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AND

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

VOL. X. No. 465.]

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1859.

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Empowered by Special Act of Parliament.

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The Number of Policies in force was 6083

The Amount Insured was..... 2,551,130*l.* 6s. 6d.

The Annual Income was nearly..... 120,000*l.*

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Every information may be obtained at the chief office, or on application to any of the Society's agents.

C. DOUGLAS SINGER, Secretary.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

The Directors have to intimate that the books of the Society close, for the current year, at 1st March next, and that Proposals for Assurance lodged on or before that date will entitle Policies to one year's additional Bonus over later Entrants.

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(Instituted 1831.)

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The Fund accumulated from the Contributions of members exceeds **ONE MILLION STERLING.**

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WM. FINLAY, Secretary.

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Offices, 2, Moorgate-street, London.

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London, Jan. 18, 1859.

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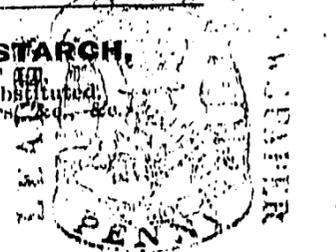
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Review of the Week.

THE ministerial oracles have spoken thrice, and, at last, to the point. "You'll be disappointed if you expect to see the Reform Bill before the First Lord of the Admiralty has made his statement," said Mr. Disraeli on the first day of the Session. "The Navy Estimates will be laid before the House on the 25th of the present month," said Sir John Pakington a few evenings later. "On Monday, the 28th instant, I shall ask for leave to bring in a bill to amend the laws relating to the representation of the people in England and Wales, and for facilitating the registration and voting of electors," said Mr. Disraeli, on Monday evening last. The echoes of the oracular voice were drowned in the cheers of friend and foe.

In the meantime, the position of Ministers has not been damaged even by the Lord Chancellor's scandalous nepotism; but has, in fact, been somewhat improved by the flagrant contrast presented between the judicious and respectable application of their patronage which has characterised the rest of the Government, and this shameful proceeding on the part of Lord Chelmsford. The feeling of the country is, that the woollack has been dishonoured, and sympathy is very generally felt with Ministers so ungratefully and recklessly compromised by the man who owes to them his elevation to the highest official appointment in the realm.

Lord John Russell, it appears, does not look with complete satisfaction upon the bill now before the Upper House for the assimilation of the Bankruptcy and Insolvent Laws, for on Tuesday evening he asked leave to introduce a bill of his own. His measure, as he explained to the House, is a result of his connection with the Association for the Advancement of Social Science. The most important alteration of the present system proposed by his bill is the removal of that costly personage, the official assignee. Lord John would give the creditor greatly increased facilities for the realisation of his debtor's estate, and would destroy the present highly objectionable distinction between bankrupts and insolvents. He proposes also to introduce the Scotch system of voluntary settlement under judicial sanction. That great evil, the distance of the present court from the trader's place of residence, he proposes to get over by making it permissive for the creditors to take their case before the County Court of their district. Lord John Russell is to bring in his bill, and the House will therefore have an opportunity of comparing its provisions with those of the Lord Chancellor's bill, which, it must be remarked, does not gain upon acquaintance.

The reverse may with justice be said of Sir Hugh Cairns's bill for the settlement of land-titles. The evils for which remedies are proposed in the Solicitor-General's bill are of such old standing, and the interests affected are so important, that it would, indeed, be remarkable if any strong opposition were raised against so earnest an attempt to deal with the subject. The condition of our landlaws is most barbarous; and it says more for our dull spirit of acquiescence in old wrongs, however manifest they may be, than for our boasted love of progress, that we have not long

ago found means for making the transfer of land as simple a proceeding as the sale of any commodity whatsoever. The question, however, is now fairly on the way towards a just and reasonable settlement, and the Government of Lord Derby, if it achieves nothing else, will have done good service to the country by introducing their measure. One important difficulty in connection with the distribution of land has just been pointed out by Mr. Locke King, who suggests a remedy at once simple and equitable—he proposes that the landed property of a person dying intestate shall be treated the same as his personal property.

The great incident of the week in Parliament has been the production of Lord Stanley's Indian statement. The circumstances attending that statement were remarkable. It was the first statement of Indian finances since the transfer of India to the Crown; it was the first time that, in a large sense, the question of the Government of India has been before the House since the passing of the great measure which called that Government into existence. It was the first opportunity which the Opposition has had for an attack; but though Lord Stanley had to report an excess of expenditure over income, and had to ask for a loan of no less than 7,000,000*l.* to meet the deficiency, not the faintest attempt was made to damage the Government; even the discrepancies apparent between Lord Stanley's figures and those of the printed statement previously before the House were merely noticed; no one seems to have thought of making political capital out of them. In truth, the condition of India has been stated by Lord Stanley with a clearness and frankness that fully commanded the respect of the whole House. The deficiencies of the Indian revenue are no more than were to have been expected; and it is, on the other hand, quite clear that India is entering most hopefully upon a new career, in which, but for hardly conceivable accidents, she will not only recover her way, but will in every way surpass her former self.

At the present moment the affairs of Ionian threaten to be a thorn in the side of the English Cabinet. The popular Assembly is not silenced by the absolute refusal of her Majesty to entertain the subject upon which it has memorialised her; it has absolutely declined to enter upon the discussion of the reforms suggested to it by Mr. Gladstone. Under these circumstances, the constitutional course would be, to dissolve the assembly; but it is perfectly well understood that, were this done, the same representatives would be returned. This is a state of things which calls for the interference of Parliament, says Earl Grey, who has asked for papers relative to Mr. Gladstone's proposals to the Ionian Assembly, and is to make a motion on the subject on Monday next. In the mean time, Lord Derby is strenuously opposed to the matters being discussed in the House of Lords; possibly he is anxious to give time until the return of Mr. Gladstone, which, if report may be trusted, is hourly expected.

We must not forget to note the fact of two more Jews having been returned to Parliament—Baron Meyer de Rothschild for Hythe, and Mr. Alderman Salomons for Greenwich. Three members of the Jewish faith have now seats in the House of Commons, and *Punch* is in alarm. Three Jews in Parliament! The British Church and the British Constitution is in danger! The "small point of

the wedge" is inserted!—to the rescue of the British Oak!

But first of all, perhaps, it will be better to give our attention to some other matters. The news from India is important. It appears that the Oude campaign is nearly ended in respect of military operations, though a great deal remains to be done by the police and magistracy, aided by the British forces. The work, as far as Lord Clyde is concerned, has been very completely executed. The Begum, around whom the chiefs of the rebellion have for a long time past collected, has succeeded in making her way into Nepal. It is reported, further, that the infamous Nana is of her party; if this should turn out to be the truth, we may expect to hear that Jung Bahadur has taken measures for securing him. What our ally will do with these fugitives, however, becomes an important question. Other items of the news inform us that Tantia Topce has been several times overhauled and beaten. In Rohilkund, a large body of rebels still hold the field; they were attacked to the number of between 20,000 and 30,000, and defeated with slaughter, driven across the Sartheas, their guns captured, and two of their leaders slain. There has been some disturbances in the territories of the Nizam. Upon the whole the news is assuring; and a proclamation issued at the beginning of the year by Lord Canning, in explanation of the Royal Proclamation, appears to have had a good effect upon the native mind.

The state of affairs in Europe has not undergone any considerable change during the week. Great doubt unquestionably attaches to the conduct of France in the present juncture of affairs; we are, however, still left pretty nearly at the mercy of report, so little of actual fact comes to light. One of the latest rumours is, that the French Government has addressed a dispatch to the Austrian Government, pointing out the dangers that are inevitable on account of the present state of Central Italy. The tone of this document is reported to be peaceful, but at the same time suggestive of the fact, that France is prepared for war, and does not fear it. Whatever the Imperial intentions may be, it is certain that the Imperial utterances have been, on the face of them, peaceable. This week we have intelligence that the *Presse* has been favoured with a "first warning" for the too bellicose spirit in which it has been writing lately. But neither France nor Austria are relaxing in the least degree their efforts to be ready to take the field. Waiting the final provocation, conferences for the settlement of all outstanding difficulties are freely talked of; it is even reported that Austria has expressed her readiness to enter into negotiations for the withdrawal of foreign troops from the Papal States; but at the same moment we have intelligence that Count Buol has addressed a circular to all the minor German Powers, with the view of drawing forth something like a pledge of their intentions towards Austria, in the event of hostilities breaking out. This proceeding would seem to indicate grave doubts in the mind of the Austrian Government, as to the policy of Prussia; for otherwise its course would have been to appeal to the collective power of Germany through the Cabinet of Vienna, as the central power of the confederation.

Paris will very soon have its conferences, however, of one kind, or another. The course taken

by the Moldo-Wallachian States—the effect of which is to set aside all the arrangements of the late conference—demands immediate attention, to prevent the recurrence of grave complications. The union of the two States under one Prince was the unheeded prayer of the Roman populations; they have now effected the object of their political desires. Will the Great Powers coerce them to obey the letter of a bond to which they have from first to last refused to subscribe?

CAPTURE OF WHALES.—On the night of the 8th inst., when very dark and rainy, the villagers of St. Mary's Holm were surprised by a strange hubbub and noise. Mustering some ten boats, they got afloat, four men on an average to each boat, and found a flock of "bottle-noses" blowing off steam quite near the village. Battle was given immediately, and after a short but hot pursuit, and some bloody work, the whole flock of 70 whales was stranded a little east of the village, among rugged black rocks—everything pitchy dark as could be. Pitchforks, scythe-blades, and a few lances were got, and any other lethal weapon that could do the slightest execution. The whales are large and in fine condition. They will very likely fetch some 200*l.* to the valorous villagers.—*John o' Groat Journal.*

NEW LAW COURTS.—Sir Charles Barry's suggestion, of appropriating for the purposes of new courts a plot of ground, bounded by Carey-street on the north, the Strand on the south, by Clement's Inn and New Inn on the west, and the line of Chancery-lane on the east, involves the necessity of including in one all the courts of law and equity. The neighbourhood of Lincoln's Inn would at any rate be the best whereon to plant those courts, which hitherto have been fixed at Westminster; and we trust that this suggestion, at least, will be carried out. We do not at present see why the Basinghall-street courts should, in obedience to the great idea, be shifted from the city, as some propose; or that much utility would be secured from bringing the polished practice of Portugal-street, with its judicial gravity, its strict principle and high tone, next door to the halls where the impassioned and brilliant eloquence of equity counsel is reverberating, or the calm logic and profound law of the Nisi Prius leaders are lending their aid to the administration of justice.—*Law Magazine.*

A DINNER WITH GEORGE IV.—Previous to dinner, I thought his Majesty looked dreadfully dejected and thoughtful; but when he had dined (professing to have no appetite), and ate as much as would serve me for three days, of fish—but no meat—together with a bottle of strong punch, he was in much better spirits, and vastly agreeable. There were only six people, four of which were ladies. He did not sit a quarter of an hour after they left us; and excepting talking a little on the indecent behaviour of the *Mountain* in the House of Commons, and telling an anecdote or two of the women who went up with addresses to the Queen, not a word was said of politics. He remained till twelve o'clock, and he and Princess Augusta and myself sang glees.—

GEORGE THE FOURTH AT WINDSOR.—The King has been in this neighbourhood for the last fortnight, living in the greatest retirement; his party consisting of very few—the principal object of course Lady Conyngham, who is here. They ride every day, or go on the water, or drive in a barouche; the King and her are always together, separated from the rest, and in the evening sitting alone apart. I have heard of the Esterhazys (who called on a friend here, and said the evenings were *triste à mourir*), no cards, no books, no amusement or employment of any kind; Sir Benjamin and Lady Bloomfield, Lord C—, Nagle, Thornton, Keppel, and one or two more; I believe the Warwicks, for two days; the Duke of Dorset. The secrecy that is preserved as to their pursuits is beyond all idea; no servant is permitted to say who is there; no one of the party calls on anybody, or goes near Windsor; and when they ride, a groom is in advance, ordering everybody to retire, for "the King is coming."—*The Duke of Buckingham's Memoirs of the Court of George IV.*

THE RIVAL MEDICAL SYSTEMS.—There was a long discussion at the meeting of the Liverpool Workhouse Committee, last week, upon the respective merits of homoeopathy and allopathy. Mr. Denton, one of the members, stated that the number of patients cured at the Homoeopathic Dispensary was much larger, and the cost per patient very much less (the difference being 2*s.* 2*d.* per patient) than at the local infirmary. Mr. Denton moved that in future advertisements for medical men for the workhouse homoeopaths be not excluded. It was explained that no such exclusion was practised, and Mr. Denton's motion was lost. The chairman stated that they could not elect an inferior officer practising another system than that practised by the superior, as the inferior was obliged to carry out the orders of the superior.

Home Intelligence.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

Monday, February 14.

THE SLAVE TRADE.

IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS LORD WODEHOUSE urged some inquiries respecting the recent diplomatic correspondence with the United States Government, which had resulted in a formal abandonment of the right of search.—The Earl of MALMESBURY promised to produce the correspondence on the subject between this Government and the United States, defended the course he had taken, and added that he believed, from the declaration of the French Government, that peace would be maintained and the slave-trade suppressed—a statement which was loudly cheered.—The Earl of CLARENDON contended that preceding Governments had asserted no right of visitation which could be given up without leaving it open to any slaver to hoist the American flag.—The Earl of ABERDEEN held similar language. He had himself, as Foreign Secretary, twenty years ago, conceded everything which could be reasonably demanded.—The Earl of CARLISLE expressed his hope that the new instructions to our cruisers, promised by Government, would be issued as soon as possible.—Lord DERBY said that no one contended that this country, or any other, had a right to board a ship; but no one denied our right to ascertain the nationality of a ship. An understanding, he hoped, would be arrived at between the French, English, and American Governments to verify the nationality of vessels.—Lord BROUGHAM pointed out the absurdity of the doctrine that no cruiser had a right to stop a vessel unless she bore the same flag.

The report of the amendments on the Law of Property and Trustees Relief Amendment Bill was adopted, and their Lordships adjourned at half-past six o'clock.

IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS a number of petitions were presented for the repeal of the paper duty, and for parliamentary reform.

THE MINISTERIAL REFORM BILL.

THE CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER announced that he should ask leave to introduce a bill for amending the electoral and representative system in England and Wales on Monday, the 28th inst. Mr. DISRAELI added, that it was the intention of the Government to introduce a Reform Bill for Scotland, but that it was impossible at present to state the day.

THE RECENT APPOINTMENT OF A MASTER IN LUNACY.

Mr. G. CLIVE put a question relative to the appointment of a Master in Lunacy, by Lord Chelmsford, on which he severely animadverted, insinuating that there could be no motive for it but the near relationship of Mr. Higgins, the gentleman appointed, to the Lord Chancellor. His remarks were a good deal cheered; but Mr. Disraeli's still more so, when he complained that such a question had been put even without private notice, and disclaimed all knowledge of the subject. Mr. CLIVE gave notice that he would repeat his question the next evening.

SALUTATION OF THE HOST.

Mr. GRIFFITH inquired whether any order, emanating from any authority at home or at Malta, was in existence, requiring the troops of the garrison to salute the host. Sir E. B. LYTTON stated that no such order emanating from any authority at home had been given; but he believed there was an old garrison order at Malta by which the host was saluted. All such garrison orders were, however, superseded by Lord Hill's circular of 26th June, 1837, addressed to all general officers in command of our Roman Catholic colonies.

PUBLIC MONEYS.

THE CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said that three bills would be introduced, in pursuance of the recommendations from the select committee on public moneys. The chief purpose of the proposed measures would be the establishment of an independent Audit-office, to verify the expenditure of the national revenue.

On the motion of Mr. HARDY, the Highways Bill was read a second time.

THE FINANCERS OF INDIA.

LORD STANLEY, in moving for leave to bring in a bill enabling the Secretary of State for India to raise money in the United Kingdom for the service of the Indian Government, explained in detail the present financial condition and prospects of that country. During the ten years just preceding the mutiny, there had been a deficiency exhibited in the balance sheets of the first three and the last three years, a surplus having accrued during the intervening period of four years. In 1855-6 the income and expenditure were nearly balanced. Upon the accounts of the following year, 1856-7, however, there appeared a deficit of 179,000*l.*, the revenue having been 33,303,000*l.*, and the expenditure 33,482,000*l.* The

returns for the two succeeding years had not been yet prepared or received, but it was estimated that the income of 1857-8 would be 31,544,000*l.*, and the outly 39,120,000*l.*, leaving a deficiency of about 7,600,000*l.* which would be increased to nine millions in round numbers, by some further items on account of transport and stores. For 1858-9 the estimated revenue was 33,015,000*l.*, against an outlay amounting to 45,629,000*l.*, showing a further deficiency of 12,600,000*l.*, making an aggregate deficiency of 21,700,000*l.*, incurred since the outbreak of the Sepoy revolt. During this period an extra military expenditure had been incurred of more than 18 millions, to which must be added losses and other charges on account of the war to the amount of 5,659,000*l.* In January, 1857, the Indian army had comprised 45,547 European troops and 232,204 natives, while the present force was 91,580 Europeans and 243,951 natives, showing that the British force had been more than doubled, and the native regiments fully maintained at their former strength. The noble lord then described the gradual growth of the Indian debt, which had expanded from about 18 millions in 1800 to 74½ millions in the present year; but, as he observed, had scarcely ever exceeded two years' revenue of the country. Of this debt it appeared that 59½ millions had been subscribed in India, whereof fully three-fifths belonged to native holders. He then adverted to the natural resources of India, as hitherto developed, observing as, regards the future, that wherever there existed a fertile soil and industrious population, there were the raw materials for almost unlimited prosperity. He noticed the rapid extension of trade, steady progress effected in constructing railways, and various other harbour works, irrigation works, telegraphs, and miscellaneous undertakings. For the establishment of telegraphic communication between England and India the government had guaranteed 4½ per cent. interest on a capital of 800,000*l.* The cable was nearly ready, and assurances were given that it would be completed to Aden by June next. A second line was also about to be constructed, under the auspices of the Turkish Government, *via* Constantinople, Bassorah, and Kurachee. Many of the public works already completed had proved enormously remunerative. Passing on to the subject of land tenure, Lord Stanley contended that it would be most inadvisable to attempt any violent changes in either of the three systems at present existing in different parts of Hindostan, and to which the native inhabitants had grown accustomed. There were, however, large unoccupied domains in the hands of the Government which might be utilised for the encouragement of colonists from England. Reverting to financial topics, the noble lord remarked that a large deficiency was unavoidable during the current year, and must somehow be supplied; and it might even be found necessary to remit money from England to Calcutta. In conclusion, he asked the House to authorise a loan to the Government of India of 7,000,000*l.*, it being intended that the loan should be secured upon the revenues of India. He had great hopes that, although the deficiency might continue, it would not be necessary to make any future loan for India in this country. Lord STANLEY subsequently altered the terms of his motion, it being objectionable in point of form, and moved that the House do resolve itself into a committee to consider the subject on Friday.—The motion was agreed to.

Mr. PAULL, moved for leave to bring in a bill to encourage and facilitate the erection of piers and harbours in Great Britain and Ireland. Leave was given and the House adjourned at a quarter to nine o'clock.

Tuesday, February 15th.

SHIPPING INTEREST.

IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS, LORD STANLEY OF ALDERLEY asked whether her Majesty's Government intended to introduce any measure to relieve the shipping interest from passing tolls and burdens? and expressed a hope that no steps would be taken to reverse the repeal of the navigation laws.—Lord DONOUGHMORE stated that it was not the intention of Government to bring forward any measure on the subject.

THE CUBAN SLAVE TRADE.

LORD BROUGHAM presented a petition against the Immigration Bill which had recently been passed by the Jamaica legislature, in reference to which he entered into a variety of details respecting the slave trade still prosecuted in Cuba and other West India possessions of European powers.—The petition was ordered to lie on the table, and their lordships adjourned at six o'clock.

IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS the City of London Union Bill of Mr. Crawford, was put aside, on the proposition for a second reading. There were 57 for the bill, and 89 against it. Its object was to make the defalcations of a collector and a clerk fall on all the parishes of the union.

MERSEY DOCKS AND HARBOUR BILL.

The second reading of this bill was carried on a

division—for the bill, 181; against it, 102. It has special reference to the execution of works at Liverpool and Birkenhead to accommodate the steam and timber trade.

THE APPOINTMENT OF MR. HIGGINS.

Mr. CLIVE, repeated a question he had put on the previous day, respecting the appointment of Mr. W. F. Higgins to the office of Master in Lunacy.—The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER stated that Mr. Higgins had spontaneously resigned the office, adding that, in doing so, he had, in his opinion, acted with a due sense of self respect.

