols.

A St. Louis telegram says: "Judge Eckles, having in charge Henrietta Polidore, who was rescued from the Mormons on a writ of *habeas corpus* at the request of the British Government, has arrived here. This girl was abducted from Gloucestershire four years ago.

We have accounts from Salt Lake City to the 16th ultimo. General Johnston went into winter quarters on the 12th. Heavy rains and high winds prevailed at Camp Floyd. The snow on the mountains was three feet deep, and the ice three inches thick. Considerable excitement existed at Salt Lake City in reference to the reports of gold at Pike's Peak, and numbers were leaving for the diggings there.

The steamer Atlantic, of the Collins line, was advertised to have been sold by auction, on the 15th ultimo, to liquidate the debt due to the Government. However, the auctioneer announced that the sale would be postponed to the 30th. There were but few persons present.

Additional intelligence was received on Thursday by the steamer New York, from New York, and also by the Indian, from Quebec. The Japan treaty has been received at Washington. The Secretary of the Navy would, it was stated, recommend Congress, in his report, to provide more war vessels of light draught.

Walker's arrangements are so far perfected that it is announced that the first cargo of emigrants for Nicaragua will leave Mobile on the 20th of November. Information had reached Washington that a large number of adventurers had assembled, but it was considered certain that they would not be permitted to leave for Nicaragua, unless they succeeded in eluding the vigilance of the United States officers.

A large amount of counterfeit notes on the National Bank of Austria were recently disposed of to several of the keenest bankers in Wall-street. The fraud was not discovered until the return of the bills in the steamer Vanderbilt. Three Germans are arrested.

The great State Arsenal at New York, which was in course of erection, and well-nigh finished, was totally destroyed on the 19th by the collapsing of the roof, which in its fall crushed out three of the walls of the building, and did other serious damage. No loss of life was occasioned.

The New Orleans papers contain details of the injury done by a hurricane which swept over a portion of Jasper, county Mississippi. The residence of the Rev. J. Moody, methodist minister, nine miles from Paulding, was demolished, killing him and eight members of his family, and wounding several others.

LORD BURY AT TORONTO.

On the 13th of November Viscount Bury, M.P., was entertained at a complimentary dinner in the Rossin-house, Toronto. Upwards of a hundred gentlemen sat down. The Mayor, Mr. Reed, occupied the chair, having the guest of the evening, Lord Bury, on his right, and Sir Allan N. Macnab, Bart., on his left. After assuring the assembly that politics had nothing whatever to do with his visit to Canada, Lord Bury said:—"I must say that the progress of Canada, which I thought I fully understood when I was here before, struck me afresh on my return to this country. I confess I look upon the rapid growth of your towns and the development of your institutions with as much astonishment as ever. The condition of your social position is progress, and you want three things: more rapid means of communication to every part of your country; the bone and sinew which shall make these means of transport valuable—you want an organised system of emigration; lastly, you want some means of annihilating, as far as practicable, the distance between this country and the mother country. With regard to the providing quick communication, I have become connected with several undertakings which have that great object in view. First, with a company which is to shorten the steamboat journey across the sea from one continent to the other; and it was my good fortune when in St. John's, Newfoundland, to sign a contract on behalf of that company for the mails to be carried between Newfoundland and Galway. As the Atlantic telegraph is not yet an accomplished fact, I think these steamers are the next best thing. Their terminus is at present placed in New York, but I have powers from the directors to endeavour to enlist the sympathies of Canada in the project, and if we succeed in so enlisting the sympathies of Canada we are prepared to bring a weekly line to Quebec. Arrived on the shores of the New World, I hope to see provision made for a communication with the interior, and that a railway will be constructed between Halifax and Quebec. I am the bearer of full powers to treat and to conclude

with Canada and the other provinces the terms upon which this railroad can be carried out. It seems to me that this is a project which is very important to Canada, inasmuch as access to the seaboard through British territory can never be matter of indifference either to Canada or to the mother country. A railroad on very reasonable terms will be offered you, and if accepted you will in a very short time see a railroad from here to the Atlantic. I think it is impossible for any man to look with prophetic eyes on the map and on the physical and natural features of the country without seeing that Canada must eventually become the great carrying power of the world. We have heard the theory advanced that the colonies should be represented in the Imperial Parliament. There is a mode of representation which would not be open to objection; it is that gentlemen from the colonies who have rendered themselves conspicuous among their fellow-citizens, in politics and other ways, should have conferred upon them life peerages which would make them members of the British Parliament.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE COURT.—Her Majesty continues at Windsor with her family, and all are in good health. The Queen and the Prince Consort have visited the camp at Aldershot this week, when there was a parade of the whole of the troops. The visitors to the Castle this week have included the Earl and Countess of Harwicke, the Duke and Duchess of Manchester, Lord Stanley, Lord John Russell, Sir James Clark, and the Dean of Windsor. The *Court Circular* says that the Prince of Wales was expected to return from Berlin at the close of the week.

ST. PAUL'S.—The Sunday evening services commenced in the cathedral this week. The Bishop of London preached the sermon, and the congregation numbered nearly 3000 persons. A far greater multitude, however, assembled outside the cathedral unable to obtain admission. This crowd not only encircled St. Paul's, but extended a considerable distance down Ludgate-hill, and must have numbered many thousands of persons. The scene was rather a disorderly one.

MUNOZ'S FAMILY.—"Of the two sons of Queen Christina, both of whom have been educated at Versailles," says a Paris letter in the *Journal du Harre*, "one has been admitted to the military school of St. Cyr, and the other goes to England to continue his studies, being destined for a diplomatic career. By her marriage with the Duc de Rianzares, the Queen has also three daughters, the Princess Czartoriska, another married at Rome, and the Princess Christina, who lives with her mother at Malmaison."

THE ROYAL SOCIETY.—The anniversary meeting of the Royal Society was held on Monday, at Burlington-house, on which occasion Lord Wrottesley delivered his annual address, reviewing the progress of science during the past year. The medals were then awarded as follows:—The Copley Medal, to Sir Charles Lyell for his various researches and writings on geology; a Royal Medal to Mr. Albany Hancock for his various researches on the anatomy of the mollusca; the second Royal Medal to Mr. William Lassell for his astronomical researches; and the Rumford Medal to Professor Jamin, of Paris, for researches on light. The election of new council and officers then took place. Sir Benjamin Brodie, Bart., was elected president.

SHAKESPEARE IN RUSSIA.—One branch of fine art survives in Russia—love for the stage—if we may judge by the reception given to Shakespeare in that country in the person of his sable representative, Mr. Ira Aldridge. A negro as the Moor catches the Russian taste. Pate, compliments, coaches, overwhelm the happy actor. We do not know whether political feeling helps a Slave audience to appreciate what is no doubt good in itself, though we should not ourselves like to stand in the papposes of that "gentleman of colour" who should dare to essay *Othello* before a Morisco audience. Mr. Aldridge, private letters tell us, has finished an engagement at Riga, to demonstrations of delight such as once rewarded Ellsler or Taglioni, crowned by the presentation of a silver nugget from the Ural mountains by Prince Suvaroff. Shakespeare is now on his way to St. Petersburg, engaged to lodge at the Czar's expense, to ride in the Czar's coach, and appear twelve times at the Imperial Theatre, at 60*l.* a night. Who can say that England is not comprehended on the Neva?—*Athenaeum*.

CHRISTIANITY IN CHINA AND JAPAN.—A meeting was held on Wednesday, at Willis's Rooms, for the purpose of directing attention to "the providential openings" which have recently been made for the introduction of Christianity into China and Japan. The Bishop of London, who occupied the chair, attributed the opening up of China and Japan to the agency of God, and said that when He blessed the nation with success in "war and commerce," it became our duty to advance Christianity in the country with which we had been brought in contact. The Bishop admitted that there were great difficulties in the way of missionary enterprise in both China and Japan. The Bishop of Oxford, however, reiterated the opinions on which he has spoken with so much eloquence in the House of Lords. Admiral Keppel appeared to feel that the Bishop of Oxford's remarks placed him in an embarrassing position, for he proceeded to say that as his profession was one of

arms it was not for him to question the right or wrong of the Chinese war. Mr. John Crawford, formerly Governor of Singapore, pointed out the evil of political intrigues on the part of missionaries.

LOLA MONTES.—Among the passengers by the Pacific from New York to Galway was this celebrated person. The *Galway Vindicator* says:—"The Countess was received with every attention and respect by the officials and a few friends. We learned from herself that she has come to Ireland for the purpose of delivering lectures at Dublin, Cork, Limerick, Waterford, Belfast, and finally Galway, on 'America, its people, and its social institutions,' and she added, that she means to talk about them as they are, not as they have been misrepresented by Mr. Dickens, Mr. Mackay, Mr. Thackeray, and others."

NEW PEERS.—We (the *Lancet*) have reason to believe that Sir B. Brodie is to be raised to the Peerage with the title of Baron Betchworth. The *Post* says that it is understood Lord Justice Knight Bruce is to be made a Peer, when he will resign his present appointment.

JUNIUS.—There is news about "Junius." Mr. Parkes—Joseph of Birmingham—a very well-read man and a scholar, and with advantages which few have possessed, is to give us, before six months are over, a "Life of Sir Philip Francis," the "Junius" of Macaulay and Brougham, but not the "Junius" of Mr. Dilke. Mr. Parkes possesses all the papers of Mr. Dubois, the secretary of Francis and the executor of Tom Hill. Surely Tom Hill must have "happened" to know who Junius was?—*Illustrated London News*.

LAW AMENDMENT SOCIETY.—At the meeting held on Tuesday, the report of the Special Committee appointed to consider the rule requiring the unanimity of juries, was read and discussed. The committee were of opinion that unanimity should continue to be required of juries who tried criminal cases, but the opinion of the committee was equally divided with regard to the introduction of the majority system into civil cases. The debate which followed the reading of the report was adjourned.

MR. HARVEY COMBE.—The death of this well-known sportsman took place on the 22nd ultimo at his residence at Cobham. Mr. Combe, who was in the seventy-fourth year of his age, was the head of the great brewing firm of Combe and Delafield, and for thirty years kept foxhounds and racehorses. Possessed of a munificent fortune, he devoted a considerable portion of it to acts of charity, and his benevolence to several members of the sporting world will be long remembered. He was an active magistrate, and fulfilled the duties of his station in life in a manner that well deserves imitation; his memory will long be respected.

CITY SEWERS.—On Monday, at the meeting of the Commissioners, a letter was read from Mr. S. Gurney, M.P., who offered to erect, at his own expense, a public drinking fountain in the open space in front of the Royal Exchange. The offer was very cheerfully accepted.

CRINOLINE.—Is there anything more hypocritical than the dress of a lady at the present day? Is there anything more abominably false than the petticoat of a lady now-a-days? When you meet them in the streets—one of those walking mountains—taking up half your High-street, and, generally speaking, the smaller they are in person the larger they are in dress—when you see one of these prominently walking ladies, you will say, "Oh, the stately lady—proud lady! It looks as a Juno." If they would permit you, by engineering, to measure the basis of their rotundity, you try to do the utmost you can by stretching out your arms. This is an impossibility; but when you go to embrace them, you find there is nothing, and that you have been grasping at a handful of wind. This is what I call gaining admiration under false pretences.—*Lecture of Gavazzi at Belfast*.

THE CATTLE SHOW.—There is some expectation of her Majesty visiting the annual exhibition of the Smithfield Club this day. The Prince Consort has a large number of entries in the Hereford short horns and Scotch classes of cattle, as well as in the sheep and pig classes. The Duke of Bedford, the Duke of Richmond, the Earl of Yarborough, the Duke of Rutland, the Earl of Zetland, Lord Faversham, the Earl of Leicester, Lord Berners, Sir O. Knightley, Lord Portman, Earl Spencer, and a large number of noblemen and gentlemen farmers, are also amongst the contributors. The judges make their awards on Monday, and in the evening there will be a private view. The show will open to the public on Tuesday next, and continue open till Friday the 10th, when it finally closes.

SARAWAK AND LORD DERNY.—A correspondent of the *Daily News* says:—"What should prevent the Lancashire people taking up Rajah Brooke's government and putting it in perpetual commission? Capital for a small railway would be sufficient to develop the settlement and indemnify Sir James into the bargain, besides testing Manchester management of foreign possessions against Downing-street."

CRYSTAL PALACE.—The Mozart concert, held annually in commemoration of the death of this great composer, takes place to-day (Saturday). These annual celebrations have been hitherto received with much pleasure

by the season ticket-holders and their friends, and have been the most fully attended of the season. The concert of to-day promises considerable interest, comprising, among other pieces, a symphony in C major, and a concerto for pianoforte also in C (both first-rate works, but only seldom performed), as well as the principal airs and concerted pieces from the opera *Die Zauberflöte*. Madame and Mr. Weiss, Mr. George Perren, and Herr Pauer are the principal performers. The band is to be strengthened, and an efficient chorus employed on the occasion. Mr. Pepper's lecture on the Egyptian Court is to be given after the concert.

WESTMINSTER PLAY.—The *Phormio* of Terence will be performed by the Queen's Scholars of St. Peter's College, Westminster, on Tuesday, the 14th; Thursday, the 16th; and Tuesday, the 21st day of December; on the two latter evenings, with the addition of a prologue and epilogue.

COURT OF COMMON COUNCIL.—At a Court, held on Thursday, an animated discussion took place on the contemplated new Lunatic Asylum. Some speakers strongly argued that sufficient room might be obtained in existing asylums without incurring the expense of a new building. There was an almost unanimous feeling against the imposition of a county rate; and finally a committee was appointed to consider the whole question, with power to confer with the Home Secretary.

MARCH OF RATIONALITY.—A Mohammedan attorney was duly sworn in before Lord Campbell last week. The Oriental gentleman had served his articles, and been passed by the Law Society, but there was doubt as to the form of his oath, and therefore he came before the Court of Queen's Bench. We are happy to add that the enlightened decision of Lord Campbell and his brethren did away with the last fragment of the absurdity that affected to see a Christian in an attorney.—*Punch*.

MADAME KINKEL.—The sudden and melancholy death, on the 15th instant, of Frau Johanna Kinkel, has created a painful sensation among her numerous friends in London and Germany. She was a woman of no ordinary powers; many of her musical compositions have become popular, and her novels rank among the best of which German literature may boast. Her character had something of the heroic, which in her eventful life she had ample opportunity to prove: in 1809, when Dr. Kinkel stood before a court-martial, at Rastadt, afterwards during his imprisonment at Nauwerk and Spandau, and last, not least, in an exile of many years.—*Athenaeum*.

TWO LITTLE FAVOURS REQUESTED.—Since Mr. Gladstone is so near Greece, would he mind obliging Mr. Punch (who has done him many a good turn before now) by making a few inquiries about the Greek Kalends and the Greek Loan? He is requested to ascertain the future date of the former and the probable payment of the latter? and to report at large on the chronological chances of the two events, and particularly as to which of them, in his opinion, is likely to be entitled to the priority of concurrence? At the same time, Mr. Punch humbly begs to apologise to Mr. Gladstone for laying before him only two courses, instead of the three which his active mind generally delights to feast upon.—*Punch*.

AGRICULTURAL PROGRESS IN FRANCE AND ENGLAND.—The *Reforme Agricole* gives the following comparative statement of agricultural progress in France and England:—England: 20,000,000 inhabitants, 16,800,000 head of cattle, 60,000,000 sheep. Manure per hectare (2½ acres) equal to that of 19 sheep. Yield per hectare, 20 hectolitres. To each inhabitant more than half an ox killed at the age of two years, and nearly three sheep. Improvement of the ground by very superior agricultural implements. Machines producing economy and better work in ploughing, harrowing, threshing, &c.—France: 35,000,000 inhabitants, 10,000,000 head of cattle, 32,000,000 sheep. Manure per hectare equal to that of 2 sheep. Yield per hectare, 11 hectolitres. To each inhabitant not one-third part of an ox killed at from eight to nine years old, and not one sheep. Too much left to the hand of man, who remains a machine, since it is only the intelligence which ought to work; one man ought to perform the work of ten.

THE PROPOSED NATIONAL BANK OF TURKEY.—The *Daily News* says that although the firman authorising the establishment of a National Bank is actually in the hands of the Turkish Minister in London, and is a perfectly valid document, the caution money of 20,000*l.* has not yet been deposited, and the affair has made little progress. The hitch arises in reality from the fact that some of the gentlemen who are nominated by the original concessionaires as ready to proceed with the undertaking, are not the most eligible in the eyes of the Turkish Government. The Turkish Ministers are not blind, but are perfectly aware of all the facts connected with the history of the late loan negotiation. They are naturally grateful for the important assistance which was so zealously extended to that operation by the Ottoman Bank. This establishment has consequently and deservedly acquired so great a degree of prestige that the Government makes no secret of its desire that it should not be excluded from participation in the project for the formation of a National Bank. It is, therefore, believed that any combination in which the Ottoman Bank does not take part will fall of success.

M. BELLY'S CANAL.—The *Courrier de Paris* gives an account of M. Belly's plan for opening a communication between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, by means of a canal through the Isthmus of Panama. M. Belly, who some short time back obtained a concession of the ground required for the undertaking, has lately published a pamphlet, in which he sets forth the advantages of the enterprise, and shows by maps the line of country through which the proposed canal is to pass. The *Courrier de Paris* adverts to the political bearing of the proposed plan, and shows that the intention is to place the canal of Nicaragua under the general protection of the great powers, England and the United States setting the example. The article concludes by alluding to the apprehensions which were for a moment entertained of the United States, through jealousy or ambition, being desirous of interfering with the realisation of the plan; but Mr. Buchanan's Government at present, it declares, only desires to see England and France imitating the example of the United States, and preserving an absolute neutrality of passage between the two seas.

RAILWAY PARCEL POST.—On this head a pamphlet by Mr. W. C. Scotson contains some good suggestions. A uniform charge of a penny per lb. irrespective of distance, would, he believes, yield a greater average than the existing rates, while the convenience to the public from a fixed system would bring an extraordinary accession of business. The plan would be for each company to open a convenient office in every large town, as well as at all their stations, and to transmit parcels over their own and other lines, adjusting their mutual accounts through the Railway Clearing House in London. Prepayment should be required by means of adhesive stamps, unpaid parcels being charged extra. No parcel should be conveyed for less than twopence, the subsequent increase being a penny for every pound or fraction of a pound. A charge of a penny per parcel might also be made to cover cost of receipt and delivery. A convenience could at the same time be afforded to the public by all the companies agreeing to receive the adhesive parcel stamps as cash from passengers or others, and the principle might even be extended to the issue of "rate notes" of 20*s.* each, receivable at every station, for fares, &c.

INTERNATIONAL ART-COPYRIGHT.—At length, if we may venture to trust appearances where facts have had so stubborn a hold in an opposite sense, there is some prospect that piracy in the products of the intellect may be uprooted in one of its last strongholds—and Belgium herself, in the matter of copyright generally, be brought within the comity of nations. The month of October witnessed the unwonted spectacle of an international congress on literary and artistic property sitting in Brussels, the very Algiers of the press—with the Belgian Minister at its head. It is a strange and discreditable fact, that two free and enlightened countries like Belgium and the United States should have lagged so far behind the nations in a question of civilisation like this of copyright; but nowhere—not even in America—has the cause of piracy been maintained to such dishonourable issues as in Belgium. In this matter, as in so many others, it is very pleasant to remember that England led the way in the cause of civilisation. It is long, now, since our own Governments showed a desire to deal justly, so far as this question is concerned, with the claims of intellect. Though much, as our readers know, in certain directions, remains still to be done, yet step by step the copyright in mental produce has been improved and extended amongst ourselves—and the enlarged principles which we recognised at home, we pushed abroad wherever we could. . . . We have, ourselves, reason to know that many of the authors and artists of Belgium have begun to feel honourably uneasy under the stigma which has so long attached to their country as the stronghold on this side the ocean of literary and artistic piracy. If the result at which the Brussels Congress have arrived could make its way into the legislation of the country, in spite of the robber-interests that yet oppose it, Belgium would have a better claim than just now she can assert to take her place in the brotherhood of high-minded and enlightened nations.—*Art-Journal*.

THE NEW FOREIGN-OFFICE.—Mr. G. G. Scott has been entrusted by the Board of Works with the erection of the new Foreign-office, subject, of course, to future confirmation by Parliament. Mr. Scott will accordingly proceed, after communication with the authorities at the Foreign-office, to remodel his design according to the official information thus afforded, and agreeably to the suggestion of the Committee of the House of Commons that the New Foreign-office might be so placed as to range symmetrically with any other public offices, which might be required from time to time. It has also been determined to leave the present Foreign-office standing till such portion of the new building as is necessary for the immediate occupation of the department is ready to receive it. Besides his many ecclesiastical works and restorations in this country, of which we need only specify the new church at Doncaster, Mr. Scott has a European reputation as the architect of the Hamburg Senate House, and the great Church of St. Nicholas.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—Return for six days, ending Friday, December 3rd, 1858:—Number admitted, including season ticket holders, 5220.

LITERATURE, SCIENCE, ART, &c.

LITERARY CHRONICLE OF THE WEEK.

IN introducing a literary summary into the *Leader*, a few words of explanation as to its scope and purport are, perhaps, due to our readers. It appears to us that, as in the political, so in the literary world, there is a fund of small matters, each of apparently minor importance, but of great importance in the aggregate, each too small in itself to require the expanded discussion of a leading article, and yet each requiring some comment for its illustration. It is, too, for the accommodation of these waifs and strays in politics that the first article in the *Leader* is designed, and we see no reason why literature should not be similarly accommodated. In carrying this out, it must be distinctly understood that we do not intend to overstep the bounds assigned to public journalists by taking any cognisance of private and personal gossip. Such topics only as are fairly within the range of public discussion will be alluded to.

Perhaps in selecting the present week for the commencement of this experiment we may be accounted particularly unfortunate, seeing that publishers, exhausted with their first crop of seasonable books, have issued nothing of paramount importance during it. Indeed, if we are to judge by what has already appeared, and more by what is announced, there will be rather a dull season in the book trade. To seek to account for this upon philosophical grounds would probably be to undertake a task of difficulty; no doubt the stirring years of stern and warlike action which have preceded the present have had much to do with the phenomenon. They have had other work upon their hands than the composition and perusal of books, and it is only in that class of books whose subjects are intimately connected with matters occupying the public mind that any degree of activity is to be noted. After a brief breathing space, and should the clouds that lower on the European horizon be happily dispersed, we have no doubt that this matter will speedily right itself.

Among the publishers, Messrs. Murray and Messrs. Longman naturally take the lead, both as to the number and character of the works which they have produced. The former *doyen* of the publishing trade offers, among some other valuable works, the best book of travels, with the exception of Dr. Livingstone's, that has appeared for many years. We refer, of course, to the Rev. William Ellis's *Missionary in Madagascar*, a graphic and interesting insight into a country and a race of people of whom little has hitherto been known. *The Forest of Dean*, by the Rev. H. G. Nicholls, is also a very valuable work, giving an account, oddly enough, for the first time, of a remote district of England, of which almost as little has been known as of Madagascar itself. This week witnesses the issue of the third volume of Sir Henry Rawlinson's translation of *Herodotus*—a *magnum opus* truly, for when a great scholar, and a great traveller to boot, who is intimately acquainted with the lands spoken of, undertakes to retranslate the oft-translated "Father of History," we may be sure that he has something both new and valuable to tell us. And Sir Henry Rawlinson's edition has already achieved a very high reputation among scholars. The fourth volume, which cannot be expected for another year, will complete the task.

The only important issue by Messrs. Longman during the week has been an exceedingly beautiful edition of Wordsworth's *White Doe of Rylstone*, as splendid as thick, prepared paper, fine typography, gorgeous yet tasteful binding, and the graphic pencils of Noel Humphreys and Birket Foster can make it. One of the chiefest among the splendid Christmas books which tempt the wealthy buyer at this season is this. A book to lay upon the velvet-covered tables of palaces or at the feet of your mistress, who would like it, however, all the better if they could find some way of getting rid of that scent of oil which is the peculiar and not very agreeable characteristic of these books printed upon prepared paper. Mention of Birket Foster

leads one to observe that he is displaying a facility and a fecundity in supplying illustrations to this royal kind of literature. Wherever there is a Christmas book there are we sure to find him. In all the beautiful works with which Messrs. Routledge and Messrs. Sampson Low (who appear almost to have a monopoly of this class) have glorified the Christmas of 1858—and there are many of them—his labours are everywhere apparent. Surely there may be too much of this! Mr. Birket Foster is a clever illustrator, but his works are characterised by a degree of sameness which sooner or later must become tedious, if they have not already reached that undeniable climax.

Messrs. J. W. Parker issue another series of "Cambridge Essays," which they introduce as "the concluding one," an announcement which cannot fail to be received with satisfaction by those who hold that even academical learning and good English may become disagreeable when allied with views narrowed within the boundaries of a university and a pert intolerance of everything beyond. The first article in the series, that on "Newspapers and their Writers," is by A. J. Beresford Hope, who ought to know something of his subject, seeing that he was one of the former proprietors of the *Morning Chronicle*, and wrote letters in the columns of that journal under the well-known signature of D. C. L. Mr. Hope has also the credit of being largely concerned in the *Saturday Review*.

The magazines for the month, in good sooth, are not brilliant. Japan is the only way which the great turbid stream of events has cast up to its service, and it is cunning to note how eagerly they have plucked at it, albeit, with the exception of a few letters to the *Times*, nothing has been added to our knowledge of the subject for two hundred years, unless Commodore Perry's very *American* account of his visit there ever be taken for reliable information. Blackwood, Fraser, Bentley, have all japed their pages thickly. Speaking of this, what a pity it is that the genial entertainer of the public, Mr. Albert Smith, did not prolong his stay sufficiently to take advantage of Lord Elgin's treaty and give us some insight into life in Jeddo. That would have been a novelty indeed, and well worth the delay; for Shanghai and Canton are not new to us, but of Nangasaki, Takaboko, and Simoda, we know not much.

Among the events of the week few will create more amusement and less astonishment than the *escapade* of that garrulous old gentleman, Sir Francis Head, in favour of the hero of the *coup d'état*. Of the whole faggot of French sticks surely this is the rottenest. Because the revolution interfered with trade and damaged the commercial prospects of an old rag-picker whom Sir Francis picked up in the *purlieus* of the Temple, and rendered business less brisk with the gravediggers of Père Lachaise (revolutions usually have a contrary tendency), we are to be told that Louis Napoleon was the man for the crisis, and that he is now no despot, his people no slaves. This is about as logical as Sir Francis's other proposition—that, because the workmen in the *ateliers* forbade political discussion during working hours, therefore they prefer to have their mouths gagged and their papers prohibited from entering into such discussion at any time.

It would be strange indeed if a celebrated political quarrel and subsequent reconciliation could occur without provoking an allusion to the well-known ninth ode in the third book of Horace "Ad Lydiam." The last case of such an application is, however, by far the happiest and the best we have ever yet met with. In his very readable article on "Horace and his Translators," in the last number of the *Quarterly*, Mr. Hamann gave (procured, we presume, from private sources) a very elegant translation of this ode from the accomplished pen of Mr. Gladstone. Owing, however, to the negligence of either the printer or the reviewer, two very important mistakes occurred. "Thressa Chloë" was rendered "Thracian" instead of "Thurtician Chloë," and "*pro quo his potior mori*" was translated "ten several deaths." To set this right, Mr. Gladstone himself sent a perfect copy of his translation to the *Times*, where it duly appeared, with an editorial intimation that "we have reason to believe that the following will be found to be a correct version."

So far so good; the *Globe* has also "reason to believe that the following will be found a fair adaptation under existing circumstances:"—

Derby. While Peel's old Ministry could twine
Thy lot political with mine,
Ere yet on corn we disagreed,
As colleagues we were blest indeed.

Gladly. Whilst thou did'st feel no rival flame,
Nor Gladly next to Dizzy came,
O then thy Gladly's echoing name
Excelled its since Homeric fame.

Derby. My heart from Peelite lives outworn,
By Dizzy's corkscrew curls is drawn;
My forfeit life I'll freely give,
So Ditz—my better life—may live.

Gladly. My bosom burns to yield possession
Of all my charms to Bright next session;
I'll face two several deaths with joy,
So fate but spare my broad-brimmed boy.

Derby. What if our ancient love awake,
And bound us with its golden yoke?
If Ditz were sent some Indian venture,
And Gladly his old place re-enter?

Gladly. Bright as the *Morning Star* is B.,
Thou rougher than the Adrian Sea,
And fickle as light bark, yet I
With thee would live—with thee would die.

Such notes as remain must be briefly dismissed. Mr. Samuel Carter Hall, founder, once proprietor, and always editor of the *Art Journal*—a periodical which has now attained its majority by completing its twenty-first year—has projected two lectures on the "Authors of the Age," and on Wednesday evening gave a preliminary rehearsal at his own residence in Ashley-place, Victoria-street, before a select circle of literary and artistic friends. The audience was friendly but critical, and when we say that two hours were fully occupied without exciting the slightest symptom of weariness, a better compliment could scarcely be suggested. The lectures consist entirely of the personal reminiscences of Mr. and Mrs. S. C. Hall, respecting the celebrated persons whose intimacy they have enjoyed during their long connexion with literary circles. The portraits are all of the dead, and they are drawn with a friendly, loving hand. They are all exceedingly lifelike, calling up the memories of the departed with a truthfulness which is always interesting and often affecting. Those of Amelia Opie, Thomas Moore, Miss Landon, the Ettrick Shepherd, and Hood, were especially admirable. Perhaps the painful circumstance of Miss Landon's death are dwelt upon with too much minuteness; but when we remember what subsisted between Mr. and Mrs. Hall and that unfortunate but gifted girl, strong feeling may be permitted to excuse it. In our opinion Mr. Hall estimates too highly both Thomas Moore and Hood; but here again friendship pleads at the bar of criticism, and the court will not be too severe. A letter by Thomas Hood to Sir Robert Peel—the last he ever wrote—excited a very profound feeling among the audience. We do not doubt that these lectures, whenever they are given to the public, will prove attractive in the highest degree.

One more item of literary gossip and we have done. It is whispered that the unhappy squabble which has agitated the Garrick Club, as to whether or not Mr. Edward Yates has as much right to caricature Mr. Thackeray as the latter has to caricature other people, is in a fair way of being settled in a quieter and more satisfactory manner than making it the subject of a lawsuit. Mr. Yates is to express sorrow for his offence, Mr. Thackeray is to withdraw his harsh letters, and the latter will then write to the committee requesting them to recall the exile. This will be a fit ending to such an important matter, and will prove that in the Garrick Club, at least, they have carried to perfection the art—

Nugis addere pondus.

SKETCHES OF ALGERIA.

Sketches of Algeria during the Kabyle War. By Lieutenant Colonel Hugh M. Walmsley.