LUNATICS.

On a motion brought forward by Mr. Tite, a select committee was ordered to inquire into the operation of the laws relating to the care and treatment of lunatics, especially those so found by a coroner's inquisition.—The HOME SECRETARY explained the tenor of two bills, for the introduction of which he intended to ask leave that evening, relating to the management of lunatic inmates in county and private asylums.

BANKRUPTCY AND INSOLVENCY.

Lord J. RUSSELL, in moving for leave to bring in a bill to amend and consolidate the laws relating to bankruptcy and insolvency, adverted to the relations of traders to their creditors, the origin of the bankruptcy law, the proceedings under the old system, the changes introduced by Lord Brougham, and the institution of the Court of Bankruptcy. He considered the complaints made of the present system. The first was the expense of the Court, 30 per cent. of the assets being consumed in the proceedings. He proposed to correct this evil by doing away with the necessity of resorting to the official assignees, and by placing other expenses upon the Consolidated Fund. He proposed to abolish the distinction between traders and non-traders, and to make the law applicable to bankrupts and insolvents alike. A single Court would introduce much greater economy and more uniformity of proceeding. He proposed that creditors should have the option of carrying the case before a County Court. Another evil was the want of power to make voluntary settlements, and he proposed that when a majority of the creditors in number, their debts being four-fifths in value, agreed to a private arrangement, it should be lawful so to adjust the settlement. Another complaint was the uncertainty of the punishment for fraud, and for this the Bill provided a remedy. The bill was intended not only to amend, but to consolidate the law of bankruptcy.—The ATTORNEY-GENERAL pointed out what he believed to be defects in what had just been proposed. He made reference to the measure of the LORD CHANCELLOR, and advised the House not to be in a hurry with Lord J. Russell's bill, seeing that they might have the other placed before them.—Mr. HEADLAM and Mr. MOFFAT also made some observations, after which leave was granted.

Mr. ALCOCK was in the act of moving for a Royal Commission to report about the Abolition of Tolls, when the House was counted out a little after eight o'clock.

Wednesday, February 16.

In the HOUSE OF COMMONS, after the presentation of a large number of petitions, the Tramways (Ireland) Bill was read a second time on the motion of Sir R. FERGUSON.

MARRIAGE LAW AMENDMENT.

Lord BURY moved the second reading of the Marriage Law Amendment Bill. This measure, which would render legal marriage with a deceased wife's sister, was, he said, word for word the same as that introduced in and passed by the House of Commons last session.—The motion was seconded by Mr. SCHNEIDER.—Mr. HOPE, in moving to defer the second reading for six months, reiterated the arguments he had urged upon former occasions against the proposed change of the law, which, he contended, would open the door to ulterior changes destructive of social purity. The decision of the other House, which had rejected the former bills, had been indorsed, he said, by the good sense and good feeling of the country.—Mr. BALL supported the bill, being unconvinced by the arguments of Mr. Hope, based upon either religious or social grounds.—Mr. BRXTON likewise supported the second reading of the bill, urging the inexpediency of leaving the question in its present state of suspense.—Mr. DRUMMOND, in opposing the bill, which would, in his opinion, if passed, give a sanction to incest, laid a stress upon the religious objection.—Mr. ARROYD and General THOMPSON spoke in favour of the measure.—Mr. STEWART deduced an argument against the bill from its non-extension to Scotland and Ireland.—Sir G. LEWIS, approving the principle of the bill, suggested to his opponents why they should not relax their opposition, and whether they could expect to induce the country permanently to submit to a state of the law which does not exist in any other country.—Mr. WALPOLE observed that this was a question of altering the relations of the marriage state contrary to the law, not only of this country, but, unless it were carried further, to the law of other

Protestant States. He urged the strange inconsistencies and anomalies into which such a change would plunge us, and that nothing could be so dangerous as to pass a law upon this subject for one part of the kingdom only; and he asked, if the law were relaxed in regard to one case of affinity, what was to be done in other cases. He gave his hearty opposition to the second reading of the bill.—Lord J. RUSSELL, said he had satisfied himself that there was not any religious prohibition of these marriages. Upon the social part of the question, balancing the disadvantages on one side against the practical evils on the other, he was ready, he said, to forego his strong objections to an alteration of the law. But if Parliament agreed to this change, it could not stop there. He should give his vote, though with reluctance, for the second reading of the bill.—After a few remarks by Mr. WALTER, and a brief reply by Lord BURY, the house divided, when the second reading was carried by 135 to 77.

BARON M. DE ROTHSCHILD.

During the course of this discussion Baron MEYER DE ROTHSCHILD, recently elected member for Hythe, came to the table to be sworn. A resolution, in conformity with the act passed last session, for allowing him to take the parliamentary oath, omitting the words "on the true faith of a Christian," was proposed by Mr. A. SMITH, and seconded by Lord J. RUSSELL. After a short conversation this motion was agreed to, and the hon. member duly took his seat.

The house adjourned at three o'clock.

Thursday, February 17.

THE IONIAN ISLANDS.

In the HOUSE OF LORDS Earl GREY asked whether the accounts in the newspapers of certain proposals for a change in the constitution of the Ionian Islands, recommended to the Ionian Parliament by the Lord High Commissioner, Mr. Gladstone, were authentic; and, if so, whether those proposals met with the approval of the Government? And, also, whether there was any objection to lay the correspondence that had passed on the subject before the house?—The Earl of CARNARVON, after explaining the nature of the mission which Mr. Gladstone had originally undertaken, and which had recently been exchanged for a temporary assumption of the High Commissionership in the Ionian Islands, stated that the propositions alluded to were still under consideration by the local legislature; and it would, he submitted, be inexpedient to publish them until the determination of that assembly was known.—Earl GREY intimated his intention of returning to the question, and challenging a full discussion upon it.—Lord DERBY declined to discuss the question in its present state. In answer to Lord Ellenborough, he explained that the consent of the Crown was necessary to any act of the Ionian Parliament. He deprecated any anticipation of a question about to be discussed in the Ionian Parliament as prejudicial to the public interests.

The Law of Property and Trustees Relief Amendment Bill was read a third time and passed.

EXCHANGE OF ADVOWNSONS.

Lord DERBY introduced a bill to regulate the exchange of church patronage between the Crown and her Majesty's subjects. The bill was read a first time.

Their Lordships adjourned at a few minutes past six o'clock.

NEW MEMBERS.

In the HOUSE OF COMMONS, Mr. LEVER took the oath and his seat for Galway, and Alderman SALOMONS for Greenwich, under the resolution proposed on Wednesday; and Mr. DUNCOMBE gave notice of a motion to place that resolution among the standing orders. A new writ was ordered for Marylebone.

A number of petitions were presented for the repeal of the paper duties, and from dissenters praying an alteration of the law as to the trusteeship of endowed schools.

Colonel SYKES asked several questions about India, to the most important of which—whether the maintenance of a standing army there, independent of the Mutiny Act, is not unconstitutional—Lord STANLEY declined to give an immediate answer.

Mr. BLAND asked whether Ireland is to have a Reform Bill, and Mr. DISRAELI declined to answer any question of the kind till the 28th.

THE BALLOT.

Mr. DILLWYN asked whether a bill establishing the ballot at elections in the colony of New South Wales had been passed by the colonial legislature, and had received the royal assent.—Sir E. B. LYTON stated that a bill of that nature had been transmitted from the colony, after passing the local assembly, but was still under consideration by the Government.

REAL ESTATE TESTACY.

Mr. L. KING moved for leave to bring in a bill for the better settling the real estates of intestates. He remarked upon the anomalies and inconvenience

which attended the present demiser of real property, and submitted his bill as constituting a much required combination. It did not interfere with wills, but simply provided that in cases of intestacy landed estates would be apportioned among the natural heirs in the same manner as was already practised with regard to personality.—The SOLICITOR-GENERAL abstained from offering any opposition to the first reading of the measure. There were however, he observed, innumerable difficulties surrounding the scheme, as outlined by the proposer, which he feared it would be found almost impossible to overcome.—Lord H. VANE was not convinced of the necessity or propriety of an alteration of the law, for which there was no demand on the part of the public.—Mr. MELLOR supported the motion. The bill, he observed, would leave the action of a testator perfectly free; it would merely, in the case of no will, distribute the property equitably.—After a few words from Mr. HADFIELD, leave was given.

RESTRICTIONS UPON THE PRESS.

Mr. AYRTON moved for leave to bring in a bill to repeal certain Acts and parts of Acts relating to newspapers, pamphlets, and other publications, and to printers, type-founders, and reading-rooms. He reviewed the history of the Acts in question, their origin and objects, contending that they were exceptional laws, suited to extraordinary times; that the restrictions they imposed were as unnecessary as they were obnoxious; and he proposed to sweep away these ancient statutory provisions, and to leave these publications to the general law.—The SOLICITOR-GENERAL observed that, as some of the enactments referred to were obsolete and never enforced, he thought it was a sound principle not to allow them to remain upon the Statute-book. He should not, therefore, offer any opposition to the introduction of the bill.—Leave was given.

EDUCATION (SCOTLAND).

Lord MELGUND moved by way of resolution that the vote of money for education in Great Britain should be henceforth divided into two votes, one to be taken for Scotland and the other for England.—Mr. ADDERLEY maintained that the proposed division would result in increased complicity and expense in working the system of national education; without producing any corresponding advantage.—Mr. Buchanan, Mr. Blackburn, Mr. Black, Lord Duncan, and some other members, having spoken, the motion was negatived without a division.

Mr. J. FITZGERALD obtained leave to bring in a bill to consolidate and amend the laws relating to juries in Ireland.

SCOTCH BILLS.

Mr. BLACK moved for leave to bring in a bill to abolish the Ministers' Money, or Annuity Tax, levied within the city of Edinburgh, the parish of Canongate, and the burgh of Montrose.—The LORD ADVOCATE, not opposing, leave was given.

Sir E. COLERBROOKE obtained leave to introduce a bill for the amendment of the law for the registration of county voters in Scotland.

The Marriage Law Amendment Bill passed through Committee, and the House adjourned at 10 minutes past 7 o'clock.

THE BALLOT SOCIETY.—The annual dinner took place at the Albion Tavern, on Wednesday. The President, Mr. Berkeley, took the chair, and was surrounded by an influential company, which included more than a dozen members of Parliament. The question of a permissive Ballot, said to be likely to be proposed by the Government, was alluded to, and the chairman remarked that he would advise its acceptance, upon condition that the way of ascertaining whether a constituency wanted the Ballot should be by the Ballot itself. The toast of "The Army and Navy," gave General Thompson and Admiral Napier an opportunity of explaining their views about the defences of the country; both these gallant officers agreed that the country was in a most defenceless condition, both as regards the navy and the army. Before the meeting broke up one of the speakers shrewdly remarked that many members of Parliament are not in earnest on this question.

THE TEETOTALLERS.—A great meeting in support of the principles of the United Kingdom Alliance, was held in Exeter Hall on Wednesday night. The chair was taken by Sir Walter Trevelyan, who has identified himself with the movement from the outset. The principal speakers were Professor Newman and Mr. Pope, both of whom advocated the permissive clause of the Prohibitory Liquor Law, with great ability. The meeting was full and enthusiastic.

TAXES ON KNOWLEDGE.—The Anti-Taxes on Knowledge Society have addressed a very timely letter to the Solicitor-General, urging him to vote for the repeal of the obnoxious enactments in question, and he has consented.

CLERICAL.—The Rev. Henry White, Curate of St. James, Dover, has been appointed by the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, to the incumbency of the Savoy Church, in the Strand.

GATHERINGS FROM LAW AND POLICE COURTS.

THE four individuals, Read *alias* Campbell, Thompson *alias* Barnet, Samuel Thompson and Thomas Smith, who constituted the "Mercantile Loan Fund Association," have been again brought up at Clerkenwell Police-court, when some further evidence was adduced against them. One of these capitalists, Mr. Smith, it seems, has been formerly convicted of stealing a copper; the magistrate has, however, discharged him in the present instance, there not being sufficient evidence against him. The other prisoners are committed for trial on the charge of conspiracy to defraud.

The Thiellusson will case has been further heard before the House of Lords this week. At the conclusion of the counsel's arguments, the Lord Chancellor put certain questions to the judges, which the latter desired time to consider, and the case was adjourned *sine die*.

The case of Dickson *v.* the Earl of Wilton, was concluded on Tuesday, having occupied the time of the court for five days. The primary cause of the trial would seem to be a disagreement about mess accounts. Lieutenant-Colonel Dickson sued Colonel the Earl of Wilton for imputing misconduct to him in his office as Lieutenant-Colonel of the 2nd Tower Hamlets Militia. One act of slander and two libels were charged. The libels were contained in two letters written by the Earl of Wilton, and addressed to his superior officer, Lord Combermere, the Lord-Lieutenant of the Tower Hamlets. Lord Wilton replied that the slander and libels complained of were true, and, moreover, that they were privileged communications. The jury found for Colonel Dickson upon all three points, awarding to him 5*l.* damages for the two libels, and 200*l.* for the slander. It appeared from the evidence that Colonel Dickson had kept his accounts in an unbusinesslike manner. According to the opinion of the military witnesses, he ought never to have meddled with the accounts at all. As commanding officer, he should have interfered to check obvious and palpable extravagance; he should have called meetings to consider what should be done to free the regiment from embarrassment, but personally he should never have touched a penny. By the evidence given, we find Colonel Dickson asking tradesmen for delay, promising payment, and, in fact, placing himself in a false position. Starting with this false step, it next appears that Colonel Dickson obtained the ill-will of some among the officers under his command. Lord Wilton was informed that charges of pecuniary irregularity were made against his Lieutenant-Colonel, but for a long time he took no action in the matter, and this was a weak point in his case. At length he caused the Adjutant to write a letter to Lord Combermere, which he himself signed, complaining of Colonel Dickson's conduct in the matters alleged, and craving inquiry. Lord Combermere thereupon recommended that Colonel Dickson should be removed from the regiment. The matter then fell into General Peel's hands. A court of inquiry was directed to sit, which does not appear to have made a report at all. Before this court Colonel Dickson made his statement, and on the 28th of December, 1858, there appeared a notice in the *Gazette* to the effect that Colonel Dickson had been removed from the army. Nothing could have been more unfair than that Lord Wilton and Lord Combermere should dispose of his case in his absence, and upon this circumstance Lord Campbell remarked, in the course of his summing up, with great, but not undeserved, severity. Upon Colonel Dickson's dismissal, the *Times* remarks, "The proceeding seems most unreasonable, for Colonel Dickson was at least entitled to know upon what grounds so serious a step as his dismissal from the service had been taken. If the result of the inquiry was unfavourable to Colonel Dickson, it should be known as the justification of General Peel; if favourable, still more should it be known as *bono jure* to Colonel Dickson. As matters stand at present a jury have found that the accusations brought against Colonel Dickson are false. If so, it is to be presumed that this officer's reinstatement in his military position will follow as a matter of course. If not, General Peel must inform the world what are his grounds for differing from a verdict which a jury have brought in under the direction of the Chief Justice."

CRIMINAL RECORD.

At Hanwell Asylum, a lunatic patient, William Roberts, murdered a fellow-sufferer with a heavy pitchfork, during an attack of frenzy last week. The men, with some twenty others, were engaged in husbandry at the time. The coroner's jury found that Roberts was not guilty, on the ground of insanity, but he was committed to Newgate to take his trial.

Mary Newell, who was tried at the winter Berkshire assizes, and sentenced to death for the wilful murder of her child by drowning in the river Thames,

near Reading, has become a lunatic. It is, however, hoped that she may recover. Her case has excited the deepest commiseration in the town of Reading, near which town the crime was committed. It is earnestly hoped that the Royal clemency may be further extended to her.

The *Newcastle Daily Chronicle* says,—We understand that a man at present under sentence of four years' penal servitude in Portland prison, has confessed to having shot poor Mr. Stirling, the young surgeon whose distressing death caused such a sensation in this district three years ago. The Home Secretary has sent the statement of the person who declares he did the horrid deed, to the mayor of this borough, and no doubt his worship will take the necessary steps to investigate the correctness of the allegation.

The Winton schoolmaster, who was taken into custody, charged with being accessory to the death of Elizabeth Hall, as we mentioned last week, has been remanded by the Darlington magistrates. The coroner's jury, however, have returned a verdict to the effect that the deceased died from mortification, resulting from violent means to procure abortion, but by whom used it does not appear.

IRELAND.

THE affairs of the late John Sadleir continue to furnish employment for the law courts. There is an appeal now going on in Chancery against the recent decision of the Landed Estates Court in favor of the claim set up by the London and County Bank, "In re Burmester." The case was opened on Thursday, is still proceeding; and when it will be concluded not even the lawyers themselves could hazard a guess. The tide of speculation, however, sets in favor of the English concern.

It is announced that the Cork Phoenix prisoners, having committed over tactics in Kerry, are to be taken to Tralee for trial with their Kerry associates, at the assizes for the county of Kerry. It is also stated that the Attorney and Solicitor-General will conduct the prosecutions in person. Several new arrests were made in the town of Kenmare last week, but upon investigation before the magistrates nothing transpired to warrant a committal, and the prisoners, after a few hours' detention, were released from custody. Mr. O'Hagan, Q.C., is engaged special to lead for the defence of the clubbites. Baron Greene and Mr. Justice O'Brien are the judges for the Munster circuit.

The promised Tipperary monster meeting in favour of tenant right, reform, &c., came off on Monday in the town of Thurles. There were between 2,000 and 3,000 people present. The Irish members mustered to the number of two, namely: the O'Donoghue of the Glens, and Mr. Blake, one of the representatives for the City of Waterford. The resolutions were framed upon the old model, with a few new additions. They called for the Tenant Right Bill whole and unadulterated, Mr. Bright's Parliamentary Reform measure, and the Ballot—to obtain all of which the game of independent opposition was to be played to the last card by the faithful few among the Irish Liberal members.

ACCIDENTS.

A FEARFUL fire took place on Saturday, at the house of a grocer in Whitechapel, named Walton, which was remarkable for the awful rapidity with which the house was destroyed, and for the courage shown by the fire-escape conductor, Samuel Wood. Having saved six of the inmates, this brave man, at the imminent risk of his life, crawled through the flames to rescue two maid-servants, who slept in a back attic. Before he could reach them the floor fell through and buried the poor women in the ruins. Their bodies were afterwards found in the cellar; and at an inquest held, the coroner and jury spoke highly in praise of Wood, who has been so fortunate as to save eleven lives within nine days; and altogether ninety persons in the same parish. With such testimony to the value of the Fire-escape Society, surely self-interest, if no higher motive, should induce every one who has the power to subscribe to its support.

NAVAL AND MILITARY.

It was recently stated to be expected that the forthcoming report on the manning of the navy would recommend an efficient system at a cost not involving an addition of more than 400,000*l.* to the present annual expenditure. Upon all the figures being made up, it is now reported, however, that this amount of increase will be exceeded by upwards of 80 per cent.

The Nankin, 50, Commodore Hon. K. Stewart, is stripped and dismantled, and was paid off at Chatham on Thursday; she will now go into ordinary in the Medway. This ship, it will be remembered, has just returned from China in the highest state of discipline and efficiency.

Every day brings fresh accounts of the enormous

efforts the French Government are making to increase the efficiency of their navy both in material and discipline: of the latter a writer in the *Daily News* says:—It is not an unusual performance, even on board a line-of-battle ship that has not been more than six months in commission, to heave in 90-fathom of chain and make all sail, within fourteen minutes of the appearance, on board the flag-ship, of the signal to "weigh anchor." A topsail will be shifted by an expert crew in little more than seven minutes and a half, and a whole squadron have been known in a gale, with a heavy sea running, to strike topgallant masts in nine minutes. The Bretagne, not long ago, was observed to lower her three topsails, to take in a reef in each, and hoist them again, in rather less than two minutes and twenty-five seconds—a feat which probably the smartest ship's company in our own service would not readily surpass. Everything that was worth adoption has been scrupulously copied from English ships, at the same time that some few obvious improvements of various kinds have been introduced. By means of the "Inscription" a certainty of obtaining any requisite supply of men can be ensured, and if ever the two greatest nations of the world should unhappily be involved again in war, we shall find that, so far from acknowledging our supremacy on the ocean, France will be fully prepared to dispute it. "The intended transformation of the steam line-of-battle-ship Jemmappes into a floating battery is," says a letter from Toulon, "the commencement of a new and important application of the system of floating batteries, from which extraordinary results are expected. These floating citadels," says the writer, "mounted with guns of the largest calibre, and manoeuvring under steam at the entrance of a port or roadstead, will, when two or three are together, keep off the whole of an enemy's squadron, and protect the arsenals and towns from the reach of any projectile. They will, moreover, render powerless the fortifications which command certain important maritime straits. Two of those vessels, placed on the coast of Ceuta, would completely paralyse the guns of Gibraltar, and would be masters of the pillars of Hercules."

In reference to a report that her Majesty's ship Orion was supposed to be lost, a letter has been received from Admiral Fremantle, commanding the Channel squadron, in which he mentioned that the vessel had parted company from him, but that he was under no apprehensions as to her complete safety.

Lieut-General Sir H. G. Smith, commanding the Northern district, has been detained in town by a fall, an accident which has confined him to the house. The gallant general is nearly recovered from its effects, and will soon resume his duties in the district of his command.

On Tuesday Captain Norton again attended at the head-quarters of the Royal Engineers' establishment, at Chatham, for the purpose of exhibiting an equally valuable invention of his, named the explosive percussion bolt-signal, which will be found of great use as a military alarm signal. In the trial of the invention yesterday, the signals were taken in the hand, and being allowed to fall either on the earth or even on the grass, exploded with a sufficiently loud report to be heard a considerable distance. Captain Norton proposes to apply the same principle to signals to be used on the railways, so as to enable passengers and guards to communicate with the drivers of engines.

The Government have resolved to issue a commission to inquire into and report on the recruiting system of the army.

In consequence of the frequency of complaints that soldiers use their belts as weapons in street brawls, the Commander-in-Chief has issued an order that soldiers guilty of such conduct are not to be allowed to wear their belts out of barracks.

The greatest despatch is exhibited in fitting out new steam line-of-battle ships at Chatham. The Trafalgar, 120, which has been reduced to a 91-gun screw steamer, will be put out of dock during next month, when her place will be occupied by the Rodney, 90, which is to be fitted as a screw steamer. The Severn, 50, now sailing frigate, is to be cut in half and lengthened sixty feet, and fitted as a screw steamer.

A despatch received at the Admiralty stated that the Orion arrived at Borehaven on the 14th inst. All well on board.

Lieut. Robert J. Stothard has been tried by court-martial and dismissed from his command of the Ruby gun-boat, for having run into the Belg. S. on the morning of the 21st of January last, while the said brig was riding at anchor in the river Humber.

UNCLAIMED DIVIDENDS.—By a return just issued it appears that on the 5th ult. the unclaimed dividends in the Bank of England amounted 1,000,374*l.* 12*s.* of which 928,450*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* was advanced to the Government.

Foreign Intelligence.

CONTINENTAL NOTES.

FRANCE.

The *Moniteur* announces that the Conference of Paris will reassemble. The first questions that it will discuss are the proposed modifications in the Danubian "Act of Navigation."

The Conference has also to decide on the legality of the late double election of M. Alexander Couza as Hospodar of Moldavia and of Wallachia. Whether the state of affairs in Italy will be another subject for consideration is at present unknown. The French Government are said to be preparing a list of grievances against Austria.

The Government measure for the removal of the octroi walls to the fortifications is exciting considerable dissatisfaction among the persons whose interests will be effected by the change. This is more especially the case with the manufacturers whose establishments are situated in the districts about to be enclosed within the boundaries of Paris.

The *Presse*, which is supposed to be the organ of Prince Napoleon, has received from the Minister of the Interior a warning from an article on Italian politics, signed Leonzon Leduc. The warning states that such polemical discussions are of a nature to raise ill-founded uneasiness in the public mind. The Ministerial warning given to the *Presse* created a great sensation, and Rentes in consequence rose.

The *Moniteur* publishes the *projet de loi* presented to the Legislative body, fixing the general budget of expenses and receipts for 1860. The budget of expenses is estimated at 1,795,367,481f., showing an increase on the budget of 1859 of 29,586,604f. The increase to the receipts of the public revenue is estimated at 43,690,271f.

Besides the 700,000f. dotation, on the occasion of Prince Napoleon's marriage, a sum of 800,000f. is demanded from the Senate to defray the expenses of the marriage and installation, besides a dower for the Princess Clotilde. This supplementary sum, and the Civil List itself, will of course be paid out of the budget; the budget itself is paid by the taxpayers, who contribute to the expenses of the State from the produce of their labour, their commercial industry, &c. These can hardly have anything to do with the "vulgar interests" so disdainfully alluded to in the gracious speech from the Throne the other day, as that speech declared that the Throne was elevated far above such low considerations.

It was much remarked that the Prince, instead of giving the Princess his arm, walked before her.

The Minister of War, in the meantime, continues his preparations for invasion. The agglomeration of *matériel* at Lyons, Marseilles, and Toulon is immense. At Lyons the municipal authorities complain of the enormous quantity of powder in the magazines in and about that city. The Emperor will command in person the army in Italy. A letter from Paris says:—"I learn from a private source, in which I place confidence, that the Emperor is preparing tents, horses, arms, uniforms, &c., to take the field in person. I am as convinced as it is possible to be of any proposition not mathematically demonstrated, that his bosom burns with the ambition to command an army in actual warfare."

The following is an extract of a letter from Algiers:—"I sent you a few days ago some particulars of the embarkation of the active division, which is composed of troops inured to war, who have made the campaigns of the Crimea and Algiers, accustomed to camp life and to fatigue, and who leave for France with all equipments for war, as if they were about to enter immediately on a campaign. General MacMahon has received instructions for the formation of a second expeditionary division, in case of war with Austria being decided."

A private letter from Marseilles mentions that the newspapers had been "invited" to publish nothing relative to the armaments.

AUSTRIA.

A Vienna correspondent writes, that Austria will send representatives to the Paris Conference, provided England and Prussia guarantee that the Italian question shall not be mooted.

We are informed that Count Buol has addressed a circular despatch to the German courts, with a view to sound their intentions, if not to demand their concurrence, in the event of the Italian question ending in a conflict.

It is stated in high military circles that Marshal Prince Windischgratz is going on a mission to Berlin.

A letter from Vienna, dated Monday, says:—"To the great surprise of the public, the conductors of our journals have received orders from the Government to submit to the Minister of Finance all articles treating of financial questions, and to publish none which are not approved of."

The population of Venice are as much occupied

with the gaieties of the Carnival as if no misunderstanding existed between the French and Austrian Governments; but large detachments of troops and engineers are occupied in the construction of batteries and provisional fortifications. The port is covered with batteries, on which cannon of the heaviest calibre are mounted. Workmen are employed night and day in the arsenal. In the meantime trade is annihilated.

PRUSSIA.

Great activity is perceptible in the bureaux of the different sections of the War-office, the object of which is to place the army in an efficient state, to be prepared for any emergency.

It was expected that a general amnesty would be granted for all political offenders on the occasion of the recent addition to the Royal family. Events have induced the Regent to postpone its execution.

A Berlin letter states that during a recent shooting excursion, in the neighbourhood of Sans Souci, the Prince Regent of Prussia had a narrow escape for his life. The gun of an officer, who was of the party, accidentally went off, and the charge passed close to the Prince.

SPAIN.

The *Madrid Gazette* contains a series of addresses to the Queen from the authorities and public bodies of Cuba, expressing indignation at the proposition to purchase the island made by the President of the United States, and protesting fidelity to the Queen. The Queen has issued a royal order, in which she thankfully acknowledges these assurances of fidelity.

NAPLES.

With regard to the health of the King, little is positively known, except that his malady, whatever it was and is, must have been much more severe than was at first imagined. He is still at Bari, and it is unlikely that he will leave it before the end of the month. A medical opinion is that the malady of the king is water around the heart, a disease of which is father died, and to which the royal family are subject. Great anxiety is felt about the health of his Majesty by those around him.

No British vessel of war has visited Naples for now three weeks or a month, and so few vessels are there on the Mediterranean station that the Admiral is not in a position to send one up here. In the meantime the French and Russian squadrons are being augmented.

HANOVER.

The proposition made in the Hanoverian Upper Chamber to restrain the exportation of horses gave rise to a warm debate, in the course of which it was contended that any French attack on the Po and Rhine would be a *casus belli*. Prussia's dilatory policy was denounced as anti-German. The proposition was unanimously agreed to.

ROME.

A letter from Rome, speaking of the Prince of Wales's audience of the Pope, says his tutor and the British diplomatic agent accompanied him. The Pope addressed the Prince in the most courteous terms. The heir to the throne of the British Empire was respectful, and appeared much gratified by the Holy Father's urbanity. The Prince is frequently seen in the streets and in the public buildings. His object appears to be to acquire as much information as possible.

On Thursday the army of occupation was reviewed by General de Goyon, at the Villa Borghese. He gave crosses to several officers. It was an imposing site. The Prince of Wales, the Grand Duchess Mary, and several foreigners of distinction were present. General de Goyon presented his compliments to them after the troops had defiled. Notwithstanding these military manifestations, nobody fears that peace will be disturbed. It is not more than fifteen days since Cardinal Antonelli received a note from Count Walewski, assuring him of the Emperor's pacific intentions.

RUSSIA.

A special service has been performed in the churches at St. Petersburg to return the thanks of the nation for the recovery of the Empress-Dowager.

By the 13th January the nobility committees of six provinces had finished and sent in their preparatory labours on the serfdom abolition question. The number of male serfs living in these districts amounted to as much as a million and a half.

TURKEY.

Letters express doubts whether the Sultan will receive the Moldavian deputation. 15,000 Turkish troops are stationed along the banks of the Danube. Frequent conferences have taken place between Sir Henry Bulwer, Baron Prokesch, and the Porte.

Reports of ministerial changes continue current. Hussein Pacha has been named Governor of Candia, in the room of Sami Pacha, who will be sent as Ambassador to Paris.

M. Musurus will probably be appointed representative of the Porte at the Paris conferences. Fresh despatch of troops to the Danube is in

prospect. Redifs are constantly arriving at Constantinople.

A dispatch, dated Constantinople, February 15, says—"A Frenchman established at Rostosto having been assassinated a few days since, Count Lallemand, on hearing of the circumstance, sent off the Salamandre with a dragoon and a certain number of police. Complete satisfaction was given to the representative of France."

IONIAN ISLANDS.

Mr. GLADSTONE went in state to the Assembly on the 5th; he addressed the Deputies as follows:—

"I have received, under date of 2nd February, the answer of the Protecting Sovereign to the petition of the Legislative Assembly of the Ionian State for the union with Greece, as well as her Majesty's commands to make it known without loss of time, and in the most solemn manner, to the Legislative Assembly and to the Ionian people, in order that both the one and the other may fully and clearly comprehend their actual position."

The Queen's answer was as follows:—

"Her Majesty has taken into her gracious consideration the prayer of the petition presented by the Legislative Assembly of the Ionian Islands with reference to the interests of the Islands themselves, of the States in their neighbourhood, and of the general peace. Having regard to these objects, her Majesty, invested as she is by the Treaty of Paris with the exclusive protectorate of the Ionian State, and constituted the sole organ of that State in the councils of Europe, can neither consent to abandon the obligations she has undertaken, nor can convey, nor permit, any application to any other Power in furtherance of any similar design. Her Majesty does not desire to impose new fetters on opinion; but she will enforce, wherever it is placed in her charge, the sacred duty of obedience to the laws. Her Majesty has adopted, on her part, the measures which she deems most conducive to the good of the Ionian people, and she awaits the enlightened co-operation of their Parliament."

A despatch dated Athens, February 10, says that advices have been received from Corfu. A large majority of the members of the Ionian Parliament appear determined to refuse the discussion of the reforms proposed by Mr. Gladstone, and it is expected that, should the Parliament be dissolved, the present members will be re-elected.

DEMERARA.

Petitions requesting the maintenance of a union between Schleswig and Holstein continue to pour in by hundreds at the Holstein Diet. It is anticipated that within a week tens of thousands will have been received, all of them drawn up in accordance with a printed form distributed over the country in enormous quantities. This course of procedure has become necessary to the Holstein patriots, as, under the new constitution forced upon them by the Danes, no petition to the Diet is allowed to be signed by more than one person. The clause, evidently destined to preclude the possibility of petitions *en masse*, proves a failure, owing to this device. Similar petitions have been presented to the Diet by the German merchants resident at Bradford and Liverpool.

THE PRINCIPALITIES.

The Wallachian deputation charged to deliver to Prince Alexander Couza the official act of his nomination has been welcomed at Jassy with the most lively enthusiasm. It was received on the 10th by the Prince, who is said to have replied to it with great dignity and moderation.

SERVIA.

A despatch from Belgrade, dated 11th instant, has been received at Vienna, announcing that Prince Milosch has proclaimed himself hereditary prince. M. Kagazinovich has been named provisionally Minister of Foreign Affairs, and M. Joannovich, Minister of the Interior.

BAVARIA.

The *Wurtzburg Gazette* says that the Bavarian Minister of War has sent orders to the various commanders of troops to adopt the necessary measures for placing the army on the footing of preparing for the eventualities of war. It appears from all reports that the popular excitement in Bavaria is as great as in any part of Germany in favour of Austria. A return of French despotism is dreaded as the worst calamity that could happen.

TUSCANY.

The death of the hereditary Grand Duchess at Naples is announced by telegram from Marseilles. Her illness, it seems, was typhus fever, complicated by her pregnancy at the time.

SARDINIA.

In the debate on the proposed loan Count Cavour made a magnificent speech, a partial summary of which appeared in our columns last week. He defended his policy from the charges of temerity and aggressiveness. In noticing the frequent references made by the Opposition to the debate on the Address in the British Parliament, and to the emphatic declarations of Lord Derby and Mr. Disraeli in favour of peace and respect of treaties, Count Cavour pro-

nounced a dignified and elaborate eulogy of England and English institutions, of which he professed himself an ardent admirer and devoted student from his youth up. He expressed a decided preference for the English alliance, and a well-grounded confidence in the ultimate justice and generosity of public opinion in England, in spite of the hesitations and reserves of diplomacy, and the dictates of commanding national interests. He affirmed his own policy to be neither aggressive nor provoking, but national and Italian; but that nothing less than a change of Government and legislation at Turin could reconcile constitutional Sardinia to the good-will of despotic Austria. Count Cavour's speech is weighty, decisive, ardent, but studiously moderate, courteous, and calm. Count Mamiani, who may be said to personify the wisest aspirations of a federal Italy, spoke with all his wonted grace and animation; and M. de Beauregard, though he betrayed an aristocratic provincialism very distasteful to the Liberal majority in the Chamber, and, in his prophetic fear of French eagles cresting Mont Cenis, was somewhat disposed to sink the cause of Italy in the safety of Savoy, yet avowed an unchangeable fidelity to his king and country with so frank and heartfelt an emotion, that it was impossible for any party to refuse him attention and respect. The Ministerial measure was carried by an overwhelming majority, and it is believed that the amount of the loan (2,000,000*l.*) will be subscribed in a great measure by Italians, if not in Italy.

The apartments of the late Queen of Sardinia are being prepared for the reception of a new inmate. The Russian marriage of the King is believed to be decided upon.

The *Avenir* of Nice says that the entire Russian Mediterranean squadron is expected there in the month of March.

CANADA.

THE Canadian Parliament was opened on the 29th ult. The Governor-General, Sir Edmund Head, in his speech, says: "The legislature solicited our gracious Queen to exercise her prerogative in making a selection of the seat of government: an act, moreover, was passed adopting beforehand the decision of her Majesty and appropriating the necessary funds. This act of the Canadian Parliament and the decision of the Queen are binding on the executive government of the province, and it will be their duty to carry out the understanding which existed at the time when the reference was made by which the government will be transferred to Quebec for a fixed period until the necessary arrangements shall have been completed. The correspondence with her Majesty's Government will be laid before you, and I cannot doubt that you will recognise a selection made by her Majesty at your own request, and that you will duly acknowledge her gracious compliance with the addresses which you yourselves caused to be presented to her." In regard to the federation of the British provinces he says: "The possibility of uniting by some tie of a federal character the British colonies in North America has formed the subject of correspondence which will be placed in your hands. I will also cause to be submitted to you despatches from her Majesty's Secretary of State in relation to the questions affecting the Hudson's Bay Company, and on the subject of the Intercolonial Railway." In reference to financial affairs he says: "It is gratifying to me to be able to state that symptoms of amendment have begun to show themselves, and I trust that should Providence bless Canada this year with her usually abundant harvest, she will recover her former prosperous condition. The exercise of a sound and rigid economy in every department of the public service will, I hope, again enable us to bring our whole expenditure within the limits required by our revenue." In regard to supplies and the tariff, he says: "In asking the supplies for her Majesty's service, I desire to assure you that everything will be done with a view to placing the tariff on a satisfactory footing. The principle of *ad valorem* duties will be proposed for your adoption in all cases in which it can be properly carried out."

AMERICA.

THE Europa arrived at Liverpool, on Tuesday, from New York, with dates to February 2. Nothing had been done in Congress on the Cuban question.

The tariff and the financial wants of the Government monopolised attention. The Democrats had taken a very decided stand in opposition to a change of tariff.

A caucus of democratic senators, held to deliberate upon the tariff question, adopted resolutions declaring it inexpedient to change the law at the present session of Congress, and also that it is the duty of Congress to reduce the expenditures instead of increasing the revenue, in order to meet the requirements of the public service. This action has created no little excitement, especially among the Pennsylvania delegation, who together with the Republi-

cans will vote for no loan bill unless a change in the tariff is coupled with it.

The members of the house opposed to a protective tariff had likewise held a meeting, and adopted resolutions of a similar purport.

Propositions for loans and changes in the tariff had been made in both houses, but without leading to any result.

MEXICO.

FROM Mexico, *via* Washington, we learn that the British and French Admirals united in demanding of the Government of Vera Cruz:—First, payment of the interest due to British and French creditors; second, full monthly statements of the revenues collected from imports; third, damages for what the English and French subjects have suffered from the existing revolution; fourth, the restoration of the old import tariff as it stood prior to the modifications made a year ago, by which great facilities were afforded to commerce, and the import duties were reduced 30 per cent.

The old tariff provided also for credits of 40 and 80 days for import duties; the new exacts cash payments.

The French Admiral, Penaud, further insists that the payment to the French creditors now demanded shall be not the percentage heretofore agreed to upon the receipts from imports actually collected under the modified tariff, but an amount equal to what they were last year.

The removal of Garcia from Tamaulipas was demanded by the French Admiral.

SOUTH AMERICAN STATES.

WE have received the *Panama Star* and *Herald* to January 22.

CHILI.

Chili remained in a very disturbed state, and the provinces were still under martial law. A number of the persons who were arrested in Santiago for sedition prior to the sailing of the steamer of the 16th of December had been sentenced to a fine of 1,000 dollars each and three years' exile, while others less implicated had to pay 800 dollars fine.

PERU.

From Peru we continue to receive very unsatisfactory reports of the state of the country, and the prospects of a general revolt against the present Government appear to increase.

PARAGUAY.

From Paraguay there is little news beyond the fact that the Government was still making warlike preparations to resist the United States forces.

CENTRAL AMERICA.

A LETTER from Greytown, dated January 15, says:—"Nature herself seems to have taken in hand the Nicaraguan question, as far as the transit to the Pacific is concerned. As the harbour of Greytown is now nearly closed by the Point Arenas extending itself at the extraordinary rate of 10 feet a week towards the mainland—at present barely leaving a passage wide enough for the royal mail and small men-of-war steamers, with a depth of only 22 feet—her Majesty's screw-steamer *Valorous* inside is sounding daily so as to make her exit in time. The United States frigate had great difficulty in getting out. The inhabitants were in great fear that Walker would elude the vigilance of the cruisers, and make a descent. Her Majesty's ships *Cesar* and *Diadem*, with the United States frigates, were at anchor in the roads, and the United States corvette, *Jamestown*, cruising in the offing."

WEST INDIES.

THE Parana arrived at Southampton on Monday, but brought little news of importance. Her intelligence from Jamaica is to the 27th ult.

JAMAICA.

The weather has been genial throughout the island of Jamaica. Fever prevailed in some districts. Soulouque, the ex-Emperor of Hayti, had arrived in the island.

DEMERARA.

AT Demerara the Court of Policy had a sitting on the 22nd ult., at which the affairs of the Demerara Railway Company came under consideration. A long discussion took place, and a string of resolutions was adopted which converts the Ordinance, No. 14, of 1858 into a dead letter.—The Court of Policy had another meeting on the 24th, at which a letter was read from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, stating that a greater number of Coolies had been sent to Trinidad than the Government could dispose of. It was thereupon agreed that a communication should be forthwith entered into with the governor of Trinidad, and an offer made to take over for this colony such of the Coolies as might not be provided for.

HAYTI.