Chapman and Hall.
We renew our acquaintance with Colonel Walmsley with pleasure. Many will remember the measure of entertainment afforded to them by his *Journal of a Bushi-Bazouk*, and many more will have to

thank him for the pleasant and informing work now presented to their notice. Algeria is a particularly happy region for a traveller like Colonel Walmsley; he is able not only to describe, and well describe, the features of the country and the idiosyncrasies of the various races conquering and conquered, but he is in a position to tell us how our neighbours hold their somewhat treacherously acquired empire in that region, and by what means they extend their conquests. We have been accustomed to regard Algeria as an incubus on French progress, as a dead weight on her finances, as a grave for her army, and as a penal settlement for her convicts. We have been apt to consider Algeria as only kept in subjection by an immense army at an immense cost, to be lost on the least relaxation of that expenditure and that martial strength which effected the subjugation of warlike and pirate hordes, who had defied successfully the powers of Europe for three centuries. But Colonel Walmsley levels this conjectural edifice by a few well-drawn pictures of things as they actually unfolded themselves to his own eyesight, and by well-selected descriptions of the relations which actually subsist between the dark-skinned subjects of the French Empire and the French settlers. The popular view of French colonisation is unfavourable to its permanence. Certainly France has hardly ever succeeded in rearing a colony to any degree of magnitude, but possibly one reason which inquirers have almost overlooked is, that she has never been left in undisturbed possession of her colonial appendages for a sufficient period to enable her to develop thoroughly their wealth and strength; England having, at the outbreak of war, commonly stripped her of them entirely, or rooted her rule out with unsparing resolution. But if we may depend implicitly on what Colonel Walmsley reveals to us, the French are likely to occupy Algeria *en permanence*, and to extend their empire in Africa indefinitely. Nothing can be better than the system adopted by the French Government and carried out by its colonial officials and settlers to secure and consolidate the position of France in Algeria. She has already completely domiciled herself in the region. She has subdued external enemies, converted them, if not into friends, at least into honourable allies, making herself not only feared, but liked. Colonel Walmsley was induced to visit Algeria in consequence of the French Government having determined on an expedition to effect the final subjugation of Kabylia. He solicited, and with difficulty obtained, permission to join the French army—the result of his Algerian rambles during the whole period of the hostilities, until peace was resumed by the submission or extirpation of enemies, is here recorded. Colonel Walmsley is by no means a superficial observer, though his work is fragmentary and discursive rather than coldly correct and rigidly continuous; he writes as a soldier should write, with spirit and with modesty. His descriptive powers are first-rate, and his remarks on men and things show a keen and sagacious mind. The book is a welcome contribution to our knowledge of Algeria, and will induce many a rich English traveller to turn his autumnal steps from the well-worn tourist regions of Europe towards African scenes, and incidents, and atmosphere, which will be found to present a perfect contrast to European usages and climate. Having said so much in praise of the work, we must not be supposed to consider that it is faultless. There is here and there just a *sonnet*, as the French would call it, of book-making. Some of the chapters are spun out needlessly, and others exhibit attempts at fine writing—inferior, however, to the natural and vivacious style of the author. There are also two or three samples of poetry, respectable enough of its kind, but thrown in, we suspect, as mere make-weight. We could extract largely and amusingly from the work, but our space has its limits; we must therefore content ourselves with a few excerpts, not, however, as being the choicest bits, but because they present novelties in their way:—

PERSUASIONS TO VISIT ALGERIA.

To the naturalist and the antiquary Algeria presents a wide and hitherto almost untouched field. Roman remains lie buried in the hills, which have been spared all visit save that of the wandering Bedouin or the rude Kabyle, who pass them by as things of bygone days unworthy of notice. To the sportsman Algeria would be an elysium. True, the larger animals which once abounded up to the very walls of Algiers are now driven back into the interior. But there they remain, while he who is satisfied with small game need not go far to find it. From the quail and partridge of the Chelif plains, to the snipe and wild duck of Lake Halouloula—neither more than a good day's ride from Algiers

—he may make his choice, or seek wilder and more exciting adventure among the lions and panthers of the more distant mountains. The strange mode of life, too, strange customs, and strange people, now placed within reach of the most ordinary tourist, cannot fail to interest all who may visit the land.

A frightful picture of Louis Napoleon's ruthless despotism is drawn in the narrative of a French exile. King Bomba's exploits in this way sink into insignificance beside the details of the doings of his royal cousin of France. The exile tells his own story. He, like thousands of others, professes to be unacquainted with the cause of his expatriation, unless it is that he refuses to acquiesce in the present political régime. After a mock trial and acquittal, which was ultimately tortured into a condemnation, the exile says:—

POLITICAL EXILES.

"As it was in my case, so it was in all others. No public form of trial was gone through, no public accusation was made, but house after house was violated and searched as though their inmates had been robbers or murderers. The victims disappeared, they were snatched away from their homes and houses. For a time the silence of the tomb enveloped them, and they were ultimately thrown, without resource and without warning, on a foreign shore to lead a life of misery, poverty, and exile, simply because their existence was incompatible with that of the Empire in France. Those who could be corrupted had been gained over already, the remnant were transported.

"Algeria was my doom, and as I had never seen the tribunal which sentenced me, so I never saw even a copy of my sentence.

"Gleaned from every corner of France, these men were drafted from the hulk as means of forwarding them to the various places assigned to them occurred, and *en attendant* they were penned like cattle on board the convict-ship, where they suffered dreadfully from want of room and air. Of this wretched cargo I now formed an item. Most of my companions in wretchedness had been torn suddenly from their homes, and their families or friends knew nothing of their whereabouts. They were totally destitute of any change of clothes or linen; and as they had slept, like myself, in the felons' gaols of the different towns and villages they had passed through, some idea of their state of filth and misery may be formed. The cells they had occupied, the resting-places of the robber and the murderer, were often swarming with vermin, and of this contamination they were unable to free themselves.

"Never shall I forget the misery, filth, and degrading wretchedness of the Duguesclin's lower deck, which being seldom cleaned exhaled the most disgusting odours. And on this lower deck we were all penned. The day was supportable, for we were allowed on deck to breathe the fresh air twice a day, by parties. It is true, we were surrounded by armed sentries whose orders were to keep silence among us with the bayonet, and that a corner only of the deck was allotted us, where we were crowded together like sheep in a pen; but we had light, we had air, and our comrades below were relieved, too, by the absence of so many of their numbers. Night was the period of our great suffering. The deck then exhaled its most fetid odours, and all the dead-lights were shipped, and the portholes closed save two. We used to take it by turns to approach these two small openings; and no one, save he who has known what it is to feel the want of fresh air, can imagine the happiness of those whose turn it was to approach the opening, and, placing their foreheads against the ship's side, to inhale a few gasps of the free air of heaven. All night long this continued, and great indeed was the relief when morning dawned, and the portholes were opened.

"I have already said that the motley crowd of convicts jammed together on the Duguesclin's lower deck consisted of men of all ages and conditions. There was the youth barely emerging from childhood, and the gray-haired old man almost on the brink of the grave. There stood the once rich banker, side by side with the poor workman, the poet, the professor, the lawyer; in short, every class was represented. And now, to fill up the measure of insult offered us, a number of criminal convicts were added to our ranks. Men who had been condemned for the most fearful crimes, the leas and off-scourings of the prisons of France, were mixed up with us; and it was only after the most earnest entreaties and remonstrances that we at length obtained the separation of a rope drawn across the deck to divide us from the robber and the murderer. Even then the barrier was but ideal; for what was a simple rope between us and these men? And now the air which had hitherto been poisoned by impure exhalations, by foul and fetid smells, resounded with the fouler oath and the more impure execration. Slang, and the most horrible language, floated around us; for the felon-troop seeing our loathing and detestation of their society, which it was impossible for us always to suppress, and recognising no difference between our mutual position, took their revenge in the only way open to them."

About three thousand political victims have al-

ready fallen a sacrifice, it is asserted, to the climate of Algeria.

ASSAULT OF ICHERIDEN.

The Kabyle barricades remained black and silent as ever, not a bournous was to be seen, as the 54th and the Zouaves received the orders to carry the position at the point of the bayonet. Before them lay a ridge covered with brushwood, affording capital shelter, but at about sixty or seventy paces from the stockades the brush had been cleared away, and now the occasional gleam of a bayonet, the report of a musket or two fired against the stockade, the loud ringing of the trumpets, as they gave forth in inspiring tones the *pas de charge*, and the wild shouting of the men, as they pushed their way forward, was all that told of the progress of the attack.

Still the same heavy, stern silence hung over the hostile village. Was it indeed deserted, or was it the silence of despair? Whichever it was would soon be known, for now the bugle-notes became shriller and more exciting, the shots quicker and more steady, as, emerging from the bush, the attacking column rushed forward to the attack. Sixty paces of green sward were before them, but instantly, and as if by magic, a thousand reports broke the silence of the dark stockades, a wild yell rose from their defenders, as the hail of lead fell on the advancing regiments, and a long line of dead marked the advance. The Kabyles leaning their pieces over the joints of the trees, where they were fitted into each other, and through crevices and loopholes, offered little or no mark themselves to the shot, while not a ball of theirs but found its destination.

But the Zouaves and the 54th were not to be daunted thus, and leaving behind them the ground dotted with their dead and dying comrades, on they rushed, a wild cheer rising from their ranks, and a volley of balls pattering their reply to the murderous fire they had received.

Again the line of fire burst from the dark stockade, and the advancing column withered away. The ground was strewn with fallen forms, and the fire of the stockade fell fast and sure. The men gave way, seeking the shelter of the bushes; their officers dashing to the front, vainly attempted to lead them on. It was useless, even the sturdy Zouaves refused to cross that deadly slope, for to do so was sure death. They replied from the bushes to the Kabyle fire, and soon a regular fusillade was established from right to left; but all this was to the advantage of the Kabyles, for the greater part of the French balls were lost against the stockades, while so accurate was the defenders' fire, that not a man could show himself but down he went.

The fire from stockade and bush raged fast and furious, well kept up on the side of the French, more deadly on that of the Kabyles, and still the men would not advance over the uncovered space, for it was certain death. Two thousand Kabyle marksmen lined the loopholes of their entrenched villages; not above half that number could pass along the narrow and unprotected ridge; they must be shot down to a man if they attempted it. The frown on MacMahon's face became heavier. Did he regret the cessation of the fire? Perhaps so, for now the balls begin to whiz and sing round the heads of the generals and their staff. A horse is shot, and the general officer riding it gets a heavy fall. General MacMahon is wounded, but not severely; the men of the Beni Raten, who have become confident of an easy victory, and assured of plunder, begin to look at each other knowingly. A check in the Marshal's career appears inevitable. He must recal his advance, and again shell the stockades. It is a hard alternative, but it must be accepted. At this moment a sudden panic seemed to have seized the brave defenders of the stockades. Seeing the dilemma, the officer commanding the Foreign Legion on the far left had led his men through deep cuts and ravines, turned the position, and gained the third face of the hill, accessible, but defended at every turn and twist by well-concealed ambushments, trees felled over the only pathway, and each and all lined with the marksmen of the Mengullet. Silent as the grave these steady mercenaries fought their way on step by step; not a cheer, not a shout marking their progress; their dead fell fast, but obstacle after obstacle was swept away, and eventually, to the surprise of the brave defenders of the stockades, the shakos of the Legion were seen in their rear. Silently they had fought their way; but now, with a savage scream of fury, the Zouaves and 54th dashed from their shelter, losing only a few men as they crossed the open, and while the Kabyles wavered for a moment, the two regiments united their ranks, and the whole surged like the ocean wave over stockade and ditch.

Fast and furious became the flight of the Kabyles, for all was now havoc and confusion. The men of the Legion, mixed up with the Zouaves and 54th, dashed after the fugitives, entering the village with them, and bayoneted right and left with savage shouts. Down the steep sides of the hills, away over the ridges to the right and left, the waving bournous might be seen in full flight, and now MacMahon's guns opening on the fugitives added to their alarm and terror, while the whiz and scream of a rocket thrown after them completed their dismay.

Colonel Walmsley seems to be enchanted with the good-humour, the handiness, and the dauntless

bravery of the French African regiments. He is equally enthusiastic with respect to the policy pursued by the French Government to prevent its conquests and victories from having only a barren result. We may learn a lesson or two for our guidance in our own Indian hostilities from these pages.

MEMOIRS OF CATHERINE II.

Mémoires de l'Impératrice Catherine II., écrits par elle-même et précédés d'une Préface. Par A. Herzen.

Trübner and Co.

On the death of the Semiramis, or, as some would say, the Theodora, of the North, her son and successor, Paul, found among her papers a mass of autobiographical memoirs in her own hand. Affection or respect could permit little of this to see the light. The bulk was therefore burnt—so the story runs—by Paul in person; but one portion of peculiar interest, as detailing Catherine's early impressions of the Russian Court, and the circumstances attending her first amorous intrigue, was preserved. This fragment is now before us, edited by the accomplished Russian, Alexander Herzen. As the importance of the work must mainly depend upon its authenticity, we may be excused for noticing the pedigree of the MS. furnished by the editor. Paul, says he, set so much store by it that he trusted it to no one but his familiar, Alexander Kourakine, who copied it. Twenty years after Paul's death, Kourakine's MS. was recopied for the Tourgeneff and Woronzoff families, and henceforward began to circulate covertly. The late Czar employed the police to stop this, but with only partial success. A copy in the hand of Pouschkine, the poet, and perhaps one other, escaped, and the result is before us. Fashionable and literary circles in Russia have long looked for it, and among these, as in high continental society, it will be read with the more zest that it has obtained publicity in spite of imperial mandate and police machination. How mistaken were these will be admitted by all candid readers. For so general has been the belief that Paul was the fruit of Catherine's adultery that her virtual admission of the fact could add nothing to her ill fame, while full proof of it will not now unsettle the Romanoff dynasty. But generous minds, on the other hand, will find in this unvarnished tale, and in the study of the circumstances which surrounded her young wedded life, a plea in extenuation, at all events, of her first sin.

The memoir commences with the arrival at Moscow, in 1744, of Catherine, then Sophia Augusta of Anhalt-Zerbst, accompanied by her mother, followed by a shrewd review of the cliques and persons about the Court. The German maiden soon found out that her intended, Peter, was an overgrown baby of sixteen, always playing at soldiers; and that the Empress Elizabeth was an overbearing, querulous old intriguer who regarded Sophia in no other light than as necessary for the perpetuation of the imperial race. All the Russian family and their minions plotted the estrangement of the mother and daughter, and the banishment of the former; and these family bickerings, alternating with ballets, masquerades, burning wooden palaces, sledging, and general Court and cabinet gossip, are narrated so minutely, yet so artlessly, as to stamp the memoir as genuine. Catherine was in course of time baptized into the Russian Church and married. But she pined in thought, no doubt, for though she grew tall, she became, she says, thin as a skeleton and deadly pale. She wearied of the Court and its ways, of the Tchoglokovs (an odious pair imposed upon her as chief spy and *grande gouvernante*), and of the whole *entourage*. She endeavoured, but vainly, to beguile herself into an idea of happiness by dint of dancing, billiards, marionettes, blind-man's-buff, and other romping games, played with an ardour that horrified the card-playing Russian dowagers, and even her own grave German waiting-woman. Anxious to outrage the Court, she refused to wear rouge or patches, and tried to "introduce simplicity." For distraction's sake she became a great horsewoman and astonished her tailor by the many riding-skirts she wore out. She even devised a kind of saddle so fashioned that when her mother-in-law's back was turned she could shift the crutch, lower a second stirrup, and ride wildly "*à califourchon*." Her spouse was low in his tastes, and promiscuous in his infidelities. The progress of his various amours is traced minutely by the injured bride, as well as his atrocious conduct towards herself, which even went so far as gross personal brutality. The reader

is gradually prepared by the tale to learn that its narrator ceased to be pure in contact with such a heap of corruption as the Russian Court. The young chamberlain, Soltikoff, and his wife, Matreva Paulovna, now come upon the scene, and an acquaintance between them and Catherine commences at the summer palace of Peterhof, whither—so poorly was the Court off—the tables and chairs, beds and looking-glasses, used to be moved for the season like the ladies and gentlemen in waiting. In a twelvemonth this intimacy so far ripens that Sergius declares his passion, and is at first repulsed with an allusion to his young and handsome wife. "All is not gold that glitters," he answers, and presses his suit. "Je fis tout au monde," says Catherine, "pour le faire changer d'idée—je croyais bonnement y réussir—il me faisait pitié. Par malheur je l'écoutais." Sergius was a master of intrigue; all Catherine stood in need of then was sympathy. It was his best weapon under the circumstances, and he used it. "He was handsome," says she, "as the day, and neither in the empress's nor in the heir-apparent's court was there any man who could come near him. For a little while she feigned resistance, but at last yielded. A hunting party of pleasure took the pair on to an island on the Neva. Soltikoff rode beside Catherine and poured words of passion into a not unwilling ear. He made the most of her husband's cruelty, pitied her sorrows, guaranteed secrecy, and triumphed. A storm kept the party for many hours on the islet, and Catherine went home full of apprehension, "très maussade, et très malcontente de moi-même."

The journal, from this point until after the birth of Paul, offers abundant evidence that Sergius Soltikoff reigned supreme in the writer's heart. But even the Grand-Duchess of Russia could not make sure of a heart for a heart. She writes about politics, Court follies and fashions, her husband's debaucheries, her own illnesses, the rejoicings of the Russians at her infant's birth and baptism; but the name of Sergius chequers every page. But he, by degrees, grew colder and colder, on all sorts of pretences, and at last wore out his affection by foreign travel, and irritated his mistress's pride by connecting himself with other women. Léon Narishkine and Poniatowski, who succeeded to the wreck he abandoned, are now barely introduced to us, when the story closes abruptly at the period of Catherine's contemplated retreat to her German home. Her protest against her husband, her enemies, and her rivals is affecting; and the long scene between herself, the empress, and her husband, in which she pleads for a separation, is powerful and animated.

This autobiography—though dedicated by a mother to her son—is one of the few we have ever seen that carries the air of having been composed without a thought of future eyes. It is not a shameless, but a painfully natural, confession, and moves the reader's sympathy for one whom it depicts most unaffectedly as a state prisoner in gilded fetters, young in years, old and withered in heart, and estranged from her savage husband by his own perverse industry, with the connivance of his family. The empress-mother, as we have said, took to heart the infertility of the grand-ducal marriage bed. Madame Tchoglokov was chosen to break the royal sentiments to her charge, and to make suggestions "*pour le bien de l'Etat*." She opened her fire with a lengthy eulogy on her own domestic virtues and an exposition of the means by which every-day people might attain and keep conjugal felicity. She then suggested the choice of a cavalier between Sergius Soltikoff and Léon Narishkine, volunteering to oppose no obstacles. Catherine, as the reader knows, had already made her first choice, but the lesson of the *grande gouvernante* was not still thrown away. "La jeune femme," says Herzen, "*joue la maïse, prend les deux, plus Poniatowski, et commence une carrière érotique dans laquelle, pendant quarante ans, elle ne s'arrêtera plus.*"

At the dawn of this "*carrière érotique*" the Catherine MS. breaks off in the middle of a sentence. In the words of the editor, "The leading feature of the book, wherein consists its importance to the reigning family of Russia, is the proof it discloses that they have no more claim to the name of Holstein Gottorp than to that of Romanoff. Catherine's avowal is explicit enough—the father of the Emperor Paul was Sergius Soltikoff, and here, therefore, must end all their pretence to 'traditional rights.'"

THE PAPER DUTIES.

The Tax upon Paper. The Case stated for its immediate Repeal. J. Ridgway.

WE agree in the main with the objects of the "Association for obtaining the Repeal of the Paper Duty," and therefore incur no risk of being misunderstood in addressing that body with a friendly warning. The tax upon paper must be removed. It is a bad tax, because it fetters the press and hampers the schoolmaster, restrains the interchange of thought, and gives a dangerous premium to popular ignorance. It was in its origin notoriously less a fiscal regulation than a cunningly devised burden upon intellectual exertion, and its character has not changed to this day. What more need be urged against it? While the Reformers take their stand upon these great though simple truths they are invincible. But the best cause may be imperilled by bad arguments; and this danger appears to us peculiarly to threaten the present movement. There are few arguments in this pamphlet, issued by the Association, which do not violate some established principle, or which are not wholly untenable in sound reasoning. If the friends of Repeal do not honestly tell them this, they will assuredly hear it from their enemies when the warning is too late to be useful.

Throughout the pamphlet the "poor paper-maker" is represented as bearing a heavy burden in the tax, and in the exciseman's interference. "It is surprising," says the Association, "that in a country which aims at morality, and boasts of its liberty, it is accounted a crime to earn an honest living by the exercise of a useful and important manufacture." If anything, however, has been settled, it is the principle that taxes, or trade burdens of any kind, do not fall on the manufacturer, but upon the ultimate purchaser of his goods. It is true that one of the first English paper-makers was knighted; but it is not, of course, recommended that all paper-makers in these days should receive that honour, and it is certain that their industry is not punished as "a crime." No man is compelled to be a paper-maker, and if any one voluntarily adopts that business, it is, of course, because he is fully compensated both for tax and inconvenience. What is true of him in this respect is true of the distiller, the hop-grower, the maltster, the stage-coach proprietor. Nor is the Custom-house officer much less troublesome than the exciseman. Exactly the same violation of principle is involved in the committee's assertion that Sir Francis Baring's duty, amounting only to a trifling fraction per pound, did not warrant an increase in the price of paper, and that the tax is, therefore, paid out of the paper-maker's pocket. The committee do not appear to have reflected that, on this principle, no article sold in the wholesale market could ever rise in price, save by a sum capable of division into parts exactly corresponding with retail quantities; and they certainly do not perceive that this is the very fallacy which is employed against themselves when it is contended that the cheap magazine will not be made cheaper when a tax is remitted of half-a-farthing a copy. The argument that the paper-maker is oppressed by reason of his having to pay the duty by a certain day because "the stationer knows the day as well as he does, and compels him to accept his own terms," is surely not worth a comment. The committee in their very opening sentence declare that "the producers of an article are not always desirous to have it exempted from taxation," and with singular inconsistency acknowledge that "paper-makers of eminence" decline to be relieved. What, then, would be the position of the committee if, after all this pleading on behalf of the oppressed paper-makers, that trade should, at the last moment, repudiate the committee's advocacy, and, consistently with their admitted inclination, declare themselves quite content with the tax and the exciseman? A false reason is never a safe weapon.

It is urged very forcibly by the Association that since 1838 "no less than 132 mills have stopped," and that the operation of the duty has been thus to "put labourers out of work," and "throw hands on the parish." The first fact may be correct, but that the inferences are erroneous is capable of the easiest demonstration. It cannot be contended that the quantity of paper manufactured has undergone any such diminution in that period. On the contrary, it is shown by tables quoted by the Association that it has enormously increased. If the number of mills, therefore, has diminished, it can only be because the manufacture is generally con-

ducted on a larger scale than heretofore. This, in fact, is a natural tendency in a society rapidly progressing in the arts. The recent history of the publishing business, to which the committee principally belong, and of another business—the circulating library—closely connected with it, would furnish striking examples. In the case of the paper manufacture, it is notorious that the great improvements in machinery during the last thirty years have led to the employment of larger capitals and to more economical, because more extensive, operations.

The assertions that certain sorts of paper may always be bought at less than prime cost, that “were the manufacturer wise he would stop his mill at once,” and that the reason why he does not do so is, that “few men are wise enough to stop a losing trade when they have embarked capital in it,” are manifest exaggerations, which are answered by the fact that the paper-makers have in the last twenty years voluntarily increased the quantity annually manufactured in Great Britain from eighty millions to one hundred and ninety millions of pounds. The question of the comparative merits of direct and indirect taxation is, again, clearly too wide for the Association’s object. We will only just suggest on this point that the income-tax collector is no more popular than the exciseman. The claim for the abolition of the paper-tax stands upon higher ground, and must not be placed on the level of the malt or hop duty. The Association are contending for an important object, but they must certainly amend their logic. No better fortune could fall to their opponents or those who are anxious to delay the repeal, than to find them, when the struggle shall have arrived, resting their cause upon such arguments as these.

THE MAGAZINES.

BLACKWOOD—is more than usually readable this month. But we protest against tales or relations of any kind “to be continued;” that is a “dodge”—an old one, it is true—proper to be confined to cheap serials. The first article, which bids fair to be a very interesting one, “A Cruise in Japanese Waters,” has this defect—we will add, the only one. “What will he do with it?” by Sir E. Bulwer Lytton, progresses. “A Pleasant French Book” is a notice of J. B. Biot’s *Mélanges Scientifiques et Littéraires*. The writer has brought his author into pleasant and prominent view, but we think the cloven or the polemical foot peeps out in that portion which refers to Galileo and his persecutions at Rome. According to M. Biot, the received traditions are all wrong—Galileo was not tortured or ill-treated by the Inquisition; the Pope did not absolutely deny the truth of the philosopher’s new theories as much as he deprecated the open attack on his poetic powers—Galileo did not utter in an aside the memorable sentence, after being compelled to recant on his knees the heresy to which he had given vitality of the earth revolving round the sun, that for all he had said, it did revolve round the sun. It is the fashion now-a-days to find out that our ancestors were in error in almost everything, and that the relations handed down to us of remarkable events and sayings have only waited for the corrections of clever modern *littérateurs*, to be for ever set right. For our own part, we are a little difficult on these points; we are inclined to adhere in many instances to old traditions in preference to new lights and readings. “The Indian Mutiny and Land Settlement” comes in for an article. “Cousin John’s Property” has a smack of the liveliness and simplicity of the magazine stories of a bygone period. “Sermons” does sensible justice to Mr. Caird as a preacher, and “Mr. Bright’s Absurdities” will be applauded by his opponents and denounced as exhibiting the taint of party feeling by his friends.

FRASER—on the whole, is heavy, but there are several capital articles, among the best of which is a “Review of Carlyle’s Frederick the Great.” The writer is evidently disposed to deal tenderly with one who gained so large a portion of his fame in *Fraser*; but he will not allow personal partiality and past triumphs to blind his judgment or bias his decision in reference to the real merits of this great but eccentric writer’s last production. “Our New Treaty with Japan” is addressed mainly to the commercial classes. It contains much information that will have its value, if rightly received. “Snake Birds” is a long article on the peculiarities of several ornithological curiosities. “People who are not Respectable” is written in an uncharitable spirit, and deals with characters that ought to find no mention in any respectable work, of whose real private history the writer is evidently unacquainted. “India in a Mess” puts one or two Indian questions and

Indian heroes in a somewhat novel light. The other articles are of average merit.

THE ECLECTIC REVIEW—opens with an article which shows that even an old and a well-worn topic can be made new, instructive, and amusing, in able and earnest hands. The article on “Dante” may be read throughout with relish and profit. “Rambles of a Naturalist” deals out some well-deserved knocks to M. de Quatrefages for his intense and illiberal nationality, and at the same time pays a just tribute to his well-directed and exhaustive labours. “Fiji and Fijians” is a sketch of the normal condition of the Fijians and the abnormal condition to which missionary labour has brought them. We hope the missionaries have not deceived themselves as to the extent and Christianising effects of their labours. “Ooulita,” the “Quarterly Review of German Literature,” and “Brief Notices of Books,” complete the number for this month.

THE DUBLIN UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE.—This number is worth steady reading from beginning to end. It would be uniformly good were it divested of a few blemishes, which appear to us to be the result of hastiness, or want of sufficient information on the part of the writers. The five first articles—“Christianity in India,” Lever’s “Gerald Fitzgerald,” “Recent Cambridge Literature,” “Rides upon Mules and Donkeys,” “The Black Chamber”—may pass without criticism. So might have passed “Statistics on Irish Prosperity,” had the writer not relied too much on figures—than which nothing is more deceptive and misleading—as proofs of particular views. We shall be sincerely glad to find that the prosperity is as sound and certain as the writer wishes us to believe, but we cannot rely on his comparative statistics as furnishing us with any clue to the real truth in respect of Irish crime and Irish pauperism. The figures, as given to us, certainly show that crime in Ireland is less in numbers than crime in England—but they prove nothing. The proportion of Irish crime in England is something incredible—in Ireland English crime is next to nil. Then, again, the paupers in Ireland may apparently be fewer than the paupers in England according to the figures, but let it be recollected that the numbers both of outdoor and indoor paupers in England are vastly swelled by Irish pauperism. Noticing “Chronicles of Castle Cornet” as a good tale, we come to “Recent Novels,” the work, we think, of a clever but young writer. “Remonstrances of a Radical” we commend to the attention of Mr. Bright’s admirers.

TRIAN—has a number of excellent articles for this month. “The Confession” is a clever *résumé* of a clever French work. The “Phases of Lunatic Life” remind one of passages in the *Diary of a late Physician*. “A Few Words about Ireland,” point out the changes that have been made in the social conditions of the country, but also forcibly point out the drawbacks to improvement presented by the industrial habits of the people, and especially the paralysing action of the Roman Catholic priesthood. “Behind the Scenes in Paris” improves greatly in interest, but we recommend the writer to beware of “comparisons.” It may be all very well for him to praise French Roman Catholic Sisters of Charity, but it is not fair or honest to do so at the expense of English Protestant Sisters of Charity. “The Ugly Snuff-box,” “The Ancient Order of Batrachians,” “Christmas Carols,” and the “Review of New Books,” have all their points of interest.

THE ENGLISH WOMAN’S JOURNAL.—There is more variety than usual in the contents of this number. But is not an article on Decimal Coinage, though with the eminent initials of “A. de M.” appended, somewhat too *recherché* for this kind of publication? “A Night in Westminster” is a very good and truthful article. We hope it will be attentively and extensively read, as it will serve to bring charitable minds and promoters of popular progress, without personal debasement, into familiar contact with the condition of one large section of the poor and the working classes.

THE ART JOURNAL.—The illustrations are—“The Bunch of Grapes,” by G. Metz, engraved by G. Levy, a fine specimen of the burin and of the Teniers-like management of light and shade. Zucharelli’s Waterfall, engraved by E. Radclyffe, is a lovely bit of landscape with figures. The engraving of the Statue of George Stephenson is by J. G. Baker. But why did Baillie copy so closely the *pose* and the raiment of Sir R. Peel as seen in Cheapside?

THE PARENTS’ CABINET OF AMUSEMENT AND INSTRUCTION. New Edition. (Smith, Elder and Co.)—An established favourite, which has had the high approval of Miss Edgeworth, and requires nothing more to be said in its favour.

THE VIRGINIANS. By W. Thackeray. No. XIV. (Bradbury and Evans).—The story labours along not without some delicate touches of character, but still languidly, and without that vigour and force which have generally characterised this author’s works. The hero, Harry, is a great mistake; no one cares for a man merely because he eats and

drinks heartily, has large calves to his legs, and is a tolerably good natured animal.

KNIGHT’S HISTORY OF ENGLAND. No. XXXV. (Bradbury and Evans).—This is a short number but the deficiency is to be supplied before the volume closes. The narrative is well sustained and is full of interesting matter; and amongst other sad stories contains the useful one of the Massacre of Glencoe. The author shows pretty clearly it was the murdering of one set of savages by another, but the treachery is abhorrent, and must ever remain a foul disgrace to all connected with it.

ROUTLEDGE’S SHAKESPEARE. Parts XXXI. and XXXII., *Cymbeline*. (Routledge, Warnes, and Routledge).—This double part concludes *Henry VIII.* and includes the whole of *Cymbeline*, a play of which the only known copy in the folio abounds in typographical errors. The present editor is no less speculative than his predecessors in his conjectures, and is more bold in his emendations. The construction of this play, both in versification and general contrivance, must suggest some doubts as to authorship in those not bigoted to the old stereotyped notions on the subject. But this is a heterodox line of thought that every editor seems to shun, at least on this side the Atlantic. The illustrations to this poetical play are better, and the artist seems to have been roused by his subject. The paper and printing are unexceptionable.

DAVENPORT DUNN. By Charles Lever. No. XVIII. (Chapman and Hall).—This very clever story approaches a close, and there is no perceptible abatement of vigour in the present number. We must say, of all the serial writers, Mr. Lever seems to preserve most of his original verve and freshness.

A Lady’s Captivity among the Chinese Pirates. Translated by Amelia Edwards, from the French of Made-moiselle Lorient. (Routledge and Co.)—If we were not well assured that this book is founded on fact, we should regard it as a clever romance, very much after the Captain Marryat pattern. How the lady was taken prisoner by the pirates, what sufferings she endured, and how providentially her liberation was effected, are here simply and touchingly detailed. We can promise a good shilling’s worth of amusement for the investment.

Tales for the Twilight. By Joseph Verey. (James Blackwood).—Six tales and six poetical pieces make up this volume. The tales for the most part are slight and brief, and have appeared with some applause in some publication—at least so the author informs us. The prose and verse are of equal merit, and this is all we can say about the book.

Gray’s Poetical Works. (Sampson Low, and Co.)—Capitally printed, illustrated, and bound, fit for the gentleman’s library-table, or the lady’s boudoir. Of the poems, it would be “throwing a perfume on the lily” to bestow one word of admiration upon them in the present day.