ON arriving Port-au-Prince, General Geffard sent a flag of truce to the Emperor, offering him his life

and protection to his family if he would abdicate his power and save the people of Hayti from the horrors of a civil war. Soulouque demanded time to consider, which was allowed him; but before the allotted time had expired the Imperial troops laid down their arms and made common cause with the followers of Geffard. The Emperor, no longer left to his choice, proceeded to make out his papers of abdication, and on the 15th caused proclamation to be made to that effect. Soulouque is said to be immensely rich; his wealth is estimated at upwards of 500,000*l.*, banked in Europe. He and his family immediately left for Jamaica.

Original Correspondence.

From our own Correspondent.

PEACE OR REVOLUTION.

Paris, Thursday, 6½ p.m.

THE question of an aggressive war upon Austria, to disarm the revolutionary party in Rome from personal attacks upon the Emperor, and to promote a transaction with Sardinia for the increase of French territory by the cession of Savoy, has assumed a new phase in consequence of the position assumed by the mercantile and manufacturing classes here. Men no longer question the propriety of plunging into hostilities on a point of sentiment, but they discuss among themselves whether they should tolerate a government which so wantonly trifles with the best interests of society, and which sacrifices the trade and industry of the country to stock-jobbing conspiracies, or to the gratification of dynastic vanities. Even the *Presse*, which preaches war, has been compelled to admit that "the political pre-occupations of the hour exercise a most fatal influence upon commercial affairs. Orders are suspended in all manufactures, and works are slackened in factories. Speculators have almost entirely ceased to purchase raw materials. Everyone has taken his precautions, as if war were declared; and war itself would be less feared now by trade than the state of uncertainty which paralyses all operations." This statement, which winds up with what looks like an argument in favor of war, falls far short of the truth. From all the seats of manufactures in the provinces comes news of discontent and suffering. Masters cannot keep their works open, for their goods won't sell, however greatly they may reduce the prices; as a natural consequence, the hands are turned off, and, as there is no poor-law in France, they are brought to the verge of starvation in many districts. When men are unable to earn their daily bread, they have time to reflect upon "the reason why," and there is good cause to believe that the conclusions to which they arrive are not the most favourable to the Government. Among the working classes there is no sympathy for Italian independence; not enjoying any themselves, they are at a loss to understand why they should be called upon to fight in order to extend the liberty and constitutional government of Sardinia to Lombardy—why they should shed their blood to set up the parliamentary system in northern Italy, when they have been deprived of it in France. In spite of all the flourishes in Imperial speeches and leading articles about the generosity of France, people here are strongly impressed with the wisdom of the adage that charity begins at home. Wherefore it is argued, that if the Government cannot maintain peace and ensure employment to the working classes, so much the worse for it—*qu'il s'en aille*.

The basis of the present régime has been, all along, the material prosperity of the country; its strength has been the support of the industrial classes; alienate them, and I know not where the supporters and defenders of the Empire are to be found.

THE FIRST CONCESSION TO PEACE.

Under these circumstances, and in presence of undeniable evidence which crowds in from every part of the Empire, the chief authority in the State has at last awoke to a sense of the ruin to which it was hurrying. Easy enough has been the down-sliding from peace and confidence to as bad a state as open war and wide-spread distrust. And now we are trying back. The first step, which has given universal satisfaction, and which has been followed by an ascensional movement in the funds, equivalent to a half per cent, was the warning given yesterday evening to the *Presse* for an article on the Italian crisis, signed Leouzon le Duc. The presumed intimate relations between the Prince Napoleon and the *Presse* have been before mentioned. It is a significant fact, that M. Leouzon le Duc is one of the staunchest partisans of the Russian alliance. It will probably be in the remembrance of your readers that this gentleman perpetrated, some time back, a most profitable job, with the assistance of certain Russian officials. When the remains of

Napoleon I. were brought back to Paris, and his tomb decided to be built under the dome of the Invalids. M. Léouzon le Duc was commissioned to find a block of porphyry. He accordingly set out upon his travels at the expense of the State, and after some two years' wandering, he reported the discovery of a suitable block, somewhere in Finland. A vote was asked from the Chambers to fetch home the porphyry, and when it arrived in Paris, it was found to be inferior in size, quality, and hardness, to what might have been procured from Auvergne. How much M. Léouzon le Duc's travelling cost the nation I forget, but at all events he made enough out of it to provide comfortably for the future.

CHARLES LEBRUN, DUC DE PLAISANCE.

One of the last military illustrations of the First Empire, and relic of the Great Revolution, has recently departed from among us. Charles Lebrun, Duc de Plaisance, General of Division, and Grand Chancellor of the Legion of Honour, died the other day at the ripe age of 81. His death occurred after a very short illness, and almost without suffering. One by one, the old die-hards wither away and leave no successors behind. Men who received the fierce baptism of battle in the wars of the last century seem to have been endowed, also, with long life. While others in the full vigour of manhood, who are tended with every care and wear india-rubber goloshes and comforters, sicken and perish if exposed to half an hour's draught, or have to sit in their damp clothes.

The late Duc de Plaisance was the eldest of three sons born to Consul Lebrun, who was associated with Bonaparte in the triple consulate, and who subsequently became—when he forsook his republican faith to follow imperial fortunes—Arch-treasurer of the Empire, Governor of Genoa, Stadtholder of Holland, and Grand Master of the University of France, receiving, as an additional recompense, the Italian dukedom which his son inherited. It was while the father was associated in the consulate that the son became acquainted with the conqueror of Italy, and acquired that inclination for military life which afterwards determined his career. When about 25 years of age he entered (5 Nivôse, year 8) as sub-lieutenant in the 5th Regiment of Dragoons. In little more than a year he was promoted to a lieutenantcy and attached to the staff of the Consular Guard as aide-de-camp (14 Nivôse, year 9). At Marengo, Lieutenant Lebrun was orderly officer to the First Consul, and detached by him to Dessaix. When this last was mortally wounded by an Austrian sharpshooter, while charging at the head of the reserve division, it was young Lebrun that received the general in his arms as he fell from the saddle, and it was he who carried the intelligence to the First Consul. From that time the promotion of the aide-de-camp was rapid. After four years' service in all, he was named (1804) colonel of the 3rd Hussars, and three years subsequently—in March 1807, at Osterode—brigadier-general.

Generally attached to the person of the First Consul, he narrowly escaped with him from the explosion of the infernal machine. During the campaign—1805-1807—Colonel Lebrun was in almost constant attendance upon the Emperor. At Austerlitz he behaved so as to earn the distinction of being entrusted with conveying the news of the victory to Paris. At Jena he commanded the brigade to which his regiment belonged, charging the Saxon squares, routing them, and capturing the standards.

During the whole of the campaign of 1809 he was attached to head-quarters, and took a distinguished part in the battles of Eckmühl, Essling, and Wagram. In 1812 he was named general of division, and followed the Emperor to Moscow, and he is said to have been indebted for his preservation during that terrible retreat more to his courage and coolness than to the vigour of his constitution. The spring of the following year shows him at Mayence, engaged in reorganising the first and third divisions of cavalry which he commanded during the following campaign, so fatal to the French arms. Dresden, Bautzen, and Wurtchen thinned the ranks of his comrades, and it was on the evening of the last-named fight, while galloping in the suite of the Emperor in company with Duroc and Kergener, that almost the last ball fired by the foe ricoched against the trunk of a tree, slaying Kergener outright, and mortally wounding Duroc, leaving General Lebrun unscathed, who thus, by a strange coincidence, almost at the commencement and conclusion of his military career, was present at the death of the two most famous generals of Napoleon, Dessaix and Duroc. When towards the end of 1813 the French army was driven across the Rhine, General Lebrun was promoted to the first corps of the great army intended for the defence of the northern frontiers. On the 7th of December in that year he was named Governor of Antwerp, and on the 25th of the following month he reassumed his post of aide-de-

camp to the Emperor, whom he adhered to until the abdication of Fontainebleau. With the restoration he rallied to the Bourbons, and was rewarded by them with the post of Inspector-General of Hussars. But, on the return from Elba, he returned to his "old love," and was successively appointed to command the second military division and third corps of observation. Waterloo led to his being set aside with the return of the Bourbons; but in 1818 he was put on half-pay, and in 1831 he was restored to the active ranks of the army, although his military career may be said to have ended with the fall of the Empire.

THE ISTHMUS OF SUEZ CANAL.

The aspect of political affairs has been wellnigh fatal to this project and was reduced it to a most dilapidated condition. Nevertheless, the promoters have issued a statement of the number of shares allotted. Paris figures for 90,121; the rest of France for 116,262; Algeria for 728. Turkey and Egypt for 96,507, Austria for 51,246, Russia for 24,174, England for 5,085, United States for 3,000, Spain for 4,046, Holland for 2,615, Tunis for 1,714, Sardinia for 1,353, Switzerland for 460, Belgium for 324, Tuscany for 176, Naples for 97, Roman States for 54, Prussia for 15, Denmark and Portugal for 5, and Sweden for 1. Total 400,000 shares of £20 each, to make the capital of eight millions sterling. To France we are told is reserved the honour of subscribing half the capital, an honour which no other country is anxious to contest, apparently. It is satisfactory to perceive that not more than a hundred thousand pounds worth of shares are allotted to England. Whether they will be paid upon is a different question altogether, but even if they should be, the loss will be but trifling.

GERMANY.

February 16th.

REPORTS of the prohibition of the exportation of horses, and the rejection of the St. Helena medals, show that the national feelings of the Princes of Germany are roused; and if the present unanimity should prove lasting after a declaration of war, France, even against Austria alone, would not find matters so comfortably arranged to her hand as at the commencement of the last war. Austria, whether right or wrong, has decidedly the sympathy of all Germany, and it may be said that the threatening attitude of France towards her has placed her morally at the head of German States. What Prussia has hitherto been, Austria is at present; and it strikes me that a war with France would tend, far more than peace, to confirm her in the foremost rank which she now holds. Although at this moment there is every reason to believe that the Confederation would hold together in the event of a war, yet, I think, Austria would stand a far better chance of success if she stood alone against France and Italy. Voluntary patriotic aid would do as much, if not more, than the Confederated Princes, and no danger of treachery or lukewarmness could arise. Against the Confederation, firmly united, Louis Napoleon, without a single principle or ally to support him, has but a poor prospect of coming out of a war triumphant. If he could, civil liberty, as well as sovereignty by the will of the people, the Princes of Germany would not now hold up their heads so proudly; but he has embraced despotism, and is no better, if no worse, than his brother despots. Better a despot of their own race than one of foreign origin, think the people of every country. This feeling was made pretty evident directly after the Laguerrounière pamphlet appeared, and, doubtless, had some influence upon the Emperor's mind, while framing his Speech from the Throne. The *Constitutionnel* boasts of the strength of the French army, and states that the number will be, in April 1859, 568,000 men, which, in June 1859, will be increased to 642,400 men, including 83,800 cavalry. To this the *Allgemeine Zeitung* replies, at the instigation of high authority, by giving a statement of the strength and formation of the Federal army. The *Allgemeine Zeitung* says:—"The German armies do not now consist, as during the old Empire, of figures upon paper only, but all the contingents are so well equipped and effective, that they may be brought to the rendezvous at the shortest notice, as is satisfactorily shown by the Federal Commission of Inspection. These Federal Commissions of Inspection have never been sufficiently appreciated. The two great powers of Germany having submitted to these inspections, an obligation has been laid upon the whole country, and no one dare withdraw from it. Such good results have attended the last inspection, and such considerable improvements have been effected, that at no period of our history was the army of Germany in so thoroughly effective a condition as at this moment. As regards the strength of the Federal army, the German Federal roll gives the following:—

1, 2, and 3. Army Corps (Austria).....	142,233 men
4, 5, and 6. Army Corps (Prussia).....	120,392 "
7. Army Corps (Bavaria).....	53,400 "
8.....	35,933 "
9.....	28,954 "
10.....	20,045 "

Total strength of the simple Federal Contingent, with the Reserve Division (20,215 men)..... 452,075 men

That is the lowest number of the German troops in their obligation towards the Confederation, and is, of course, independent of the force which each State maintains for other purposes. If, however, we were to calculate, in imitation of the *Constitutionnel*, what force Germany could assemble by the month of June, 1859, we arrive at the following results:—

1, 2, 3. Army Corps (100,000 remaining in the country).....	600,000 men
4, 5, 6. Army Corps.....	300,000 "
7. Army Corps (the reserve remaining in the country).....	40,000 "
8. Army Corps.....	75,000 "
9. Army Corps.....	20,000 "
10. Army Corps.....	25,000 "
Reserve Division.....	22,000 "
Volunteers.....	50,000 "

The above will serve as a warning to all those who imagine Germany defenceless, and will tend to impart confidence to Germans. Fortunately at present there is no fear that this imposing force will be this time disunited, and if an enemy venture to pass the frontier there will be a well disciplined army to meet him.

Another paper remarks, that this fine army may be a source of confidence and pride to the Rhine countries and centre of Germany, but that if the Confederation were to be drawn into a war with France, it would be of little use to the coasts of Germany, which are entirely at the mercy of a naval power, and, hopes therefore, that an alliance may be formed with England, that a guarantee may be afforded to the seaports which are now all ports of the Federal union, that they will not be exposed to certain ruin in the event of a war with a naval power like France.

I perceive that my remarks upon a petition, stated as coming from "Yorkshire, England," presented to the Provinzial Stände (or Provincial Assembly) of Holstein, has excited painful astonishment among some natives of Germany residing at Bradford. I do not, however, see how my observations, which were directed against Yorkshiremen, could, in reason, affect natives of Germany living at Bradford, or anywhere else. I admit that Yorkshiremen would be perfectly justified in taking me to task for presuming them guilty of a piece of folly, on no other grounds than a report in a German newspaper. To Yorkshiremen I owe an apology, and I tender it; but with the natives of Germany dwelling at Bradford, I have nothing whatever to do, further than to beg of them to state distinctly, in future petitions, or have it stated distinctly in the newspapers, that the petitions are expressive of the wishes of the Germans living in England, not of a part of the English people. I wrote my remarks under the impression that the petition had been got up and signed by Englishmen, and that was the impression, I suppose, made upon the minds of the members of the Assembly; else, why the "loud laughter?" It is reported that these petitions have made a sensation!—Let me ask, Why? Does the mere circumstance of dwelling in England give Germans so much more importance? Why should the wishes of the Germans in England cause so much sensation, when there are millions of Germans close at hand whose wishes are much more loudly vented, and quite as well understood? Whatever sensation there was, however, it has now subsided, because it has been made public distinctly, that the petitions emanated from Germans, not from Englishmen. I do not question the right of foreigners in England to send addresses wherever they please, but I dispute their right to prefix the name of an English town to it, as for instance, "The Bradford Address," which naturally leaves an impression that the address proceeds from the town itself, whereas it is but the production of a few foreigners residing therein. As to the strong assertion, that the rest of the article is full of mis-statements, I could only say it would amuse me to see the proofs, which I think would be hard to find except in the term *Schleswig-Holstein Diet*. I ought undoubtedly to have written *Holstein Diet* only, but the term is so constantly used to designate either or both of the Duchies that I never thought of making the distinction in opening my letter. *Schleswig-Holstein* was decidedly wrong, and in that I stand corrected. In future, till the question is settled, I shall always take care to keep the two separate, which I hope will satisfy my German friends, as I am very sure it will the Danes. The communication, respecting the Duchies, preceding the letter from Bradford, has been written from a very ultra German point of view. As one proof of exaggeration, take the assertion that the people of Schleswig and Holstein comprehend

Danish as little as they do Russian. Every person acquainted with the dialects spoken in Holstein, Schleswig, and the neighbouring countries, will admit that this is overdrawn in a high degree. I have no doubt that the people of Holstein have just cause of complaint; but the same may be said of the greater part of the people of Germany. Ask any native of Holstein whether he would prefer the rule of the Elector of Hesse or that of the King of Bavaria to that of Denmark. I think with all evils, he would prefer the King of Denmark. With regard to the charge that the Danes are striving to force their dialect, or if Germans will have it so, language upon the people of the two Duchies, the Danes are just as loud in their complaints that the Germans for a long time past have been endeavouring to banish the Danish language from Schleswig, which they maintain is peopled entirely by Danes, some thousands of whom have, however, been Germanised and seduced to take part against their own race. The Danes insist, too, that in seeking to obstruct the progress of the Hochdeutsch, they are committing no injustice, as not the Hochdeutsch is the language of the Germans, so called, of Holstein and Schleswig, but a dialect which bears almost as much resemblance to some Danish dialects as to Hochdeutsch. I have spoken with many natives of Holstein, and the desire of the majority—that is of those with whom I have conversed—is to be left in peace by the Germans, who really have nothing in the shape of real liberty to offer them. The interference of the Germans has certainly proved hitherto rather hurtful than useful to the Holsteiners. Are Germans themselves quite sure that they are not being fooled by their Princes in this question of the Duchies? Have they forgotten the part which the Federal troops played in the Schleswig Holstein war. Truly the Holstein and Schleswig people have little to thank them for as yet—a few pretty songs, some eloquent speeches, a little money and plenty of lint for the wounded, while the war raged—that is about all the good the Duchies have derived from their German brethren. But the fact is, the question is not one of political liberty so much, as of race. It is not so much a struggle of the Holsteiners against the tyranny of Denmark; the tyranny has been produced by the struggle, as against the Danish element. It is the German against the Scandinavian, not the freeman against the despot. On another occasion I may have more to say upon this subject.

MISCELLANEOUS

THE COURT.—Her Majesty and the Prince Consort with the Royal children arrived at Buckingham Palace for a few days on Monday. The Queen held a Court on Thursday afternoon at Buckingham Palace. The Sheriffs, Alderman Hale and Mr. Conder, had an audience, to receive her Majesty's commands with respect to the reception of an address from the Corporation upon the birth of her grandson. Her Majesty appointed Tuesday next for the reception of the address. Her Majesty and the Prince visited the Royal English Opera, on Tuesday evening, and the Princess's Theatre on Thursday. It is her Majesty's intention to hold levees at St. James's Palace, on the 23rd instant, and on the 2nd of March, and to hold a Drawing-room and another levee before Easter.

DEATHS IN THE PEERAGE.—The Marquis of Bristol died on Tuesday, at the age of ninety. He is succeeded by his eldest son, formerly Earl Jermyn, who has himself reached the ripe age of fifty-eight, and has two sons.—The Duchess of Leinster expired on Tuesday morning, at Carton House, near Dublin, in the sixty-sixth year of her age. The deceased was third daughter of the third Earl of Harrington, and married the present duke in 1818.

COURT OF COMMON COUNCIL.—The Court met on Tuesday for the dispatch of public business. The report of the improvement committee relative to the metropolitan railway undertakings was brought up by the chairman, and the recommendations therein were agreed to be adopted. A report was presented relating to the application of the surplus of the London Bridge approaches fund, in further liquidation of charges by the Commissioners of Parks and Palaces, the amount being 36,514*l*. A long report was brought up relative to forestalling cattle in the Metropolitan Market, which was agreed to. The chairman of the corn and coal and finance committee brought up the draft of a bill for repealing the Act of Common Council of the 29th May, 1845, for regulating the appropriation of the rents and profits of the Finsbury Estate. Agreeably to a motion to that effect, the bill was read a first and second time. On Thursday, a special Court was held for the dispatch of public business. A memorial was presented from the inhabitants of Farringdon Without, praying for the erection of a meat and poultry market on the north side of Smithfield. The memorial was referred to the Markets Improvement Committee. A motion was then made for the third reading of a bill for repeal-

ing the Act of Common Council of May 29, 1845, for regulating the appropriation of the rents and profits of the Finsbury estate. A long discussion took place on the subject, and the motion was carried by a large majority. A motion was then made to reduce the allowances of committees for dining, &c.; it was however, opposed, and was lost on a division by a considerably majority.

PUBLIC HEALTH.—The deaths in the metropolis last week amounted to 1,274, which was an increase of 31 over the former week, but rather less than the calculated average. Scarlatina and diphtheria are slightly on the decrease, but small-pox is on the increase. The number of births for the week was 1,754. The report of Dr. Letheby for the City indicates a rather favourable condition of the public health, the number of deaths (55) being a little below the average for the last three years.

THE COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL ON EDUCATION.—Mr. Harry Chester after a service of nearly 33 years in that office, has retired from the post of assistant-secretary to the Committee of Council on Education. Mr. Sandford has become the senior assistant-secretary; and Mr. Sykes, the senior examiner, is promoted to the post of junior assistant-secretary, vacated by Mr. Sandford.