Milton’s L’Allegro. (Sampson Low, and Co.)—Messrs. Sampson, Low, and Co. deserve public thanks for the way they send out their elegant publications. Binding, paper, print, and embellishments, are all exquisite—together a fitting shrine for one of our noblest poets’ noblest works. If we were inclined to be captious it would be at the seeming want of due appreciation of the poet’s idea evinced in one or two of the illustrations. For instance, as a pictorial exponent of Milton’s “neat-handed Phyllis,” the artist, H. J. Townsend, has understood the line literally—he has given us a buxom lass displaying a couple of *neat hands* conspicuously in front, in the attitude in which we are accustomed to see Mrs. Jordan depicted as “The Country-girl.” This, we humbly venture to suggest, is not the correct reading. Then, again, we have in the “milkmaid singing blith,” a veritable stage heroine, with wide-open mouth, warbling vigorously on a low stile. This idea does not, we opine, quite rise up to the poet’s conception. These, however, are minor defects—the bulk of the illustrations are finely artistic and well suited to the subjects.

Once upon a Time. By Charles Knight. Second Edition. (John Murray).—As full of curious and real information as D’Israeli’s “Curiosities of Literature,” and as pleasant reading as the most amusing of our popular serials. The work has already received the stamp of popular approval, and we have no doubt that this second issue, which is got up very nicely indeed, will soon be exhausted. When the third edition is called for let us recommend the author to expunge some passages in which his peculiar politics and economics are put forward rather too prominently. The book ought to be read by everybody, but Mr. Knight’s politics and economics are not likely to be everybody’s.

Martin Rattler; or, *a Boy’s Adventures in the Forests of Brazil*. (Nelson and Sons).—Mr. Ballantyne’s productions are prodigious favourites with boys. “The Coral Islands,” “The Ungava,” and the “Young Free Traders,” are already well established in their affections. *Martin Rattler* must now be added to the list.

Favourite Pleasure Books for Young People. Illustrated by Absolom Welnert and Harrison Weir, and printed in colours. (Sampson Low, and Co.)—All our most cherished nursery favourites are reproduced in a

very handsome little volume, very handsomely illustrated. This will be a welcome Christmas present to good little girls and boys.

Christian Days and Thoughts. By Dr. Ephraim Peabody. (Sampson Low, and Co.)—An extract from the preface will disclose the nature and object of the work, and will render criticism from us superfluous—the book will do little good where it is hastily read, or put aside. Its voice is not one to be heard in the streets, or to join in the discussions of the day. It rather asks to be admitted to the confidence of those who will receive it in the stillness of their most retired and private hours. Its calm tones of religious tenderness and trust would find their way into the closet.

The Primeval World. A Treatise on the Relations of Geology to Theology. By the Rev. Paton Gloag. (Edinburgh: T. and T. Clark.)—Mr. Gloag fairly enough tells us that he is dissatisfied with the works which have been published for the purpose of showing that the recent discoveries in geology are not inconsistent with revealed religion, because they do not carry the question far enough nor wide enough. He has endeavoured to supply the gap, but he candidly admits that he does not think that the period has arrived "when a satisfactory theory, reconciling the Mosaic cosmogony with the facts of geology can be very confidently advanced." He believes that our knowledge, especially of what is called the drift period, is not sufficiently complete to admit of the enunciation of any such theory, except as "an hypothesis not inconsistent with our present knowledge, but liable to be modified by subsequent observations and discoveries." Mr. Gloag does not accept the literal biblical version of the deluge. After careful examination he arrives at the conclusion that the deluge was limited in extent. This conclusion is no novelty. The same belief has existed time out of mind, and among many nations. In particular the old races of India allege that their records extend back for 70,000 years, and they account for this by asserting that when the deluge took place, of which they have a distinct tradition, it did not reach India, and therefore it left them and their traditions intact. The book is written in a temperate and inquiring spirit, and, as a compilation of other men's opinions and theories principally, we think it is well worth studying.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

- Three Visits to Madagascar in 1853, 1854, and 1855.* By the Rev. William Ellis, E.H.S. 8vo. J. Murray.
A Treatise on Hysterical Affections. By George Sate. 8vo. John Churchill.
Noble Deeds of Women. By Elizabeth Starling. 8vo. H. G. Bohn.
The Autocrat of the Breakfast Table. Fcap. 8vo. By P. W. Holmes. Alex. Strahan and Co.
A Collection of Public Statutes relating to Probate and Divorce. 1858. Edited by James Bigg. Simpkin and Marshall.
A Collection of Public Statutes relating to Joint-Stock Companies. 1558. Edited by James Bigg. Simpkin and Marshall.
The Parents' Cabinet of Amusement. Part I. Smith, Elder, and Co.
Wood Engraving of the Lord's Supper. J. S. Virtue and Co.
The Child's own Toy-maker. By Ebenezer Landells. Imp. 8vo. Griffith and Farran.
Tales from Blackwood. No. IX. Blackwood and Sons.
The Maiden Sisters. A Tale. By the Author of "Dorothy." 8vo. J. W. Parker.
David and Samuel. Poems. 8vo. By John Robertson. Seeley, Jackson, and Seeley.
Gallery of Nature. Parts I. and II. W. and R. Chambers.
The Virginians. No. XIV. Bradbury and Evans.
Charles Knight's History of England. Part XXXV. Bradbury and Evans.

MAGAZINES.

- Blackwood* for December.
Fraser ditto.
Dublin University ditto.
Titan ditto.
The Art-Journal ditto.
The New Quarterly ditto.
The National ditto.
English Woman's Journal ditto.
Eclectic Review ditto.
Le Follet ditto.
Routledge's Shakespeare. Parts XXXI. and XXXII.—"Cymbeline."

THE POLISH REVOLUTION.—Monday being the anniversary of the revolution of 1830, a number of refugees celebrated the event by holding a meeting at St. Martin's Hall. Major Soulyndsk, who acted as chairman, M. Switoslanski, and the other speakers, impressed upon the audience that it made little difference to them whether a Nicholas or an Alexander occupied the throne of Russia. It was, they said, to be regretted that France, the power which of all others had in times gone by befriended Poland, should now be leagued with those who were trampling upon the oppressed nationalities. It was, however, a matter of pride to them that Poland, in struggling to break her chains, was *par excellence* the champion of liberty.

Theatres and Entertainments.

DRURY LANE THEATRE.

On Saturday the *Bohemian Girl* completed her fifteenth year, and was received by a crowded house with enthusiasm. On Monday a very fashionable and numerous audience assembled on the occasion of Mr. W. Harrison's benefit to witness the first representation of the *Trovatore* at this theatre under the present management. The cast of the opera was as follows:—*Leonora*, Miss Louisa Pyne; *Azucena*, Miss S. Pyne; *Manrico*, Mr. W. Harrison; *Count di Luna*, Mr. F. Glover; *Ferrando*, Mr. G. Patey. Miss Pyne sang in her best style, and well earned by her dramatic as well as musical efforts the floral offerings (including a wreath of laurel) showered upon her by the delighted audience. In the "Miserere" and subsequent scenes her efforts roused all present to enthusiasm, and so exhausted her physical power that, with great regret, but less surprise, we heard of her inability to appear on Tuesday evening. Mr. Harrison was successful in the "Deserto sulla terra," an air well suited to his voice, and contributed, by his subdued and clear delivery of the "Ah che la morte," to the encore tumultuously awarded to the world-famous scene of the "Miserere." Mr. Glover, an artist whose progress we mark with interest, was earnest and correct in the part of the *Count*, and was properly encored in his air, "Il balen del suo sorriso." Miss Susan Pyne, whose voice is not well adapted to the music of *Azucena*, evinced an amount of intention and dramatic energy as the gipsy mother of *Manrico* that quite secured her recognition as one of the leading features of the cast. We cannot close our remarks without observing that the completeness and excellence of Mr. Mellon's band are no less indispensable to the success of this enterprise than the beautiful voice of the directress, and we hope to learn that this department of the opera will be transferred in its integrity, and under the same able head, to the company's new home at Covent Garden.

COVENT GARDEN THEATRE.

This house is rapidly preparing to receive the Pyne and Harrison company. The tiers of private boxes are, of course, in progress of conversion into public amphitheatres, and some of the numerous rows of stalls will be temporarily degraded into old-fashioned, popular, remunerative pit sittings. Mr. Balfe's new opera, *Satanello*, is spoken of, by those able to give such opinion, as surpassing in musical excellence all of his previous efforts. We hope soon to announce with equal certainty that it will "take" with the public. Predictions on this head are easy enough, but, as managers sometimes find to their cost, rather hazardous.

HAYMARKET THEATRE.

The engagement of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Mathews was brought to a close on Saturday last, when the comedy of *The Belle's Stratagem* was produced with but qualified success. Sheridan's famous *Critic* was the afterpiece selected, in which Mr. Mathews afforded unmixed delight by his spirited delineation of the two characters *Sir Fretful Plagiary* and *Puff*.

On Monday, Mr. Buckstone, who has for some time been provincialising, made his reappearance on what we might almost term his native boards, accompanied by Miss Reynolds. We are heartily glad to welcome them both. The latter especially, from whom we have been too long separated, will prove a great relief. The play selected for the reappearance of the wanderers was *The Rivals*. Mr. Buckstone was, of course, the *Bob Acres*, Miss Reynolds *Lydia Languish*, Mr. Chippendale *Sir Anthony Absolute*. The Spanish Dancers appeared "to follow" in a new ballet-divertissement, called *The Influence of Grace*; and, to conclude the evening's amusements, that lengthy and long-descended baronet, Sir William Don, who, like the majority of gentlemen amateur actors, mysteriously considers his mission to have been low comedy, appeared as *John Small*, in *Whitebait at Greenwich*. This gentleman makes great capital out of his height, which contrasts laughably with the shortness of little Mr. Clark, and, on the occasion in question, brought into action such an amount of genuine good-humour and desire to please, that it would be unfair to say that he was unsuccessful. On the contrary, he excited a good deal of hearty laughter as well as good feeling, and was called before the curtain after his labours.

OLYMPIC THEATRE.

A two act drama called *The Porter's Knot*—re-written, it is said, from the French by Mr. John Oxenford, but to all appearance English *pur sang*—was produced here on Thursday evening. So pure and healthy is the sentiment, so simple the tale, of such daily occurrence in every rank of society the incident, and so appositely do Mr. Robson and his company hold up the mirror before the audience, that we are warranted in predicting for *The Porter's Knot* a more than ordinary extent of popularity. The scene of the first act is laid in the cosy cottage of one *Samson Burr*, a retired porter, who has scraped

together enough property to make a surgeon of his son *Augustus* (Mr. Gordon), portion his niece (the intended of *Augustus*) *Alice* (Miss Hughes), and to keep himself and genial *Mrs. Burr* (Mrs. Leigh Murray) in comfort during the evening of their days. The new-fledged medical man has just arrived from London, his diploma hangs upon the wall beside *Samson's* much-loved trophy, the porter's knot, and the happiness of the circle is all but complete. However, a little cloud of care arises on the brow of *Augustus*. A fast friend, *Stephen Scatter* (Mr. G. Vining), who has been the means of the student's ruin, follows him, and it transpires from their conversation that our hero has left large acceptances unsettled in town, and that his only chance of extrication from debt is a mercenary marriage, which the said *Scatter* has some faint prospect of contracting. The shade deepens ere long, for *Scatter* receives the news that his hopes are vain, and departing, is succeeded by a mysterious visitor, *Mr. Smoothly Smirk* (Mr. H. Wigan), who obtains a private interview with *Samson*. This character turns out to be a bill-discounting lawyer, who holds young *Burr's* acceptances for 2000*l.* The unhappy father is at first incredulous, then furious, and at last stricken down. To save his son from prison he promises payment, which entails certain ruin and the utter destruction of the family happiness; and to clear him once and for all of his vicious circle, he effects his immediate departure for Australia with *Captain Oakham* (Mr. G. Cook), whose ship is on the point of sailing. The fiction invented by the old man to account for his grief, enlist the sympathies of his friend the sea-captain, and procure the preparation of her son's kit by *Mrs. Burr*, without suspicion on her part that she is about to lose her greatest treasure, is most delicately and successfully worked out by both author and actor. The act drops descends upon *Burr's* breaking to his wife and niece that he had been speaking a parable, that their *Augustus* is gone, and that he himself, a penniless old man, must return to the barrow and the porter's knot.

Between the first and second acts two years are supposed to have elapsed, and we find poor old *Burr* at work in a smock-frock, and with a porter's ticket on his breast, bearing passengers' baggage from the packets to the railway station, at which *Scatter*, now a policeman, is working out his reformation. *Alice* is devoting her young life to the solace of the sorrowing couple. *Augustus* has never been heard of, but a charming incident is imported into the story by the joint concoction by *Alice* and *Samson* of a letter purporting to be written by him to his mother. The reading of this gives room for some beautiful acting, and the interest of the situation is increased by the discovery of a postscript which *Alice* has added without *Samson's* knowledge, advising the enclosure of a ten-pound note. *Samson* dares not divulge the innocent fraud, and his wife will not allow him to send back the gift; so he is compelled to accept in most eloquent silence the generous offering of the devoted girl's little savings.

They have hardly composed their difficulty about this when *Augustus* returns in the flesh. His ship has been picked up drifting at sea, dismasted, and with loss of all hands except himself and the captain. He makes himself known in the first place to his mother and *Alice*, and subsequently, to his father. For his gallant devotion to the shipowners' interests, they make him on the spot a partner in their firm, and the piece concludes *en règle* with the assurance of future happiness for the whole party, including even the good-natured, hair-brained *Scatter*. Mr. Robson's delineation of *Samson Burr* is masterly beyond description. A wilderness of words would not convey the delicate touches of pathos and humour he adds to the skilful drawing of the talented author. Seldom was a drama put upon the stage that might have been more easily spoiled by indifferent actors, but few will be found to say that a more refined whole could have been presented. The honest, noble pride of *Burr* and his wife in their prosperity, their son, and his prospects; the old man's agony in the scene with the bill-discounter; his internal struggle while he prepares the banishment of the prodigal; his gentle resignation to hard labour in his age, chequered with faint gleams of mirth; won for this great actor and his author that sweetest of applause, their hearers' tears. Mr. Robson was worthily supported by his company. *Mrs. Murray* was simple and tender as *Mrs. Burr*. Mr. Vining gave an excellent photograph of a scapegrace gent, and the *Smoothly Smirk* of Mr. Horace Wigan was a gem in its way. The first exception we can take to the piece, is the extreme delicacy with which this latter gentleman is made up as a clergyman. Having once conceived the impression (without reference to a playbill) that he was some variety of the "thirty-nine times articulated clerk," we were confounded to find him a mere pettifogging attorney. It was, however, an exquisite sketch. We object again to the absurd and unnecessary expedient adopted to enrich the hero, and to the time at which this is brought about. A playwright of our circle—a gentle-

mental one, too—is of opinion that to have brought him home from Australia, with a rapidly-gotten fortune in gold-dust, would have been “too common-place.” Why, the whole piece is common-place! Every other line of it might be, in vulgar mouths, a vulgar clap-trap. Every character and every incident is of the most every-day sort. Its naturalness is its beauty; and to have added one more natural, common-place, every-day occurrence to the heap, would nowise have deformed it. As it is, the pathetic climax is jarred and dislocated by the inopportune rush upon the group of a low-comedy messenger with a violently-improbable mission. We would give a trifle for a private view of *The Porter’s Knot* with such an amended climax as we suggest.

ADELPHI THEATRE.

The new Adelphi is very rapidly approaching completion, and will be opened at Christmas, under the lesseeship and direction of Mr. Benjamin Webster and Madame Celeste, with a new drama by Messrs. Yates and Harrington, an act of the *Green Bushes*, and a pantomimic burlesque.

THE LONDON CRYSTAL PALACE.

On Wednesday this picturesque arcade, or bazaar, was opened to the public, and attracted numbers of sight-seers. The edifice itself is a highly interesting specimen of Mr. Owen Jones’s talent. It is in shape a letter *Γ*, connecting Oxford-street and John-street, and is constructed of iron columns and girders, supporting a ribbed roof, which carries an inner ceiling. This ceiling is a hemispherical vault—to borrow the technical language of a contemporary—covered with a network of ribs arranged in triangles filled in with star-shaped panels or lights. It has been necessary to design the ceiling for distinct effects to be produced by external daylight and internal artificial light. In the former case the painted enrichment and gold are scarcely perceived, whilst the white and stained glass tell; and in the latter case the glass is darkened in appearance, and the network of colour, and gold are intended to be prominent.

The building is delicately coloured throughout. The columns up to the first gallery are painted of a deep maroon, with blue and white capitals. The lines of the galleries and the capitals of the pillars display bands of blue, white, red, yellow, and gold; and the gallery railings are also gilt. The stellar openings in the ceiling, which recal the lighting of the Alhambra Court at Sydenham, are glazed, some with white, some with yellow, and some with blue glass; and the tracery between them is painted and richly gilt. The effect is delicate without approach to gaudiness, and we are reliably informed that the goods exhibited will not suffer, as the uninitiated public might apprehend, from the presence of either the stained glass or decorative colour.

The ground floor is divided into many compartments, which have been let at high rents for the exhibition by various tradesmen of very high-class goods. A spacious photographic room is over the John-street entrance, and the arrangements comprise excellent refreshment and retiring-rooms for ladies. We observed tables loaded with most costly specimens of gunsmiths’, ironmongers’ and lampmakers’ ware, while others displayed the treasures of lace-making, millinery, and *bijouterie*. The ensemble has an extremely elegant appearance, and the new thoroughfare will, no doubt, be a highly popular one, with the fair sex especially.

DISCOVERY IN COPPER-PLATE ENGRAVING.

At the meeting of the Society of Arts last week, G. T. Doo, Esq., F.R.S. and R.A., presiding, an interesting paper was read by F. Jaubert, the eminent line engraver, “On a method of rendering engraved copper plates capable of producing a greatly increased number of impressions.” The last century, he said, produced many engravers of great merit, and, in this country, foremost amongst them were Hogarth, Sir Robert Strange, and James Heath. The excellence of their works gave rise to such a demand for print impressions of engravings, that some forty years ago, when it was found that a copper plate could not yield a sufficient number of impressions for the demand, steel plates were introduced, for small plates only at first, and several editions of books were published containing plates most elaborately engraved on steel. Historical or line engraving, however, for important subjects was still practised entirely on copper, till 1838, when the discovery of the art of electrotyping was made. Several line engravings on copper were then multiplied by this process. The result, however, was attended with only partial success, in consequence of the copper so deposited, from its softness, yielding only a very limited number of good impressions. This caused the process to be almost abandoned for artistic engraving, excepting where a large number of impressions is not required. It became, therefore, a desideratum to harden the surface of the copper-plate, and protect it from wear while printing. The present invention consists of covering the printing surface, whether in intaglio or relief, and whether of copper or other soft metal, with a very thin and uniform coating, or film of iron, by means of a series of somewhat complicated electro-metallurgical processes, which were de-

scribed. The invention is said to be applicable whether the device to be printed from be produced by hand engraving, or engraving by machinery, or by chemical means, and whether the surface printed from be the original or an electrotyped copy. Therefore steel plates engraved in intaglio would yield about 3000 impressions without retouching, copper about 800, electro casts of copper only about 200; whereas, by the present process, a very large number of impressions could be printed without any sign of wear on the plate, which could moreover be again coated and the printing renewed. The process is also said to be valuable for electrotype plates and for photo-galvanic plates, since they can be so protected as to acquire more than the durability of steel. By these means one electro copper-plate, having yielded more than 12,000 impressions, was found, when examined minutely, to be quite unimpaired. At the close of the reading, Mr. Jaubert exhibited some experiments illustrating his process. He first coated, in a few minutes only, a copper-plate with iron, and then, in a few seconds, removed the coating from half the surface of the plate, showing the result of the second experiment by contrast. He was much applauded.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—Mr. Pepper, formerly the able lecturer and scientific experimentalist at the Polytechnic Institution, has commenced lecturing at the Crystal Palace on the various fine art courts and their contents. These lectures are illustrated by dissolving views taken from the original objects by photographic agency.

The Egyptian court is the subject at present under illustration, and the comparison of the actual state of the colossal architectural remains of ancient Egypt with the specimens and imitations in the Egyptian courts at the Crystal Palace, forms a highly interesting and profitable study.

MR. WILLIAM COOKE, JUN.—An accident occurred to this gentleman at the rehearsal of a new drama, on Tuesday morning. The horse called *Tempest* fell upon Mr. Cooke’s leg and most severely injured it—so much so that it is feared it will be many months before he will be sufficiently recovered to resume his professional duties. Her Majesty and the Prince Consort, in the kindest manner, sent a special messenger on Thursday from Windsor expressly to inquire after the health of Mr. Cooke.

Fine Arts.

THE ROYAL ACADEMY, AND THE NATIONAL GALLERY.

THE questions regarding the Royal Academy and the National Gallery are not to be allowed to sleep—and naturally so, and very properly so—for as yet the battles which have been fought over them have only led to negative results, and all the positive arrangements for the future remain to be decided upon and accomplished. The case as to the National Gallery may be considered as settled: it is not to be removed from its present site—so at least it is officially guaranteed; but we all know the fragile and slippery nature of official promises, and as we are perfectly aware that the arrangement in this matter, so reluctantly assented to, is most unpalatable in very high quarters, it will belove the public to be on the alert till their tenure of Trafalgar-square is secured by actual possession. We say actual possession of the premises, which they have not at present, nor can have so long as the Royal Academy, as tenants on sufferance, occupy half the house, with a President who is also director of the National Gallery. As it is, therefore, and until something is settled and done in the matter, we shall retain uncomfortable misgivings as to the ultimate result. The Royal Academy do not like to turn out. The Brompton site, which they recommended as so charmingly adapted for the national collection, they do not seem disposed to accept for their own use; and the probability is, that they will continue to stick to our backs in Trafalgar-square to the end of the chapter—like Sinbad the Sailor’s old man—unless vigorously and resolutely shaken off. It seems at last to be conceded that the national collection wants more space for its display; the obvious course would be to claim the apartments at the east end of the building, now occupied by the Royal Academy; but Sir Charles Eastlake, who is the guardian at once of the interests of the public and of the royal monopolists, will not hear of this. It was modestly suggested towards the close of the last session of Parliament that a temporary wooden shed should be put up to the north of the building, encroaching upon the barracks-yard, for the accommodation of the national collection; but the idea was too absurd and humiliating to be insisted upon, and it was very properly abandoned, the whole question being put aside with it till the “next session.” And in the next session the whole question must be settled one way or the other, and its settlement will unavoidably

involve many points deeply affecting the interest of the arts of the country, and the status of their professors.

Meantime, Mr. J. P. Davis, one of the earliest champions of the reform movement, produces a pamphlet entitled, “The Royal Academy and the National Gallery. What is the state of these Institutions? What are the Reforms contemplated by Ministers?” in which all the sins of the past are raked up and marshalled in uncompromising array, and a scheme of actions suggested for the future. Mr. Davis is earnest in his denunciation of the whole system of the Royal Academy as derogatory to art and unjust to artists. He condemns the exhibition monopoly, having especial regard to the misdeeds of the hanging committee, by which the just aspirations of many an “out-of-door-man” are ruthlessly crushed. It is all very well for the partisans of the Academy to say, as Sir Robert Peel—we are sorry to find it recorded—said in 1836, “Artists who are dissatisfied with the Academy may go elsewhere;” but where are they to go? and why should they go elsewhere than to an institution supported at the public expense? But the influence of the Royal Academy upon art—to the prejudice of art—is not restricted in its operation within their own walls. It is unfortunately the fashion to consult that self-elected and irresponsible body upon many matters which concern the interests of art generally. “Even in foreign countries,” says Mr. Davis, “our artists are not free from its grasp. I know that in the French Exhibition of 1855 an attempt was made by an academic commissioner to expel the works of an English painter for no other intelligible reason than that of his having distinguished himself as a zealous promoter of art reform. And this injustice would certainly have been perpetrated but for the determined interference of the representatives of another body.” Mr. Davis is bitter in his exposure of the unworthy and humiliating attitude and practices incumbent upon those who would crawl up to academic “honours.” “There is not,” he says, “in the whole round of servility and dependence, so miserable a thing as he who is soliciting what are called the honours of the Royal Academy. His time must be devoted to dancing attendance on academicians; he must learn to propitiate them with adulation, wholesale and retail; whenever he chances in general society to fall in with any of those superb personages, he must take care to address them, should he venture on so great a liberty, ‘with bated breath and whispering humbleness,’ and altogether to render them the distant homage due to beings of a superior nature.” And even when he attains the first envied distinction of “Associate,” is he at all certain of succeeding to the higher rank of Academician? And in the long interval what are his fate and his functions? Those of an expectant, humble dependant still. Mr. Clint endured the purgatorial honours of Associateship for some time, and then “flung back his diploma in the face of his tormentors,” and this gentleman, when asked by a Parliamentary committee what was the difference between Academicians and Associates, replied, “The difference between tyrants and slaves.” Making all due allowance for excited feeling, the case is undoubtedly a strong one.

The “Plan for a National Institution of Art,” which Mr. Davis proposes as a substitute for the Royal Academy, consists chiefly of a self-supporting annual exhibition, the proceeds being applied in the purchase of the best works therein exhibited, as the staple of a permanent collection of British art after the fashion of that at the Luxembourg. We cannot say that we entirely approve of the scheme, considering, in fact, at the very outset, that a public exhibition of native art, being established at the public cost, should be open free. Till this is done there will be no general and ripe appreciation of the claims of our art amongst the community; and without that feeling as an incentive there can be no great National School.

With respect to his remarks on the National Gallery, we are sorry to say that we find many grounds for difference of opinion with Mr. Davis. All that can be said against the picture-scouring and the picture-jobbing of which the National Collection has unfortunately been the victim has been said, and there is little to add on that score. Peace to the memory of Herr Mundler!—he shall “never more be officer of ours;” and with that assurance let us be satisfied. As to future jobs in buying and selling—for the directors are empowered to act as general dealers—we have no doubt they will offer abundant opportunities for grumbling, which will not be lost. But it certainly diminishes our confidence in those who

expose present acknowledged abuses, and who, if they had their way, would take the command of our national resources in the pictorial line, to find them indulging in remarks which evidence a want of reverence for all that we have been accustomed to consider most sanctified and interesting in art history. Without disparagement of the matured and acknowledged excellence of Titian, Coreggio, and Raphael, and even of the late Bolognese school, we cannot shut our eyes to the grand and sterling merits of the pioneers of art who preceded them—"such performers" as Giotto, Benozzo Gozzoli, Massaccio, Luca Signorelli, Fra Angelico, Mantegna, and others, "primitive painters," whom Mr. Davis is pleased to characterise as "barbarous," but in whose works all true lovers of Michael Angelo and Raphael recognise the first development of those elements which the latter afterwards combined and wrought up in such high perfection. Works of this class are almost invaluable from their very rarity, and we shall always hail the introduction of good and genuine specimens into our national collection towards the completion of the "chronological system" which Mr. Davis deprecates.

Nothing but an appeal to public judgment will set us right, and keep us right in these matters.

THE PICTURES IN THE NATIONAL GALLERY.—Much has been said about covering the pictures in the National Gallery with glass, for the purpose of preserving them from the influences of a London atmosphere: a far more important result will be obtained if, in the process of fixing the glass over those pictures, care is taken to exclude, as much as possible, the air. Thus the great vital agent of the atmosphere, and the great destroyer, oxygen, would be prevented from carrying on, with its ordinary rapidity, its important work of oxydation and decay.—*Professor R. Hunt, in the "Art Journal."*

Postscript.

LEADER OFFICE, Friday Night, December 3rd.
FRANCE.

NOTWITHSTANDING the pardon of the Emperor, M. de Montalembert, accompanied by MM. Berryer and Dufaure, presented himself at the registrar's office yesterday, to lodge an appeal against the sentence pronounced upon him. He has addressed the following letter to the editor of the *Moniteur*:

"M. le Rédacteur,—The *Moniteur* of this morning contains in its unofficial part a piece of news which I learn on reading that paper. It is to this effect—'H.M. the Emperor, on the occasion of the anniversary of the 2nd of December, has remitted, in favour of Count de Montalembert, the penalty pronounced against him.' Condemned on the 24th of November, I have appealed, within the term allowed by the law, against the sentence pronounced against me. No Government in France has had, up to the present, the right to remit a penalty which is not definitive. I am of those who still believe in right, and who do not accept a pardon. I pray you, and, if need be, require you, to be good enough to insert this letter in your next number.—CH. DE MONTALEMBERT."

The *Moniteur* says that competent tribunals will decide whether the appeal which M. de Montalembert seeks, can, under the present circumstances, be sustained.

A rumour was previously circulated that the Archbishop of Paris intended to intercede with the Empress to obtain a remission of the sentence. M. de Montalembert immediately wrote to decline the kind offices of the prelate. His letter contains this passage:—"Proud and honoured by a condemnation which proves my fidelity to the political principles of my whole life, and which comes so opportunely to justify in the eyes of Europe and of posterity all that I have said or thought on the actual condition of France, I have at this moment no other desire than to leave to my judges the responsibility of their acts, and I could only regard in the light of a real wrong (*injure*) the slightest favour emanating from the Imperial Government."

In the announcement of the pardon in the *Moniteur*, the allusion to the anniversary of the 2nd of December is, doubtless, intended as a stroke of sarcasm; it is simply an *espéglerie*. M. de Montalembert, like many others, was, perhaps, disposed to palliate the act of the 2nd of December, 1851, thinking, as others did, that some such change saved for a time the country from civil war. The allusion of the *Moniteur* is ill-judged; it evokes a host of reminiscences which it were better to have left untouched. It reminds the public that M. de Montalembert's adhesion lasted about twenty days, and it revives the memory of that other act against which the public voice was raised—the confiscation of the Orleans property. From this act in particular dates the surrender of M. de Montalembert of the delusions under which he, in common with other sincere and confiding persons, may have laboured.

The following changes in the French Ministry are

spoken of:—"M. de Royer, Minister of Justice, retires, and will be replaced by M. Delangle; M. de Persigny will be Minister of the Interior; and M. Pietri, the former Prefect of Police, will be created Minister of Police, with very extended powers."

SARDINIA.

A Turin letter says:—"The warlike discourse of King Victor Emmanuel to his troops is reduced to a few simple words which he spoke to Colonel Rolland, after having reviewed the brigade of Savoy, which loudly cheered his Majesty:—"The bearing of these troops pleases me exceedingly—it is truly warlike. This is a great satisfaction to me, for if in the spring, or at any other time, we had to take the field, I may rely on the excellent feeling of the army."

The *Piccolo Corriere d'Italia* of Turin says:—"The fortifications of Alessandria, Casale, Genoa, and La Spezia are being actively pushed on. The fortifications of Alessandria are to receive 300 guns, already cast and placed on their carriages. The arsenals of the state contain upwards of 200,000 muskets, besides other weapons in proportion. There are large quantities of ammunition and uniforms for 100,000 men. There are twenty field-batteries in reserve."

THE IONIAN ISLANDS.

Mr. Gladstone arrived at Corfu on the 24th of November, in the *Terrible*. He is accompanied by Mrs. Gladstone, and his Secretary, the Hon. Archibald Gordon. His arrival had created quite a sensation in the island.

SERVIA.

According to the last advices from Belgrade, the Prince has fixed the 12th of December for the opening of the Skouptschina, and Belgrade as the seat of the Assembly. The day is the anniversary of the Constitution of 1838, consequently a day of great festivity. By the date of the last letters from Servia which have arrived here Cabuli Effendi, the Turkish Commissioner, had not yet arrived.

All throughout the Pan Slavonian nationalities an unusual fermentation is spoken of, and various letters coming from the banks of the Vistula, the Drave, and the Save, describe the hopes and efforts of that race to amalgamate. Austrian Galicia is actively mixed up in this movement, and Moscow seems to be the central seat of the commotion. New journals, written in the various dialects of the Slaves, are daily started, and a printing-press in the same interest has been set up at Berlin.

BELGIUM.

In the new penal code, now under examination in the Chamber of Representatives, the Government proposes to increase the punishment against writers in the public press who should be found guilty of attacks against the laws or against the constitutional authority of the King.