CITY SEWERS.—The annual Commission was opened on Tuesday. Deputy Christie was re-elected chairman, the usual rules and standing orders agreed to, and a good deal of routine business transacted. Dr. Letheby reported that 246 experiments had been made on the illuminating power of the gas supplied to the City during the quarter, with a satisfactory result. The chemical quality of the gas had been remarkably good, for the gas, with few exceptions, had been free from sulphuretted hydrogen, as well as from excess of ammonia and tarry matter.

LORDS HATHERTON AND INGESTRE.—A correspondence between these noblemen has been published. The latter noble lord was reported to have said, in a speech delivered at Worcester, that the idea of bringing forward Mr. Calthorpe for the eastern division of the county had been "hatched" by Lord Hatherton, at his seat at Teddesley. Lord Hatherton thereupon writes to Lord Ingestre, utterly denying the truth of this statement, and asking him for his authority. His reply is, that he knew that Lord Ward had been to Teddesley; he thought that Mr. Calthorpe had been there also; and, knowing the interest Lord Hatherton took in politics, "he considered it probable" that the idea of bringing that gentleman forward had been hatched in his lordship's house.

A JOURNAL FOR THE CHINESE.—The *North China Herald* states that a newspaper published at Shanghai in Chinese by the missionaries has attained a circulation of 700. The people buy it week by week, paying cash, and each purchaser reads it aloud. The Chinese, it appears, are much interested in all local news, particularly police reports.

MR. COBDEN.—This gentleman has sailed for America. He has lately translated the new work of M. Chevalier on the great gold depreciation question. Mr. Cobden seems to have shown some anxiety that the views of the eminent French economist on this subject should be put before the thoughtful politicians of our own country. The work contains a few pages of preface by himself.

THE SEE OF LONDON.—Last year the net income of the See of London from property within the metropolis, as appears from a late return, was 610,23*l*. 9*s*. 2*d*.

INDIAN CIVIL SERVICE.—The Secretary of State for India has issued his regulations for the examination of candidates for this service in India. An examination will be held in London in July next, and of the successful candidates 26 will be selected for the Presidency of Bengal, 8 for that of Madras, and 7 for that of Bombay; in all, 41. The subjects to be got up for the examination are the language literature, and history of England, Greece, Rome, France, Germany, and Italy; pure and mixed mathematics, natural science (chemistry, electricity, and magnetism, "natural history," geology, and mineralogy), logic, and mental and moral philosophy, Sanscrit and Arabic (both language and literature); 7,375 marks will be allotted, of which 1,500 to English and composition, and 1,250 to mathematics. A second examination must be passed by the selected candidates in Sanscrit, the vernacular dialect of India, the history and geography of India, the general principles of jurisprudence, the elements of Hindoo and Mahomedan law, and in political economy. No candidates will be allowed to set sail for India until they shall have passed this further examination, or after they have attained the age of 24 years. They must also give good proof of their sound bodily health and good moral character. Lord Stanley has decided to allow 100*l*. to each of the selected candidates to meet the expenses that must be incurred by them before they proceed to India. The age has been fixed at 25 for candidates who may pass their first examination in July, 1859; after that the age will be 24.

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.—On Saturday Mr. Gladstone was unanimously re-elected member for the University of Oxford.—Mr. Alderman Salomans was returned for Greenwich by a majority of 889 over Mr. Angerstein.—Mr. Lover, who has been elected at Galway, said that he should support any Government that would advance the interests of Galway as a packet station, and would oppose any Government that refused.—The electors of the borough of Hythe returned Baron Meyer Rothschild as their representative, in the place of Sir J. W. Ramsden, Bart. There was no opposition.—Mr. Edwin James and Colonel Romilly are candidates for Marylebone. Colonel Romilly addressed the electors of Marylebone on Thursday. He announced himself to be an advocate of vote by Ballot, a more equal distribution of Members, and the Abolition of Church-rates. He would not pledge himself to vote for Mr. Bright's bill, or any other measure, till he had it before his eyes. A resolution, pledging the meeting to support Colonel Romilly, was carried by an overwhelming majority.—The following gentlemen have been respectively proposed and seconded to represent the borough of Enniskillen, in the room of Mr. James Whiteside, who has resigned, viz.:—Paul Dane, Esq., the Hon. John L. Cole, John Colum, Esq., H. M. Darcey, Esq., W. A. Dale, Esq. The show of hands was declared to be in favour of the Hon. John L. Cole. A poll, however, was demanded on behalf of the other candidates.

CHURCH APPOINTMENT.—We have just learnt that the Chancellor has appointed the Rev. Henry White, late Curate of St. James's, Devon, to the incumbency of the Savoy Church Precinct, in the Strand, London.

SAVING LIFE AT SEA.—A meeting of merchants and shipowners was held at Banff, on Monday, for the presentation to Captain George Watson, of the schooner Banffshire, of a gold medal, awarded him by the Prince Regent of Sweden and Norway, in approbation of the services rendered by him in saving the lives of the crew of the Swedish brig Ulyse, on the 27th September last, in the Cattegat.

MR. ROBERT CHAMBERS.—On Monday evening, this gentleman gave a lecture, in the Merchants' Hall, Edinburgh, on "Merchants and Merchandise in Old Times." A large number of gentlemen, representing nearly all the various professions and mercantile interests of the city, were present.

THE GREAT EASTERN.—On Monday the first step towards preparing this vessel for sea was made, by hoisting in the enormous main shaft of the paddle engines. The weight of the whole mass was 40 tons, and every part of it was carefully turned in steam lathes in Mr. Scott Russell's yard. In order to move such a ponderous weight and raise it to the required height, it was necessary to secure the service of one of the new floating derricks which have recently been employed with such success in raising and transporting masses of the heaviest description. The wooden derrick was used on this occasion, and performed the task with a facility little short of marvellous. In one hour from the time that the great machine went alongside Mr. Scott Russell's yard the whole operation was completed, and the monstrous, awkward-looking piece of iron safe on the deck of the great ship. Measures had been taken to ascertain if depositing such a mass of dead weight on the extreme edge of the deck made the least difference in the vessel's trim, but not the slightest alteration was perceptible. The register of the Great Eastern, as belonging to the Great Ship Company, was signed on Monday, at the Custom-house. It is not probable that the other works necessary for fitting the vessel for sea will commence before the end of the present month, when the contractors will be bound under penalties to have all finished in five months from the date of the time of commencing operations.

SOCIETY OF ARTS.—On Wednesday Mr. H. Chester read a paper on the Society of Arts Union of Institutions, and the examinations connected therewith. An admirable discussion ensued, in which Lord John Russell delivered himself very effectively on the important question of the education and improvement of the working-classes. Sir W. P. Wood and the Bishop of London took part in the discussion.

MEETING OF FRENCH DEMOCRATS.—The "Comité Révolutionnaire" announce that they will, on Thursday evening, the 24th inst., hold a public meeting in Fitzroy-hall, Little Portland-street, in order to commemorate the second French Republic of the "24th February, 1848." The Revolutionary Commune invite all democrats of any nationality to celebrate that fraternal commemoration.

ROYAL YACHT CLUB.—The annual ball, under the auspices of this distinguished club, took place on Thursday night at the Hanover-square Rooms. It was a most brilliant assemblage, as it ever has been, and great pains were taken to ensure the comfort of the four hundred ladies and gentlemen present. Dancing commenced at ten o'clock, to Adams's band, and was continued with much spirit till a late hour in the morning.

LITERATURE, SCIENCE, ART, &c.

LITERARY CHRONICLE OF THE WEEK.

It will be difficult to deny that Mr. Ayrton's bill for removing from the Statute-book a whole host of repressive, but obsolete and inoperative statutes, affecting the public press, is not a wise one. It is no argument to say, that an obnoxious statute is inoffensive because it is never enforced. It may be enforced at any time by a Ministry disposed to carry matters with a high hand; and it is no new thing to have a forgotten enactment dug up for the benefit of some special offender. Some one said, that whenever the Statute of Habeas Corpus was important to the public liberties, it was sure to be suspended; and as a converse, to leave those penal statutes against the press slumbering upon the code, would be to leave a very dangerous weapon within the reach of those who may one day be prompted to use it. The Association for Promoting the Repeal of the Paper Duty have prepared the mind of the Solicitor-General for the question, by addressing to him a letter, pointing out that his own publisher, by simply publishing Sir Hugh Cairns's speech on the Government of India, has rendered himself liable to a penalty of 120*l.*, such publication being against the provisions of the 60th Geo. III., c. 9, which enacts that, "no newspaper, pamphlet, or other paper, under 714 square inches in size, or under sixpence in price, and containing any comment on any matter in Church or State, can be published without security being first given that it shall not contain any blasphemous, seditious, or personal libel." This is, of course, one of the statutes that Mr. Ayrton's Bill proposes to repeal; and we do not wonder at the Solicitor-General for coming to the conclusion that "the sooner such statutes were removed from the book the better."

An interesting correspondence, between Messrs. Routledge (fitly called the Sosii of the publishing trade), and the Commissioners of the Board of Inland Revenue, illustrates, in a very remarkable manner, the obstructive action of the paper duty, in preventing the invention of new processes and new kinds of raw material. It seems that Messrs. Routledge have been manufacturing, at their mills at Eynsham, near Oxford, a kind of paper pulp, made from a raw vegetable fibre, of which they assert the supply to be practically unlimited.

Their design has been to sell this in the state known as half-stuff (upon which no duty is payable) to other makers, and for this purpose to send it to the market in the form of rolls or slabs. Anxious to avoid all chance of collision with the Excise, these gentlemen have taken the prudent course of communicating their intention to the board; but they receive for answer that the board considers these slabs to be paper, and that the only way of avoiding the difficulty will be for Messrs. Routledge to have them torn into small pieces and so sent for sale, an operation which in the opinion of these gentlemen would be detrimental, if not fatal, to the goods. The upshot is this; whilst her Majesty's Consuls have received special orders from home to keep a bright look-out for any new raw material for paper, her Majesty's Excise Officers at home receive orders not less stringent to prevent any enterprising firm from doing all that is required.

Two books of great importance have appeared during the week. The first is M. Chevalier's able treatise "On the Probable Fall in the Value of Gold" (W. H. Smith), translated by Mr. Cobden, with a preface by the same; and the other, the two volumes of the "Memoirs of the Court of George IV.," by the Duke of Buckingham (Hurst and Blackett). The former of these is a really valuable addition to the financial library, emanating, as it does, from the pen best calculated to deal with the subject, and having the advantage of being revised in translation by so celebrated an economist as Mr. Cobden. The other consists of numerous letters and documents, full of anecdote, with a thread of narrative, probably contributed by W. H. Smith, Esq., who was the Duke's librarian when his Grace had a library

to be looked after. It is a book sure to be eagerly sought for on account of the revelations it makes of Court life in George the Fourth's time. It seems brimful of high-life scandal. Judging by the publishers' promises, we may soon expect a brisker season in the publishing trade.—Messrs. Longman, taking advantage of the agitation upon "the great dinner question," announce "The Art of Dining," by L. F. Simpson; also a work on "Ceylon," by Sir J. Emerson Tennant; a third series of "Essays on the Unity of Worlds and of Nature," by the Rev. B. Powell; "Prairie Farming in America," by Mr. James Caird; and a "History of the Application of the Roman Characters to the Languages of India," by Monier Williams, M.A.—Messrs. Blackie and Son promise, "Notes of a Clerical Furlough spent in the Holy Land," by the Rev. R. Buchanan, D.D.—From Messrs. Constable, the "Life and Discourses of the late Dr. Brown, Professor of Exegetical Theology to the Presbyterian United Church," to be edited by Dr. Cairns.—From Messrs. Fullarton, "A Memorial Volume of all that was said and done all over the World upon the Centenary of Burns," arranged and edited by James Ballantyne.—From Messrs. Bell and Bradfute, a treatise by T. S. Paton, on the "Law of Stoppage in Transitu;" a treatise on "Trusts and Trustees," by Alexander Moncrieff and Hill Lancaster, Advocates; and a treatise by George Hunter Thoms, Advocate, on "Judicial Factors, &c."—Messrs. Smith, Elder, and Co., are about to publish, "A Lady's Escape from Gwalior;" "Christianity in India," by Mr. Kaye; a book on "Hong-Kong and Manilla;" Mr. Swainson, the author of the new work on New Zealand, on "Australia;" and an essay on the "Oxford Museum," by Dr. Acland and Mr. Ruskin. A few interesting matters of personal gossip may be recorded. Mr. Samuel Warren, Q.C., Recorder of Hull, author of "A Diary of a Late Physician," "Ten Thousand a Year," "The Lily and the Bee," has been appointed to the office of Master in Lunacy, vacated by the precipitate resignation of Mr. Higgins. Let us congratulate the lawyer-like and literary gentleman upon his accession to such a very comfortable bed of legal roses. We believe that there is no authority for saying that Mr. Disraeli purposes to visit America, as stated by the American papers. Judging from the following piece of literary gossip, given upon the authority of the *Critic*, his presence and his activity will both be wanted in England for some time to come:—

"It is rumoured that in consequence of a disagreement between Mr. Charles Dickens and Messrs. Bradbury and Evans, a great change will be made with regard to *Household Words*. This publication, as is pretty generally known, was founded at the suggestion of Mr. Wills, its present editor, and was intended as a sort of rival to *Chambers' Journal*. Mr. Dickens became a shareholder, and his name is constantly announced as its "conductor," although his contributions to its pages have been few and infrequent. Acting under an impression that it is his name that offers the sole attraction to the public, Mr. Dickens has determined, it is said, to withdraw from *Household Words*, and found another periodical upon a similar plan, and matters have proceeded so far that an office for the new journal is either taken, or in progress of being taken, in Wellington-street. Messrs. Bradbury and Evans, on their part, have resolved to continue *Household Words*, and it is whispered that they have endeavoured to prevail upon Mr. Thackeray to become its conductor. Whether they have succeeded in persuading the great Titmarsh to accede to their prayer we are unable to say; but it is certain that they will have at their disposal the whole of the *Punch* staff; and it is confidently stated that they will invite the return to *Household Words* of Mr. George Augustus Sala, whose witty and suggestive pictures of life and manners formed the chiefest attraction of that publication a few years ago, and the outpourings from whose pen were so frequently attributed to Mr. Charles Dickens. If this be true, we do not anticipate that this admirable periodical will be much damaged by the change, and it is certain that the public will not lose by a competition for excellence between two such antagonists."

Of course we cannot vouch for the truth of this. All that we can say is, that from what we have heard on the subject, it has an air of *vraisemblance*.

The important sale of M. Libri's MSS, is fixed to take place in London by the end of March, and is looked forward to with great eagerness by the *virtuosi*. The catalogue consists of 300 pages, with thirty-six pages of facsimile. The number of lots is nearly 1,200, comprising manuscripts in many ancient and modern tongues. There are at least a hundred specimens belonging to periods anterior to the reign of Philip Augustus, and some as old as the seventh and eighth centuries; volumes belonging to the times of the Carolingians, with miniatures in the Byzantine style; autographs and unpublished MSS. of Galileo, Kepler, Tasso, and Leibnitz; chivalric romances, and volumes of poetry which have never yet appeared; an apocryphal Bible, in Arabic, hitherto quite unknown; besides a vast number of other curiosities, the mere enumeration of which would far exceed the boundaries of this article.

The budget of novelties from the French press is a full one. First in importance are the Memoirs of the Duchesse d'Orleans, by an anonymous editress. Some of our literary contemporaries have blundered not a little as to the identity of this personage; but the fact has oozed out through the columns of the generally well-informed *Independence Belge*, that the real individual is Madame D'Hautpoul, widow of one of Louis Philippe's ministers, a lady whose opportunities for giving any information as to the inner life of the citizen-king and his family, must have been numerous. Mentioning the Orleans family, it is a curious fact, and not altogether without significance, that the sons of Louis Philippe are beginning to make themselves heard in the French press—and are unopposed. The forthcoming number of the *Revue des Deux Mondes* contains an article on Steam Navigation, from the warlike pen of the bold Joinville—the gentleman who some years ago volunteered to invade England with a French fleet; but he has since that time been contented to invade her in a more peaceful manner, and take up his abode on tree-clad Richmond Hill.

To return, however, to French novelties. We may chronicle an interesting work by M. Alexander Roger, the Memoirs of Reverdil, Councillor of State to Christian VII., of Denmark (1760-72). The inner life of that northern court is here portrayed with extraordinary minuteness. The intrigues, the back-stairs plots, the amours of Struensee, the king's physician, a favourite of the young Queen Matilda, all these are embodied forth as in the life. Another welcome appearance is the second volume of the Napoleon Correspondence, giving the correspondence from September, 1796, to April, 1797. M. Granier de Cassagnac, the political pamphleteer, has published a *pure* romance of the idyllic school, under the name "La Reine des Prairies." This, it is presumed, is in order to be in character with his newly assumed role of upholder of pure morality in letters. The French critics speak well of *L'Histoire de la Réunion de la Lorraine à la France*, by the Count d'Haussonville, of which the fourth and last volume, comprising the period between the death of Charles V., of Lorraine and that of Stanislaus, has but just appeared. M. Léon Feugère has produced an agreeable volume of *Caractères et Portraits Littéraires du XVI. Siècle*, containing much that is interesting and new to the general reader concerning Montaigne, Rabelais, Agrippa d'Aubigné, and Amyot. Men of science in France are delighted with a translation by M. Armand Pommier of two geological works of great importance by M. de Filippi, the director of the Geological Museum at Turin—one on Noah's Deluge, and the other a Series of Letters on the Creation of the World.

We may here notice, with the sincerest regret, the death of Mr. Charles Mitchell, who, as the editor and originator of the *Newspaper Press Directory*, and as a liberal and enlightened advertising agent, had established a communication with the country

and colonial press, which was of the greatest convenience and service to authors, publishers, and all connected with that great department of literature. Mr. Mitchell was a native of Norwich, but acquired his admirable business talents and knowledge in Manchester, and came to London about the year 1836, and formed at once his useful and successful establishment in Red Lion-court. He was a man universally respected, and of a kind and liberal disposition, and has left a widow and two sons to deplore his premature death. He was fifty-two years of age, and died from the effects of asthma, in a fit of which he broke a blood-vessel.

AFRICAN PHILOLOGY.

The Library of His Excellency Sir George Grey, K.C.B.—Philology: Africa.—Vol. I., Part 1 (Within the Limits of British influence).—Vol. I., Part 2. (North of the Tropic of Capricorn), Australia and Polynesia.—Vol. II., Part 1, Australia.—Vol. II., Part 2., Papuan Languages, &c.—Vol. II., Part 3. (not yet printed).—Vol. II., Part 4., New Zealand and the Islands.—Compiled by Sir George Grey, and W. H. I. Bleek. Cape Town (Trubner & Co. London), 1858.

It was about the year 85 of the Christian era that Julius Agricola for the first time surveyed the entire line of the British coast, and persuaded the rude inhabitants to adopt the dress and language of their conquerors, and it is from that period that we date, properly speaking, the introduction of Roman civilisation into this country. To accomplish this, it may easily be imagined, he must previously have made himself acquainted with the habits, language, and religion of those upon whom he was desirous of conferring so great a boon; for we find immediately after this survey, that temples and porticos, baths and other public edifices, sprang up on all sides. Somewhat analagous to the labours of the Roman governor in Britain have been the labours of Sir George Grey in Africa. Before we can bring the semi-barbarous tribes of that great continent to appreciate the advantages of order and civilisation, to adopt our dress and manners, and the religion of the Gospel, we must make ourselves acquainted with their languages and their habits of life and thought, or the labour of the missionary will be in vain; and instead of finding himself surrounded with proselytes, he would probably meet with the fate which Sidney Smith pictured as that likely to befall Bishop Selwyn, when he was about to depart for New Zealand, and grace the banquet of some warlike chief, in the shape of the greatest delicacy at table. The Roman, to whom we owe so much, had to go to the languages, to learn the manners and customs of the semi-barbarous Britons himself, to come in personal contact with those whose lasting benefit he had in view. Thanks to the printing-press, the British governor in Africa can cause the languages of the savage tribes, over which he would spread the blessings of civilisation, to come to him; can learn their national peculiarities in the quiet of his study, and bring the various tribes themselves into communication with himself by the simple operations of a typesetter, located in the capital of the province which he rules in the Queen's name.

It is by no means easy to form a classification of the languages of Pagan Africa. A large portion of them possess an affinity to the Kafir languages. Yet this proves nothing. It is but one characteristic; and what would be said of a naturalist who would class animals or plants only according to a single characteristic, regardless of all others? Mr. Bleek divides the languages and dialects of South Africa—of which he enumerates no less than 427—into two great divisions: the Suffix-Pronominal Languages, and the Prefix-Pronominal Languages. In the former he includes the Hottentot and Bushman, consisting of 46 dialects, and in the latter the Kafir, with 233 dialects; the Setshuana, with 140 dialects; the Tegeza, with 2 dialects; the Xngami dialect; and the Otyhereros, with 5 dialects. The Hottentot and Bushman he terms "the Sex-denoting family," and the whole of the others, the "Bantu family."

"All these languages of Africa which as yet permit of a classification evidently belong to the higher formation of languages; that is, they are possessed of true pronouns, borrowed originally from the derivative particles of the nouns. As in Kafir, in the sentence *Abantu bami abamnyama balungile* (Men mine black they are good). Here *ba* in *bami*, in *abamnyama*, and in *balungile*, is, in each instance, a true pronoun, derived from the derivative particle of the noun *abantu* (men, or people).

"Strictly speaking, a pronoun is a word which

solely represents the noun, or nouns, in the place of which it stands, without adding or possessing any meaning of its own. Therefore, what is commonly called a pronoun of the first or second person is not a real pronoun; for there is always implied in it the idea of a person or persons either speaking or spoken to. In strictness, it ought to be called a personal noun, or personal particle, instead of a pronoun.

"The languages of what we term this higher formation are comprised under the head of Pronominal languages. Their main distinctive feature is a concord of the forms of the pronouns, and of every part of speech in the formation of which pronouns are employed (for example, adjectives and verbs,) with the nouns to which they respectively refer, and the thereby caused distribution of the nouns into classes or genders. This concord is evidently produced through the original identity of each pronoun with the respective derivative particle of the nouns which can be represented by it.

"The derivative particle of a noun, with which the form of its pronoun is originally identical, may either precede or follow the other part of the noun. The pronouns agree, therefore, either with the beginnings (prefixes) or with the endings (suffixes) of their respective nouns. Accordingly, the Pronominal languages are divided into two classes, and may be distinguished as Prefix-Pronominal and Suffix-Pronominal languages."

Within these two divisions Mr. Bleek includes all the languages of Southern Africa, as we have seen; and we think if we add that the Hottentot family may also be distinguished as monosyllabic tongues, and the Bantu or Kafir as polysyllabic, we have enumerated the distinguishing characteristics of each.

In 1857 Mr. Bleek published a "Vocabulary of the Hottentots and Bushmen," prepared for the use of Sir George Grey—an elaborate quarto volume of some 260 pages. A very valuable portion of the work is the introduction itself, by the compiler of Sir George Grey's Catalogue, which consists of twelve pages; and the vocabularies of the dialects of the tribes of the vicinity of Colesberg and Burgsdorp, incorporated in the general alphabet, are also furnished from his own personal contact with natives. The other sources were the scattered vocabularies of the dialects of the Cape and Eastern Hottentots, of the Korana and the Bushmen, accompanied by the corresponding words of the Nama dialect, in the latter of which the library of Sir George Grey possesses seventeen printed books and seven manuscripts. This very interesting publication furnishes us with 400 English words and upwards, with corresponding Hottentot terms, and is accompanied by a copious alphabetical index.

Sir George Grey also caused a grammar and vocabulary of the Nama dialect to be printed, in which there is a Hottentot-English vocabulary of upwards of 2,042 words; it likewise contains a collection of 124 phrases in the Namaqua Hottentot dialect, with English translation, besides the grammar, &c., mentioned on the title page. The compiler is Henry Tindall, a Wesleyan missionary, and the work is indispensable to all who would study this most primitive language.

As in all of the most ancient languages, the words of the Hottentot tongue are chiefly monosyllables, ending, with two exceptions, always in a vowel, or a nasal sound. Diphthongs abound, and several rough gutturals, and compound clicks and gutturals are also met with. In the Bushman dialect the phonetic peculiarities of the Hottentot language are carried to excess, and almost every word is pronounced with a nasal twang, which leaves that of the Yankee far behind. We believe, with Mr. Bleek, that a more intimate acquaintance with this language would lead to some very curious and interesting results to both philological and ethnological science.

The Saabs, or Bushmen, are Hottentots of the most unfavoured parts of the Cape. They are miserable troglodytes, living in caves, destitute of flocks and herds, and subsisting upon what the chase produces. The Bushman is the most undersized specimen of humanity, a mere starveling in bulk, with a weak and fragile frame. His small bright eye, projecting cheekbones, and copper-coloured skin, give him an unearthly appearance, which is much enhanced by the hair of his head, which grows in tufts, showing interspaces of sculp between the twisted knots, which imperfectly clothe his singularly-shaped skull—with a long diameter fore and aft, and considerable development in the occipital portion. The Namaquas are a kindred

but superior race, capable of holding their own, and encroaching upon the area of Ovakeriro and other Hottentot tribes by which they are surrounded.

The southern extremity of Africa is pre-eminently Hottentot, and, more or less, Kafir, also. The latter present themselves to us under two types, brown and black—the brown on the table-lands, and the black along the water-courses. They are fierce and relentless, cruel and sanguinary. Dr. Livingstone visited the son of a chieftain, named Moyara. A number of stakes were planted in the ground, and fifty-four human skulls were suspended from their points. These were Matabele, who unable to approach Sebituane on the island of Loyela, had returned sick and famishing. Moyara's father took advantage of their reduced condition, and after putting them to death mounted their heads in the fashion of his tribe. "When looking at the skulls," adds the doctor, "I remarked to Moyara that many of them were mere boys. He assented readily and pointed them out as such. I asked why his father had killed boys. 'To show his fierceness,' was the answer. 'Is it fierceness to kill boys?' 'Yes, they had no business here.' I was informed that few strangers ever returned from a visit to this quarter." The language of the Kafirs, like that of all members of the Bantu family, consists mostly of polysyllables, the words ending chiefly with a vowel or a nasal sound. Diphthongs, properly speaking, rarely occur. The great characteristics, therefore, of the Hottentot and Bushmen languages, which consist mainly of monosyllables abounding in diphthongs, are reversed in all the Bantu family, which gives, as it were, a natural and easy division of the whole of the languages of Southern Africa.

We have not space to follow Sir George Grey and Mr. Bleek through the other volumes before us, and of which we have given the general contents above; but we would remark, that in the second part of the second volume, which treats of Australia and Polynesia, Sir George Grey states his conviction that, however different in vocabulary the Papuan languages are from the other Polynesian dialects, the grammatical structure of the Polynesian and Papuan languages is evidently founded on the same basis. He adds:—"It is not improbable that the Papuan languages form the connecting link between the Polynesian family of languages and the African division of Prefix-Pronominal languages." These Papuan languages are spoken by the inhabitants of the Loyalty Islands and the New Hebrides. Of the former, Lifu, with a population of some 15,000 souls, and Nengone, or Mare, with some 7,000, are the principal, and the inhabitants speak a different dialect, but not a different language. The other islands which form this group are Uea, Doka, and Dodoni, the last uninhabited, but covered with cocoa-nut and bread-fruit trees, which appear to be the common property of the other four islands. The inhabitants of the New Hebrides number about 40,000, in the eight islands altogether, and they belong to the Papuan or Negrito race, have curly or woolly hair, and are of the middle size. They cultivate the soil, and live chiefly on fruits and vegetables, fish, fowls, pigs, and insects; but they are cannibals, and constantly engaged in war. The institution of the Tapu is in force in all the islands. There is an order of priesthood, and they have idols, which they regard as sacred. They are naturally musical, and sing well, and in parts; and, as musical instruments, they make use of a long pipe or flute, and a drum. We have taken the above from one of Sir George Grey's notes; and similar notes, full of information, abound throughout the catalogue. Now that the Feejean Archipelago has been ceded to Great Britain, the portion of Sir George Grey's labours, which relates to these Polynesian islands, derives much additional interest from that circumstance. These islands are admirably adapted for the growth of cotton, embrace an extent of 20,000 square miles, and are inhabited by 200,000 souls. As cotton requires but little skill for its cultivation, its introduction would be no less beneficial to the natives than to ourselves, by opening a market for our manufactured goods, and providing an equivalent in the raw material by way of payment. We congratulate the Governor of the Cape on the production of a most important aid to the study of the twin sciences of philology and ethnology, and look forward to the completion of the catalogue itself as a great and permanent step towards the civilisation of the barbarous races, whose formation,

habits, language, religion, and food, are all, more or less, most carefully noted in its pages.

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD.

1. *University of Oxford.—Examination Papers and Division Lists, &c., for the Examination held in June, 1858.* J. H. and J. Parker.

2. *First Annual Report of the Delegacy rendered to Convocation, Dec. 31, 1858.* J. H. and J. Parker.

THE papers before us give very complete information about the manner in which the New Examination Statute for Middle Class Schools has been carried out, and the results which have attended its working. The subject has received so much partial discussion by correspondence in the daily papers and otherwise, that the public will gladly welcome a full and authoritative account of the whole matter. It was natural, and perhaps excusable, that parents and schoolmasters, who were disappointed by the failure of their "*spes gregis*," should venture an attack upon the judgment of the examiners, and endeavour to attribute to difficulty in the questions, and to the severe standard by which the answers were tested, those unfortunate results which might obviously have originated in other and very different causes.

The two volumes of papers which the University has now published will furnish, we think, the fullest answer to the friends of disappointed candidates. When we learn how very easy the questions really were, and how tolerant the examiners' judgment of the answers, we cannot help feeling surprised that any boy who presented himself should have failed in obtaining a certificate. The report tells us, that many of the very numerous instances of ill success must be attributed to the fact that this was the first examination. We are glad to think it was so; and that want of nerve and want of acquaintance with the nature of the answers required, rather than a disgraceful ignorance of the elements of grammar and geography, may be allowed to explain them. A full account is given of the nature of the proposed examination for 1859; so that it will be the faults of the candidates themselves, or rather of those who ought to prepare them, if the Report of the ensuing year contains as long and painful a list of rejections.

It is quite impossible to look over the questions set, particularly those to the senior candidates, without feeling the extreme value of the plan adopted by the University—a good testing examination, so conducted as to encourage, not "cram;" but thorough knowledge of a few things has long been needed by our middle class schools. The education given at public schools is tested sufficiently by the success or failure of their scholars at the two Universities; but there is no such test for those schoolmasters whose pupils do not go up to the Universities at all. The public has too long been deluded by the advertising system, and has been compelled chiefly to judge of the qualifications of those who set up as masters by the degree of impudence with which they assert their own merits, and the number of those who have already been foolish enough to believe them. There is room for hope that, in the course of a year or two, the test supplied by these examinations will enable every one to judge for himself of the value of the education which our various schools supply, and that the exertions of middle class schoolmasters will now be directed to satisfying examiners competent to judge of their pupils' attainments,—not to deceiving parents by the concoction and issue of captivating prospectuses. We recommend the Report and the List of Examination Papers to our readers' most careful attention. It is of the first importance that the public should be properly informed upon the matters to which they relate.

LIFE AND BOOKS.

Life and Books, or Records of Thought and Reading. By J. F. Boyes. Boll and Daldy.

THIS is the production of a ripe scholar, whom all lovers of our own early, and of the Greek drama must admire. It is now some years since he published two volumes, which proved that he was equally well acquainted with each set of dramatists. He was not one of those vulgar scholars who imagine wherever there is a similarity of sentiment that there must be plagiarism; but he almost proved from the copiousness of his illustrations from *Æschylus* and *Sophocles*, and from our great dramatists, that the like train of thought begets in certain constituted minds pretty much the same expression. It was in every way a delightful work,

and the present, therefore, comes well recommended.

"Life and Books," as its title intimates, is a record of thoughts elicited by reading and observations, and the author has ventured on the most difficult of all modes of conveying the results of his mental labour, namely, that of bare and unadorned axioms and maxims. Such a style appeals but to a comparatively narrow class of readers; for most persons like to have, indeed seem to require, a strong garnish of words to enable them to receive and digest a pure thought. To succeed in this style is therefore to acquire a place amongst the rarest writers; and but a few names, either ancient or modern, have maintained their popularity by this style of book; indeed we can easily run them off our tongue without burdening our memory. The ancient philosophers are more numerous, if not more successful than the modern, and the *Reflexions* of Antoninus, and the axioms of Epictetus and Seneca still maintain their position. The moderns are chiefly indebted to the French for this class of literature, and the name of Rochefoucauld is still the most familiar and the most esteemed. Mr. Helps' works and Lacon are those which have made most impression with us in more recent times, and with them Mr. Boyes' collection may fairly rank.

The style is careful but easy, and the offensive dogmatism of such continued assertion is softened by the graceful utterance and entire absence of pretentiousness. The remarks are given for what they may be worth; and the allusions and illustrations are so scholastic and fresh as to give a charm to the majority of them. There may on the whole be said to be more of wisdom than wit in them, and we should not suppose from these specimens that the author has much turn towards facetiousness. In the present over-funny age we consider this to be rather a recommendation than otherwise, as the continual effort to be smart has become exceeding wearisome. Of the morality, we may say it is that of a pure and healthy mind, and is imbued with a genuine philanthropy.

We give a few sentences as specimens, bricks from a stack being fair samples. If they excite even a contrariety of opinion to that maintained, they answer the end of axiomatic assertions, which are as valuable for the controversy they excite as from any fixed convictions they may create or confirm.

* * * * *

All life lies between the willow and the elm.

* * * * *

We constantly hear people debating about how long you may live with a person before you thoroughly know him or her. It is not so much a question of time as of circumstances. The time you may know a person without knowing him is quite unlimited, as long as the routine in which you live is not changed.

* * * * *

Those who are afflicted with the blindness of ignorance of the past are unfortunately the most likely to be afflicted also with the other blindness of prejudice as regards the present.

* * * * *

Affronts are often quite invaluable things to the receiver, especially in those cases where one of them is allowed to cancel fifty benefits.

* * * * *

The old, when they triumph too gloriously over the young, may sometimes be reminded that they often loose in memory more than they gain in judgment; and that the more recent facts of their lives are often so slightly recorded as scarcely to add to their aggregate of experience, and that more is often lost in nerve than is gained in tact.

* * * * *

It not unfrequently happens that people like a man whilst they make him, but rather change their feelings when they find they cannot unmake him—that is to say, when they cease to be the sole creators of his credit, or when it has stretched beyond the point which they have chosen to accord.

* * * * *

We need not be surprised that what is intensely ludicrous to one person is not in the least so to another, if we admit, which I think we must do, that the ridiculous chiefly consists in bringing the great and the little together, in putting the low in the position of the lofty, and the lofty of the low—because all depends on the preconceived idea of the magnitude or insignificance of certain objects, in which men, even of equal sense, may occasionally disagree.

* * * * *

How much of our apparent love of novelty is

only love for the old thing in a new medium. The citizen's trip to Gravesend often aims at little more than the old glass of brandy and water, in a Gravesend frame.

* * * * *

The title of hypocrite is easily earned, and readily applied very often where it is little deserved: irresolution receives it, and so even may sheer amiability, where a man pursues a double course of action; one to please himself, and another not openly to violate the feelings of those who are dear to him.

* * * * *

We could have selected more brilliant or less sensible remarks; but the axioms, supported by agreeable quotations and literary allusions, are too long for our columns; and in all such matters the reader has a pleasure, like that of the truffle hunters, in rooting up the savoury morsels for himself. It is a book specially adapted for the railway carriage, for after reading a sentence or two the traveller will find his mind aroused, and he will have the pleasure of beguiling the time and the way with the reveries set afloat by the suggestive author.

A Handy Book of the Law of Private Trading Partnership. By J. W. Smith, Esq., LL.D., Barrister-at-Law. Effingham Wilson, Royal Exchange.

THERE is no branch of the law more difficult and complex than that of private trading partnership. The chain of losses and trouble into which persons are entrapped by the inducements too frequently held out to them to be associated in private mercantile or trading firms is oftentimes so great as to warrant an all but universal rule to avoid so dangerous a connection. Nothing, indeed, less than a positive assurance of the perfect honour, honesty, and thoroughly business-like habits of all the partners and of their most confidential *employées* should ever tempt an inexperienced person to encounter the risk which is inevitable to every such an undertaking.

The Legislature has, by a recent Act, removed some of the evils of public partnerships, where the liability of the members is limited by the statute, and where, too, the character of the company or co-partnership is indicated in its title. The condition, however, of the law of private partnership remains unchanged; and the strict rules which, three-quarters of a century ago, were laid down by Lord Eldon and other eminent jurists as to dormant or sleeping partners, still expose them to exactly the same liability as ostensible and active partners.

The law, indeed, on this point, extensive and ramified as it now is, may be said to have been built upon the decisions in about half-a-dozen cases, settled about the year 1793.

Lord Eldon, in the case *Ex parte Hamper* (17 Vesey, 403), stated the rule, still prevailing, in the following terms, as to *quasi* or *dormant* partners:—"The cases have gone further to this nicety, upon a distinction so thin, that I cannot state it as established upon due consideration, that if a trader agrees to pay another person for his labour in the concern a sum of money even in proportion to the profits, equal to a certain share, that will not make him a partner; but, if he has a specific interest in the profits themselves, as such, he is a partner."

And again—
"The ground (as to liability) to third persons is this. It is clearly settled—though I regret it—that if a man stipulates, that as the reward of his labour he shall have, not a specific interest in the business, but a given sum of money, even in proportion to a given quantum of the profits, that will not make him a partner; but, if he agrees for a part of the profits as such giving him a right to account, though having no property in the capital, he is, as to third persons, a partner; and in a question with third persons no stipulation can protect him from loss."

The principal cases upon which Lord Eldon relied, as establishing this rule, in *Re Hamper*, were probably *Waugh v. Carr* (2 H. Blackstone, 235); and especially *Grove v. Smith*. In the latter case, Smith had been in partnership with Robinson, who had retired, leaving his whole capital in the concern as a debt with interest at 5 per cent. and an annuity of £300; for all of which he took a bond from Robinson, who became bankrupt, and then Grace, a creditor of Robinson, sought to charge Smith as a secret partner under the bond which secured to him something more than simply interest in his capital left in the business.

Mr. J. W. Smith (the barrister, not the litigant of that name), in the "*Handy Book of the Law of Private Trading Partnership*," has, in the readiest and most concise form, succinctly yet clearly treated upon all the numerous points incidental to the subject. He has, indeed, rendered it one of the most useful and popular manuals of commercial law extant. We wish, however, that he had gone a step further, by citing the cases, the decisions upon which

he has so methodically and intelligibly stated. The profession would have then also been, with the public, great gainers by a publication in no way inferior to any which has already borne the imprimatur of the learned author.

The Eclectic Review.

Ward & Co.

THE number for this month is of diversified interest. The clerical element, if we may use that term, not being too prominently conspicuous, and on this ground likely to please old readers better, and to attract a wide range of new. "Stanley on the Epistles"—a review of Stanley's second edition of the Epistles of Paul to the Corinthians—will chiefly have a relish for polemical tastes. "The Queen's government, and religion of India," insists on the necessity of active interference in spreading Christianity in India, and of discountenancing the doctrine of religious neutrality. "Bad weather on the Mountains;" "Town and Forest;" "High-water Mark;" "Smithfield and Bartholomew Fair;" are all sound and pleasant reading. "Dr. Thomas Guthrie," the Scotch preacher, has an article all to himself. "A Ride over the Rocky Mountains" is very amusing. The politics are embodied in "France, Austria, and Italy," and the article is evidently written from an Italian nationality point of view.

The Irish Quarterly Review.

THE animus of this publication will hardly permit it to become generally popular in England. The Roman Catholic spirit is too illiberal and too obtrusive for any but Roman Catholic readers, and even those readers must not be of the tolerant and liberal section. If the various Hibernian writers could suppress or disguise a portion of that virulence with which they bespatter their Saxon and Protestant neighbours, the utility and value of the *Irish Review* as a contribution to the literary wealth of the age would be greatly enhanced. The article on the Jesuit Xavier de Ravignan is a curiosity, in its way, and is not, however, without literary ability. The purpose of the writer is to glorify Jesuits and Jesuitism. He does not merely aim at showing that, after all, "black is not so very black," but that black is really pure and virgin "white." The Jesuit—not Ravignan in particular—is depicted as a self-denying purist, whose simple and innocent life and actions are directed to one noble, amiable, and Christian purpose—to save the souls and conserve the morals of the whole benighted world. We are afraid that all the charges against their ambitious views, their crafty and demoralising teaching, their abominable doctrines and hypocritical lives, are fables, invented by enemies who envy them the possession of virtues which they do not themselves display, and of learning which they cannot emulate. We wish the writer all the success his attempt deserves, but we fear we can promise him but scant advantage in this heretical island. The Protestant Saxon, we fear, will not ignore history—will not believe that a race of men, bred up in the strictness of discipline, as are the Jesuit youth, and set apart from the world, and associated together for a common and concealed object, under an inflexible subordination to their superiors,—a body of men whom every Sovereign and every people have separately and conjointly from time to time expelled from their dominions, or rooted them out like dangerous vermin—we say, we fear the British Saxon will not accept the version of Jesuitism from a Jesuit, but will go on in his error, in trusting to the evidence of common sense and of well-established facts. The *Review* has some very good articles, and we could therefore wish it were not sectarian.