ERRATUM.—We are informed that Mr. Walter Hall is not a relative of Captain Hall, R.N., as stated in our article on "Telegraphic Cables" last week.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—DISSOLVING VIEWS and ILLUSTRATED LECTURES. Mr. J. H. PEPPER, F.C.S., &c., the well-known professor of Chemistry, gives Daily Lectures, illustrated by interesting experiments, on the popular scientific topics of the day, commencing at 1.30 precisely.

DISSOLVING VIEWS in the OPTICAL DIORAMA, with descriptive lecture, at 3.30. No extra charge. For further particulars, see daily advertisements.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—Arrangements for the week ending Saturday, December 11th:—

Monday—open at 10. Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, open at 10. Admission, One Shilling; Children under Twelve, Sixpence.

Saturday—open at 10. FIFTH WINTER CONCERT at 2.30. Admission, Half-a-Crown; Children under Twelve, One Shilling.

DISSOLVING VIEWS and ILLUSTRATED LECTURES, by Professor Pepper, every day at 1.30 and 3.30, in the New Lecture-room adjoining the Tropical Department. Half-Guinea Season-tickets available on all occasions to 30th April, 1859, at the Palace, or at 2, Exeter Hall.

On Sunday—open from 1.30 till sunset to shareholders, gratuitously, by ticket.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—PATRON—H.R.H. THE PRINCE CONSORT.—During the four days of the CATTLE SHOW, a Lecture on the HISTORY, PROPERTIES, and USES of GUANO will be delivered by Mr. B. V. GARDNER, Professor of Chemistry. Daily at Three o'clock.

THE SPECIAL WONDER of the AGE.—MOULE'S PHOTOGRAPHIC LIGHT—the RIVAL of the SUN. Lectured on, and Experimentally Demonstrated by PORTRAITURE. Mr. LENNOX HORNE will give his HUMOROUS LECTURE on the ERRORS in POPULAR TASTE with regard to ITALIAN and ENGLISH SINGING every Evening.

LECTURE on the MECHANICAL PROPERTIES of the ATMOSPHERE, by Mr. J. L. KING.

DISSOLVING VIEWS illustrating SLAVE LIFE in the SLAVE COUNTRIES.

Great preparations are in progress for CHRISTMAS. MANAGING DIRECTOR, B. I. LONGBOTTOM, Esq.

THEATRE ROYAL, DRURY LANE.

(Under the Management of Miss Louisa Pyne and Mr. W. Harrison.)

Last Six Nights.

On Monday (by special desire), her Majesty's servants will perform for the last time Wallace's opera, *MARITANA*. Don Caesar de Bazan (his original character), Mr. W. Harrison; Maritana, Miss Louisa Pyne. Other characters by Miss Susan Pyne, Miss M. Prescott, Mr. Ferdinand Glover, Mr. George Honey, Mr. J. G. Patey, &c.

On Tuesday and Thursday (12th, 12th, and last times), Balfe's highly successful opera *THE ROSE OF CASTILLE*. Miss Louisa Pyne, Miss Susan Pyne, Miss M. Prescott, Mr. Ferdinand Glover, Mr. A. St. Albyn, Mr. George Honey, Mr. Bartleman, and Mr. W. Harrison.

On Wednesday and Friday, *IL TROVATORE*. Mastrico, Mr. W. Harrison; Leonora, Miss Louisa Pyne. Conductor, Mr. Alfred Mellon.

To conclude with (on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday), a Ballet-*Divertissement*, in which Madlles. Zelia Michelet, Morlacchi, and Pasquale, will appear. On Tuesday and Thursday, *LA FLEUR D'AMOUR*.

On Saturday evening (the last night of the season), the performances will be for the *BENEFIT* of MISS LOUISA PYNE.

Acting Managers, Mr. William Brough and Mr. Edward Murray. Stage Manager, Mr. Edward Stirling. Doors open at 7. Commence at half-past.

The public is respectfully informed that the tragedy of *MACBETH* can only be represented for a limited number of nights.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S THEATRE.

(Farewell Season of Mr. Charles Kean as Manager.)

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, *MACBETH*. Tuesday and Saturday, *MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING*. Thursday, *KING JOHN*. Preceded every evening by A FARCE.

THEATRE ROYAL, HAYMARKET.

(Under the Management of Mr. Buckstone.)

Great success of the new Spanish Ballet, and Senora Perea Nena, who will appear every evening. Sir William Don, Bart., having been received with great approbation, will also appear every evening.

Monday, December 6, and Tuesday, December 7, to commence at 7 with the Comedy of *SHE STOOPS TO CONQUER*. Tony Lumpkin, Mr. Buckstone; Hardcastle, Mr. Chippendale; Young Marlow, Mr. Howe; Miss Hardcastle, Miss Reynolds; Miss Neville, Mrs. E. Fitzwilliam; Mrs. Hardcastle, Mrs. Poynter.

After which, the new Spanish Ballet, *THE INFLUENCE OF GRACE*, in which the renowned Spanish Dancer, Perea Nena, Senor Monagas, Fanny Wright, and a numerous Corps de Ballet will appear.

To be followed by *WHITEBAIT AT GREENWICH*. John Small, Sir William Don, Bart.; Miss Buzzard, Mrs. Wilkins. Concluding with A DAUGHTER TO MARRY.

On Wednesday and Thursday, *THE RIVALS*. Sir Anthony Absolute, Mr. Chippendale; Captain Absolute, Mr. W. Farren; Falkland, Mr. Howe; David, Mr. Rogers; Lydia Languish, Miss Reynolds; Julia, Mrs. B. White; Mrs. Malaprop, Mrs. Poynter. With Perea Nena in the new Spanish Ballet, and Sir William Don, in *WHITEBAIT AT GREENWICH* and A DAUGHTER TO MARRY.

On Friday, and Saturday, for these two nights only, *THE BEAUX STRATAGEM*. Scrap, Mr. Buckstone; Mrs. Sullen, Miss Reynolds. Perea Nena, Sir William Don, and A DAUGHTER TO MARRY.

Stage Manager, Mr. Chippendale.

ROYAL OLYMPIC THEATRE.

(Lessees—Messrs. F. Robson and W. S. Emden.)

Monday, and during the week, the performances will commence with *LADIES, BEWARE*. Characters by Messrs. G. Vining, Mr. G. Cook, Miss Wyndham, and Mrs. W. S. Emden. After which, *THE PORTER'S KNOT*. Characters by Messrs. F. Robson, G. Cooke, W. Gordon, H. Wigan, G. Vining, H. Cooper, J. H. White, and Franks; Mrs. Leigh Murray and Miss Hughes. To conclude with A THUMPING LEGACY. Characters by Messrs. F. Robson, W. Gordon, H. Wigan, G. Cooke, and Miss Herbert. Commence at half-past seven.

THEATRE ROYAL, SADLER'S WELLS.

(Under the Management of Mr. Phelps.)

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday *HENRY VIII.* King Henry, Mr. F. Robinson; Wolsey, Mr. Phelps; Buckingham, Mr. H. Marston; Lord Sands, Mr. J. Chester; Katherine, Miss Atkinson; Anne Bullen, Miss G. Egerton. To conclude on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, with *THE LOVE CHASE*. Wildrake, Mr. H. Marston; Constance, Mrs. C. Young. To conclude with on Thursday and Friday, *SHE WOULD AND SHE WOULD NOT*. Trupanti, Mr. H. Marston; Hypolita, Mrs. Charles Young.

On Saturday, first time, *THE WHEEL OF FORTUNE*. Penruddock, Mr. Phelps; Emily, Mrs. C. Young. And other Entertainments.

Box Office open from 11 till 3, under the direction of Mr. Austin.

M. JULLIEN'S CONCERTS.

M. LYCEUM THEATRE.—LAST ELEVEN NIGHTS, ending on SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18.—EVERY NIGHT, at Eight.—M. WIENIAWSKI, the celebrated Violinist, will perform every evening.—Vocalist, Mad. EVELINA GARCIA.—To-morrow, Monday, a 3rd and Last *BERTHOVEN* NIGHT, on which occasion Miss Arabella Goddard will make her 4th appearance this season.—The First Part of the Programme will consist entirely of the Works of Beethoven, including Overture "Leonora," Sonata for Pianoforte and Violin (Kreutzer Sonata), performed by Miss Arabella Goddard and M. Wieniawski.—Symphony in C minor.

Second Part—Miscellaneous. M. JULLIEN'S ANNUAL BAL MASQUE on MONDAY, December 13th.

DR. KAHN'S ANATOMICAL MUSEUM, 3, Titchborne-street, opposite the Haymarket, OPEN DAILY (for Gentlemen only). LECTURES by Dr. KAHN, at 3, 4, and 8 o'clock on important and interesting Topics in connexion with ANATOMY, PHYSIOLOGY, and PATHOLOGY (vide Programme). Admission, 1s.—Dr. Kahn's Nine Lectures on the Philosophy of Marriage, &c., sent post free, direct from the Author, on the receipt of 12 stamps.

NOTICE.

Ever since the use of the Government stamp to newspapers became optional, and two prices have been necessary, it does not seem to be clearly understood that unstamped papers can be delivered to regular subscribers in the great provincial cities with a very trifling addition, and in some cases at the same price as charged in London. In order that the *Leader* may in no instance be charged more than Sixpence, cash or prepaid, the proprietors have determined to settle the prices, on and after this date, as follows:—

Unstamped, FIVEPENCE.

Stamped, Sixpence.

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The Leader.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4, 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.

THE IONIAN QUESTION.

A BRIEF investigation before one of our police-courts has cleared up the mystery at first attached to the premature publication of Sir John Young's despatches; and the sinister significance imputed thereto by certain suspicious people has been summarily dispelled. All the fine writing expended on political treachery, and the personal folly of Mr. Gladstone in committing his reputation to the discretion of men like the present Ministers, goes for nothing. Mr. Gladstone has not been induced to abandon his patriotic and disinterested mission; but, after pausing for a day at Vienna, in order that he might have the opportunity of conference there with Prince Metternich, he has pursued his winter journey to Corfu. There are few British questions in which the opinion of the aged Austrian diplomatist would seem to us deserving of any particular attention. But there are circumstances connected with the origin of our Protectorate which place the present question in an exceptional category: and, after all, it must not be forgotten that the future government and condition of the Adriatic Archipelago concern other European powers quite as much as Great Britain.

Of the distinguished statesmen, princes, and soldiers who took part at the Congress of Vienna, and the protracted negotiations and conferences that followed it, M. Metternich is almost the last who now survives. The letter of treaties, conventions, and protocols indeed remains, but the meaning is often disputable and dark; times have changed in forty years so much, and the interests and ideas of nations then in unison have drifted so widely apart one from another, that it has become on many points hard to realise what the real intention was forty years ago; and for the most part the lips are sealed in death that could have afforded the requisite elucidation. Wellington and Castlereagh, Pozzi di Borgo and Talleyrand, not to dwell on names of minor note, have passed away; and as their successors peer into the historic mist that has gradually settled down over many of the complicated international dealings of the period referred to, they are not unfrequently driven to ask themselves whether any clear or logical rendering could be given to some of the compacts then

made between the high contracting parties, even by the framers of them, were they recalled to earth again. The treaty by which the fate of Ionia was determined is a remarkable instance of this. We know that Austria proposed the annexation of the Seven Islands in absolute sovereignty to England; that Russia vehemently protested and urged instead their erection into an independent state under the title of the Septinsular Confederation. We know that long and fruitless controversy ensued, and that the matter was deemed not unlikely, at one diplomatic juncture, to lead to an open breach between the courts of London and St. Petersburg. Eventually a compromise was come to which has generally been attributed to the sagacity of the Duke of Wellington, and to his great personal influence not only over the mind of his own sovereign, but likewise over that of the Emperor Alexander. If the truth were told, however, the matter would, we suspect, appear in a somewhat different light, and the real authorship of the anomalous and inconsistent terms of the settlement actually come to would be found ascribable not to the English statesman, but to a subtle and far-sighted Greek, who took a secondary but not unimportant part in the negotiations of 1814 and 1815. Count Capo d'Istrias was a man of great ability, and possessed, in an eminent degree, the quality ascribed to so many of his race of being able to impregnate other minds so thoroughly with his own ideas as to make them believe the ideas their own. He had devoted himself early to the service of Russia, and succeeded in winning the personal confidence of the Czar. But throughout life he was undoubtedly actuated by the paramount hope of being instrumental in the rescue of his long down-trodden race from the yoke of foreigners. He had exulted in the brief interval of independence which the Ionian Commonwealth had been permitted to enjoy after the expulsion of the Venetians; and it was, doubtless, owing to his advice that Count Nesselrode was instructed to insist at Vienna on their being permitted to resume that condition. The real motive of Austria in desiring their incorporation with the British Empire will hardly be questioned. In a state of nominal independence she feared their falling practically under the domination of Russia; and who can tell with what vague hopes of such a result the wily Greek may have stimulated the pride and pertinacity of the Czar. Capo d'Istrias was in heart a patriot devoted to the redemption of his country and his people from alien oppressions; but he was powerless, save in the arts of diplomacy, to which he had been trained; and he probably felt no scruple in making use where he could of the selfish passions of contending imperialists to advance the great object of his life and labour. Like most Greeks, he instinctively looked for help to Russia to liberate his native land from the bondage of the Turks; but he looked not to her alone; and finding it hopeless to obtain the consent of the Congress to the suspicious proposal of insular independence made by the Czar, Capo d'Istrias set about devising a plan which might in loud and high-sounding phrases reconcile opposite views, and while calming the fears of Austria, and flattering the pride of England, enable Alexander to say that he had not sacrificed the freedom or nationality of his Ionian coreligionists. The original draft which Capo d'Istrias placed in the hands of the Duke of Wellington is still in existence; and from it, and from a comparison of its subsequent modifications, it is easy to discern that its astute author gave himself little trouble about the incompatible rights conferred thereby; for it is wholly inconceivable that he should have seriously believed in the permanency of an absolute and irresponsible protectorate co-existing with an absolutely free and independent commonwealth. But he had other objects to attain than those which were then avowed by planting the British flag on the citadel of Corfu. He looked to that uprising of his fellow-countrymen on the mainland against Mahomedan thralldom which five years afterwards actually took place. He believed that English and Russian sympathy might in conjunction be brought to bear in support of that movement; and the event proved the far-sighted clearness of his vision. All this is well known to the octogenarian ex-chancellor of the Austrian Empire, and much besides, which it was interesting to Mr. Gladstone to talk over with him in their recent interview.

But what will the gifted orator be able to say to the Greeks which has not a hundred times been said before, by way of inducing them to be content with their connexion with England? Or what will

be able to tell the Parliament of this country and the public mind of Europe, which both are not already familiar with, as to the consequences of their annexation to Greece? We cannot say that we think the preluding flourish of trumpets blown by Sir Edward Lytton through the mouth of the Secretary of the Lord High Commissioner is calculated to serve Mr. Gladstone with the shrewd sons of Corcyra. Since the days of Thucydides they have been a quick-witted, restless, exigent race; and they are assuredly not the men to be bamboozled by Downing-street platitudes about their Homeric traditions, or their ancestral claims to have been the authors of modern civilisation. For our parts, we have too sincere a sympathy for the wrongs of the Greeks, and too hearty a hatred of the various systems of oppression that wave upon wave have rolled over their hapless land, to trifle with their irritable feelings on the one hand, or to pretend upon the other that we regard them morally or politically as our equals at the present day. Slavery would not be the hideous thing it is if it did not canker the popular heart, and pervert the popular intellect to a greater or less degree. We frankly say we think the modern Greeks are full of grave defects and faults, and that it will be no easy matter to rescue their country from the reproach of them. But that is no reason why we should not be generous and just; neither is it any reason why we should not be wise in time, and look ahead as to the things which must be hereafter. Our existing Protectorate is a pecuniary loss and a political absurdity. It deprives us of all salutary influence over the race which is most capable of civilised freedom in the Levant. The days of the Ottoman power in Europe are already numbered; and if betimes England does not redeem her position and assume her moral sway as the old friend of Christian liberty, France and Russia will divide between them the profit and the prey.

LONDON CROWDS AND LONDON RAILWAYS.

If any man wishes to see to that which is the greatest opprobrium of English intelligence, he may station himself at a window commanding Cheapside, somewhere about the middle of the day. He will then see a concourse of every conceivable description, on foot, in omnibus, in cab, in cart, waggon, brougham, proceeding to the great centre of British commerce, or returning from that centre. As he looks down upon the crowd he will observe that the foot passengers, hindered as they are by the crowding of the pavement, actually make more rapid way than those who are in the vehicles with the stoutest and fleetest horses. The Hansom cab, paid a half-crown for a two mile journey in order to stimulate the driver's speed, is reduced to the same level with the waggon of the wholesale sugar merchant proceeding at funeral pace; and the whole concourse is from time to time arrested by the stoppage of a single vehicle, a waggon, or a wheelbarrow. It is a struggle to make way in both directions, frequently a vain struggle. Could the amount of loss in time be presented by an equation in money, it might present a sum not altogether unlike that which Mr. Charles Pearson estimates as the annual charge of "vehicular accommodation" in London, 2,000,000%. It would probably exceed the gross amount required for the most feasible plan of releasing the commerce of London from this daily struggle and obstruction. No one who has witnessed the scene can have resisted the feeling that some steps should be taken to effect an immediate change, and accordingly attempts have been made to relieve certain streets of the overcrowding, and to commence some entirely new system of locomotion. The plans of relief have been abortive. The opening of Cannon-street, for example, which really might afford some considerable relief for Cheapside, its parallel, is frustrated by the fact that in many cases the traffic has for its terminus the important establishments on Cornhill, the Bank, the Stock-Exchange, the Mansion House, the private banks, the discount houses, the outfitting establishments, &c.; and although it is a much quicker process to approach these places by some collateral route, the drivers of vehicles generally stick slavishly to that path which is shortest in measured distance. Another reason why Cannon-street has so far failed is, that from the south-west of London the only approach direct through the City is by way of Fleet-street, the only parallels to which, Holborn, and the

thoroughfares across the water, demand a long circuit. Should the project be carried out of constructing a thoroughfare straight from Piccadilly through Lincoln's Inn-fields to Newgate-street, this portion of the crowding would be much mitigated. The widening of Fleet-street and of Temple-bar would assist in the same object. Another suggestion, urged with great ability by practical men—the opening of a bridge at Charing-cross—has been set aside, otherwise much of the traffic which now goes through the City might have been carried to the south bank of the Thames. As it is, the traffic has increased more rapidly than the opening of ways, and thus the growth of the crowding is greater than the amount of relief. The scene in Cheapside grows annually worse.

Far more searching schemes have been propounded. It is long since Sir Frederick Trench, before him Sir John Martin, and even yet earlier the artist Mr. Allom, proposed the embankment of the Thames with a carriage way or a railway from the western part of Westminster to London Bridge, or even to the docks. This would afford immense relief; but it would still render the carriage journey through London the slowest part of the route for any traveller who passes through the metropolis from one railway to another. At present it takes scarcely more time to come from Brighton to London than from the Brighton station to one of the London suburbs. In the most recent days, therefore, plans have been developed for connecting all the railways which have their termini in the metropolis, either by cross lines through the heart of "the wen," or by a belt round about the great district of houses, or by both combined. Mr. Yeatman has laid a scheme before the public for connecting the southern and western termini by means of a leading line with a railway bridge across the Thames and a central terminus in Lincoln's Inn-fields. Another scheme, of which we have not heard for some time, proceeded in an opposite direction, and contemplated a railway from Hyde Park through the City underground.

The favourite plan is that brought forward by Mr. Charles Pearson, and adopted at a public meeting this week. If we rightly understand the statements which have been put forward from time to time, the railway terminus would be somewhere contiguous to Farringdon-street, the leading branch would come under New Farringdon-street, and by dint of the Metropolitan Railway it would connect all the northern termini, the latest description of the affair including even the termini to the south of the Thames, which would, of course, necessitate, as in Mr. Yeatman's plan, a railway bridge across the river. All these schemes appear to us to be to a certain extent imperfect, inasmuch as they either contemplate a single line of railway through the metropolis, or the simple joining of the great diverging lines; whereas the belt, which ought to bring the several parts of the metropolis together, should be drawn closer around what may be called the metropolitan cab district, with trunk lines crossing in both directions. Mr. Charles Pearson's scheme, however, has the advantage of being supported by the City of London, by Lord John Russell and a number of influential gentlemen, by the South-Eastern Railway Company, probably the Eastern Counties Company, and most certainly the Metropolitan Railway Company; the last having a subscribed capital of 450,000*l.* available for the scheme, which would require about twice as much. The object of Mr. Pearson's plan is principally to afford the means of transit for all classes in the through traffic of the metropolis, with the same facility for the conveyance of goods; to provide means by which the working classes could live out of town, and be brought daily to their work. The advantages would be manifold. In the first place, a great part of the omnibus traffic, which so conspicuously obstructs the streets, would be superseded, though some omnibuses and innumerable cabs would be necessary for short journeys, branch journeys, and trips in various directions not exactly coincident with the railway line. It is most likely, therefore, that while the plan would relieve a very cumbersome portion of the street traffic, it would enlarge the more distributed traffic of the streets. Again, it is most likely that under such circumstances a very large proportion of the heavy goods traffic would cease to be conveyed by waggon through the streets. Here, again, such conveyance would be limited to short journeys, and what may be called branch journeys. A third effect would be to relieve crowded and unhealthy neighbourhoods from the population

which raises rents to its own injury, and engenders disease to its own destruction; a great proportion of the working classes no doubt seeking residences in the suburbs, or beyond, where a pretty trade would soon arise in building up the industrial villages. The actual sum needed to make up the railway capital is not more than 300,000*l.*; and it does seem scarcely possible that the magnates of the City, with Lord John Russell upon their side and many railway directors in the alliance, can let the matter drop for a sum which is really so small. We fully expect, therefore, that the committee which was appointed at the meeting will terminate the business by raising the necessary funds.

AMATEUR LAW AND CONSTITUTIONAL JUDGES.

A COUNTRY that expends three millions and upwards every year upon Justice, ought certainly to obtain a first-rate article for its money. The British taxpayers, who see that sum on the right-hand side of the national balance-sheet, ought not to hear in one week of the un-Solomon-like outburst of an Alderman Salomons, or in the next of trials at the Old Bailey taking place in a coal-cellar or a kitchen. The first is unconstitutional, the second is undignified. Strip Justice of its venerable aspect, its solemn trappings, and its Brahma-like composure, and it loses all its moral force. What becomes of that shadowy crime—contempt of court—when the court is an under-gaoler's wash-house, with a copper, a water-butt, a shivering judge, and a dust-bin?

Equitable decisions can only spring from calm deliberation, and calm deliberation can only be expected in a magistrate whose mind has been properly trained for his duties, and whose body feels the beneficial influence of comfort and fresh air. Little sympathy need be thrown away in these days upon professional thieves; but every man who has the misfortune to be taken into custody is not of necessity a member of the dangerous classes, and what is luxury and sentimental humanity to them, is hardship and cruel injustice to him. It is in the process of criminal sifting, the sessional delays, the preliminary investigations, the prison regulations, and above all, in the option given to an ignorant, amateur magistracy of granting or refusing the favour of bail, that the much-vaunted liberty of the subject is most seriously tampered with. We will pass by the country and the squire-judges, and devote our attention to what goes on every day in our own City of London, under our own eyes.

Mr. Respectable Commonplace has been a punctual tax-payer, and a spotless member of society for many years, when a combination of circumstances place him suddenly in the position of a suspected thief. He is taken into custody in the course of the afternoon, and is confined for the night, with thieves and drunken pot-wallopers, in the commonest of all common station-houses. He has heard that the law considers him innocent until proved guilty by a jury of his countrymen, and he wonders why he is not allowed to see his family. His lawyer claims the right of passing to and fro, but wives and children are not such privileged individuals. His arrest having been effected in the City, he is taken in the morning before Alderman Morecommonplace, the sitting amateur magistrate.

The Alderman is never in a very proper judicial state of mind, and this morning he has come to town in a highly combustible temper. The choicest of all choice dahlias with which he had determined to gain the prize at the next horticultural fête has been destroyed during the night in a battle of unruly cats, to say nothing of glass, and some minor botanical rarities. On going to his office at Bank-side, where he carries on the lucrative, but somewhat unsavoury trade of a guano importer, he finds a note from his chief clerk, excusing his attendance on account of the gout, and a letter announcing an unexpected bad debt of many hundreds sterling. Flushed and excited, cursing cats, clerks, and insolent debtors, he finds his way to the City magisterial bench some time about the middle of the day, and the first case that comes before him is Mr. Respectable Commonplace's. The Alderman is nothing but a pompous official automaton, worked by the sole depositary of legal lore in the court, the humble, but learned Lord Mayor's clerk. This he feels, and resents; and he is only sustained in his empty position by the knowledge that, without consultation and without responsibility, he can

fully commit a prisoner to Newgate to take his trial. The phrase sounds full and authoritative, and he is rather fond of hearing himself pronounce it.

Mr. Respectable Commonplace's solicitor thinks his case a rather delicate one, and advises him to say very little, for fear of exposing his line of defence to the prosecutor. The Alderman-amateur-magistrate sees nothing in the prisoner's face but dahlia, bad debts, gout, and villany of all kinds, and he stoutly refuses to accept bail, and fully commits him to Newgate to take his trial. Mr. Respectable Commonplace again consults his solicitor, and that gentleman thinks it would not be prudent to make an application for admission to bail by affidavit before a judge, because the law allows the prosecutor to prefer fresh indictments without previous notice, even upon the morning of trial, such indictments being often guided by the information gleaned from the bail affidavits or examination defence. Mr. Respectable Commonplace takes his seat in the prison van, and in half an hour he is a prisoner in Newgate.

Though innocent, at present, according to the theory of the law, he finds himself herded with the dangerous classes. He is still denied access to his family, except at long intervals through iron bars, and he is only allowed writing materials once a day, and that for a very short period. He takes a short diurnal walk in the prison-yard with men who have been already convicted, and within hearing of the howling murderer who will be hanged on the following Monday. His cell and promenade are enjoyed upon certain conditions: he must scrub and wash the one, he must take his turn in sweeping the other. The privilege is allowed him (upon payment) of having a moderate allowance of food, other than the prison diet, sent to him from one authorised cook-shop in the Old Bailey. When the sessions arrive he is taken up and confined with the cursing, howling, fighting, common gang of thieves and burglars in the dismal wells under the Court-house. If the Grand Jury throw out the bill against him, and he is at last released, it is after he has undergone one fortnight of a felon's life, and more than a felon's punishment.

If the Grand Jury find a true bill against him, he has to wait, day after day, for his trial; to pass his time with felons in the wells; to be taken back to the prison at night, and to be brought back to the Court-house in the morning. At last, when his case is called, he may be hurried with judge and jury, counsel and solicitors, from garret to cellar, or from cellar to garret, in search of a corner wherein to try him. Public decency forbids their adjourning to the favoured cook-shop before mentioned, or to any of the numerous tap-rooms in which the neighbourhood abounds, and they are obliged to put up with far inferior accommodation in a back kitchen belonging to the Court-house. Crime is overflowing the regular Courts, and oozing out of the doors and windows, and they must sink all pride and formality, and do the best they can. A rude rostrum, a bench, and a bar are constructed with the mouldy, substantial furniture, not half so legally correct in appearance as the trappings of the Judge and Jury Society held at the Beau Nash public-house, in Slogger's-lane, White-chapel. The day is drawing to a close, and the sessions end that night; the jury are anxious to be released, as there is only room for five of them to sit upon the dresser; the counsel have had their fees, and they do not see much capital to be made by the notoriety of the case; the solicitors and others interested can scarcely squeeze in at the door with their papers, their hats, and their umbrellas; the judge is cold and uncomfortable, and conscious of something undignified in his position; and as Mr. Respectable Commonplace did not embezzle the money after all, he is let off in a hurry, with four years' penal servitude.

These things are not so rare as many people suppose. "Scarcely a day passes" (said Mr. Waddington in our hearing, and in the presence of, and uncontradicted by, the Right Hon. Spencer Walpole), that the Home-office does not hear of some case of false conviction.

While this scene is being enacted, or being prepared for at the Old Bailey, Mr. Alderman Morecommonplace has recovered his temper, and he is now most liberal in accepting bail for many curious scoundrels, who are only too glad to escape a trial at a price so extremely moderate.

There is only one conclusion to be derived from this state of things. The City Courts and the City Prison (notwithstanding the recent alterations) should be at once abolished; an untrained amateur

magistracy should be no longer allowed to act upon the country and City benches; the whole system of bail should be rooted up; and every prisoner awaiting trial should be kept in safe custody, but provided with a home, and every other liberty and comfort suitable to his social position, and in harmony with the theory of the law. Until this is done, let us hear no more of the mouldy common-place that a man is considered innocent until proved guilty by a jury of his countrymen.

THE INDIAN MUTINY.

THE recent intelligence from India is not altogether of the most consolatory character. We are still fighting, beating, and pursuing an enemy almost ubiquitous, and seemingly without limit as to numbers. Let us again put the question that we have put more than once in this journal—Are the best means being taken by the military authorities in India to tread out the remaining but numerous sparks of this tremendous mutiny? In short, is Lord Clyde doing what is most needful with the enormous means now at his command to crush the bands of brigands that are devastating the North-west Provinces, and by their example keeping alive the smouldering feeling of discontent and fallacious hope which is known to pervade several other districts and races under our sway? We fear that either Lord Clyde is not the man for the disastrous emergency, or that the infirmities and tardiness of age unfit him for dealing with a foe like the mutinous Sepoys; or that, possibly, he may be too much absorbed in studying what will be most agreeable to the authorities at home. In any one of these cases it would be a positive misfortune to the country and an irreparable source of mischief to India. Why does not Lord Clyde, instead of arraying the military force in India against the rebels in scientific order and in army-like masses, direct the various sections of the military to attack when and where they can come up with their enemy. If this guerilla system were pursued, a few months would suffice to see all India tranquillised. If formal war is to be carried on, then another year will elapse before rebellion is effectually crushed, and millions upon millions more will have to be expended. We do not make these remarks from even the remotest wish to detract from the known merits and abilities of Lord Clyde or the Governor-General who, singularly enough, finds it necessary to be where the Commander-in-Chief of the forces is; we know what we have said will find a wide echo in Indian circles.

THOUGHTS, FACTS, AND SUGGESTIONS ON PARLIAMENTARY REFORM. No. IV.

HOUSEHOLD suffrage would enfranchise the industry of the country. But it is equally desirable that intellect should be endued with the rights of citizenship. That the hands by which the national bread is earned, and the national flag defended, should be enlisted in the political service of the state, is the wish of every just and grateful man. That the hard heads, who, in the various walks of science, literature, morals, law, invention, and art, contribute to the glory and happiness of the nation, should be at the same time specially invested with civil privileges, is the thought of every reflecting and far-sighted man amongst us. Industry and intellect—these are the two great elements of the increased vitality we hope to see imparted to the constitution. Not the industry alone without the intellect, or the intellect to the exclusion of the industry, but both together, in right of the specific and positive good that is in it, and for the sake of the augmented strength and stability which each is capable of imparting to existing institutions.

There are, no doubt, some narrow-minded persons who believe in nothing but bricks and mortar, and who look with jealousy on the proposal to enfranchise a physician, an artist, a scholar, or a soldier, unless he happens to pay a few shillings poor-rates in his own name, and to rent a house of his own. When Sir Colin Campbell came back from the Crimea, if he had not taken to housekeeping, these churlish fellows would not have suffered him to vote at the election of a member of Parliament; yet no sooner was our Indian Empire in jeopardy than they were glad enough to get the gallant old general to go forth to rescue it from ruin. When

Sir Hamilton Seymour returned from St. Petersburg, where he had rendered such memorable service to his country, and sacrificed his own high position by his patriotic conduct there, he was in no hurry to form a domestic establishment in London; was there any sense or reason therefore that he should be disqualified for performing the most ordinary act as a British freeman? When Captain Denman, worn out with his exertions to put down the slave trade on the coast of Africa, sought rest and health for a season among his relatives in England, was it decent or fit that he should be made to feel that of them all he alone was disfranchised, because, more conspicuously than any of them, he had been engaged in the service of his country, and had not stayed at home to pay rates and taxes? Dr. Livingstone, the intrepid missionary and explorer of the previously unknown regions of the Zambesi, spent last year amongst us: was it right that he should be debarred from legally giving his opinion at the general election that took place before his eyes? These may be called exceptional cases; but they are types of classes of men whom the nation dishonours itself when it disfranchises.