Boswell's Life of Johnson. Croker's Edition. Part I. With Illustrations.

John Murray.

THIS is a cheap issue of the latest and best edition of the most interesting Biography in the language. It is to be completed in shilling monthly parts, extending over six months' issue. No work can better deserve the wide circulation it will thus receive.

The North American Review. No. CLXXXII. Jan., 1859. Boston: Crosby and Co. London: Sampson Low, Son, and Co.

THE publishers announce that arrangements have been made for the simultaneous issue of this leading North American literary Review in Boston and London. This cannot fail to please all here who watch with pleasure the legitimate growth of American literature, and especially those liberal minds which can contemplate European progress and affairs from an enlightened American stand-point.

"Bible Revision" is an excellent common-sense paper on a topic admitted by all Christians to be important, and which is attracting much attention in the States. The able reviewer is a great admirer of Dean Trench, and gathers from his experience in America, and his digest of European opinion, that some day the English Bible—not superseded, not disparaged, but arrayed in still higher beauty than it now boasts—will be handed down to a grateful and revering posterity.

It is delightful to observe the continued affectionate regard with which the best spirits of the new

world regard the antiquities of the old. Thompson's history of our Lincolnshire port, from some of whose worthies are descended men honoured in the American city, is reviewed in the pages before us *con amore*. Long papers are devoted to "Edmund Burke," "Abelard," and "De Quincey." "Contemporary French Literature" is viewed as mirroring a lamentably corrupt state of society. A *variorum* edition of Shakespeare, published by Little, of Boston, U.S., and edited by Richard Grant White, is also noticed, and would appear to be a valuable and laborious work of great interest even on this side the Atlantic. Mr. White has taken as his basis the folio of 1623; and while no superstitious reverence has chained him to its text, he has noted every deviation and chronicled every other proposed one, including the 117 admitted emendations of Collier's amended folio and the rest of the suggested ones. Common sense, says the reviewer, is the characteristic of this edition; and we confess we are anxious to see a copy of it.

Stanford's New Map of the Parliamentary Divisions and Boroughs of England and Wales. Sheet, colored.

E. Stanford.

THIS map has been prepared with great care, to convey at one view the chief facts relating to the question of parliamentary representation. The actual boundaries of the parliamentary boroughs are now delineated for the first time on a general map, and the extent to which the rural population contributes to the so-called borough constituencies is indicated by this map at a glance. The colors denote the number of members returned by each constituency, as well as its topographical limits. Those returning one member—whether counties, parliamentary divisions, or boroughs—are colored green; those returning two members, are colored pink; while those with three members, are yellow. In the table, the counties are arranged alphabetically. The towns are inserted under the counties which contain them, including all that are represented, and also those with above 8,000 inhabitants which are unrepresented. After the name of each constituency follows the amount which it contributes in direct taxes, and the numbers of its total population, of its inhabited houses, and of its parliamentary voters, concluding with the number of members which it returns to Parliament at present, and the number proposed by Lord John Russell and Sir James Graham, by Mr. Bright, and by the *Times* Correspondent. In the notes, attention is called to various remarkable facts, such as the total numbers of the town and county constituencies; the urban and rural populations; the adult males; the registered electors; the inhabited houses and the rated houses; as well as other data relating to the subject. As a whole, the map is a striking proof of the clearness and exactitude with which geographical delineation is capable of conveying facts of this nature, however complicated and various they may happen to be; and it cannot fail to serve as a work of reference in the forthcoming discussions.

The Year-Book of Facts in Science and Art. By John Timbs, F.S.A.

W. Kent and Co.

THIS "Year Book of Facts" for 1859, is quite equal to its predecessors, and will add to Mr. Timbs' reputation. Here is recorded, in fact, every thing that has taken place in the scientific world during the year, relative to the mechanical and useful arts, natural philosophy, electricity, chemistry, natural history, geology, mineralogy, and astronomy, including notices of meteorological phenomena, and an obituary. The notion of such a work, it must be confessed, is exceedingly happy, and its utility unquestionable. It is not, of course, our intention to offer an analysis of the contents of a compilation like this; the number of items it contains alone renders such an attempt impossible. But in renewing our acquaintance with these recorded facts of the past year the mind will instinctively seize on some few, and subject them to a reflective process. In this manner we could not help being struck by some remarks of Mr. Scott Russell, *apropos* of the paddle and the screw-propeller; that formed the subject of a paper by Mr. John Macgregor, M.A., who had in his researches abridged the specification of patents. Mr. S. Russell pointed attention to the very few, out of the great number patented, that had come into actual use; and inquired whether the audience were "not struck with the fact that nearly all the inventions they now heard of no more seemed monstrously ingenious, whilst the inventions actually in use were those which appeared to have got rid of all the ingenuity, and to have merely retained one or two plain, simple, common-sense elements in them?" The moral of this lesson we need not point out. The volume is embellished with a frontispiece—portrait of Sir Benjamin Collins Brodie, Bart., D.O.L., and now President of the Royal Society.

Ernest, the Pilgrim; a Dramatic Poem. By I. W. King.

Partridge and Co.

THIS poem, which is dedicated to Alessandro Gavazzi, has undoubtedly considerable merit. The

author's powers are descriptive, and he possesses a large fund of imagery. It is called a dramatic poem; nevertheless, a large portion of it is narrative, and we think it might with advantage have been otherwise designated. A lyrical energy is displayed in some of the sections, and the whole is intended to awaken thought. But its topics are too multifarious to permit a critical analysis.

The North British Review.

IF the old "Edinburgh" does not keep a bright look out its younger rival, the "North British," will bid fair to come in winner at the literary goal. The present number is an exceedingly good one. The subjects are judiciously chosen, properly varied, and extremely well handled. The Algerian literature of France brings the reader acquainted with the merits of three French writers, whose works ought to be better known here. But of the three, "A Summer in the Sahara," by Eugene Fromentin, is the work that will make the most lasting impression, on account of its matchless charm of style. Carlyle's "Frederic the Great" is somewhat too favourable towards the author and his much criticised work. "Figi and the Figians" is very good. "The Philosophy of Language" places under review Ernest Renan's and Max Müller's well-known works, "Sir Thomas More" and the "Reformation." "The Limits of Religious Thoughts Examined" will delight the lover of abstract theories and reasoning. De la Rive's "Electricity," "Scottish Home Missions," and "Reform," are all very good in their specialties.

Half Hours with the Microscope; being a popular Guide to the use of the Microscope as a Means of Amusement and Instruction. Illustrated from Nature by Tuffen West.

Robert Hardwicke.

THIS is a most useful compendium of knowledge, obtained by means of the microscope. Among the preliminary rules given for the examination of the engravings is one of great significance, as showing what practical truths lie necessarily at the head of all science. "All objects, of course, vary in apparent size, according to the powers with which they are examined." It is the same with the natural senses as with these artificial aids; and we may thence learn that the actual appearance of this mysterious universe is a result of con-action proportionate to the perceptive and other mental powers of the human examinant. Were these greater than they are, even so would the universe itself increase in dignity to our apprehensions. This is one of the lessons taught by the microscope.

1. Nothing to Eat; or, Dinners at Bangkok, and Dinners à la Russe.

L. Booth.

2. *Spray*. Macmillan and Co. THE first is a satirical epistle, supposed to be written by Lady Betty in town to Miss Letty in the country, describing the state banquet in Siam, and jesting on the newspaper controversies in relation to the proposition that our fashionables should dine à la Russe. The author assumes the *soubriquet* of Nectarine Sunnyside, and writes with facility.

"*Spray*" is the metaphorical title of a series of frothy verses, anonymously published, not inelegant, even sometimes classical, which may amuse the light-minded even by their frivolity.

Extracts from the Works of Jean Paul F. Richter. Selected and translated by Georgiana Lady Chatterton.

John Parker and Son.

THE picturesque beauty of Jean Paul Richter's sentences has been generally appreciated; nevertheless, the rendering of them into English has been seldom happy. Lady Chatterton has not only selected well, but has translated with an ease and fluency that will be perfectly surprising to those who regard the original passages as exceedingly difficult. Here they are, however, in the most intelligible and facile English we have ever read. Her ladyship has indeed accomplished a marvel.

Fine Arts.

THE BRITISH INSTITUTION.

(SECOND NOTICE.)

THE first picture in the south room, "A Bye Lane in Berkshire," by W. W. Gosling (371), is very pretty in subject and colour, and though at first sight it rather wants repose, it improves on acquaintance. "Water Dogs" (379), by F. W. Kohl, is one of the pluckiest works in the exhibition; it gives a foreshortened view of several dogs swimming after a fowl, and is vigorously drawn and painted. While on dogs, we ought before to have noticed the exceedingly well-expressed consciousness of Arnfield's "Culprits" (247), a party of Skyes in a pantry, of whom one, having demolished a china plate, is clearly anticipating wrath to come. Mr. Joseph Clark's "Cottage Door" (398) represents a countryman in corduroys, tickling with his pipe stem an infant, whom a female of uncertain age holds up to him. It is a charming little subject; the drawing and expression of the figures are admirable, but the colour of the vine leaves may be objected to as untrue to

nature and unpleasant in contrast with the brick wall. Mr. W. H. Ward's "Fruit, &c." (411), must be noticed for the artist's usual high finish, though the colouring is somewhat dark; while on the other hand Mr. Knight's pretty little "Sketch on the Thames" (416) almost startles by its brightness. "Little Carry," a regular "Ma's Darling," in stiff petticoats and flounces, by Mr. Houston (415), will arrest many a sympathetic parent on the way to Mr. Hemsley's "Birdcatching" (427), which tells its story so well, that it deserves especial mention. It shows the interruption of a bird-trapping party of country lads at a critical moment, by another bearing in his arms a crying infant; their wrath at the offence, and the humility of the hapless culprit, are excellently depicted. The texture of the barked ash, and the aerial perspective of the sea view in Mr. H. Moore's "Oak Coppice, Coast of Devon" (428), are charming; and not less excellent in its minute finish is the old door in the "Welsh Shed" (431), by Mr. G. Cole, who has also a delicious little "English Landscape" (492). Mr. A. Gilbert's Scotch lake scene, "Evening—the Alarm," has an admirable effect. "The Blind Girl of Castel Cuille" (495), by Mr. J. Ritchie, is an elaborate piece of præ-Raphaelism, which it would be cowardice to pass over in deference to the popular prejudice against the school. This work, though the figure of the unfortunate maiden is at first repulsive, has much that is good about it in drawing, but the painter must be warned against paleness and crudity in colour. Mr. E. Hopley, who has painfully devoted time, taste, paint, and superior manual dexterity to "The Birth of a Pyramid—an attempt to realise an Egyptian Tradition" (453), has, it may be, nerved himself to brave all manner of derision and censure so he make himself known. Appreciating this not uncommon calculation, we regard his work less as an outburst of enthusiasm than as a challenge to criticism. But let the industrious painter beware of often repeating such costly advertisements. The careless world can afford to laugh, and the malignant to scoff, perhaps, longer than he would wish to paint unmarketable eccentricities. By 456, "An Old Welsh Mill," we see there is another Pettitt in the field, a younger master still of a lengthy line, who shows signs of treading presently upon the heels of the seniors. Mr. Mogford's "Guernsey Peasant at the Well" (474) is pleasing; and his "Watery Lane" (527), in Guernsey, is very natural, though a little too opaque in the shadows. Mr. Raven has a very clever sketch (482) evidently painted from nature, with a good bold sky; the subject worthy of a more finished picture. "The Hard Word" (483), by Mr. E. Hughes, is delicately painted, and the expression of the child reading is admirably true. The same applies to No. 491, "The Mother's Hope," a pretty domestic scene by Mr. J. W. Haynes. Mr. E. Gill's "Ruined Mill on the Usk, South Wales," is good and very Welsh indeed. Mr. C. J. Lewis's "Punch" (525), at first glaring, repays farther inspection, having much expression and good drawing. Sir George Hayter's thousand guinea "Christening of the Prince of Wales" (538), may be admired by those who like pictures of the kind. It is as good as such generally are, but the interesting subject having attained his majority, or, at least, his colonelcy, the excitement about his christening has so far subsided, that the Thousand Guinea quotation may be regarded as prohibitory. The little Præ-Raphaelite work, "Minstrel Love" (539), is worth a look, for its nice painting and general inoffensiveness. The "She" of the pair of woodland lovers is soft and inexpressive; and the artist, having been puzzled about her dress, has given her a modern riding habit of grey. The "He" tells no tale, sings no song, tunes no lute, and is vacant. The "Castle of Angeria—Lago Maggiore," by J. B. Pyne (545), is a fair specimen of this artist's style, and a very poetical and charming work, though the air all a-fire has frizzled up the vegetation into what has been facetiously called "a state of Iceland moss." "The Enemy" (554), by W. W. Morris, is very remarkable for vivid portrayal of action in the animals. In Mr. E. J. Cobbett's "Breton Interior" (555), his only work here, this master has somewhat diverged from his old ground. He is bold and brilliant in colour; and Mr. W. W. Deane, who has also turned to Brittany for subjects, has given charming specimens of his colouring in the placid "Breton Ménage" (559), and the "Scene at Morlaix" (84).

Our remarks on this excellent pair of painters—who, whether in, so called, Merry England, or in more shockingly simple Bretagne, delight to draw their inspirations from the lowly hearth—must close our notice of this exhibition.

Theatres and Entertainments.

COVENT GARDEN OPERA HOUSE.

This magnificent house was filled on Wednesday by the admirers of Balfe's "Rose of Castille," on the occasion of the revival of that work, which had for a time

been superseded by "Satanella." The general effect of the work seems to us to be immensely heightened by the change of theatre. We last heard it at Drury Lane, where the orchestra being placed below the usual level, it is possible that some effects are lost which the more open situation of the band in the Covent Garden House brings forcibly out. But (however to be accounted for) it is a treat to hear "the Rose" as it is here presented with Miss Louisa Pyne, our native *prima donna* as the Queen of Léon, and the finest band ever heard in this country, marshalled and headed by a native conductor. The vast stage, decorated with excellent new paintings, works of consummate art in their way, and covered with well-disciplined masses of dancers and choristers—all, or nearly all, in new and picturesque costumes—is a thing to be remembered. The perfection under this management, is something not to be expected under the regular Italian Opera direction, whose select subscribers could not be expected to endure the same opera for fifty nights; the comparison we cannot help drawing is therefore not odious. Mr. Harrison and Miss Pyne, the latter of whom we found was labouring under a cold, now achieve the customary successes of the opera with an off-hand facility, the result of continued practice. The marvellous *fortitudo* of the Scherzo, and the second act finale flow deliciously as ever from our gifted soprano; and the Muleteer's song and other of Mr. Harrison's ballads, he seems, if possible, to handle better for the change of opera-house. The trio of the malcontent lords is much enforced by the aid of Mr. Weiss's resonant and powerful voice. This artist is an addition of great value to the cast. The groundlings who seem utterly indifferent to the outrage upon taste involved in making a pantalone out of a Spanish Hidalgo, continue to enjoy the *facetiæ* upon which Mr. Honey—whose voice and acting are worth higher aims—is building a biscuit reputation. It is, however, no fault of his, poor man! He takes the part, 'tis likely enough, as he found it set down by the librettist; and funny enough he is, in a way; but we should like to make the latter sacrilegious wight pay damages to the shade of Cervantes. Never to have been to Spain is not unpardonable, but never to have read "Don Quixote," or to have read him and then written the part of *Don Florio*, is an abomination. Why, the Governor of Barataria was a gentleman, a scholar, and a philosopher to this *Florio*!

The Opera of "Rip van Winkle," by an American composer named Bristow, who studied, we believe, under Mr. Macfarren, is very shortly to be produced here. It is rich in effects, and particularly strong in choruses. The management have been so well assured that liberality begets liberality, that no expense will be spared to ensure a perfect *ensemble*.

LYCUM THEATRE.

On the occasion of Madame Celeste's benefit on Wednesday last, Mr. John Oxenford, whose "Porter's Knot," as borne by Mr. Robson, is still drawing smiles and tears at the Olympic, has again made a hit in adapting from the French play *Les Amours Maudits*, an English one in three acts called *The Last Hope*. The first scene is a fête in the gardens of one *Blangini* (Mr. Barrett), a benevolent doctor, the good genius of the piece. Among the visitors are *Madame Antoine* (Mrs. Wallis), her daughter *Marie* (Madame Celeste), *Alfred Warnford* (Mr. G. Murray), and *Michali*, an adventurer of awfully bad character (Mr. Fitzjames). These two gentlemen are in love with *Marie*, who prefers *Alfred*. To mar the happiness he cannot share, therefore, *Michali* makes known that the lady's brother *Pierre*, (Mr. Emery), is a convicted forger. A duel is the result; *Alfred* is wounded; *Madame Antoine* dies of shame and grief; and the act-drop falls. Seven years are supposed to have elapsed when, on its rising, we find that *Alfred* has married *Marie*, and incurred the wrath of his father, *Sir William Warnford* (Mr. J. Neville). This wicked old man finds just the tools to help him to coerce his disobedient child in *Michali* and the forger *Pierre*. He engages them to tear *Alfred* from his wife, in hopes that he may thus be worked upon to agree to a legal separation. The plot succeeds. *Michali* carries off the hero; *Marie* and her child remain in the hands of *Pierre*. These worthies, however, cannot agree upon the disposal of their prey; and poor *Marie*, with womanly tact, employs her little one successfully to aid her in softening the heart of the villain brother. In the situation thus opened to them the great talent of the actor and actress had full scope, and were most telling; nor can we forget the intelligence of the little girl, which contributed to the effect of the tableau. The end of it is that mother and child so far humanize *Pierre* that he comes to blows with his comrade *Michali*, and kills him. *Marie* at this juncture nearly brings about a tragic-ending *finale* by tasting a poisonous narcotic which had been prepared for her brother. She contrives, however, to wrestle with her agony and to seek her husband in his father's presence. When the audience have seen such a wondrous change operated in the desperate forger *Pierre*, they are of course not surprised that *Sir William* should at last relent. He does so, well and wisely, and the piece ends happily for all. Numerous splendid openings occur in its course for the display of Madame Celeste's peculiar talents, and she availed herself of all of them so as powerfully to agitate a numerous audience. She was very warmly received, as was her able right-hand in the piece—Mr. Emery. The delicate shading by this actor of *Pierre's* transition from villainy to affection was very nicely managed, and deserved the plaudits of the assembly.

WILLIS'S ROOMS.—MR. S. C. HALL'S LECTURES ON THE AUTHORS OF THE AGE.

We were compelled by press of matter to omit all

notice in our last number of Mr. S. C. Hall's soirées at Willis's rooms. The veteran author and journalist may indeed feel flattered at the numerous and elegant assemblies—comprising many well known in the literary and fine-art circles—whom the magic of his name in the first instance gathered about him, and at the no less imposing audiences whom common good-report of his entertainment has sent on subsequent occasions to hear his reminiscences of people he has chanced to meet upon the great world's stage. In his time Mr. Hall has been on terms of acquaintance, and in some cases of intimacy, with many a fine spirit; and thus historical pictures, with the dim outlines of which the public are familiar, are occasionally brought out sharp and clear by the bright rays his memory enables him to project upon them. He gossips with his hearers in the funnest, pleasantest of ways about the admirable Sydney Smith, the renowned James and Horace Smith, Lord Byron, Moore, Southey, Lamb, Rogers, Crabbe, Hook, Campbell, Maginn, Miss Edgeworth, and L. E. L. Too old a member of our craft not to have observed that biography too often runs to mischievous panegyric, Mr. Hall does not fall into the blunder of canonizing all whose acquaintance he has enjoyed; he does not ignore, though it were needless to say he does not unnecessarily deepen, the shadows of their humanity—and this is a part of his secret. A night with a determinately eulogistical lecturer of this kind would be a desperately cloying affair to any given section of that "Vanity Fair" which likes nothing better, when all is said and done, than passing an occasional evening *à déchirer ses amis*. But our lecturer skilfully avoids the temptation to indulge in indiscriminate hero-worship, and flavours his dainty *ollé* with just enough of delicate suggestive censure to satisfy, and pique withal, the intellectual palate of his hearers.