Again, there are classes of educated and meritorious individuals who have preferred spending their lives in comparative poverty rather than forego the praiseworthy pursuits to which they are devoted. The mathematician, the painter, the man of letters, the inventor of new forms of mechanism, the schoolmaster, and the minister of religion, are oftentimes to be found in humble dwellings which they cannot call their own. Are there in the whole community any set of men whom it would be more scandalous and senseless to treat with political slight? And yet there are persons calling themselves Liberals, nay Radicals, who, were Dr. Johnson, Oliver Goldsmith, or Samuel Coleridge now alive, would bid them stand aside while thousands whom such men were fitted to teach marched confidently to the poll.

The true friends of reform are they who wish to infuse into English institutions all those elements of worth and greatness that England traditionally loves. They seek to graft no exotic boughs upon our native stem. They feel and know that little reliance in rough weather can be placed on that which is not only indigenous, but is universally acknowledged to be so. Curious plants may be brought alive from far, and by dint of forcing and tending made to look for a while as though they were capable of being acclimatised; but their roots strike not deep into the soil; there is no shelter beneath their branches; the truth of natural growth is not in them; and prized and lauded as they may be by a *dilettanti* few, their eventual destiny is decay and disappearance. Now, if there be two things which are habitually and instinctively associated in the English mind with national health and vigour, it is the principle of taxation and representation going hand in hand, and the principle that the public ought to be served by the best intellects in the community. No rational man recommends household suffrage on the false pretence that all householders are equally intelligent, discerning, or wise in political affairs; nobody who is not a base and lying flatterer of the people will venture to say that there are not among the ratepayers of every county and town a great many stupid and ignorant individuals. The true and honest ground of their claim, is that as all of them contribute out of their industry to support the State, all should be recognised as having a standing within its pale. But after this great admission is made, there will still remain the opposite (not conflicting) claim on the score of learning, thought, and skill which no civilised country can or will ignore. Every graduate of a university, every member of the bar, every licentiate of the medical profession, every retired soldier or sailor who has served his country for a given time, every minister of religion, every professor of science or teacher of youth, every engineer and inventor, every skilled artisan who has served his time or who has for so many years practised his trade as a printer, a machinist, a cabinetmaker, &c., ought to be entitled to register for the district where he stably resides, whether he be a householder or not.

BIOGRAPHIES OF GERMAN PRINCES. No. IV.

FRANCIS JOSEPH, EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA.

WHEN the present Emperor ascended the throne, in the midst of the turmoil of insurrections spreading over the entire surface of the empire, he was but eighteen years of age. His uncle, Ferdinand

the Idiot—nicknamed by the Viennese "Ferdinand with the Fly-flap," from its having been his wont to devote most of his royal attention to the kingly occupation of killing flies—had hitherto been suffered to figure as head of the state. But now, when the gory work of striking down revolution, and offering up hecatombs of victims to the Moloch of Reaction, had to be performed, it was deemed necessary, by the military party then forming the council of the Court, to set up a sovereign better fitted for the horrible work about to be undertaken. The supreme power of the Government, it must be remembered, was at that time centred in a few generals of that portion of the army which had remained faithful to the cause of the dynasty. There were Radetzky, Windischgrätz, Haynau, Jellachich, Clam-Gallas, and some other leaders of the Wallenstein stamp, who held the fortunes of the House of Hapsburg in their hands. These men of the sword set themselves up as a sort of military oligarchy. They dubbed themselves ostentatiously enough "*Die Hohe Generalität*," a denomination through which their ambitious aspirations were made sufficiently apparent. Perhaps, had they been able to agree among themselves as to their respective shares of the plunder, they would have had but few scruples in tearing up the Austrian Empire into semi-independent satrapies. This, at least, was the aim and object of that Pan-Slavist arch-conspirator the Banus Jellachich of Croatia. But, fortunately for the Imperial House, the rivalry among the members of the *Hohe Generalität* was too strong, and their fear of the power of the revolution too great, for them to pursue any other policy than that of endeavouring to re-establish the throne on a firmer basis. Thus Francis Joseph was, as it were, elected by them as Emperor, after Ferdinand had been dethroned, and his legitimate successor, Francis Charles, the father of the present ruler, prevailed upon to resign his claims to the purple.

The young Emperor had no sooner commenced governing under the auspices of his unprincipled mother, Archduchess Sophia, than the reign of terror, initiated in November, 1848, by the murder of Robert Blum, was extended over all the provinces of the empire. Henceforth, the crackling sound of court-martial fusillades never ceased. For years the hangman's office was a laborious one, plying, as he did, his accursed trade on the best and bravest of the country. The morose temperament of Francis Joseph found a congenial occupation in superintending these wholesale executions; it seemed as if Charles IX., the butcher of St. Bartholomew's night, was again in the flesh. The people gazed in horror at the unceasing red libations that the youthful Nero poured daily out to satisfy the cravings of his unrelenting hate. Wherever men yet dared to tell to each other their griefs and fears, they vented their curses on the "*tigress*"—for this was the name under which that Catherine, the Archduchess Sophia, was generally known. The sobriquet bestowed upon the Emperor himself was of a similar character. The epithet is, however, most difficult to render into English, the significance of it lying in the play of words, most graphic in German, but lost in the translation. He was called *der Blut-Junge*—literally meaning "young in blood," an appellation in which his extreme youth is contrasted with the amount of blood already on those boyish hands. Indeed, his ambition seemed day by day to more fully merit this horrible surname. The hideous dramatic effect he contrived at the execution of the academic legionaries at Vienna, where the victims were compelled to dig their own graves before baring their breasts for the bullet that was to consign them to the earth they had just disturbed—the scenes of flogging to death that occurred in Hungary and Lombardy—the hanging, at Arad, of the most distinguished generals and statesmen of Hungary, among them a near relation of the Queen of this country—the indiscriminate murders committed by the imperial Pandours and Szereczanes against whole villages that were accused of disaffection, where every species of atrocity was enacted, men, women, and children destroyed by steel and by fire, some even dragged to death at the tails of horses,—all this, done under the sanction and approval of his Imperial, Royal, and Apostolic Majesty, would lead the reader to suppose he has before him rather the history of Genghis-Khan or Tamerlane than the story of a policy pursued by a civilised Government some brief half-dozen years since.

Nor has Francis Joseph, since "order has been re-established," done anything to obliterate the

terrible recollections of the day when the barbarous military element revelled in these sanguinary orgies. Even at this moment, years after the suppression of the national and democratic movements of German Austria, and Hungary and Lombardy, the Emperor affects to be more the chief of an army that holds countries in subjection, than the sovereign of industrious populations over whose destinies he is supposed to preside. On all great political emergencies that have occurred since 1849, he has insisted on addressing himself, in his manifestoes, more to his armed legions than to the people at large. To his prætorians he best likes to speak. It is them that he informs of his course of policy. He even announces to them first whenever a child is born to his House. This almost exclusive cultivation of the military has been bitterly remarked by the Viennese. They see with ill-concealed anger that the Emperor, since the day of his accession, has never yet appeared in public in any other garb than military uniform, armed cap-à-pie, "from head to heel," and closely hedged in by his halberdiers. They are aware—and if they were not, they are pretty plainly told—that the sovereign thereby means to let them know how disaffected he considers them, and that his rule will be always by grace of grape-shot. Such a state of relations between a king and people is but little likely to result in any amount of affection.

Young as Francis Joseph is, he has already taken care to make his authority felt, not only in his own dominions, but in Germany at large, as well as in the Italian peninsula. His reign has witnessed a deeper humiliation of Prussia before the Austrian Court than has been the case for well-nigh two centuries past. The aged King Frederick William IV. bowed like a vassal before the beardless Hapsburg. In Italy, too, Austrian prestige surprisingly recovered itself after the severe trials to which it had been exposed during the year of revolution. Modena, Tuscany, and Naples have for the last few years been linked with the strongest ties to the policy of the occupant of the Hofburg. The late Russian war, however, delivered a damaging blow to this expanding nimbus of Austria, when the House of Hapsburg, in spite of the secret jealousy it is known to entertain for Russia, could not be brought to join the alliance of the Western Powers. The hidden motive of the hesitation then exhibited is, no doubt, to be sought for in the apprehension prevailing in imperial councils lest the Slavonic element, by whose aid revolution had been crushed in 1848-49, might turn round against the dynasty itself if the latter dared to draw the sword against the supreme chief of the Pan-Slavists, the Russian Czar.

The question has been raised whether Francis Joseph is really at heart of those monkish predilections which pervade the famous Concordat he concluded in 1855 with Rome. Many incline to the belief that he has been influenced in this act by a genuine mediæval spirit of fanaticism; and, indeed, the annals of the Hapsburg dynasty afford many examples of its princes donning the cowl and cord of the Capuchin. At this very moment it is said that one of the relations of the Emperor intends withdrawing from the outward world into the seclusion of the cloister. Still it does not appear very plain to us that the present ruler, with all his morose inclinations, would be likely to yield to clerical dictation from a feeling of religious exaltation. He has, no doubt, granted privileges to the Roman priesthood vastly more important than any vouchsafed by his predecessors. Ay, he has set them up as a power in the State, as an *imperium in imperio*. But yet it strikes us all this has been done more with a Machiavellistic political object than from any *bond fide* religious sentiment. The Concordat, it would seem, has a double political meaning. It was first used as a means of weaning the Roman hierarchy in Italy from French influence, and drawing them once more into the Austrian interest. Then it was intended, to all evidence, as a lever to stir all the Catholic elements of Germany in favour of the cause of the Hapsburgs. In other words, it was a great stroke against the man who, by his expedition to Rome and the immunities granted to the Ultramontane party, had hitherto won the praises of the Church. At the same time it was a means of gaining influence among the Romanist faction, of the Prussian Rhineland, of Posen, and so forth. Nevertheless, it is equally true that not only has Jesuitism made an immense stride by the aid of this Concordat towards enslaving the people of Austria, but has also placed

the throne in a position beset with nascent difficulties.

Of the private life of Francis Joseph less is known than of that of any of the German Princes. He strictly avoids unnecessary intercourse. Since his life was attempted by Libenyi he secludes himself more than ever from the public eye, and is only visible on state occasions. It was said on good authority that the Hungarian knife had for a long time left its traces, not only on the body, but also on the mind, of the Emperor—that the grazing of the one had tended to craze the other. Of late, however, these rumours have been discontinued, so that he would seem to be again in possession of his faculties, which, it must be said, he has never yet made use of, except for the purpose of destroying every vestige of national independence, and annihilating the last germs of liberty.

ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENCE.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday, 6½ P.M.

DE MONTALEMBERT'S "PARDON."

THE *Moniteur* of this morning announces, at the head of its non-official columns, that "the Emperor, on the occasion of the anniversary of the 2nd of December, has remitted the punishment pronounced against M. de Montalembert." It may appear very ungracious to examine the motives and quality of this act of grace; but the condemnation of the most eloquent orator and writer in France for the expression of kindly feelings towards Englishmen in their hour of trial, and when they were proved, as never people before were, is no longer a personal question between M. de Montalembert and the Emperor. Were it so, it would then, indeed, be ungracious to criticise the announcement in the *Moniteur*. But the trial of the brilliant author of *A Debate on India in the English Parliament*, was a contest between moderate—very moderate—freedom and most immoderate despotism. Not only is it now established to be the law of Imperial France, by the obliging justice-ship of M. Berthelin and his co-associates on the bench, that no man is at liberty to express an opinion if it be not laudatory of the Emperor's Government and its lowest servants, but also that to praise the Government and institutions of another and allied country is to libel and disparage those of France. *Infandum!* Well may the Emperor recoil, aghast and terrified, at the fruits of his victory: for

"Vengeance in the lurid air
Lifts her red arm, exposed and bare."

I am very willing and happy to believe that the remission of M. de Montalembert's punishment was an act of kindness, *proprio motu*, on the part of the Emperor; but it is, notwithstanding, as great a political blunder as the trial. Among intelligent men the imprisonment and fine of the last defender of French civil and religious liberties are matters of very secondary importance—even of indifference. Three thousand francs paid into the imperial treasury would not have rendered the lover of freedom and sympathiser with the victims of Nana Sahib's cruelties a fraction the poorer. Rather would the money have carried a curse with it. The six months' imprisonment would have been unpleasant and a nuisance; but nothing more. They would, on the other hand, have conferred upon the prisoner the universal respect and prestige which invariably accompany the martyr to the cause of freedom. M. de Montalembert would have been infinitely stronger in his dungeon than the Emperor upon his throne. His sufferings would have been the theme of universal comment; his conduct an example to all generous minds, which would not have lacked imitators, until the prisons of France would have been too small to hold all the victims of prostituted justice and of brutal despotism. He would have sprung up by his very punishment to be the chief man in France, the one whose whispered words would fill the public ear, and whose minutest doings would fill the public eye, to the exclusion of all others—a position most intolerable to the wearer of the purple, and who can bear no rival near the throne which is presumed to be based upon popular favour and universal suffrage. Independently, therefore, of the kindly intentions of the Emperor, and of his desire to avoid the infliction of disagreeable constraint upon so eminent a personage which might have the appearance of vindictiveness, there are political reasons for the act of grace—pardon it cannot be called, for M. de Montalembert has been guilty of no offence, unless it be a crime to express contempt for all that is ignoble and infamous—which although they may not detract from its merits, cannot be passed over in silence. Nevertheless, so far as the author of the "Debate on India" is concerned, we may express our cordial approval of the conduct of the Emperor. But if we make abstraction of these individualities, and look upon the question as one between freedom and tyranny—between two representative men,

in fact—we are compelled to admit that the remission of punishment has not altered its aspect and condition in the slightest degree. The last vestige of freedom has been corruptly and ruthlessly destroyed. The press is more helplessly fettered than ever; and arbitrary, unreasoning, uncontrolled power exalted to a height which it never before reached, and can never again surpass.

THE EMPEROR AND THE LAW.

There is proved to be no longer any security to persons in France. The sanctuary of the law has been contemptuously violated, and the office of judge has been degraded to that of state lacquey of the Court. Corruption stains the ermine and makes it hideous to behold. All respect for moral and legal authority is confounded and lost. Men hold their personal freedom on sufferance and go about in constant danger, not knowing but their first word or gesture may place them in bondage, and render their future dependent on the intelligence and equity of the Sixth Chamber of Correctional Police. The bonds of society are loosened; the rules for its government are derided by those who call themselves the partisans of order; moral principles are fast fading into old men's tales, and the only law recognised is that of the strongest hand which erst ruled the border, and bids—

"Let him take who has the power,
And let him keep who can."

The throne of France is virtually put up for auction to the most unscrupulous and most powerful bidder, and we may yet behold it offered for sale by modern prætorians. Meanwhile, there is this danger—until possession by barter be agreed to—which is, that physical force may be resorted to, and the Empire fought for in the fields of France, for in making the will of an individual the supreme law of the state all others have been abrogated. When M. de Montalembert was condemned, justice fled from France like a new Astrea. Should the strong will which now governs fail, it will leave a chaos behind, a confusion between right and wrong, and all restraints to evil broken down. Then personal gratification will have established the universal rule of action; the members of the same family will arm against each other; the host will betray his guest—that is done now;—society will be disintegrated into hostile elements, and become an heterogeneous and unmanageable mass—*rudis indigestaque moles*. Such, at least, is the fear of many, which deprives them of opposing action.

POPULAR OPINION.

I have said that the grace shown to M. de Montalembert is as great a blunder, politically speaking, as was his trial. My reason for this opinion is, that the intelligent classes consider it quite beside the question that was at issue last Wednesday week. With them his condemnation was the thing, and not the punishment. With the masses, on whose favour depends the Empire, it is quite the reverse. They were disposed to applaud the trial as a proof of strength. Many thought it a righteous retribution that he should be punished under the very law he himself had voted, and all are disposed to look upon the remission of the punishment, not as proceeding from kindness, but from a sentiment of fear. I need not say such is not the belief of educated men; for whatever may be the Emperor's failing, fear of any individual, or for himself personally, is not one of them. But the people, who have been taught to believe in physical force alone, do not understand, or at least do not appreciate, the extension of the slightest consideration to an opponent—especially when vanquished. Magnanimity they interpret by fear, and their comment runs, "*Où l'Empereur a gracié M. de Montalembert parce qu'il en avait peur.*" Now, to fear any one or anything, or to have the reputation of being possessed by fear, is the greatest danger that can happen to a public man in France. I can only compare the character of the people in that respect to the temper of a horse—if it fancies the hand to tremble that holds the bridle, it will soon empty the saddle. There may be no reason to suppose a proximate exhibition of restiveness, but it may happen at any time when popular belief supposes apprehensions to exist. If the Emperor entertains no fear, in the ordinary acceptance of the term, he will dread the result of driving all the intelligence and honesty of France into uncompromising and bitter hostility towards himself and family—of opening an impassable gulf between them and him, between theirs and his. Great and fanatical as may be the belief in his destiny, the question must sometimes occur to his mind, "What will happen when I am gone? Will any one stand between the inheritor of my name and the vengeance of those I have pursued to prison and to exile?" The Emperor is too wise not to know that if he accumulates hatred against himself he is but heaping live coals upon the head of his successor—that if he shows no mercy, none will be shown to him and his. The prospect may well create apprehensions and inspire kindly feelings.

Though you should set me down as an optimist, I confess that I look upon the conduct of the Emperor with unmixed satisfaction and as the omen of better things. I think it proves a deference to public opinion greater than he ever exhibited, and it also proves a determination not to weaken the English alliance by exciting the hostility of the English people. How far the proposition of Cambridge and Oxford to pay the

fine may have induced the act of grace I know not, but there would be nothing surprising if it should turn out to be the prime mover. As a graceful act should never be done by halves, his Majesty should complete the reparation to M. de Montalembert by dismissing Messrs. de Morny and Walewski; *arcades ambo*—Byron's translation, "They would be the first to desert him in his misfortune and to turn their adoration to the rising sun."

GERMANY.

(From our own Correspondent.)

December 1.

DURING the past fortnight several versions of a speech said to have been addressed by the Prince Regent to his Ministers have been in circulation. One of these versions I had translated and was upon the point of despatching last week, when I discovered that it was not to be relied upon as authentic. We have now an authentic version of what the Prince really did say—rather late in the day, it is true, and forced out it would seem by the versions of parts of it which the Breslau Election Committee made public to influence the elections in favour of the Feudal or Junker party. The speech was delivered on the 8th of November, and is literally translated as follows:—

"For the first time after the serious crisis which we have passed through, I behold you whom my confidence has called to be the chief advisers of the Crown around me. Moments of this kind (*der Art*) are among the most difficult (*schwersten*) in the life of a monarch, and I, as Regent, have felt them all the more deeply because an unfortunate circumstance (*Verhältniss*) has called me to my present position. The brotherly duty which I owe to my heavily-afflicted King and Lord caused me long to hesitate as to how the different doings (*Erlebnisse* may be translated by "events," "occurrences," or "experiences") which I had noticed during his Government were to be conducted into a better course (*Bahn*) again without wronging (*zu nahe zu treten*) my brotherly feelings, and the love, care, and faithfulness with which our gracious King had carried on his Government.

"If I could now resolve to permit a change in the advisers of the Crown, it was because I found that all whom I selected held the same opinion which I hold, namely, that it shall not now nor ever be the question to break with the past (*von einem Bruche mit der Vergangenheit nun und nimmermehr die Rede sein soll*). Naught but the careful and improving hand shall be applied where aught that is arbitrary or contrary to the wants of the age is proved to exist. You are all aware that the weal of the Crown and country are inseparable, and that the welfare of both rests upon sound, strong, conservative foundations. To discern correctly these wants, to weigh them, and to call them into life, that is the secret of State wisdom, avoiding at the same time all extremes. Our task in this respect will be no easy one, for an agitation has shown itself in public life which, even if it is partly explicable, yet evinces signs of purposely overstrained ideas which must be opposed by measures on our part as circumspect as they will be legal, and even energetic. What had been promised must be faithfully adhered to; but without rejecting the hand of improvement, what has not been promised we must courageously prevent (*ver hindern*). Above all, I warn you against the stereotype phrase, that the Government must submit to be driven onwards and onwards to develop liberal ideas because they would otherwise force an opening for themselves. To this more especially, that which I before termed state wisdom, refers. When in all the acts of a Government truth, legality, and consistency are evident, then a Government is strong, because it has a clear conscience, and with this we have the right to resist firmly everything evil (*allem Bösen*). In the management of our home affairs, which is chiefly the province of the Ministry of the Interior and Agriculture, we have been tossing, since 1848, from one extreme to the other. From a communal settlement, which was to have introduced a crude self-government, we have been driven back to the old state of things without properly taking into consideration the wants of the time, that would otherwise have led to a correct middle course. To this it will be needful to apply the hand of improvement at the proper season; but for the present we must leave untouched what has just been restored for fear of producing fresh uncertainty and disorder which could only be hazardous.

"The finances have recovered in eight years from a very unfortunate state, so that not only is the budget well balanced, but shows a surplus. Nevertheless, we are far from being able to meet all the demands made by the several branches of the Administration. If, two years ago, the estimates had been more correctly drawn up, we might have been enabled, on their being granted, to meet pressing wants for many years to come. How means are to be found to meet these wants will be a chief task of the future, keeping at the same time the real capabilities of the country for taxation in view.

"Trade and the handicrafts, and the means of communication so closely connected with them, have progressed to an extent never anticipated; but even here we must keep within compass, to prevent ourselves from

being injured by overtrading. The ways of communication must continue to have considerable means placed at their disposal; but only with a due regard to economy, and in proportion with the requirements of other departments.

"The laws have ever made themselves respected in Prussia. It must, however, be our endeavour in the change which has taken place in the principles of the law to propagate sentiments of truth and equity amongst all classes of the population, so that justice may likewise be exercised by juries.

"One of the most difficult, and at the same time one of the most delicate, questions that has to be strictly watched is the ecclesiastical, a subject that has been very much meddled with (*vergriffen*) of late. In the first place, the utmost possible equality must rule between the two Christian confessions. In both Churches it must be the aim of the clergy earnestly to oppose the endeavours of those who are seeking to make religion the cloak of political objects. It cannot be denied that an orthodoxy has crept in which is incompatible with the basis of her belief, and which has hypocrites in its train. This orthodoxy has been an obstacle to the efforts of the evangelical union, and nearly led to its ruin. It is my firm will and resolution to maintain and further the same with all reasonable regard for the confessional point of view; according as the decrees bearing upon this point prescribe (*mit aller billigen Berücksichtigung des confessionellen Standpunktes; wie dies die dahin einschlagenden Decrete vor schreiben*). To perform this task the agents must be carefully selected, and in some cases changed. All hypocrisy, cant, in short, all Church matters (*Kirchenwesen* might here be rendered by "Church shams"), serving as a means to egotistical objects, must be unmasked wherever it is possible. True piety shows itself in the whole bearing of men; this must be borne in mind, and distinguished from outward show and mummery. Nevertheless, I hope the higher a man's position is in the state, the more disposed he will be to set a good example in attending church. The Catholic Church is confirmed in its rights by the constitution. Encroachments beyond what this allows are not to be tolerated. Education must be guided by the sentiment that Prussia ought to stand at the head of intelligence through her higher academies and through her common schools, which afford necessary instruction to the different classes of the population without, however, raising these classes beyond their spheres. Larger means will be needful to this end.

"The army it was that created the greatness of Prussia and enlarged her boundaries by victory; the neglect of it brought about a catastrophe, gloriously repaired, however, by the timely reorganisation, as testified by the victories of the war of independence. An experience of forty years and two short episodes of war have meanwhile opened our eyes to the fact that much has become obsolete and requires alteration; for this we want a quiet political state and money, and it would be a fault attended by heavy penalties were we to make a show of a cheap army organisation which, when it came to the push, would, consequently, not answer our expectations. The army of Prussia must be powerful and respected, that it may, when need be, prove a heavy political weight in the balance. And this brings us to the political rank of Prussia in regard to foreign powers. Prussia must stand on a friendly footing with all the great powers without subjecting herself to foreign influences, and without prematurely binding her hands with treaties. With all other powers a friendly connexion is likewise prudent. In Germany, Prussia has moral conquests to make by wise legislation at home, by advancing all the elements of morality, and by the adoption of elements of unity such as the Customs Union, which must, however, undergo a reform. The world must feel that Prussia is at all times ready to protect the right. A firm, consistent, and, if need be, an energetic conduct in politics, combined with circumspection and prudence, must create for Prussia that political respect which by her material force alone she is not capable of gaining.

"To follow me in this path, and to pursue our way with honour, I require your aid and your counsel, which you will not deny me. May we ever prove of one mind for the weal of our country and the monarchy, by the grace of God."

I presume that few of your readers will be inclined to say, on perusing the foregoing address, that it sounds like the programme of a Liberal Ministry guiding their nation to a path of enlightened freedom; yet it has found great favour among all Liberals in Germany. Judging by the extracts which had somehow or the other got into circulation, most persons imagined that the Prince would rule in a more absolutist spirit than the King, more especially as the absolutists, or as they term themselves Conservatives, laid particular stress upon that paragraph where the Regent expresses his firm resolution not to allow any question of a breach of or separation from the past, saying, in other words:—"We shall act very differently to the former ministers in many things, but for all that we do not intend to tolerate the least encroachment upon the kingly authority or any infringement upon the privileges of those persons whom we have raised up to be an aristocracy about the throne, nor do we intend to permit the Landtag, or Parliament; to regard itself as the guardian

or legislative power of the country. The King in Prussia is King by God's grace, not by the will of the people."

The tendency of this speech is so evident that any remarks upon it are almost needless, yet I would direct attention particularly to the observation touching trial by jury, and the requirements of the people in the matter of education. According to the Prince, the Prussian people, who in his opinion ought, and in the opinion of many persons in England do, stand at the head of intelligence, are not quite ripe yet, in this enlightened age, and in intellectual and highly educated Prussia, for trial by jury. The Prince requests his Ministers to exert themselves to propagate correct notions of justice and equity amongst the people, that some day or other justice may be exercised even by juries. The much bepraised Prussian system of education has not been successful yet in teaching the people a knowledge of right and wrong!

Further, the declaration that the Prussian army needs reorganisation because in the two brief episodes of war many things had been discovered to be obsolete and useless, is well worth the attention of all who were violent in condemning certain short-comings of the English army in the Crimea. To hear the Prussian army thus spoken of sounds little less than high treason. It is certain that no Prussian newspapers would have ventured to write thus, and no Prussian would have been so unpatriotic as to imagine it. The excellence of the organisation of the Prussian army belonged to those accepted facts which to doubt was a sign of folly and ignorance. The Prussian army requires to be reformed, and to do this political quiet and money are necessary. No wonder the Prince is considered to have spoken in a liberal sense; we might almost fancy we were reading an extract from some English newspaper upon English affairs, instead of a speech from the ruler of Prussia. The Prince is the boldest Liberal in Germany.

The result of the elections is now entirely known. The Constitutional party, in the strictness of the term, counts about 100 members—about 120 new members may be looked upon as adherents of the Ministry.

IMPROVED OCEAN STEAMERS.

IN no department of British commercial enterprise has improvement been so striking, and attended with such important results, of late years, as in the construction of sea-going steam-ships. This kind of improvement is still making rapid progress. From the rate of ten or eleven miles per hour, at which our first-class steam-packets were propelled, they have advanced to twelve, or even fifteen miles, and the Great Eastern is expected to move at least at the rate of seventeen miles an hour. Before she can be sent to sea, however, the intelligence comes to us from Baltimore that Mr. Winans has constructed and launched an iron vessel which can be propelled at the rate of thirty miles an hour. She is formed of two cones, united at their base, which is the centre of the ship, and the two ends are perfect points of solid iron. If she will float, and can be moved with this velocity and be accurately steered—which seems a very doubtful matter—such vessels will entirely alter naval warfare, and render all our present outlay for men-of-war of no use. Her bow will be a punch of many hundred tons impelled at a velocity approximating to that of a cannon ball. If she cannot be used as an implement of war, yet for transmitting mails, passengers, and objects of great value, which will bear a high freight, she will be far superior, according to Mr. Winans's statement, to all vessels previously constructed. At home, too, efforts are being made to outdo the promised speed of the Leviathan. The Atlantic Royal Mail Steam Company (Galway line) have given their first contract to Messrs. Palmer and Allport, steam-ship builders of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, for three powerful express steamers, which are promised to be "superior to any afloat," and to have a guaranteed minimum speed of twenty statute miles per hour.

POST-OFFICE DISMISSALS.—The Rev. John E. Cox, and several other gentlemen of high respectability, have waited upon Lord Colchester to urge the reinstatement of Martin, the letter-carrier, who was summarily dismissed for acting as chairman of a meeting of letter-carriers. The claims of Martin to his lordship's generous consideration were very strongly urged by Lord Ernest Bruce and others, but apparently with very little effect. His lordship, however, stated that a new scale of remuneration for letter-carriers was being drawn up, which he thought would give great satisfaction to the men. What is this but an admission of the justice of their complaints?

PUBLIC HEALTH.—The return of the Registrar General exhibits a very heavy rate of mortality for the past week. The number of deaths was 1802, being 315 in excess of the previous week, and 537 over the average rate for the corresponding period. The births last week amounted to 1761. Dr. Letheby also reports the mortality for the City as unusually high, the deaths being 102, which is 13 more than that of any week during the preceding three years, and 73 per cent. above the average.

INDIA AND INDIAN PROGRESS.

THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE IN INDIA—ROMAN TYPE.

THE letter of Sir Charles Trevelyan in our last number very ably states the case for his party in behalf of the use of the Italian, or Sir W. Jones's vowels; but, strong as it appears, it does not answer the objections to the preference of Italian vocalisation to English, nor does it succeed in showing that the Italian system is suitable to India.

Sir Charles's first position is, that the Italian system comes nearest to the powers of the vowels in Latin and the languages derived from it, and it involves the further postulate that it is a system adopted by literary and scientific men throughout the civilised world. Nothing is more difficult to prove than that the present Italian vowel sounds represent those of the Latin at any period of the republic or the empire, and there are good philological grounds for doubting that the Italian *a*, *i*, and *u*, are identical with the Latin. It is within the historical period that *a* has taken the *ah* sound for *aw*, and the *oo* sound for *u* is certainly not adopted by the French representatives of the Latin dialects. The pedigree of Latin and Greek pronunciation is too ill established for us to allow Sir Charles Trevelyan to assume the legitimacy of his system on the grounds that it is Latin, and the heir of the Latin stock. The philological evidence has been for three centuries in controversy, and it is not yet admitted, and, indeed, so unsatisfactory is it, that the English pronunciation of Latin and Greek remains in force, because no sufficient case can be made out to supersede it; and yet Sir Charles wishes us, under such circumstances, to admit this pseudo-Latin pronunciation as indisputable authority. As a matter of philological expediency the argument is not even satisfactory, so far as it is applicable to the expression of Oriental languages. This, however, as we shall show, is but a very small part of the subject.

We are quite ready to admit that the literary and scientific men of the Continent prefer the Italian system, but, for the reason just referred to, this affords no argument for its adoption by Englishmen, nor have we, as Englishmen, any right to prefer a Latin system to a Germanic system. It is not a matter of any great moment whether Bengalee be so treated as to be convenient to a German, an Italian, or a Spaniard, but it is a matter of very great moment so far as Englishmen are concerned, and so far as Bengalese are concerned, that it shall be so treated as to be convenient to Englishmen and Hindoos.

We are aware that the Italian system has been applied to Hindostanee, to Feejeean, and to Hawaiian; but so far from allowing this to be a reason for its extension, we can only regret that it should have been so applied.

Sir Charles Trevelyan states that the consonants remain the same in the Italian and the English systems, and the five vowels alone differ, though the difference is greater than this; and he takes the ground that the vowels are applied in English in an extremely irregular manner, and deprecates the adoption of any English powers. Now this is the real point on which the issue depends, for as to the general adoption of the Roman type, that is allowed by Sir W. Jones and the old school, by Gilchrist and his school, by Sir Charles Trevelyan and the new school of civilians, by the missionaries, by Professor Newman, by the German philologists, and by all the various adherents of a conformity of type.

The question now is one of progress material to the civilisation of India, it is no question of satisfying a few classical scholars, the German professors of Oriental tongues, the circle of philological dilettanti who apply the Sanscrit alphabet to determine Indo-European roots, or the students of the Semitic languages. These are the parties whose prepossessions Sir Charles Trevelyan and his adherents seek to comply with, and whose convenience they cater for, while interests of the greatest moment and all practical considerations are utterly disregarded. They are now seeking to fight the battle of the Indian languages on the ground most favourable to them, and most unfavourable to the material interests concerned; and

thus, while we applaud the Anglo-Hindostanee movement so far as it goes, we caution the public against being deceived by the conclusions Sir Charles Trevelyan seeks to draw from it.

Hindostanee is a *lingua franca* with a Hindoe base and a partial Arabic construction, and it has a limited old literature. The Italian system is to some extent convenient, particularly so far as Semitic forms are concerned, to apply such apparatus of technical memory as Faraga, Vatasammanu-a, &c.; but, even in Hindostanee, this forms but an inconsiderable matter, and the language could be conveniently worked on a system less discordant with English, and Sir Charles Trevelyan has not told us this, that though Hindostanee is so largely used in the North-Western Provinces, because it is near to the Mahometan countries, which form the gate of inroad, and are the seat of a large Mahometan population, yet over a great part of India it will be difficult to find one man in a village who has even a limited knowledge of Hindostanee; that, in fact, to nine-tenths of the vast population of India it is a foreign language, and about as essential as French in the Highlands of Scotland or in the villages of the Tyrol.

There are vernacular languages in India, of Indo-European type, which are spoken each of them by more millions of people than Hindostanee, and it is with them really we have to deal, for Hindostanee is a foreign, artificial, and perishable language, and must die away as Persian will die in India. As the Mahometan population loses its ascendancy, as vernacular literature acquires consistency, and as the English language and English civilisation extend, Hindostanee must die, as it rose, the creature of emergencies and the victim of them. As the vernacular element strengthens the Persian and Semitic elements will decline, for the study of Persian literature must decline, and the study of Arabic for theological purposes among the Mahometans will take the position it does among the Turks and that Hebrew does among the modern Jews. A new Hindostanee of Hindoe and English is arising, which will outgrow the old Hindostanee of Hindoe and Arabic. When the philological party have succeeded in establishing their Urdú-Roman to the full, then Urdú and Urdú-Roman will have reached their doom, and it is for such transitory purposes that the civilising instruments of India are to be alloyed and warped.

After all, the English public and the English in India will subject the whole system to a rigid and practical test; it will not be enough for them that one Spanish or Portuguese professor in a university has been contented, or that two or three Mahometans in a village in Bengal or Behar are better pleased, that Syeed Abdoollah and the moonshees have fancies and prepossessions for complicated arrangements, but the question will be how the system works with the mass of the population; and let us see how that will be. The philologists have led us to believe that the introduction of Roman type is an essential instrument of civilisation in India, and they have adapted it to an Italian model. For this Sir Charles Trevelyan quotes the authority of Sir William Jones, a name ever to be read with reverence, and in matters which are those of authority to be deferred to, but in this matter Sir W. Jones himself, were he alive, would, in all likelihood, be found opposed to his disciples. In his day, in seeking a Roman alphabet to render the Indian languages for philological purposes, he justly consulted the sympathies of the scholars of Europe, of the very few constituting the class of Oriental students, and without reference to English prepossessions or English convenience he adopted the Italian system. This has been received by most scholars, but we may mention, not disrespectfully, that not having been found suitable for English purposes—and after all Englishmen have constituted the authorities who deal with such matters—it has had to contend with English spelling and with Gilchrist spelling, the authority of scholars not having been accepted by the multitude.

We have stated what were the circumstances Sir W. Jones had to provide for, and we now beg to remind Sir Charles Trevelyan and his colleagues what they have to provide for: first or last, the wants of a hundred thousand Englishmen or more,

now in India or who will soon be there, and, first or last, whichever they like, the wants of two hundred millions of people, who are destitute of the literature of civilisation, and to whom English civilisation must be communicated. We will now suppose that in a town in Bengal, Assam, Madras, or some hill tribe, a school has been set up by the missionaries, and that the class books are printed after the Italian system, which the children learn. They have then, many or all of them, according to the extent of English intercourse, and according to their own demand for intellectual progress, to learn English. They have to contend with a difficulty which Sir Charles Trevelyan has well set before us, the extremely irregular manner in which the English vowels are represented. The boy or girl will then find that in all the essentials of English reading the alphabet he has been taught for his own vernacular, so far from helping him, will throw him into greater confusion, being needlessly wrought up to be as dissimilar from English as can be, and thus the great aim and end of his education is materially interfered with, and it may be frustrated instead of being facilitated.

I does not represent the ordinary English sound, but *ai* does, and only once will he come across *ai* in English standing for *i*. *Au*, too, helps him not, for instead of representing *au*, it has, to please the Germans, been made to sound *ou*. *U* is uniformly the short *oo*, and so throughout he gets no help in diphthongs or vowels, except in *o*. Sir Charles Trevelyan refers to the circumstance that his vowels do represent some of the sounds of the English vowels, but they are those least frequent or of least importance.

If there were anything sacred and immutable in Sir W. Jones's system, or in Sir Charles Trevelyan's recent modification of it, or if it were really and truly of European universality, we might perhaps be less encouraged to demand that it shall receive the necessary improvements; but the alphabet has not been held sacred, and changes have been made even from the last canon of Sir Charles Trevelyan and his colleagues in the Calcutta Committee, of which two letters have been altered by the missionaries. To appeal to European uniformity is to take a shifting shadow for a standard, for the alphabet of each country has material variations, and the fashion of language changes, not only in light modifications of vowels, but in heavy consonants, and even now the *sh* form of the German *s* is being reduced to the softer form of the latter. If a student looks at the Anglo-Hindostanee alphabet he will find *ch* and *sh* as in English; but *sh* is unknown on the Continent, and *ch* has the English sound in Spanish alone, being *sh* in French, and *ch* in Italian. *J* has the English sound, being neither the French *j*, the Italian, nor Netherlandish double vowel, nor is it the Spanish *jote*. *W* has the English sound instead of the High Dutch. *Y* has the English sound instead of the French or Spanish. Thus the conformity is less orthodox than is supposed, and the service rendered to the philologists of Europe less potential. The service to the Englishman and Hindoo is, however, considerable, and the practical man is tempted to ask why more cannot be done.

The two *th*, *ng*, *c*, *g*, *ou*, and the anomalous powers of the consonants, vowels, and diphthongs, will by the Hindoo student be learned after the English system, but he will be sorely and needlessly puzzled by the powers attributed to the vowels and diphthongs. There is no philological necessity for *ou*, or *ow* being represented by *au* instead of the English equivalents, and this point might be conceded at once. The representation of *i* by *ai* is another unsatisfactory expedient, founded on a philological fancy, and causing confusion. If the Italian party cannot concede the *i* they might compromise for *y* with a dot on it, which would give the Hindoo the English power of *y* vowel. So tender, however, are the party of conceding the vowels, that the English reader might well imagine it was a question of positive alphabetical characters, instead of affecting a scrip consisting of consonants, which at option supplies the place of vowels by vowel points or leaves them out.

We may be thought to have gone too far in de-

scribing the Italian vowel system as one of needless confusion, but we think Sir Charles Trevelyan will, on consideration, bear us out, for, after all, it is not a contest for any fancy of his or of any of his colleagues, but a question how far such men, engaged in a noble undertaking, can be assisted in achieving the greatest amount of success. Therefore we say plainly that the introduction of the Italian system causes needless confusion, for the object even of the Trevelyan party might be attained, and yet the objections be removed. Thus the party insist on using *e* with the sound of *a*, *i* with the sound of *e*, and *u* with the sound short *oo*. It is but to subject these anomalous letters to diacritical points or accents, and the evil will be avoided. Then the Hindoo student will give to these symbols the wished-for sounds, but he will not be taught that the letters *e*, *i*, and *u* unmarked are in English types of the assigned sounds. It comes to this, in fact: the exclusion of plain *e*, *i* and *u* from the Indian alphabet, and as a total measure the reform of *ai* and *au*. The Indian languages will have a distinctive alphabet, and both the English and Hindoo student will be assisted in their studies.

On such a basis the study of English by the Hindoo could be greatly promoted, for in his early studies the anomalous powers of the English vowels could be represented in the elementary books by *ā, ū, ē, ē, &c.*, the symbols representing to the Hindoo the correct accustomed sounds.

NORTHERN BENGAL RAILWAY.

This undertaking, which is for the purpose of carrying a railway from Rajmahal to Darjeeling, connecting Calcutta with the latter place, has received the approval of the local authorities, and the last mail announces that the principle has been sanctioned by the Bengal Government, and that its construction for the military and political purposes for which it is proposed is considered merely one of time. It is expected that the Supreme Government will be of opinion that with the advance of the line from Calcutta to Rajmahal, the time for a guarantee to the company has now arrived.

NORTH OF INDIA TRAMROAD COMPANY.

As late events in India have prevented the authorities from coming to an immediate decision on the proposals of the North of India Tramroad Company, which is for the purpose of filling up the railway territory between Lahore and Delhi, and of working up Kumaon iron, the directors have only been able to lay before the shareholders at the meeting the correspondence with the Government, which holds out good hopes of success.

INDIA.

The Calcutta mail which arrived on Sunday last brings intelligence principally confirmatory of that already received from Bombay. For some time past incessant accounts have appeared of skirmishes, more or less petty, which were all instigated by a proclamation issued by the Begum of Oude. This princess, who has more sense and nerve than all her generals, conceived the idea of a combined attack. She believed that if all the posts were attacked at once, the English, taken by surprise, must be beaten at some one point, and any victory, however unimportant, would have brought thousands to her standard. The plan failed utterly through the incapacity and cowardice of the subordinate leaders, news of whose defeat in detail has been already published.

Telegraphic news was received, on Wednesday night, in London. From Central India we have intelligence that, on the 19th, General Michel, twenty miles south-west of Sullupore, surprised the rebels under Tantia Topce, killed 400, and took all their guns, three in number. The pursuit was continued for nine miles. The British loss was very small, only two being killed, and fourteen wounded. The rebels, after their defeat, fled towards Tull Behut on the river Betwah. They seem to have remained at that place but a short time, and then to have doubled back from Sullupore in a southern direction, pursued by the force under Major-General Michel. On the 25th they were at Carrce, where General Michel came up with them. They made no stand, and fled in every direction. Six hundred rebels were cut up by the cavalry. Tantia Topce then pushed on with his remaining force towards the Nerbudda, which he crossed between Hoshungabad and Nursingpore on the night of October 31. His force now consists of about 7000 men, very much dispirited. Brigadiers Smith and Park, and detached bodies of cavalry, are in close pursuit. By the latest accounts Tantia Topce was in the Sindwara district of the Nagpore province.

The Foreign-office telegram says:—"Tantia Topce has succeeded in crossing the Nerbudda with his broken

forces, closely pursued by Lieutenant Kerr's Mahratta horse. He has applied to know on what terms he may surrender.

There is an apparent discrepancy in the intelligence, as the same telegram informs us "that on the 25th General Michel intercepted the march of the Rao's army, about 3000 strong, at Kurraj; they were routed, threw away their arms, and were driven to Khimlassa."

From Oude we hear of the defeat, by Major Raikes, of a body of 4000 rebels at Jepuldapore; the enemy had seventy killed; no loss on our side. On the 20th of October the Nusseerabad brigade was defeated by a force from Sultanpore, and lost three guns, three elephants, and all their material. On the 21st the strong fort of Birra, near Sundeela, was captured. Our loss was fifty wounded, but not many killed. Lieutenant Carnegie, of the Engineers, was wounded. On the 23rd of October, some place which the telegram calls Inbrowlet, was attacked by 5000 rebels, with four guns; they were repulsed, losing 150 men killed, and all their guns. Lieutenant Milford, of Hodson's Horse, was severely wounded; none killed. On the 29th of October Beni Madho, with 20,000 rebels, attacked our force at Saourwa. The rebels were beaten back, losing two guns. No casualty among the Europeans.

In Bengal, Sir H. Havelock, Col. Turner, and Col. Walter, have severally beaten large detached bodies of rebels.

Her Majesty's Proclamation was read at all the Presidency towns—at Lucknow, Lahore, Hyderabad, Nagpore, Mysore, and Rangoon, on the 1st of November.

A FAITHFUL ALLY OF THE BRITISH.

Mr. Russell writes to the *Times*:—"At Umballah your correspondent had an interview with the Maharajah of Putteela, who gave him a very distinguished reception at his capital, about twenty miles from Umballah; came out of the city to meet him, and received him, in company with Mr. Melvill, the Commissioner, and Major Dodgson, in state in his palace. I trust that the Maharajah when he visits England next year will receive the welcome due to such a constant, honourable, and invaluable ally, but for whose aid, be it remembered, we could not have remained before Delhi. The Maharajah is a man in the prime of life, of some thirty-three or thirty-four years of age, of commanding stature and fine presence, inclining to obesity, a handsome oval face, black flowing beard, moustache and whiskers, Grecian nose, and large dark eyes of the almond shape, which is so much admired by the Asiatics. His Court is the last which is left in the north-west of India, and is maintained with Oriental magnificence. As a governor he is absolute in his own dominions, which he rules vigorously and energetically with his own hands. During our difficulties in the North-West he lent Mr. Barnes, our able and intelligent Commissioner, 210,000*l.* for the use of Government, and he is now desirous of obtaining the payment of that sum in order that he may visit England in the spring; nor is he without hope that he may be permitted to accompany Sir John Lawrence as a fellow-passenger. The Maharajah is the more to be praised for his fidelity because his conduct is in opposition to the sympathies of many of his people."

CHINA.

Our advices from Hong-Hong are to October 13. The Chinese Commissioners made their appearance at Shanghai on the 3rd of October, but nothing had been done, as the Commissioners required rest after their journey, and were waiting for the arrival of Poontingqua from Canton, before proceeding to the revision of the tariff. It is supposed that the duties on tea and silk will remain unchanged. The duty on imports will be reduced to a five per cent. *ad valorem* rate. Lord Elgin is said to be "hand and glove" with the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce, and is acquiring great personal popularity in the north.

If the *China Mail* is correctly informed, Lord Elgin received instructions from home to propose a clause in the treaty with China surrendering the Cowloong peninsula to the colony of Hong-Kong. There is great probability that this session will be made.

Canton is quiet, but little business is being done, except in a kind of underhand way. The merchants expect to have to contribute largely to the indemnity money, and they are unwilling to come forward lest they should be "squeezed" twice.

A fearful typhoon passed over Swatow, commencing at 11 p.m. on the 21st September. The tide rose from eighteen to twenty feet. It is said that upwards of two hundred junks were wrecked, and the loss of life amongst them was very great. The hurricane seems to have been local; or, if it travelled, it has done so inland. At Amoy, there was only a sharp north-easter.

COCHIN-CHINA.

The *Overland China Mail* reports that the allied French and Spanish force, having captured the city of Jounon, and two forts of Jeapoo, in Cochin-China, were engaging guides to conduct their force to Hue, the capital of the country, where it was said 100,000 native troops were collected to meet them.

TRADE WITH JAPAN.

In *Fraser's Magazine* appears an interesting article upon this subject. The writer says the Japanese are naturally suspicious, cunning, and astute, and very much inclined to get the better of the foreigner in all commercial dealings with him.

It is not enough for us to have opened the ports of Japan; unless we find there a market for our goods, and profitable returns. In order to bring about these desirable results, we must commence by creating fictitious or real wants among a nation that has hitherto existed without any support from European industry. The wares introduced by the Dutch are all articles of luxury, and those imported by Chinese traders, through whose means Americans and English in Asia have indirectly traded for years with Japan, are of the same nature.

The Japanese, as a nation, have to be rendered consumers of our products; at present only a few of the wealthier classes are inclined to spend their superfluous cash on European articles. Dutch, Americans, Russians, and English will vie with each other in supplying the market, which will soon be overstocked, and, as we have said, until new wants are created, we are likely to gain nothing but a loss from the trade. Of the returns from Japan the same may be safely predicted. The greatest difficulty will be experienced in obtaining cargoes of any value for the European market, until, on their part, the Japanese have learnt how to develop the natural resources of their country for the advantage of a European trade.

The cargo hitherto imported by the Dutch, by order of the Japanese Government, consisted chiefly of tin, lead, quicksilver, powdered sugar, cloves, pepper, cottons, gingham, &c. The Kombang, or private trade, was carried on in the same articles, with the addition of those we are now about to enumerate. With regard to stuffs, cloths, &c., sent to Japan, it is necessary to remind the exporter that unless they are of the requisite width, they are likely to remain unsold, or to turn out a very bad speculation. Thus, cloths ought to be sent in pieces, about 25½ yards in length, by as near as possible 41 inches in width. They ought to be thick, fine, and glossy, with broad black list, or selva. Cachemires, of the same length, but only 28½ inches broad; camlets, of the same length, but only 32½ inches broad; watered camlets of the same length, but only 28½ inches broad; printed woollen velvets (*trijp*), of the same length, but only 23 inches broad.

Besides these articles, Patna, Bengal, and European chintzes, red cottons, Adrianople red stuffs, Armozyns, Kaliatour-wood and elephants' tusks may be advantageously introduced. With regard to the latter, it is likewise necessary to observe that great attention must be paid to the size and weight of the different qualities. Glass and crystal wares find, too, a ready sale. Small wine-glasses and drinking vessels of middling quality are most in request. Watches, clocks, mirrors, telescopes, and other optical instruments are much sought after by the wealthier classes, and all drugs, if of good quality, may be advantageously disposed of.

With regard to return cargoes we have but little to say. The copper mines of Japan are very rich, but the Government has always jealously limited the export of that or any other metal. The next article in value is camphor, and then there are lacquered wares, silks, and crapes, which latter we get in abundance from India and China, so that it may be fairly doubted if it would turn out to the merchant's advantage to bring them over from a greater distance. Yellow and white wax, dried ink-fish (*zeekat*), for Chinese consumption, whalebone, camphor-wood, and mother-of-pearl, are among the few wares at present adapted for exportation. The future will enable us to form an opinion as to the coals we are likely to get from Japan. At present we know nothing about their quantity or quality.

THE LINEN TRADE AND THE TREATY WITH JAPAN.

When the details of the recent treaty with Japan were made known in this country, all persons connected with the linen trade were startled by observing that linen goods were not included with cotton and woollen goods in the class of articles to be admitted into Japan on payment of a duty of five per cent. The directors of the Dundee Chamber of Commerce immediately called the attention of the Privy Council for Trade to the omission, and asked whether any explanation could be given respecting it. The reply says:—"Under the recent treaty with Japan, as linens are not specified in the second class of articles, which are to be admitted on payment of 5 per cent. duty, which class included both cotton and woollen goods; and as no reference is made to them in the first and third classes of enumerated articles, they appear necessarily to come within the fourth class, and to be liable to a duty of 20 per cent."—*Dundee Advertiser*.

THE ORANGE CROP.—We understand that the supply is likely to be very deficient this year. Portugal has a fair average crop, but St. Michael is only about two-thirds of what it was last year, and Terceira only about one-fourth. This falling off is to be attributed to the very dry weather which has prevailed, amounting in some localities almost to a drought.—*Eastern Counties Herald*.

C O M M E R C I A L.

OUR TRADE IN 1857.

THE annual statement of the Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom for 1857 was published on Wednesday, the 1st instant. An abstract of the principal items was published late in the spring, which took off the edge of the public curiosity: to gratify it, or rather to satiate it with the details of this great subject, has required exactly eleven months. The present publication, however, is a great improvement on former publications. A few years ago we had to wait much longer even than now for a return that was far less complete. The total computed value of all our trade in the two last years was—

	1856.	1857.
	£.	£.
Imports	172,544,154	187,844,441
Exports	139,220,353	146,174,301
Transit	4,579,048	4,508,487
	316,343,555	338,527,229

Of the total imports, there came—

From for. countries	129,517,568	141,661,245
From Brit. possess.	43,026,586	46,183,196

Of the total exports, which include foreign and colonial produce, there went—

To for. countries ...	102,524,675	105,738,700
To Brit. possessions	36,695,678	40,435,601

The value of imports, therefore, which includes the cost of bringing the goods hither, exceeds the value of the exports, which does not include the cost of conveying the goods abroad, by about 27 per cent. on the average of the two years; and the trade to foreign countries, compared to that to British possessions, taking the average of the two years, and the whole of the exports and imports, is three times as great. According to the theories of trade which prevailed when most of the old restrictive laws of Europe were made on foreign trade, the excess in the value of imports so marked in these two years, and so invariably the rule, was set down as a balance of trade against the country, and the restrictive laws were made to cast the balance, if possible, on the other side. No account is here taken of the movement of the precious metals; but formerly it was supposed that the excess of imports had always to be paid for by the export of the precious metals, and to keep or bring them into the country was then the darling object of legislators. They were ignorant of the fact, now from its magnitude perfectly clear, that the value of goods in every country must always be greater at the place of import than at the place of export; and as a consequence, in general the value of imports in every country must be greater than the value of exports. They tried by laws, therefore, to reverse the order of nature, which makes mutual exchange advantageous to both parties; and though they did not succeed, they are in many cases still trying to effect the same hopeless object.

They tried, too, for many years to check foreign trade, and confine trade as much as possible to their own countries and to colonies. With the approbation generally of their people, they tried to effect this object on many occasions by war, with a deplorable want of success, as the present condition of our trade testifies. No country has possessions abroad at all comparable to our possessions, and yet our trade with foreign countries is three times as great as the trade to our own possessions. We should, however, fall into as grievous an error as the old restrictionists were we on this account to depreciate this latter trade. In fact, some of it is a foreign trade, as our cottons and woollens pass through India into Thibet and Affghanistan; and without colonial trade, such as the import of indigo from India and wool from Australia, we could not carry on to an equal extent foreign trade, such as the export of woollen cloth to the United States. All branches of trade, therefore, are closely connected with, and are necessary to, one another; and we only indicate the more or less of the several branches as matters of fact calculated to gratify curiosity, not to raise one above the other in the general estimation.

The countries from which the imports and to which the exports were of the greatest value, to enumerate only a few, were the following:—

Countries from which Imports came.	Value of Imports. £.	Countries to which Exports went.	Value of Exports. £.
United States	33,647,227	United States	18,985,939
India, Ceylon, and Singapore	21,094,301	India, Ceylon, and Singapore	13,118,020
Russia	13,447,584	Australia	11,632,524
France	11,965,407	Hanse Towns	9,595,962
China & Hong-Kong	11,448,639	Holland	6,384,394
Egypt	7,853,876	France	6,213,258
British W. Indies, including Guiana	7,214,566	Brazil	5,541,710
Holland	7,203,785	B. N. America	4,329,075
Prussia	6,732,078	Turkey	3,107,401
B. N. America	6,399,110	Russia	3,098,819
Australia	5,925,305	China & Hong-Kong	2,449,982
Hanse Towns	5,822,188	British W. Indies, including Guiana	2,349,041

With the exception of the United States and India none of these countries stand in the same relation to both imports and exports. Russia sent us 13,447,584*l.* of her goods, and took only 3,098,819*l.* of ours, but her hemp, her tallow, and timber were indispensable for our business, however they might be paid for. Australia appears the lowest but one on the import list and the highest but two on the export list; if the gold she has sent us were added she would probably stand third on the import list. The trade with all these countries is advantageous, nay, necessary to our welfare, and this table, like every return, only convicts us of error when we condemn a trade because it appears not to be what is called reciprocal, that is, when the exports are not about equal to the imports.

To refer to the changes in trade which these returns indicate, we may notice that the imports from Russia, which in 1855 were only 473,000*l.*, were, in 1857, 13,447,584*l.* The imports from Egypt were in 1854 only 3,355,000*l.*, and in 1857, 7,853,876*l.*; much of the increase arising from goods transmitted through Egypt from India. Large as the imports from the United States were in 1857, they were larger in 1856 by 2,400,000*l.*; and in 1829 were only 4,000,000*l.* less. The exports to British North America declined before 1857; those to India increased from about 8,000,000*l.* in 1853 to 13,118,020*l.* in 1857; and those to Australia were greater in 1853 than in 1857. To France the exports have more than doubled since 1853, indicating the advantages she has derived from the relaxations latterly made in her restrictive system. No fact stated is, however, more strange than the large amount of our import trade from China, 11,448,639*l.*, which should be increased by some of the transit throughout Egypt, considering that we were for a part of the year at war with that country, and that we are indebted, according to many pompous statements, to Lord Elgin's treaty in 1858 for opening China to the trade of the world.

By themselves these annual returns afford us no means of comparing the shipping employed in 1857 with that employed in previous years. They contain only an account of its amount in 1857. Exclusive of transports and ships with Government stores, which employed a considerable amount of our shipping, the total tonnage of British shipping which entered and cleared with cargoes was 11,636,257, 666,134 more than in 1856, which was greater than in any previous year, and more than double the British tonnage entered and cleared with cargoes in 1843. That foreign shipping should also have increased, looking at the immense value and quantities of our imports from all the countries of the world, is really more gratifying than surprising, notwithstanding the present distress of our shipowners, which we trust is very transitory. In our coasting trade, including the Isle of Man, which it must be remembered includes all the opposite shores of the Continent between Brest and the Elbe, the total amount of tonnage which entered and cleared in 1857 was 31,877,586 tons, whereof foreign shipping amounted to the very small quantity of 102,954 tons. The distress of our shipping is clearly the consequence of the decline in our trade in 1857—there are fewer goods to carry—and of the great number of ships

which have been built, together with the improvement in constructing and navigating them. The latter is not a measurable quantity, the former is. In the year 1857, the amount of tonnage built and registered in the United Kingdom and its possessions, exclusive of 36,302 tons of shipping built here for foreigners, and exclusive also of the 6000 tons of the Great Eastern, built, but not registered, was no less than 423,477. At the same time the tonnage of registered shipping wrecked and sold to foreigners was 186,119, leaving us a clear increase of 237,358 tons for carriage to be added to a similar increase through several previous years. When the shipowners build ships and improve navigation, they cannot ensure an increase of cargoes to be carried. To increase subsistence, however, by agricultural improvement, in the present half-fed and half-clothed condition of the multitude, does, on the principle of population, ensure a market for it; and the farmers, accordingly, have flourished by their own exertions, while the shipowners have done too much for their own benefit. What they really want is more cargoes to carry, and no means are so effectual to increase these as to abolish restrictions for the renewal of which some of our shipowners are foolish enough to pray.

These tables inform us that the value of the exports of our own produce from Liverpool was 55,178,536*l.*, and from London only 27,832,348*l.* Hull is next on the list 15,758,813*l.*; and then Glasgow 5,107,384*l.*; all the other ports are much below these. We see no account of the value of imports at the different ports, but something equivalent is the amount of customs duties paid at each port. London stands first in this list, 11,465,998*l.*, and Liverpool next, 3,621,409*l.* Bristol collects 1,211,035*l.*; at no other port is 1,000,000*l.* collected. Such a magnificent trade, with such a vast revenue collected from it as ours, was never possessed by any nation either ancient or modern, and being founded on freedom, or the laws of nature, is sure, if we will only grant it scope, to increase continually.

OUR TRADE IN 1858.

WE may now add, from the monthly returns we noticed last week, a comparison between our present trade and that of 1857. In the three first quarters, according to the corrected and full return of the value of imports for that period, then first published, the figures were these:—

Imports.	Exports.
£	£
114,799,194	86,310,329
Excess of imports ...	£28,488,865

A similar excess in the value of the imports exists in the present as in former years, but the percentage—nearly 32 per cent.—is somewhat greater. If to this we add the excess in nine months of bullion imported above that exported, 8,217,344*l.*, we have an excess in the value of imports in the nine months of 1858 of 36,706,209*l.* This excess, greater even than usual, will help to explain our abundance of capital. Our capitalists, who generally make advances to their friends abroad, have this year, from the general loss of confidence, drawn home some of their capital.

To consider the trade of the nine months of the present year more closely, we observe that of—

	£
The total imports ...	114,799,194
There came from foreign countries ...	88,650,041
And from our own possessions ...	26,248,690
While of the total exports ...	86,310,329
There went to foreign countries ...	56,072,031
And to our own possessions ...	30,238,278

Our trade with foreign countries, therefore, taking the imports and exports together 144,022,555*l.*, as against our trade with our own possessions 56,486,968*l.*, was more than two and a half times as great. It was relatively a small per centage less in excess than in 1857. Repeating of the trade of nine months such a statement as we have given of the trade of 1857 with different countries, we shall find some remarkable differences:—

Countries.	Imports. £.	Countries.	Exports. £.
United States... 27,409,366		E. Indies, Ceylon, and Singapore	13,569,586
India, Ceylon, and Singapore 11,036,411		United States... 9,826,442	
France	10,199,371	Australia	7,619,869
Russia	6,205,123	Hanse Towns... 6,441,970	
China & Hong-Kong	5,541,988	Holland	4,106,850
British West Indies, including Guiana	5,084,889	France	3,557,868
Australia	4,314,202	Turkey	2,978,493
Holland	4,206,680	B. N. American Colonies.....	2,970,568
Egypt	3,833,947	Brazil	2,877,659
Peru	3,550,832	Russia	2,455,392
Prussia	3,107,006	China & Hong-Kong	2,013,531
Foreign West Indies	2,925,938	Foreign West Indies	1,895,723

In the present year, therefore, Russia falls below France for the value of imports, and Australia, without including bullion, rises above three of the countries which she was below in 1857. Peru exceeds Prussia. For the value of exports, India this year surpasses considerably the United States. Turkey comes next to France, and before our North American colonies and before Brazil. For our own West India colonies we are obliged to substitute the foreign West India islands. As our own colonies, however, have taken more from us in the nine months of 1858 than 1857, we suppose that the large increase in our exports to the foreign West Indies is due to the increased consumption of their produce here, especially their sugar. We repeat, however, that we mention none of these facts invidiously, for all the parts of our traffic are closely connected with each other and exist together. If there be freedom for all, they will all grow in fair proportion. Like the limbs, they are all necessary to perfection, and to restrict or to mutilate any one is to disfigure and weaken the whole.

GENERAL TRADE REPORT.

London, Friday Evening.

THE last month of the year having now commenced, and all kinds of business being remarkably steady, there are few topics of interest to engage the attention of commercial writers, and only very faint hopes of any further change till after the beginning of the new year. Mercantile men look forward to having a good balance at their bankers', and embark in no new business that can be avoided. So the dulness of trade, of which so much has of late been said, continues, though the imports and consumption are very large. That it is not so active as in 1857, of which some persons complain, is only a proof of the general prudence.

In the week the corn market has been flat, and to-day, at Mark-lane, the sales were slow at Monday's quotations. Off the coast there are very large arrivals, especially of Indian corn. The price, which is declining, is now perhaps as low as it has ever been. The arrivals were not large in the market, but they sufficed to keep prices dull.

The Mincing-lane markets, particularly the market for tea, are all firm, and though the business doing is entirely for consumption.

Our advices from the United States teach us to believe that the cotton crop this year will be larger than the famous crop of 1856, and will certainly not be less than 3,300,000 bales. The idea that has been set afloat of the great deficiency of this raw material is without foundation.

Gentlemen of Liverpool connected with the corn trade, in conjunction with gentlemen from Glasgow, Hull, and other places, have, in a public meeting, adopted a resolution to buy and sell all kinds of grain, meal, and flour, by a weight of 100 lbs. avoirdupois. They recommend the trade, in order to put an end to a variety of weights and measures throughout the kingdom, to buy and sell by no other weight after February 1st, 1859. Such a plan, which is highly approved of here, will introduce more certainty into the value of the commodity at different places, and substitute one weight for many weights and measures. Though an Act of Parliament might be necessary to apply this rule to corn and meal when imported, the merchants and dealers propose at present merely to conclude all their own contracts according to this rule. They help themselves. We hope they will succeed in making its use general. While they were recommending, however, an alteration of the duty on corn and meal to 2d. per 100lbs., it is a pity they did not rather propose to get rid of this last "rag of protection." At least, if statisticians must be gratified by public officers keeping an account of all corn imported, they might have suggested that it be reduced to the lowest coin of the realm. As a counter, a farthing per 100lbs. would be as good as a shilling a quarter, and it would approximate our laws to that free.

trade legislation some amongst us properly demand from other nations.

The French are awakening to the necessity of having freedom for agriculture, and for dealing in its productions. M. Léonce de Lavergne, well known for his description of English agriculture, has published an essay in the *Revue des Deux Mondes* to show the present condition of agriculture in France, and how much it has suffered from losing sight of the principles of free trade, which French writers were the first to demonstrate. Agriculture has, in spite of restrictions, improved so much in France since the first Revolution, or the land under cultivation has increased, that 192,570,000 bushels of wheat and 275,100,000 bushels of potatoes were grown in 1848, against 93,534,000 bushels of wheat, and 5,502,000 bushels of potatoes in 1789. The rent of land, too, has increased from 29 fr. 55 c. per acre to 74 fr. 13 c., and the reward of the labourer has been about doubled. The increase of foreign trade and manufactures in France, which has been perhaps fivefold since 1815, when they were at a very low ebb, is the best encouragement for agriculture, and as these expand agriculture must flourish. Though the French Government be ignorant, it does not want good-will. It patronises the "Crédit Foncier," a bank for supplying landowners with capital on easy terms (objectionable as this may be on principle, it is not worse than our own plan of lending the public credit to landlords), and intends, we believe, though it is terribly in error, to serve the farmers by taxing the bakers. The inquiry it has instituted into our agriculture is with a view to improve that of France. At a recent meeting of the Agricultural Society of Boulogne, M. A. Adam encouraged the agriculturists to exert themselves to procure free trade, and he assured his hearers that the Government was favourable to such views. As freedom is necessary to prosperity it must be had, and if it be not quietly conceded, the unwise coercion will at some time or other be got rid of by violence.

Business seems improving in France as well as at home. The *Progrès Industriel* of Lyons says:—"Our manufactures continue in a state of great prosperity, but the number of workmen is insufficient. With the exception of figured silks, all others are in great demand."

The Russian Steam Navigation and Trading Company has established a regular line between London and Odessa. The managing director, who has left England, purchased here for this service eight steamers, and has contracted for the building of twelve more. The company possesses a fleet of forty steamers, and has opened an extensive river communication between the Black Sea and the interior. It has established regular lines between the different ports of the Black and Azoff Seas and the various Mediterranean ports—Marseilles, Trieste, Alexandria, Genoa, &c.—and is to open a communication via the River Rhion to Tiflis. This is one of the many enterprises which will contribute to carry back trade from the Western world to Asia, and infuse new life into the oldest inhabited part of the globe.

Trade in the manufacturing districts for the past month has been generally good; there are exceptional cases, but upon the whole prices have been rather higher, and profits, it is hoped, have been in proportion. The one great feature which has distinguished the trade of the country during this year is the absence of any outward appearance of speculation. What goods have been manufactured and what goods have been sold are believed to have been called for by the legitimate requirements of the country. The banks have held aloof from granting accommodation, as it is termed, to speculative firms—in particular the Liverpool banks—hitherto so forward to make "advances" on what may be considered as "true bargains" in cotton and produce, have declined to lend themselves to assist in transactions that wore the least appearance of speculation. This has effected a good deal of advantage to the legitimate trade in the cotton and piece goods markets. As far as the demand for manufactures is concerned, the past month has been one of unusual activity. The low prices at the beginning of the month tempted buyers to come forward who had held their orders over; this tended to clear off the stocks of cloth and to provide the manufacturers with orders, which it is expected will keep them going until the termination of the year. We believe that manufacturers are inclined to ask somewhat higher prices, but certainly they refuse to accept lower; and as far as respects orders for immediate delivery, they do ask an advance on current rates. We have already stated that piece goods went to a low price, but the same was not the case with yarns, which felt the decline in prices only to the extent of about one fourth, made up however to the spinners by the advance on Indian numbers. As far as the Liverpool trade is concerned, the prospect is encouraging. We extract from Messrs. R. Freeland's circular the following summary.

The total exports of cotton piece-goods and yarns for the month sum up 109,688 packages, against 82,219 same time last year, and 95,872 in 1856. The increase is principally made up by the large shipments to Calcutta and Bombay, Calcutta having taken 21,527 packages against 7267, and Bombay 12,448 against 7642. To Shanghai there is also an increase of 1900 packages in the month; to Constantinople of 2730; and to New York of 8646. On the other hand, there is

a falling off to Rio and Pernambuco of 1268, to Hamburg and Rotterdam of 1852 packages, principally yarn. The following classification shows the proportion shipped to the various markets of the world:—

	Packages.	lbs.
	Cotton	Cotton
	Piece-goods.	Yarns.
East Indies	37.5	18.8
China.....	10.4	8.8
Australia	1.9	0.0
Central and South America	18.9	0.1
North America	9.9	0.2
West Indies	2.5	0.0
Coast of Africa	2.7	0.0
Turkey, Egypt, and Levant	9.2	8.3

The Cotton Market has not been very active. We have already stated that prices have given way about 1d. in some qualities. There is no very great amount of speculation going on; it would be impossible to extinguish speculation in cotton altogether, and with respect to the supply, the stock on hand is fair and the new crop is expected to make its appearance in the market in good time. The latest report states:—"The stock is being rapidly reduced. On the 29th October it amounted to 443,480 bales, and on the 26th November, 298,890. Spinners, however, rely upon the new crop arriving in ample time to supply their wants; and although bare of stock, buy only from hand to mouth. In yarns, a reduction on our last quotation of 1/4d. per lb. was made early in the month, but this has been regained upon India qualities. The demand continues steady, but without further change in prices. The goods market has been active, and for immediate delivery an advance of 1/4d. per piece can be obtained for madapolams, shirtings, jaconets, and T-cloths. Buyers are reluctant to contract beyond the close of the year, till they have further advices as to the effect of the immense supplies sent to the East India markets, which, together with China, have lately taken one-half of the production of the looms in this district."

The advices from Manchester are satisfactory. There is not much appearance of activity in the markets, but prices keep up well, and a very considerable business is being really transacted. We refer particularly to orders for India for cloths—such as shirting, madapolams, jaconets, &c. There is also a good and steady demand for long and T-cloths. The foreign trade may be considered as brisk for this season, especially as regards exports for the Indian and German markets. The first-named market excites some anxiety on account of the large quantity of goods ordered for it. The home trade is quieter, but in printing cloths a tolerable amount of business is reported at full prices. For early deliveries of yarns full rates have been readily obtained. We understand there has been some extensive orders for the China markets given out. It is understood that manufacturers have no large accumulation of stocks, and are tolerably well under contracts.

BIRMINGHAM.—The iron trade is not very brisk in South Staffordshire, though better than it has been in consequence of orders from America, which our iron masters are regarding with more favour. The trade for home supply has been more animated, but no marked change has occurred since our last. The advance of 1/2 per lb. on copper, which we noted at the time, has done good to the trade. The brass and copper trades may be said on the whole to be looking up, but of course the trades are not so brisk now as they were two years ago. As far as respects the heavy hardware and ironmongery trades, a satisfactory change has occurred. The large orders from India and Russia for railway materials have infused animation into the iron markets. The miscellaneous trades, although not doing a large business, are believed to be doing a steady business. The factors' orders—as may be conceived at this time of the year—are light.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—Our advices are satisfactory, to a certain extent. It is understood that the orders from Russia have mostly gone to Wales, where competition with South Staffordshire is very decided. The conciliatory course adopted by the master knife-makers to their workmen it is expected will be productive of great good. The concessions of the masters fell somewhat short of the requirements of the men, but the men have prudently agreed to accept them, and the new rates came into operation a few days ago.

LEEDS.—In woollen fabrics a fair trade for the season of the year is doing. In low, heavy goods only is there dulness; the other branches are comparatively brisk. The character of the trade is somewhat changing. The stocks in the Cloth-hall are not so large as heretofore, and the sales proportionately less. The reason is, that the merchant and factor do business direct with each other to a greater extent than in previous times.

NOTTINGHAM.—The lace trade is still depressed. A few American orders have been given out, but the German purchasers are comparatively few in number. The manufacturers are thinking about stock-taking. The hosiery trade is active.

LEICESTER.—The stocking trade continues very active. The operatives are in full employment, at the full rate of wages; an advance of 1s. is expected to be demanded by them, which will most probably be acceded to.

THE COAL TRADE.—The strikes have not quite subsided, but the miners are here and there resuming work, and it is hoped that the differences will soon be at an end. The supply of coals continues good.

The fourth and last sales of colonial wool for the year commenced on the 4th of November, and terminated on Wednesday. The quantities comprised in the various catalogues were 53,815 bales. Of the above, about 46,000 bales were fresh arrivals since the commencement of the last series, the remainder being from second hands, and wools held over from previous sales by importers. The sales opened with great spirit, which was maintained to the close. A general advance on all descriptions of colonial wool has been firmly established, and may be quoted on an average from 2d. to 2½d. on Port Phillip, Van Diemen's Land, and New Zealand—Adelaide selling in about the same proportion, and varying from 1d. to 1½d. to 2½d. on Sydney—the lesser advance being on the finest clothing qualities. The demand from our home manufacturing districts has been very animated, and being especially so from Bradford operated most favourably on all combing descriptions. The French spinners were likewise eager and large buyers of all the superior long, sound staple-flocks, and their combined competition steadily upheld the advanced prices fully to the close. The sales may be reported as having gone off very regularly, but at times heavy-conditioned faulty clothing descriptions barely maintained their highest point. Cape wool, as is usual in the November sales, formed the largest item; more so than any previous year. Nothing can prove more forcibly the improved position of the woollen trade of this country than that so large a quantity, unaided by any demand from Germany, and less demand from either Belgium or the Rhine, has been cleared, realising 1½d. to 2d. advance on the inferior handwashed, and on the very large quantity of short-stapled half-grown fleece wool. The quantity of superior scoured and sound-stapled well-bred flocks was comparatively small. The like descriptions sold at an advance of 2d. to 3d. per lb. Lamb wool was in great demand, at the extreme advance, as were likewise good quality skins. The selection of them was, however, exceedingly limited.

HOME, COLONIAL, & FOREIGN PRODUCE MARKETS.

REVIEW OF THE WEEK.

Mincing Lane, Friday Evening.

RATHER considerable arrivals have taken place this week, and although sufficient time has not yet elapsed to bring them on the markets generally, they have not been without some effect, as they have induced holders to offer existing stocks more liberally. We have, therefore, to report some extension of business in several departments, and it may be taken as fair evidence of the steady growth of actual demand, as also of the confidence generally felt in current values, that a small concession in prices has sufficed, in nearly every instance, to bring buyers freely into the markets. Anything like permanent activity is not, however, to be expected at this season of the year, which is usually dull, even in the most flourishing times.

PROVISIONS.—Newgate and Leadenhall are still glutted with meat, and prices, except for pork, are not much improved; but to-day trade is rather better. Beef, 2s. to 3s. 10d.; mutton, 2s. 4d. to 3s. 10d.; veal, 3s. 4d. to 4s. 4d.; pork, 3s. 4d. to 4s. 8d. per 8 lb. by the carcase.

CORN.—Trade at Mark-lane has in a great measure been influenced by the weather. The fresh supplies of English wheat, although moderate, have, in consequence of the damp and inferior condition of the samples, been difficult to place, and except for a few prime dry lots, prices declined 1s. to 2s. per qr. Choice Essex white brought 48s. to 49s.; fair runs, 45s. to 46s.; prime red, 48s. to 44s.; runs, 41s. to 42s.; inferior, 39s. to 40s. Foreign samples were not so much pressed, but the demand was quite of a retail character. Fine Dantzic quoted 54s. to 55s.; mixed, 50s. to 52s.; inferior imports, 46s. to 47s.; red, 48s. to 45s.; French red, 42s. to 44s.; St. Petersburg, 42s.; and Archangel, 35s. to 36s. The flour trade is exceedingly dull, and although purchases may be made upon easier terms, they are not extended beyond the supplying of immediate wants. Town households offer at 34s.; country households at 32s. to 33s.; and Norfolks at 28s. to 28s. 6d. The top price of town-made remains nominally at 40s. There have been increased supplies of French on offer, and prices have ruled in the favour of buyers; prime, 85s. to 86s.; fair, 82s. to 84s. Prime American brands are still scarce, and command 25s. to 26s. per barrel. The arrivals by Eastern Counties Railway have been 17,812 sacks against a delivery of 11,629 sacks. The demand for barley is still confined to the best malting and grinding qualities, medium and inferior grades continuing to hang on hand. Malt sells slowly, but without quotable change in price. Beans are rather cheaper, the demand having fallen off whilst several foreign arrivals have taken place. The mild weather has checked the sale of peas, and quotations are hardly so firm. The arrivals of

oats have again been large, and prices have declined 1s. per cwt. in consequence.

LONDON AVERAGES.

	Qrs.	s.	d.
Wheat.....	4083	at	44 3
Barley.....	1742	"	36 10
Malt	—	"	—
Oats	892	"	25 4
Beans	138	"	40 5
Peas	117	"	42 3

CORN ARRIVALS.

	English.	Irish.	Foreign.
Wheatqrs.	7067	—	6557
Barley.....	4343	—	8008
Malt	13,639	—	—
Beans	1097	—	3380
Peas	416	—	102
Oats	9822	—	41,628
Flour,sks.	—	—	2683
Dittobrls.	—	—	—

In floating cargoes a considerable business has been done, including nine cargoes of wheat. Berdeanski at 44s.; Marianople, 43s. 9d.; Odessa and Taganrog Ghirka, 40s. 6d. to 40s. 10½d.; Ibrail, 32s.; and Egyptian, 29s. Maize has also sold largely: Galatz at 27s. 6d. to 28s. 3d. A cargo of Odessa oats made 17s. 6d., and Taganrog 18s. 6d. cost, freight, and insurance.

SEEDS.—Owing to change of wind arrivals of linseed into our port and off the coast have been numerous; 35,650 qrs. are reported at our Custom House, of which 31,650 qrs. are from East Indies, 3000 qrs. Black Sea, and 1000 qrs. from Sicily. On the spot Bombay sells at 55s. and Calcutta at 52s. to 52s. 6d. or 51s. 6d. cost, freight, and insurance, including bags, by ships arrived in port. Cargoes off the coast have been sold at 51s. to 52s. for Azoff delivered U. K., and several now floating at 52s. 6d. by fine samples. Our gross importation up to this time is 271,700 qrs. against 180,000 qrs. the corresponding period last year. Prices of rape and oil seeds, owing to export demand, are slightly in sellers' favour. Fine sound Calcutta Rape may be quoted 53s. to 54s. per quarter; fine Bombay Guzerat Rape 63s. to 68s. 6d.; Ferozepore and Scinde 44s. to 56s. as to quality; Teel or Sessame 50s. to 53s.; black and brown 54s. to 59s. white; Poppy 51s. to 52s.; and Niger 38s., at which several sales have been made, but holders are now demanding more. Linseed Cakes.—Owing to the mild weather during the past week the trade has been very quiet; best in barrels is to be had at 10½. 5s. ex-ship, and bags at 10½; Oblong Western 8½. 15s.; Niger Cakes 5½. 5s.; Undecorticated Cotton Seed Cakes 5½. 7s. 6d. In Ground Nut Kernel Cakes a cargo has been sold at 6½. 15s. delivered; good Rape Cake from East India Seed 5½. 15s.

POTATOES in good supply, and selling steadily at 80s. to 95s. per ton for Regents, and 45s. to 60s. per ton for French.

LIVE STOCK.—Beast and sheep have been difficult of sale, and prices have for the former declined 2d. to 4d. per stone, the greater reduction being on inferior breeds. The price of veal gave way on Monday, but recovered partially on Thursday's market. The following were the numbers on offer and rates current:—

MONDAY.

Beast.	Sheep.	Calves.	Pigs.
4,628	18,950	90	450
3s.10d.to4s.10d.	3s.8d.to4s.10d.	3s.10d.to4s.6d.	3s.0d.to3s.8d.

THURSDAY.

Beast.	Sheep.	Calves.	Pigs.
1,030	2,720	140	150
3s.6d.to4s.8d.	3s.8d.to3s.10d.	3s.10d.to4s.8d.	3s.0d.to3s.8d.

SUGAR.—Havannah and Cuba sugars have been more freely offered, and on rather easier terms have found a ready sale. West India descriptions are held at late rates, which buyers are unwilling to pay in the face of increasing arrivals. The demand for East India sugars is confined chiefly to qualities suitable for export. Altogether, the market is heavy but free from absolute depression. The deliveries continue very satisfactory, and the present stock shows a deficiency of 600 tons as compared with last year's. It appears from the Mauritius accounts to hand this week, that the supplies thence will be upon an enlarged scale, shipments being chiefly to this port. The principal business of the week comprises 8000 bxs. Havannah florets at 48s. to 50s.; low to good yellow, 42s. to 45s. 6d.; brown and grey, 38s. to 41s.; 1000 lbs. Cuba, brown, 38s. to 39s.; yellow, 39s. to 41s.; 500 cks. Porto Rico, low to good yellow, 41s. 6d. to 46s. 6d.; 1000 bgs. Bengal Gurrattah date, 41s. to 45s.; Kham, 34s. 6d. to 35s.; 3700 bgs. Mauritius in public sale were chiefly bought in at 35s. to 39s. for low to good browns, and 40s. to 44s. 6d. for yellow. Refined sugars are in limited demand, but quotations unaltered.

COFFEE.—Floating cargoes of Rio continue in request, and three have been disposed of on full terms, including in all some 10,500 bgs.: old crop at 41s.; and new crop, 42s. to 48s. 7½d. floating conditions. But a very small portion of the fresh supplies of Ceylon is available as yet, and business is restricted in consequence. Small parcels of Mocha have sold at very full prices.

COCOA.—A moderate business is doing at 5½s. to 68s. for low to fine red Trinidad; and 56s. for Guayaquil.

TNA.—The advices from China give the shipments at 6,700,000 lbs. against 17,200,000 lbs. last season, and

the exports were expected to show a still greater falling off by the departure of the next mail. The effect upon our market is a rise of ¼d. per lb. on blackish leaf kinds, which have been in considerable demand, and an advance of ¼d. on common Congous, which have sold to some extent at prices graduating up to 11d. per lb. Most of the new season Congous by the Chrysolite have been disposed of.

RICE.—A steady demand prevails both for consumption and export at previous rates. A floating cargo of 10,000 bgs. Neerangie sold for a near continental port at 7s. 9d., and a landed cargo of 10,000 Moulmein at 7s. 3d.; besides about 8000 bgs. Bengal at 8s. to 11s. 9d. for low fine.

SALTPETRE.—With heavy arrivals off the coast and advices of somewhat large shipments at Calcutta, the market is rather dull, and landed parcels are difficult, quit at late rates, but for arrival a moderate demand exists at 42s. to 42s. 6d., according to period of shipment.

METALS.—The market in general is inactive, but quotations steady. The deliveries of tin in Holland are satisfactory, and the value of Banca in London firm at 124½. Scotch pig iron has touched 54s. 6d., but to-day receded 1s. The export for the week shows some improvement. Copper is firm at the recent advances. Spelter has sold to some extent at 21½. 5s. for spring shipments. In other metals not much passing, and quotations unaltered.

SILK.—The China news does not appear to have affected current quotations.

WOOL.—The colonial sales terminated on Wednesday, the home demand having been well sustained throughout, establishing an advance of 2d. to 3d. on the previous series. The total sold was 53,815 bales. An unusually small proportion was taken for export.

DRUGS.—The market generally quiet. 3700 chests camphor have arrived.

DYES.—Prices are again 10s. to 20s. higher, and but little now remains in first hands.

COTTON.—The American advices give increased receipts at the ports and large shipments. Buyers have in consequence been withheld from the markets in anticipation of easier prices. At Liverpool the sales are, 38,170 bales at 1-16d. to 1 reduction on American. In London they amount to only 800 bales. Surat at 4½d. 6d. 1-16d. to 6d.-16d. for ord. to good, being about the late value.

HEMP of all kinds is dull of sale. The stock of Manilla is large, as also is the quantity on the way, but the prices are moderate, and the consumption good. Calcutta letters mention heavy shipments of jute, which, with increased arrivals here, have induced holders to sell, but the same letters place the deficiency of the coming crops beyond a doubt, and this has induced the trade to buy. About 20,000 bales have changed hands, at 16½. 10s. ex-ship to arrive, and 15½. to 19½. 7s. 6d. on the spot, being about late rates on the average. Coir goods have realised 20s. to 30s. per ton advance.

OILS.—Linseed oil has been very stationary during the week at 29½. 10s. per ton; it closes with sellers thereat on the spot, and at 30½. for monthly deliveries January to March, or June. Rape and seed oils find ready buyers at improving prices; foreign refined rape is worth 46½. 10s. to 47½. per ton, and brown 42½. 10s. to 43½.; English brown, 41½. 10s.; Bombay ground nut and Gingelly, 34½. per ton, at which a large business has been done; Madras, 38½., but now few sellers under 39½. The recent advance in olive oils has been fully established, at which considerable quantities have changed hands during the last few days; on the spot Gallipoli may be quoted 50½. 10s. to 51½.; for 100 tons Gioja 49½. 10s. has been paid; Tarento, 49½.; Mogadore, 46½. 10s. to 47½.; a cargo Gallipoli just shipped has been sold at 49½. 10s., cost freight and insurance to United Kingdom, and another on the coast is offering on same terms. For cocoa nut oil there is a steady demand at late quotations, say 38½. per ton for Ceylon up to 41½. for fine Cochin. Fine descriptions of palm oil are still scarce, and Lagos worth 41½. to 41½. 10s. per ton. There is considerable inquiry for sperm, and American is now worth 86½. per tun; Headmatter, 92½. Common fish oils are next to unsaleable; pale seal, 37½.; pale southern, 34½. to 34½. 10s.; cod, 31½.

TALLOW.—We have had a little more demand since the last account, and the urgency for despatch has shown very clearly the want of goods throughout the country, and how much the consumers depend at present upon the foreign supply for their daily use. The importation from Russia is now fast drawing to a close, and the wrecks or casualties at present amount to about 3000 casks. The market has been very quiet and steady during the past few days, with an inclination to mend a little. There is not much ready tallow of fine quality on the market at the moment, the vessels expected from St. Petersburg being kept out by contrary winds. To-day we leave off flat, 50s. 9d. to 50s. 0d., spot, 50s. 3d., all the month; 50s. 0d. spring, 51s. 3d. March, 50s. October and December. The P sales yesterday went off without competition; half the quantity put up, 353 cks., having been taken in. Town tallow, 53s. 6d.; rough fat, 2s. 9d.; melted stuff, 37s. 6d.

WHALEMINS.—Prices have advanced owing to export demand: 500½. per ton has been refused for Dav's

Straits. Some Polar, recently arrived, is held much beyond market value.

TURPENTINE.—No arrivals or sales of rough have taken place. Spirits are difficult to sell, and 39s. 6d. to 39s. accepted for American in barrels.

JOINT-STOCK COMPANIES.

At the meeting of the African Steam Company, the report was adopted unanimously, and a half-yearly dividend declared at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum. A new contract has been obtained from Government for the conveyance of the West Coast of Africa mails, which contains several important advantages. The mails will be despatched from Liverpool direct, by which the delay and expense of calling at Plymouth are obviated; Cape Palmas is substituted for Monrovia; the three principal mouths of the Niger are to be called at, and the Bonny River is to be the terminus of the line. A branch steamer will be employed to carry the mails to Fernando Po, Old Calabar, Cameroons, &c. The duration of the agreement is fixed at seven years, with an annual subsidy of 30,000*l*.

An extraordinary general meeting of the Atlantic Telegraph Company is called for the 15th inst., "for the purpose of receiving a report from the directors as to the present position of the company's affairs."

A general meeting of the South Australian (Land) Company is called for the 17th December, to receive the half-yearly report of the directors.

The half-yearly meeting of the St. Katharine Dock Company is called for the 18th January, to declare a dividend.

A meeting of the shareholders of the Saloon Omnibus Company was held on Wednesday. A resolution was adopted expressing confidence in the manner in which the directors had conducted the prosecution of the General Omnibus Company on the charge of conspiracy, and expressing the hope that they would continue to carry on the proceedings with equal vigour. A large number of shares were subscribed for.

On Wednesday the half-yearly meeting of the Regent's Canal Company was held, when the report was adopted, and a dividend at the rate of 8s. 6d. a share declared.

At the meeting of the Trust and Loan Company of Upper Canada, the directors' report, recommending a dividend at the rate of 7 per cent. per annum, was unanimously agreed to.

A petition for the winding up of the Prince of Wales Life and Educational Assurance Company is expected to be heard on the 21st instant.

Application is intended to be made to Parliament next session on behalf of the Madras Irrigation and Canal Company, to alter the name of the company to "The Bengal and Madras Irrigation and Canal Company," and to extend the powers of the company to the lower provinces of Bengal, under the administration of the Lieutenant-Governor of that Presidency.

The annual meeting of the Medical, Invalid, and General Life Assurance Society, was held at the Chief Offices, 25, Pall-mall, at two o'clock on the 25th ult.; Sir Thomas Phillips in the chair. The following is a report of the proceedings:—

The Chairman regretted that on that occasion, the first time he had taken the chair, at the request of his fellow directors, in the absence of his brother, he could not congratulate them that prosperity had attended the society during the past year. The awful mutiny and murders in India, the occurrence of which no human being could have foreseen, had absorbed a very large sum of money. But for this they should have been enabled to declare a satisfactory bonus. In all other respects, however, as was amply demonstrated in the accounts, the society, it was satisfactory to state, was in a sound and wholesome condition. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. C. D. Singer (the Secretary) read the report of the Directors, from which it appeared that at home and in India 819 policies had been issued, assuring 400,383*l*. 15s. 9d., yielding a new premium income of 18,192*l*. 15s. 10d. in the year ending in June last. The entire number of policies in force was 6083, assuring 2,551,186*l*. 6s. 6d. The net premium income was 111,165*l*. 14s., whilst the total income was 119,586*l*. 18s. 10d. The business expenditure had been at home, 6800*l*.; in India, 7500*l*. The invested capital stood at 253,000*l*. A voluminous report was read from the India Directors, in which they stated that the mortality, owing to the mutiny, had much increased. For the losses that had occurred from deaths, not in actual warfare in India, they (the Indian directors) had sought compensation from the Indian Government, and from the claims having been registered by the commissioners, it is believed they will be favourably considered. After a short discussion, the two reports, and that of the auditors, were unanimously received and adopted.

The meeting was then made special, in order to receive the reports of the two actuaries, Mr. F. G. P. Nelson and Mr. P. Hardy, on the third quinquennial period which had recently elapsed. These reports entered into an elaborate financial exposition of the

affairs of the society, and recommended, as the more prudent course, that no bonus should be declared on account of the unexpected losses from the Indian mutinies. However, in all other respects the society was in a thoroughly sound and excellent condition.

The statements laid before the meeting appeared to give much satisfaction.

The Chairman expressed the pleasure he and his brother directors felt at the manly and straightforward way in which the shareholders sympathised with the Directors in connexion with the extraordinary occurrences in India during the last twelve months; and confidently trusted that their next report would exhibit the return of the society to its usual prosperity.

Cordial votes of thanks were then passed to the Chairman, the Directors, the Indian Board, and Mr. C. D. Singer, the Secretary, and the meeting separated.

The great public service that this Life Assurance Office has afforded to the public officials and to the unhappy families of those who were victims to the late atrocious insurrection in India, takes it out of the category of mere private and commercial institutions, and places it amongst those which may be looked upon as public benefactors. It appears, by the annual report, that a very large amount of surplus capital that would have been applied to a bonus has been expended on the claims arising from a casualty which no calculation could meet and no experience predicate. The prompt, liberal, and wise course taken by the Directors is beyond all praise in these days of compromise and concealment, and it cannot but result, both at home and in India, in extending the reputation and in increasing the confidence in this tried and truly respectable company.

The entire affairs of the Society have been submitted to two eminent actuaries, Mr. Neison and Mr. Hardy, and their separate reports both confirm the sound and prosperous state of the Society, notwithstanding the unlooked-for drain on its resources.

On scientific grounds, it is satisfactory to find that the peculiar kind of assurance to which this office has more particularly devoted its attention is capable of being made safe and profitable. The assurance of diseased and tainted lives is of the utmost advantage to the community, and has prevented many a respectable family from falling from their social position and sinking into the depths of poverty. To men in professions, and to all labouring to provide for those dearest to them, it is an incalculable advantage, and it must be a comfort to all so situated to know that the data on which such associations are founded have been proved sound enough to withstand the most unexpected drains upon them. The case is altogether a peculiar one, and we trust that the Government of India will view with the utmost liberality an institution which, in an hour of the darkest peril, did so much to mitigate the sore afflictions of many bereaved and destitute English families.

RAILWAY INTELLIGENCE.

The London and North-Western, Manchester, Sheffield and Lincolnshire, and Great Northern Railway Companies have arranged by mutual agreement the rates and fares for all competitive traffic. They are not so high as those in existence before the competition commenced, and we are assured that there has been on all sides a desire so to fix them as to give the public a reasonable share of the advantage which the existence of duplicate routes might be expected to afford them. All the companies have agreed to exchange through rates, and as to cartage and invoicing arrangements for all non-competitive traffic over their very extensive systems; also to restore the triple agreement, to divide and arrange the Manchester stations, and to co-operate generally.

The quarterly meeting of the Bradford, Leeds, and Wakefield Company was held on Tuesday, when the report was adopted, a dividend after the rate of 4½ per cent. was declared, and the necessary authority to go to Parliament given.

A dividend of five per cent. was declared at the meeting of the Killarney Junction Company on Tuesday; and on the same day the half-yearly meeting of the Limerick and Ennis was held, at which the directors' report was adopted, and it was resolved to proceed for the recovery of calls unpaid. A number of shares were forfeited. This line will be opened in a fortnight.

The line of the Northern Bengal Company from Rajmahal (in connexion with the Calcutta line) to Darjeeling, has received the sanction of the Bengal Government, and is to be constructed for military and political purposes.

WATERFORD AND KILKENNY.—The half-yearly meet-

ing of this company was held on Monday, when a discussion was raised on the expediency of removing the board of direction to Ireland, a suggestion which seemed to find great favour with many of the shareholders. It was stated that, though no official offer had been made by the Great Southern and Western of Ireland for the leasing of the line, various interviews had taken place between the officials of the two lines on that subject.

THE NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE AND NORTH-WESTERN.—An important railway negotiation has been brought to a successful close. The North Staffordshire Railway Company have long considered themselves aggrieved by the conduct of the London and North-Western. A traffic arrangement has been concluded between these undertakings which will materially improve the position of the North Staffordshire, at the same time promoting the objects of the leviathan company.

TESTIMONIAL TO CAPTAIN HUISH.—An address, signed by more than five thousand persons in the employment of the London and North-Western Railway Company, has just been presented to Captain Huish, in addition to a handsome testimonial. During eighteen years Captain Huish was the life and soul of the company's management, and in his official capacity he displayed zeal and talent. His services to the company were at all times of an important nature, and in the fulfilment of his duty he succeeded in earning the goodwill of a body including, as we have said, not less than five thousand persons. In a manly and genial reply to the address, Captain Huish thanks his brother officers and fellow-servants, "from the humblest workman on the line up to the leading officers of the service," who have signed the memorial, for their cordial and unanimous expressions of approval.

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, November 30.

BANKRUPTS.

WILLIAM LENTON OLIVER, Austin-friars, City, stock share, and mining broker.
GEORGE COOK, Saint Peter-street, Lower-road, Islington, grocer and cheesemonger.
JOHN BOWLES, Colchester, Essex, millwright.
ALEXANDER GIBBS, Bedford-square, stained glass painter.
RICHARD CLEAR PARVIN, Oxford-street, haberdasher and trimming seller.
GEORGE LEWIS, Clarence-place, Hackney-road, leather cutter and seller.
ALFRED ROLFE, Dorrington-street, Clerkenwell, timber merchant.
WILLIAM COLLINS, Roydon-terrace, City-road, linen-draper.
THOMAS COKE JOHNS, New-street-square, City, and Sloane-street, Chelsea, printer.
HENRY MONUMENT, Britannia Tavern, Caroline-place, City-road, victualler and tavern keeper.
ROBERT GRIFFIN, Stewkley, Buckinghamshire, cattle dealer.
WILLIAM GLEDHILL, Monkfrystone, Yorkshire, plumber and glazier.
WILLIAM SHEPPARD, Exmouth, Devonshire, shipowner and auctioneer.
FREDERICK SPENCER, Birmingham, mercer.
RICHARD PHILIP, Okehampton, Devonshire, watch-maker.
ROBERT WILLIAMS, Liverpool, joiner and builder.
EDWARD NATHANIEL EALAND, Birmingham, plumber, glazier, and painter.
THOMAS BRYAN, Liverpool, hatter.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

JAMES RENTON, Glasgow, plasterer.
ADOLPHUS MACDOWALL, Ross, Edinburgh, fancy ware-houseman.
STEPHEN TOWNSEND, Portree, Isle of Skye, general commission agent.
GEORGE M'KENZIE, Glasgow, painter and paper-hanger.
ARCHIBALD MENZIES, Callender, Perthshire, hotel keeper.

Friday, December 3.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

WILLIAM ROBINSON URWIN, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, chain and iron merchant.

BANKRUPTS.

EDWARD BUTTON, Gravesend, butcher.
JOHN UPTON, Brighton, plumber.
JOHN NICKS, Exeter, dealer and chapman.
WILLIAM TAYLOR, Newport, coal merchant.
WILLIAM MARCHANT, Folkestone, Kent, corn merchant.
JOHN DYER RUDDOCK, Reading, Berkshire, upholsterer.
WILLIAM HUNT, Market-street, Manchester, silk and cotton manufacturer.
WILLIAM WATTS, Manchester, builder.
JOSEPH SIMS WARNER, Sheffield, merchant.
WILLIAM WOLLOX HALL, Kidderminster, currier.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

JOHN CHALMERS, Blairgowrie, draper.
FREDERICK POPE, Edinburgh, commission agent.
PETER MACDONALD, Sleat, Island of Skye, fishcurer.
WILLIAM HENDERSON, Dunfermline, fisher.
THOMAS WYSE, Colbrae, near Falkirk, farmer.
JAMES RODGER, Barnhill, Ayrshire, farmer.

ENGLISH STOCKS.	Fri.	ENGLISH STOCKS.	Fri.	FOREIGN STOCKS.	Fri.	FOREIGN STOCKS.	Fri.
Bank Stock, div. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ p. c. 1 year.....	90 $\frac{1}{2}$	Do. do. Scrip	11	Austrian Bonds, 5 per cent	Russian Bonds, 1822, 5 p. ct. in £ st	113
3 per ct. Reduced Anns	90 $\frac{1}{2}$	Do. Bonds, 4 per cent., 1000 $\frac{1}{2}$	11	Brazilian Bonds, 5 per cent	Ditto 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent	92
Ditto for Opening	98 $\frac{1}{2}$	Ditto under 500 $\frac{1}{2}$	14	Ditto 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent 1838	Sardinian Bonds, 5 per cent
3 percent. Consols Anns	98 $\frac{1}{2}$	Bank Stock for account Aug. 5	98	Ditto 5 per cent., 1829 and 1839	Spanish Bonds, 3 per cent
Ditto for Opening	96 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 p. ct. Cons. for account do	Ditto 5 per cent., 1843	Ditto 3 per cent. Deferred
New 3 per cent. Anns	96 $\frac{1}{2}$	Ditto for Opening do	Ditto 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., 1858	Ditto Passive Bonds
Ditto for Opening	India Stock, for account do	Buenos Ayres Bonds, 6 per cent....	..	Ditto Com. Cert. of Coupon not fd.	92 $\frac{1}{2}$
New 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Anns	82 $\frac{1}{2}$	Exchequer Bills, 2d. and 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. p. day	39	Ditto Deferred 3 per cent	Turkish Scrip, 6 per cent
New 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent	82 $\frac{1}{2}$	Ditto 1000 $\frac{1}{2}$	Chilian Bonds, 6 per cent	Ditto 4 per cent. Guaranteed
5 per cent	1 3-16	Ditto 500 $\frac{1}{2}$	Ditto 3 per cent	Venezuela 5 per cent
Long Anns. Jan. 5, 1880	1 3-16	Ditto Small	34	Danish Bonds, 3 per cent., 1825	Ditto Deferred 2 per cent
Anns. for 30 years, Oct. 10, 1859	Ditto Advertised 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	Ditto 5 per cent. Bonds	[Divs. on above payable in London.]	..
Ditto exp. Jan. 5, 1880	Ditto Bonds, A 1858 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ p. ct.	Dutch 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ p. c. Exchange 12 Guilders	Belgian Bonds 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent
Ditto " Jan. 5, 1880	Ditto under 1000 $\frac{1}{2}$	100 $\frac{1}{2}$	Grenada Bonds, New Active, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ p. c.	..	Dutch 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ p. c. Exchange 12 Guilders
Ditto " April 5, 1885	Ditto B 1859	Ditto Deferred	Ditto 4 per cent. Certificates
India Stock, 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent	99 $\frac{1}{2}$	Ditto under 1000	Guatemala	20 $\frac{1}{2}$	Peruvian Dollar Bonds
Po. Loan Debentures	99 $\frac{1}{2}$			Mexican 3 per cent	PARIS.	90 $\frac{1}{2}$ 25c.
				Peruvian Bonds, 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent	French Rentes, 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent	74 $\frac{1}{2}$ 10c.
				Ditto 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. (Uribarren)	Ditto 3 per cent
				Portuguese Bonds, 3 per cent., 1853	48		

* Ex. Dividend, or ex. New.

JOINT STOCK BANKS.

No. of Shares.	Dividends per annum.	Names.	Shares.	Paid.	Price per Share.	No. of Shares.	Dividends per annum.	Names.	Shares.	Paid.	Price per Share.
			£	£ s. d.					£	£ s. d.	
22500	20½ per cent.	Australasia	40	40 0 0	...	20000	6½ per cent.	National Bank	50	25 0 0	...
10000	7½ per cent.	Bank of Egypt	25	25 0 0	27½	25000	20½ per cent.	New South Wales	20	20 0 0	...
0000	5½ per cent.	Bank of London	100	50 0 0	...	50 100	12½ per cent.	Oriental Bank Corporation	25	25 0 0	22
20000	6½ per cent.	British North American	50	50 0 0	...	25000	...	Ottoman Bank	20	20 0 0	...
32200	5½ per cent.	Char. of India, Australia, and China	20	10 0 0	d2½	20000	14½ per cent.	Provincial of Ireland	100	25 0 0	...
4500	5½ per cent.	City Bank	100	50 0 0	04	4000	14½ per cent.	" New	10	10 0 0	...
20000	6½ per cent.	Colonial	100	25 0 0	...	12000	5½ per cent.	Ionian Bank	25	25 0 0	...
25000	6½ per cent.	Commercial of London	100	20 0 0	...	12000	12½ per cent.	South Australia	25	25 0 0	...
25000	6½ per cent.	Eng. Scot. and Aust. Chartered	20	20 0 0	17½	4000	...	" New	25	12 10 0	...
35000	6½ per cent.	London Chartered Bank of Australia	20	20 0 0	22½	32000	10½ per cent.	Union of Australia	25	25 0 0	...
20000	12½ per cent.	London and County	50	20 0 0	...	8000	20½ per cent.	" New	15	10 0 0	...
30000	22½ per cent.	London Joint Stock	50	10 0 0	...	100000	...	Union of Hamburg	30	10 0 0	...
50000	14½ per cent.	London and Westminster	100	20 0 0	50	00000	15½ per cent.	Union of London	100	50 0 0	d18
10000	10½ per cent.	National Provincial of England	100	35 0 0	...	3000	3½ per cent.	Unity Mutual Bank	100	50 0 0	...
20000	16½ per cent.	" New	20	10 0 0	...	4000	3½ per cent.	Western of London	100	50 0 0	...

MONEY MARKET AND STOCK-EXCHANGE.

FRIDAY EVENING.

MONEY has been in greater demand in the week, in consequence of the number of bills falling due to-morrow, the 4th. The terms of discount have advanced, and no bills are discounted under $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Probably next week the market may again recede, though all the foreign gold that comes in is sold for the Continent, which would indicate a firmer market. The silver market, however, is flat: bar silver is not in demand, and, as formerly, the demand for silver to send to the East was one cause of the exchanges turning against us. The present flatness of the silver market would indicate, we believe, an easier money market. There are not at present any signs of a considerable change either way.

In the Stock Market to-day the English funds were at the opening firm, but the telegraph brought no prices from Paris before the close, and an influential party appearing in the market who operated for a fall, the market went backward. French securities were depressed. Numberless rumours were in circulation to account for the fall, but none of them appear to have any good foundation. The new Lombardo followed the general fate, and declined. The shares of the Ottoman Bank, which have been regarded with favour for some days, were again in demand to-day. All the English rails, especially those influenced by the lately made peace, improved. The public have apparently now but little money to invest in securities, and the market is generally steady.

The Bank returns show an increase of public deposits, 573,412*l.*, and a decrease of private deposits 348,459*l.* a small increase of private securities 108,556*l.*, and a small increase of the reserve. The figures inform us that the Bank is accumulating money, and that the public will, by discount or otherwise, take some of it out of the Bank.

Anything which injuriously affects the French Government has a depressing influence on public securities. In proportion, therefore, as alarm had been excited by the proceedings in the Montalembert case was the satisfaction with which the news was received of the sentence against him having been cancelled. All kinds of public securities were improved by the news. It does not follow that there is an alliance between the Stock-Exchange and despotism, but between it and security. As, in the end, liberty will be the best security, the Stock-Exchange, like all other interests connected with industry, is more favourable to liberty than despotism.

The annual report of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Company recommends the usual half-yearly dividend of $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., with an additional payment of 1 per cent., besides 2 per cent. on the underwriting account. The net profits for the twelve months ending the 30th of September have been 182,508*l.*, of which 29,508*l.* was carried to the insurance fund. The capital of the company is 1,700,000*l.*, with debentures to the amount of 280,000*l.*

Some doubt has lately been raised as to who is to receive the concession of the Sultan for establishing at Constantinople the Bank of Turkey, and yesterday favourably affected the shares of the Ottoman Bank.

It has been officially announced that the subscription lists for the Suez Canal were closed on the 30th of November, and the amounts subscribed exceeding the required sum, the formation of the company will be proceeded with.

A fresh rise has taken place in the stocks of the three great railway companies which have just made peace, the rumours of which caused a steady and unchecked advance.

Messrs. Dennistoun and Co. have announced that on Tuesday, the 30th ult., and the next fourteen days, they would be prepared to pay their last two instalments due respectively on the 31st December, 1859, and 30th June, 1860. This is creditable to this house, which stopped in the crisis last year.

THE DROMAL SYSTEM.—A deputation on the subject of the abolition of the system of weighing by the cwt., qr., lb., and the substitution of weighing by the 100lb.; and also proposing that corn, instead of being sold by the quarter, bushel, and various measures now in use, shall be sold by weight, by the cwt. of 100lb., has had an interview with the Chancellor of the Exchequer. The deputation consisted of Professor De Morgan, Mr. W. Miller, Mr. I. Travers, and Mr. R. R. Moore.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending on Wednesday, the 1st day of December, 1858.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.	
Notes issued.....	32,633,180
Government debt..	11,015,100
Other securities ...	3,459,900
Gold coin and bullion	18,158,180
Silver bullion	—
£32,633,180	£32,633,180
BANKING DEPARTMENT.	
Proprietors' capital 14,553,000	
Reserve	3,094,728
Public deposits (including Exchequer, Commissioners of National Debt, Savings Banks, and Dividend Accounts) ..	8,245,211
Other deposits	12,431,758
Seven Day & other Bills	798,398
£39,183,095	£39,183,095
M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.	
Dated the 2nd day of December, 1858.	

COPPER SMELTING.—At a recent meeting of the Society of Arts, Mr. Hyde Clarke, C.E., read an interesting paper on this subject. He remarked that the copper mines of England abound in low sulphureted ores, which are easily smelted, and with the aid of very cheap fuel we are able to undertake the smelting of the rich carbonic ores of other countries on better terms than they can do it themselves. Rich ores in many cases are carbonates, which can be more conveniently smelted with the English sulphurets. With many advantages it is still to be questioned whether the English copper trade has reached its height, or is free from serious vicissitudes. To suit the circumstances of local business a particular course of smelting by coal in reverberatory furnaces has been adopted; but this is not the most economical method, nor does it admit of the reduction of the lowest class of copper ores. It is quite possible, looking to the effective establishment of copper smelting in Chili, the United States, and Australia, to the abundant supply of rich copper ores abroad, and the competition of very cheap iron, that copper may be reduced, and thereby the working of the Cornish mines may be threatened; but on the other hand, if processes be adopted for the more economical reduction of copper, ores of lower produce or at lower rates can then be brought to market, and the reduction in price may be compensated. New combinations of copper, new alloys, as with silicium, will likewise open new sources of consumption. The copper smelting trade, he remarked, began in Cornwall, and was thence removed to South Wales, which, until lately, remained its sole seat, as it is its chief seat; but Liverpool having a great import of foreign and colonial copper ores and bar copper, has favoured the establishment of smelting works on the Mersey, and the copper market there is yearly growing in importance.

CHESNUTS.—This crop, one of the principal sources of agricultural wealth in the Basque provinces of Spain, has this year fallen very short of the average. Generally the quantity exported is from 80,000 to 40,000 bushels, but this year it is calculated that it will not amount to 14,000.

ATLANTIC CABLE.—It is understood that the Directors of the Atlantic Telegraph Company intend to apply to the British Government for a guarantee upon the capital required for the laying down of a new cable. A memorial to Government in support of this proposed application is receiving influential signatures.

KEATING'S PALE NEWFOUNDLAND COD LIVER OIL,

Perfectly pure, nearly tasteless, has been analysed, reported on, and recommended by Professors TAYLOR and THOMSON, of Guy's and St. Thomas's Hospitals, who, in the words of the late Dr. PEREIRA, say, that "The finest oil is that most devoid of colour, odour, and flavour." Half-pints, 1*s.* 6*d.*, Pints, 2*s.* 6*d.*, Quarts, 4*s.* 6*d.*, and Five-pint Bottles, 10*s.* 6*d.*, Imperial Measure.—70, St. Paul's Churchyard, London.

KEATING'S COUGH LOZENGES.

WHAT IS A COLD? THE PLAGUE OF THE ENGLISH CLIMATE. At this season who, however careful, escapes its destroying influence? We may clothe well, live well, and guard well to repel the inevitable attack; it comes at last with the ever-changing atmosphere of this country; then should be procured a box of KEATING'S COUGH LOZENGES, which have been known to cure when other means have failed.

Prepared and Sold in Boxes, 1*s.* 1*d.*, and Tins, 2*s.* 6*d.*, 4*s.* 6*d.*, and 10*s.* 6*d.* each, by THOMAS KEATING, Chemist, &c., 70, St. Paul's Churchyard, London. Retail by all Druggists and Patent Medicine Vendors in the World.

PERFECT FREEDOM FROM COUGHS

Is secured by Dr. LOCOCK'S PULMONIC WAFERS. They give instant relief and a rapid cure of Asthma, Consumption, Coughs, and all Disorders of the Breathing Lungs. They have a most pleasant taste.

Price 1*s.* 1*d.*, 2*s.* 6*d.*, and 11*s.* per box. Sold by all Medicine Vendors.

BRECKNELL'S SKIN SOAP,

The best for producing a clear and healthy skin; in 1 packets of four tablets or eight squares. Brecknell's Glycerine Soap, for use when the skin is rough or chapped; 1 packets of four tablets, 1*s.* 6*d.*—BRECKNELL, TURNER and SONS, manufacturers of Wax, Spermaceti, Stearine Composite, and Tallow Candles to her Majesty; agents of Price's Patent Candle Company, dealers in all other Patent Candles, all kinds of household and toilet Soaps, and in Colza, Sperm, Vegetable, and other Lamp Oils, &c. Beehive 31, Haymarket, London.—N.B. Each tablet and square is stamped with the name of "Brecknell."

DEAFNESS AND NOISES IN THE HEAD.

TURKISH TREATMENT.—A Surgeon from the Crimea, who was cured of fourteen years' deafness; and most distressing noises in the head, is anxious to communicate the means of cure to others so afflicted. Full instructions to effect a cure sent to any part of the world upon receipt of a stamped directed envelope.—Surgeon Colston M.R.C.S. and M.R.S.L., No. 7, Leicester-place, Leicester square, London, W.C. Consulting hours eleven till four daily.

TEETH—TEETH.

PROTECTED BY ROYAL LETTERS PATENT, and received by the most eminent of the Faculty.—Mr. LAWRENCE'S IMPROVED ARTIFICIAL TEETH by the CLEO-PLASTIC process entirely supersede the Soft Gum, and every substance that becomes putrescent in the mouth. Their cleanliness, ease, and comfort render them available in every case, without springs or wires, at less than advertised prices.—PAINLESS TOOTH EXTRACTION by GRADUATED ELECTRICITY is always attended with certainty and success.—A Treatise on the above methods sent post free on application.

Mr. LAWRENCE, Member of College of Dentists, U.S., 50, Berners-street, Oxford-street, London.

DALTENBURG'S ORIENTAL OIL

Is the only reliable preparation for the rapid production of Whiskers and Moustaches, is an infallible remedy for baldness, and permanently restores grey hair to its original colour. Price 2*s.* 9*d.* and 5*s.* 6*d.* per bottle.

DALTENBURG'S DENTIFRICE is celebrated for preserving the teeth sound, white, and highly polished, it eradicates tartar, arrests decay, prevents toothache, strengthens the gums, and renders the breath fragrant and pure. Price 1*s.* 1*d.* per box; free by post for 16 stamps.

Sold by D'Altenburg and Co., 38A, Lamb's Conduit-street, London; and by Chemists and Perfumers.

Guard against spurious imitations under closely similar names.

RUPTURES.—BY ROYAL LETTERS PATENT.

WHITE'S MOC-MAIN LEVER TRUSS is allowed by upwards of 200 Medical Gentlemen to be the most effective invention in the curative treatment of Hernia. The use of a steel spring (so hurtful in its effects) is here avoided, a soft Bandage being worn round the body, while the requisite resisting power is supplied by the Moc-Main Pad and Patent Lever, fitting with so much ease and closeness that it cannot be detected, and may be worn during sleep. A descriptive circular may be had, and the Truss (which cannot fail to fit) forwarded by post, on the circumference of the body, two inches below the hip, being sent to the Manufacturer, JOHN WHITE, 228, Piccadilly, London.

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TO THE NERVOUS AND DEBILITATED.

CHARLES WATSON, M.D., Fellow and Honorary Vice-President of the Imperial African Institute of France, Corres. Member of the Medical Societies of Rouen and Peru, the National Academy of Sciences, &c., and late Resident Physician to the Bedford Dispensary, 27, Alfred-place, Bedford-square, London, continues to issue, on receipt of six stamps, "THE GUIDE TO SELF CURE."

"Those about entering the Marriage State should peruse Dr. Watson's invaluable little work, as the advice he gives on health and disease reflects much credit upon him as a sound medical philosopher."—*Critic.*

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Protected by Royal Letters Patent of England, and secured by the seals of the Ecole de Pharmacie de Paris, and the Imperial College of Medicine, Vienna. Trieseemar, No. 1, is a remedy for relaxation, spermatorrhoea, and exhaustion of the system. Trieseemar, No. 2, effectually, in the short space of three days, completely and entirely eradicates all traces of those disorders which capsules have so long been thought an antidote for, to the ruin of the health of a vast portion of the population. Trieseemar, No. 3, is the great Continental remedy for that class of disorders which unfortunately the English physician treats with mercury, to the inevitable destruction of the patient's constitution, and which all the sarsaparilla in the world cannot remove. Trieseemar, Nos. 1, 2, and 3, are alike devoid of taste or smell, and of all nauseating qualities. They may be on the toilet table without their use being suspected.—Sold in tin cases, price 11*s.*, free by post 1*s.* 8*d.* extra to any part of the United Kingdom, or four cases in one for 4*s.*, by post, 3*s.* 2*d.* extra, which saves 11*s.* and in 5*t.* cases, whereby there is a saving of 17 12*s.*; divided into separate doses, as administered by Valpeau, Lallemand, Roux, &c. Sold by D. Church, 78, Gracechurch-street; Bartlett Hooper, 45, King William-street; G. F. Watts, 17, Strand; Prout, 23, Strand; Hannay, 43, Oxford-street; Sangor, 103, Oxford-street, London; R. H. Ingham, Market-street, Manchester; and Powell, 15, Westmoreland-street, Dublin.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.

LIVER COMPLAINTS.—The virtues of these incomparable Pills are fully appreciated in every part of the civilised world. As they act on the general system through the circulation, there are few diseases which they cannot cure, but they are especially efficacious in all disorders of the liver. For these they are an indubitable specific. They possess unrivalled potency for good, while they cannot do harm. A child might physic itself with these pills, and without the slightest danger, except from such excess as would make the most wholesome aliment in the world an evil. By reducing the superfluous bile, regulating its due secretion, and giving tone to the stomach, they effect a perfect and permanent cure.

BLAIR'S GOUT AND RHEUMATIC PILLS.

Price 1s. 1½d. and 2s. 9d. per box.

THIS preparation is one of the benefits which the science of modern chemistry has conferred upon mankind; for during the first twenty years of the present century to speak of a cure for the Gout was considered a romance; but now the efficacy and safety of this medicine is so fully demonstrated by unsolicited testimonials from persons in every rank of life, that public opinion proclaims this as one of the most important discoveries of the present age.

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INVALIDS who suffer from Lowness of Spirits, Want of Sleep, Loss of Appetite, and Bilious Attacks, will hail this medicine as a great blessing. It acts by purifying the blood and by restoring the stomach, liver, and bowels to their healthy state, and thus eradicates melancholy, weakness of limbs, &c. The smallest size box will be quite sufficient to convince any invalid of the extraordinary virtues of these pills. Price 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and 4s. 6d. a box. Agents—Barclay, 95, Farringdon-street, and Hannay, 63, Oxford-street. Any medicine vendor will procure them.

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THIS old-established Herbal Preparation has a miraculous effect in all Scorbatic Complaints, quickly eradicating all impurities from the blood. Indeed, a finer purifier of the blood cannot well be conceived, the pale, sickly complexion speedily being converted to the rosy hue of health. Ladies should have recourse to this preparation, instead of using the dangerous cosmetics now so much in vogue. Price 2s. 9d. and 11s. a bottle. Wholesale Agents—Barclay and Sons, 95, Farringdon-street; Hannay and Co., 63, Oxford-street. Any London or country medicine vendor will procure the above for any customer.

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In the READY-MADE DEPARTMENT, such an immense assortment of MENS', BOYS', and YOUTHS' CLOTHING, consisting of garments of the most novel, durable, and elegant designs, can rarely be seen. The Public will effect a great saving, the prices being based on the most economical principles, consistent with sterling quality—the only test of cheapness.

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The NON-REGISTERED PERMISTIO CLOTH PALETOT: the cloth used for this graceful garment being made from the Llama and Astracan wools, has a great advantage over the ordinary Llama cloth, being finer and stronger, with a permanent finish, retaining all the softness of the Llama: it is an article of clothing that illustrates, both in material and design, perhaps better than any other garment of the season, the prevailing and growing taste amongst the well-dressing part of the public for chasteness and simplicity of style in dress. It is made only in dark, fine cloths, or in dark colours slightly mixed with a lighter shade; some of these plain colours are of distinctly novel tints, and the few sprinklings of mixtures added in others to these original shades, produce a variety quite sufficient to give ample choice without impairing in the slightest degree the character required for a quiet and gentlemanly garment.

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Made from the permanent finished cloth; that will neither spot nor shrink. Clerical Gowns and Surplices equally moderate in cost.

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Patterns and Guide to Self-Measurement sent free.

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CLOTHING for the YOUNG should correspond with age, and juvenility should be studied in dress for Children, Boys, and Youths. Parents and Guardians are informed that HYAM and CO.'s Juvenile Suits and Separate Garments display adaptation in style and make, besides being durable, protective in material, and economical in price.

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CO.'S ESTABLISHMENT, 86, OXFORD STREET, are realising a merited amount of favour. New patterns have been designed, and a much greater variety of sizes have been introduced so as to adjust the Garments to the slightest possible variation in age, growth, and figure.

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HAS all those advantages which secured such general popularity to Messrs. Nicoll's original paletot, that is to say, as it avoids giving to the wearer an outré appearance, that professional men, and all others, can use it during morning and afternoon, in or out of doors. Secondly, there is an absence of unnecessary seams, thus securing a more graceful outline, and a great saving in wear; the latter advantage is considerably enhanced by the application of a peculiar and neatly stitched binding, the mode of effecting which is patented.

In London, the NEW REGISTERED PALETOT can alone be had of H. J. and D. NICOLL, 114, 116, 118, and 120, Regent-street, and 22, Cornhill.

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H. J. and D. NICOLL recommend for an outside Coat the Havelock and Patent Cape Paletot, and for ordinary use the Cape Suit, such being well adapted for young gentlemen, on account of exhibiting considerable economy with general excellence. Gentlemen at Eton, Harrow, and Winchester, the Military Naval Schools, waited on by appointment. A great variety of materials adapted for the Killed or Highland Costume, as worn by the Royal Princes, may be seen at

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NICOLL'S PATENT HIGHLAND CLOAK is a combination of utility, elegance, and comfort. No Lady having seen or used such in travelling, for morning wear, or for covering full dress, would willingly be without one. It somewhat resembles the old Spanish Roqueire, and has an elastic Capucine Hood. It is not cumbersome or heavy, and measures from 12 to 16 yards round the outer edge, falling in graceful folds from the shoulders; but by a mechanical contrivance (such being a part of the Patent) the wearer can instantly form semi-sleeves, and thus leave the arms at liberty: at the same time the Cloak can be made as quickly to resume its original shape. The materials chiefly used for travelling are the soft neutral-coloured shower-proof Woollen Cloths manufactured by this firm, but for the promenade other materials are provided. The price will be two guineas and a half for each Cloak; but with the Mechanique and a lined Hood a few shillings more are charged. This department is attended to by Cutters, who prepare Mantles of all kinds, with Velvet, Fur, or Cloth Jackets, either for in or out-door use. These at all times—like this Firm's Riding Habit—are in good taste and fit well. Female attendants may also be seen for Pantalons des Dames à Cheval, partially composed of Chamouis. As no measure is required, the Patent Highland Cloak can be sent at once to any part of the Country, and is thus well adapted for a gift.

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NICOLL'S PATENT CAPE PALETOT offers the following desiderata: the Cape descends from the front part of the shoulders, and forms a species of sleeve for each arm, both at perfect freedom, having to pass through enlarged apertures in the side or body of the Paletot; these apertures, however, are duly covered by the Cape, which does not appear at the back part of the Paletot, but only in the front, and thus serves to form hanging sleeves, at the same time concealing the hands when placed in the pocket. The garment is altogether most convenient and graceful in appearance, and can in London alone be had of H. J. and D. NICOLL, 114, 116, 118, and 120, REGENT-STREET; and 22, CORNHILL.

CAUTION.

IN consequence of many impudent attempts to deceive the public, it is necessary to state that all Messrs. Nicoll's manufactures may be distinguished by a trade mark, consisting of a silk label attached to each specimen; to copy this is fraud, and may be thus detected: if the garment is dark-coloured, the label has a black ground, with the firm's name and address woven by the Jacquard loom in gold-coloured silk; if the garment is light-coloured, the label has a pale drab ground, and red letters. Each garment is marked in plain figures, at a fixed moderate price, and is of the best materials.

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THE 50s. TWEED SUITS, & THE 16s. TROUSERS.
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N.B.—A perfect fit guaranteed.

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Recent investigations have exposed to public observation the deceptions practised by a certain class of apparently respectable, but not over-scrupulous, chemists and druggists upon the Medical Profession and their confiding customers. Amongst these "tricks of trade" are the culpable efforts to injure the reputation and check the demand of popular, safe, and pure remedy, extensively recommended and highly estimated by the Faculty in this and other countries—Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil—by disparaging observations and the intrusive recommendation of secret substitutions of a Pale, Yellow, or Coarse Brown Oil, entirely inactive or seriously pernicious in its effects. The motives for this exceptionable conduct are too obvious to need explanation; but it is right to caution purchasers against a possible imposition, as well as to prevent disappointment and maintain the reputation of an unquestionably valuable addition to the Materia Medica.

Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold ONLY in Imperial Half-pints, 2s. 6d.; Pints, 4s. 6d.; Quarts, 8s. 6d. and labelled with his stamp and signature, with-OUT WHICH NONE CAN POSSIBLY BE GENUINE, by many respectable Chemists throughout the Provinces, and in London by his Sole British Agents,

ANSAR, HARRISON, and CO., 77, Strand, W.C.
By whom the Oil is daily forwarded to all parts of the Metropolis.

HOT AIR, GAS, VESTA, JOYCE'S STOVES.

Stoves for the economical and safe heating of halls, shops, warehouses, passages, basements, and the like, being at this season demanded, WILLIAM S. BURTON invites attention to his unrivalled assortment, adapted (one or the other) to every conceivable requirement, at prices from 10s. each to 30 guineas. His variety of register and other stoves, fenders, and kitchen ranges, is the largest in existence.

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The REAL NICKEL SILVER, introduced more than twenty years ago by WILLIAM S. BURTON, when plated by the patent process of Messrs. Elkington and Co., is beyond all comparison the very best article next to sterling silver that can be employed as such, either usefully or ornamentally, as by no possible test can it be distinguished from real silver.

A small useful plate chest, containing a set, guaranteed of first quality for finish and durability, as follows:—

	Fiddle or Old Silver Pattern.	Thread or Brunswick Pattern.	King's Pattern.	Military Pattern.
12 Table Forks.....	1 18 0	2 8 0	3 0 0	3 10 0
12 Table Spoons.....	1 18 0	2 8 0	3 0 0	3 10 0
12 Dessert Forks.....	1 10 0	1 15 0	2 2 0	2 10 0
12 Dessert Spoons.....	1 10 0	1 15 0	2 2 0	2 10 0
12 Tea Spoons.....	0 18 0	1 4 0	1 10 0	1 18 0
6 Egg Spoons, gilt bowls.....	0 12 0	0 15 0	0 18 0	1 1 0
2 Sauce Ladles.....	0 7 0	0 8 6	0 10 6	0 16 0
1 Gravy Spoon.....	0 8 0	0 11 0	0 13 6	0 16 0
2 Salt Spoons, gilt bowls.....	0 4 0	0 5 0	0 6 0	0 7 6
1 Mustard Spoon, gilt bowl.....	0 2 0	0 2 6	0 3 0	0 3 9
1 Pair of Sugar Tongs.....	0 3 0	0 3 9	0 5 0	0 7 0
1 Pair of Fish Carvers.....	1 4 0	1 7 6	1 12 0	1 18 0
1 Butter Knife.....	0 3 6	0 5 9	0 7 0	0 8 0
1 Soup Ladle.....	0 13 0	0 17 6	1 0 0	1 1 0
1 Sugar Sifter.....	0 4 0	0 4 9	0 5 9	0 8 6
Total.....	11 14 6	14 11 3	17 14 9	21 4 9

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