We understand it to be Mr. Hall's intention to compress into one lecture, with a view to a country tour, the substance of the two delivered at Willis's Rooms, and to break provincial ground at Oxford.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.

There is something very pleasant—all shortcomings notwithstanding—in an evening at this *Opera Comique de Londres*. However defective (within reason) the executants, there is something about Auber's effervescent compositions that seems particularly suited to French voices and French fingers. *Ceteris paribus*, we believe a French opera company would be helped by mere nationality to excel by a trifle any rival one in interpreting the *Domino Noir*, *Massaniello*, or the *Diamans de la Couronne*. We have now once or twice heard the latter opera, under M. Remusat's direction, at the St. James's, and, though no one could be blind to the defects, we found the balance of comfort on the right side. The band is excellent, and gives the overture as lightly and smoothly as may be expected of a French orchestra playing a stock French overture. The bandit queen, *Catarina*, is most pleasingly acted by the *prima donna*, Madame Fauré, whose thin but pretty voice has now become acclimatized, and is in its best form. The music of this part is of a difficult character, but Madame Fauré is perfectly mistress of it. In the air known here as "The Queen of Night," the expressive *couplet d'adieu*, in the duo with *Diana*, and in the finale to the opera, she was loudly applauded. M. Fougères, the tenor, is conscientious; he wanders not from his allotted part—he has not force to carry him far if he did. But marvellous is the good-natured self-possession of this gentleman, who, while, as he must be, conscious that he is exciting alternately smiles and compassion, sings and acts with the imperturbable sangfroid of a Rubini sure of his ovation in good time. In the breakfast scene of Act I., (where Madame Fauré, by the way, experiences and demonstrates the difficulty of sitting gracefully in a crinolined dress barely knee deep, he is most correct, and only misses being very pleasing through the failure of his *falsetto*. We understand that engagements are pending with singers of talent, and that the *entrepreneurs* intend to carry their season to Easter.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

Two Journeys to Japan, 1856-7. By Kinahan Cornwallis. In 2 vols. Thomas Cautley Newby.
Classic Records Reviewed and Deciphered. Thomas De Quincey. James Hogg and Sons.
Essays—Biographical, Critical, and Miscellaneous. By Peter Bayne, A.M. James Hogg and Sons.
Localised Movement; or Muscular Exercises. By Henry Heather Biggs. John Churchill.
A Plea for the Constitution. By John Austin, Esq. John Murray.
The Earth we Inhabit. By Captain A. W. Drayson, R.A. A. W. Bennett.
La Plata, the Argentine Confederation, and Paraguay. By Thomas J. Pogo, U.S.N. Triibner and Co.
Poems. By Frederick W. Wyon. Smith, Elder, and Co.
Logic in Theology, and other Essays. By Isaac Taylor. Bell and Dalby.
New Zealand and its Colonisation. By William Swainson. Smith, Elder, and Co.
Holy Places, and other Poems. By Rebecca Hey. Hatchard and Co.
Macintosh's System of "National Defence; or, New Strategies in Warfare," &c. W. Clowes and Sons.
Facts, Fallures, and Frauds. By D. Morler Evans. Groombridge and Sons.
My Journal; with an Account of General Havelock's March from Allahabad to Lucknow. By A Volunteer. Calcutta; C. B. Lewis.
State Prosecutions of the Press at the Instigation of a Foreign Government. By Henry J. Slack, Barrister-at-Law.
Hand Book of the Court and Peerage, and the House of Commons, 1859. P. S. King.

Memoirs of the Court of George IV., 1820—1830. By the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos. In 2 vols. Hurst and Blackett.

The Flirting Page, a Legend of Normandy; and other Poems. By Charles Deanfield, James Blackwood.

Boswell's Life of Johnson. By the Right Hon. John Wilson Croker, LL.D., F.R.S. John Murray.

Lord Byron's Poetical Works. Parts 1 and 2. A New and Complete Edition. John Murray.

The Armies of the Great Powers. By Lascelles Waxall, William H. Allen and Co.

Letters and Tracts on Political Economy. By the late Rev. Richard Jones. London: John Murray.

Postscript.

LEADER OFFICE, Friday Evening, February 18th.
HOUSE OF LORDS.

The only business of interest had relation to Lord DERBY's reply to a question put by Lord AELIE that no bill as yet had been prepared by Government for the improvement of the system of education in Scotland, but communications were being had with various Scotch members, with the view of preparing a bill that would be acceptable to the different religious sects.

Some routine business was transacted, and their lordships adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Mr. WHITESIDE took the oaths and seat for the University of Dublin, in place of Mr. J. A. Hamilton.

Mr. BAXTER gave notice that he should submit a resolution in connexion with Parliamentary Reform on Monday next.

THE PRINCIPALITIES.

The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER suggested that the discussion on the double election should be deferred until the Paris Conferences had come to a resolution on the subject.

Mr. STAPLETON, who had given notice of a motion on the subject, withdrew his motion.

THE NEW PUBLIC OFFICES.

Sir B. HALL renewed the discussion on the new offices, and this occupied some time, but came to nothing.

THE WEEDON INQUIRY.

Mr. TURNER explained the reason why the report on the Weedon investigation had not yet been presented. The reason was, the accounts were in such a complicated and unsatisfactory condition that it would be impossible to render in an intelligible report for two or three months at least.

THE CHARLES AND GEORGES.

Mr. KINGSLAKE wished to know why the papers relative to the Charles and Georges French slaver had not been laid before Parliament.

Mr. S. FITZGERALD said the papers would be produced at the earliest period. He hoped the papers would be in the hands of the House by Monday or Tuesday next. He would take this opportunity of contradicting an enormous impression that had got abroad respecting Lord Malmesbury's views in relation to the alterations in the Navigation Laws. Lord Malmesbury had neither said nor written anything to warrant the inference that he would consent to be a party to the re-enactment of the Navigation Laws (Cheers.)

CHURCH RATES.

It was stated by Mr. WALPOLE that on Monday night the Church Rate question would be brought on.

INDIAN LOAN.

The discussion on the Indian Loan was resumed. Lord STANLEY entered into an explanation of certain discrepancies between his statement the other night and some official returns, and afterwards moved a formal resolution for power to raise money in England for the service of India.

Sir C. WOOD entered into a long statement to show that the revenues of India were in a decreasing and not a progressive state. He should not oppose the measure, because it did not throw any special responsibility on this country.

Sir E. PERRY he concurred with Sir Charles Wood, with reference to the finances of India, and the care that ought to be exercised in not bringing out the loan under an Imperial guarantee. Unless very strict economy was practised in India it might perhaps be advisable that the connexion between this empire and our Indian territories were severed.

After a good deal more discussion the resolution was carried. The other orders of the day were then gone through.

FRANCE.

The warning given to the *Presse* for its article on Austria is said to have been owing to the complaints of the Papal nuncio in Paris on account of the strong language used against the Pope and the Pontifical Government. At the same time full liberty is to be given to the *Charivari* for anti-Austrian caricatures, which will probably be responded to at Vienna.

AMERICA.

The Etna arrived at Southampton this day (Friday). She brings New York news to the 6th instant. The democratic caucus on the tariff question is looked forward to with great interest. It is believed a resolution against changing the tariff will be adopted, with the important understanding that the decision is not to be binding on any member. The republican votes, however, in each house could carry a modification of the tariff.

From Mexico we learn that both political parties in that country are sorely pressed for money to prosecute the war, and the Juarez Government is much embarrassed by the English and French admirals demanding prompt payment of the interest due on the conventional bonds.

THE NEW MASTER IN LUNACY.—Mr. Samuel Warren, M.P., Recorder of Hull, and the author of "The Diary of a Late Physician," has accepted the office of Master in Lunacy, just vacated by Mr. Higgins. The representation of Midhurst thus becomes vacant.

THE REV. A. POOLE.—This (Friday) morning the Archbishop of Canterbury proceeded to hear the appeal of the Rev. Alfred Poole, curate of St. Barnabas, against the revocation of his license by the Bishop of London, an account of his alleged habitual hearing of confession. His Grace was assisted by Dr. Lushington, who acted as assessor. Mr. J. B. Lee, solicitor to the Bishop of London, was present on his lordship's behalf. Dr. Phillimore appeared for Mr. Poole, and had not concluded his opening address this afternoon. Mr. Bovill, Q.C., and Mr. Coleridge, were to follow on the same side. Mr. Montague Smith, Q.C., and Mr. Raymond, appear for the Bishop of London.

THEATRE ROYAL DRURY LANE.—

Lessee, Mr. E. T. SMITH.

Reduced Prices as usual.—Box-office open from ten till six. Continued triumphant success of the great Pantomime of the season, with Beverley's unapproached and superlatively brilliant aquatic Scenery, which is nightly attracting delighted and overflowing audiences.

Mr. and Mrs. Barney Williams having relinquished an engagement, in order to appear at this theatre (by special desire) to-morrow (Monday), the lessee has great pleasure in announcing their re-engagement for the five following nights, when the admirers of these eminent American comedians will have another opportunity of witnessing their performances, previously to their final departure.

Monday, and during the week, the comic drama of **IN AND OUT OF PLACE.**

After which

BARNEY THE BARON.

To conclude, every evening, with, on a scale of unusual magnitude and magnificence, the new grand pictorial pantomime, entitled

ROBIN HOOD:

or Harlequin Friar Tuck and the Merry Men of Sherwood Forest.

Harlequins, Signori Milano and St. Mayne; Pantaloon, G. Tanner and Delevanti; Clowns, Harry Boleno and Delevanti; Columbine, Madame Boleno and Miss F. Brown; Harlequina, Miss Julia Lamb; Junvenile Harlequin, Clown, and Pantaloon, Master S. Laurie and Master Delevanti; Columbine, Miss F. Laurie; Principal Danseuses, Madlle. Terro and Maghny.—Stage-manager, Mr. Robert Roxby.

CRYSTAL PALACE.

Arrangements for Week ending Saturday, February 20th. Monday, open at 9; Tuesday to Friday, open at 10.

Admission, 1s.; Children under 12, 6d. Saturday, open at 10. **TWELFTH WINTER CONCERT** at 2:30.

Admission, 2s. 6d.; Children, 1s. Sunday, open at 1:30, to Shareholders, gratuitously by tickets.

ILLUSTRATED LECTURES and **BAND PERFORMANCES** daily.

The Crystal Palace Art-Union Works on view in the Sheffield Court. Subscription, One Guinea.

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ROYAL ENGLISH OPERA,

COVENT GARDEN.

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

Last four weeks of the Royal English Opera Season, and of **SATANELLA, the ROSE of CASTILLE,** and the successful **PANTOMIME.**

Total abolition of all Boxkeepers' fees and booking charges.

Monday, the 21st, Wednesday, the 23rd, and Saturday, the 26th, the **ROSE of CASTILLE.**

Tuesday, the 22nd, Thursday, 24th, and Friday, 25th, **SATANELLA.** Messrs. Weiss and W. Harrison, and Miss Louisa Pyne. Conductor, Alfred Mellon. To conclude with the popular Pantomime, **LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD.**

Doors open at Half-past Six. Commence at Seven. Private Boxes, 1l. 1s. to 3l. 3s.; Stalls, 7s.; Dress Circle, 5s.; Amphitheatre Stalls, 3s. and 2s.; Pit, 2s. 6d.; Amphitheatre, 1s.

THEATRE ROYAL, HAYMARKET.

(Under the Management of Mr. Buckstone.)
AN UNEQUAL MATCH and the **PANTOMIME** can only be performed for a few nights more.
On Monday, February 21st, and during the Week, to commence, precisely at Seven, with the Comedy of **AN UNEQUAL MATCH**, in which Miss Amy Sedgwick will sustain her character of Hester.
After which, the greatly successful Pantomime of **EX-DINE; OR, HARLEQUIN AND THE SPIRIT OF THE WATER.** The magnificent scenery by Mr. Frederick Fenton.
Box-office open daily from 10 till 5.
Stage Manager, Mr. Chippendale.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S THEATRE.

(Farewell Season of Mr. Charles Kean as Manager).
Monday, **HAMLET.**
Tuesday, **A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM**
Wednesday, **LOUIS XI.**
Thursday, **MACBETH.**
Friday, **A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM.**
Saturday, the **CORSICAN BROTHERS**; and the **PANTOMIME** every evening.

ROYAL OLYMPIC THEATRE.

(Lessees—Messrs. F. Robson and W. S. Emden.)
Monday, and during the week, will be performed the new Drama, entitled **THE PORTER'S KNOT.** Characters by Messrs. F. Robson, G. Cooke, W. Gordon, H. Wigan, G. Vining, H. Cooper, J. H. White, and Franks; Mesdames Leigh Murray and Hughes.
To conclude with the New Extravaganza, founded on Lord Byron's poem of **MAZEPPA.** Characters by Messrs. F. Robson, G. Cooke, H. Wigan, F. Charles, H. Cooper, and L. Ball; Mesdames Wyndham, Hughes, Marston, Cottrell, Bromley, and W. S. Emden.
Commence at Half-past Seven.

ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.

(Manager, Mr. Edmund Falconer.)
Immense success of the New Drama by John Oxenford, Esq. **THE LAST HOPE.** Re-engagement, for one week only, of **MADAME CELESTE.**
On Monday, February 21st, and during the Week, **THE LAST HOPE.** Madame Celeste, Messrs. Emery, J. Rogers, Barrett, G. Murray, FitzJames, J. Neville, &c. After which a **GRAND BALLET.** Miss Rosina Wright, Miss Wharton, and Corps de Ballet. To conclude with the Drama of the **CHILD OF THE WRECK.** Madame Celeste, Mrs. Weston; Messrs. Emery, C. Young, Barrett, &c.
Prices—Private Boxes 2l. 2s., 1l. 11s. 6d., 1l. 1s.; Stalls, 5s.; Dress Circle, 4s.; Upper Circle, 3s.; Pit, 2s.; Gallery, 1s. Doors to open at half-past 6; to commence at 7.
Box-office open daily from 11 till 5.
Mr. and Mrs. **BARNEY WILLIAMS** will appear on Monday next, February 22nd, when will be produced a New and Original Drama, entitled **LEPRACHAUN, the HOUR AT SEVILLE,** and other entertainments.

ROYAL GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION,

14, Regent-street.
Every evening at 8; Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday at 3.
BREWER'S Magnificent Moving **PANORAMA** of the **MAMMOTH CAVE of KENTUCKY,** the Falls of Niagara, and other Noted American Scenery.
Stalls, 3s.; unreserved seats, 2s. and 1s. Children, half-price to stalls and centre seats.
Box-office open, where reserved seats may be secured, from 12 till 4 daily.

THEATRE ROYAL SADLER'S WELLS

(Under the Management of Mr. Phelps.)
Monday and Tuesday, **HAMLET.** The last two nights it can be performed. Hamlet, Mr. Phelps; Claudius, Mr. Haywell; Ghost, Mr. H. Marston; Laertes, Mr. F. Robinson; Polonius, Mr. J. W. Ray; Horatio, Mr. T. C. Harris; Gravedigger, Mr. J. Chester; Gertrude, Miss Atkinson; and **LITTLE TODDLERKINS.**
Wednesday, **RICHELIEU.** Richelieu, Mr. PHELPS; Julia, Mrs. Charles Young; and **MY WIFE'S MOTHER.**
Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, 18th time these twelve years, **ROMEO and JULIET.** Romeo, Mr. F. Robinson; Mercutio, Mr. Phelps; Juliet, Mrs. Charles Young; Nurse, Mrs. H. Marston; and the **COUNTRY SQUIRE.**
Box Office open from Eleven till Three, under the direction of Mr. Austin.

MR AND MRS. HOWARD PAUL.

Every evening (Saturday excepted) at the **ST. JAMES'S HALL** (Entrance in Piccadilly), in their Comic and Musical Drawing-room "Patchwork," unquestionably the most varied and brilliant entertainment in London. Twelve Songs and Impersonations. Mrs. Howard Paul continues her marvellous reproduction of Mr. Sims Reeves in "Who shall be Fairest" and "Come into the garden Maud" which the press entitle "a living photograph." Morning Representations on Tuesdays and Saturdays at 3. Stalls, 3s.; Area, 3s.; Gallery, 1s. * * * The entertainment positively closes in London on March 20 (Saturday) which will be the last day of performance. Tickets at the Hall (Piccadilly entrance), and at Mitchell's Royal Library, 33, Old Bond-street.

DR. KAHN'S ANATOMICAL MUSEUM.

3, Titchborne-street, opposite the Haymarket, **OPEN DAILY** (for Gentlemen only). **LECTURES** 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.

OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE EIGHT-OAR RACE.—

This grand trial of skill will take place either on Friday, April 15th, or the following Saturday. The Oxonians, since their defeat last year, have organised a system of trial races, by which means they hope to keep their men in good training and have plenty of oars to fall back upon in case of any of the crew "shutting up." The Oxford crew, as at present existing, comprises four only out of last year's boat, viz., Messrs. Arkoll, Risley, C. G. Lane, and E. Lane. They have since last season received a great acquisition in the person of the Hon. Valentine Lawless, who has entered at Balliol College, and who, it will be remembered, was captain of the Eton crew.

WE THIS DAY PRESENT TO OUR READERS
AN ANALYSIS

OF THE POSITION OF THE
JOINT-STOCK BANKS OF LONDON

ON 30TH JUNE AND 31ST DEC. 1858,

Together with a Comparison of their Progress and
respective Amounts of Profits, Increase of
Capital, &c.,

Compiled and arranged expressly for this Paper
from the best authorities.

WITH

ORIGINAL REMARKS.

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

QUEUE DE VACHE is thanked, but declined, as we do not insert original verses.

OFFICE,

**NO. 18, CATHERINE-STREET,
STRAND, W.C.,**

The commodious premises formerly occupied by the
MORNING HERALD.

The Leader.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1859.

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.

GOVERNMENT REFORM BILL.

THE day has at length been definitively fixed for the introduction of the Ministerial measure of Reform. It is exactly one day earlier than that which was chosen by Lord John Russell in 1831 for the announcement of a similar measure. It cannot, therefore, be said with any fairness that there has been unprecedented or unnecessary delay. Lord Derby and his friends have made up their minds to stake their existence, as a Government, upon the question; and it only remains now for the country to decide whether they shall prove themselves equal to the occasion.

If we believed that Government projects of law were always formed on strict logical bases, and that, once formed, they never subsequently underwent serious modifications between their first inception and legislative birth, we should not think of saying a word upon the subject, pending Mr. Disraeli's promised exposition; but the personal history of most of our modern statesmen whose experiences have been given to the world attests the fact that the strongest and wisest administrations have held themselves free up to the last moment to consider additional suggestions, and to reconsider matters on which they had already come to an agreement, where good cause could be shown. Unless we are much misinformed, a practice so natural, and we think so prudent, has not been set at nought by our present rulers. It is very generally believed in well-informed circles

that after their scheme for reconstructing the representation had been adopted by the Cabinet, it was deemed expedient to take what may be called political soundings, among the various sections of their own party, in order to ascertain as far as possible how far unanimity might be expected from them in the way of support. In the main, we have reason to believe that no insuperable difficulties were thus elicited; but, on the contrary, a very general concurrence of opinion was found to prevail as to the propriety of the changes likely to be brought forward. At the same time, it is impossible to deny that in certain quarters a tendency to object, if not to frustrate, has become apparent, and that at the present moment Ministers have to weigh in opposite scales the danger of alienating a score or two of hitherto attached friends, and the risk of provoking the rejection of their bill on the second reading by a majority of the House of Commons. The country, we believe, is willing to make a good deal of allowance for the inherent difficulties of their situation. For the sake of keeping their party together, it is obvious that they may bid a little less at first, in the way of concession, than they are really prepared to yield. They may deem a certain *coqueterie de moderation* permissible and prudent; and if they choose to give the Whigs or the Radicals a minor share of the credit they shrink from attempting to monopolise in the success of their bill, the public in general will be as much inclined to laugh as to frown. But the limits within which this sort of thing may safely be done are narrower than might be at first sight imagined; and Lord Derby and his colleagues will fall into a grave and, we fear, an irreparable error, if, for the sake of propitiating a few stiff-necked adherents, they waiver, or seem to waiver, too far from their own original convictions of what is right. We do not fear their giving way to such influences on the subject of the county franchise. The decision of Parliament has already been pronounced so unequivocally in favour of a large reduction of the occupation suffrage, and the consequent extension of the agricultural constituencies, that we do not apprehend any serious mistake being made about the matter. Without the ballot, we are only afraid that the new county electors would be too much subject to pressure from the lords, and squires, and parsons of their respective districts; and assuredly the landed interest has nothing to fear from the electoral hostility of the 10*l.* or 12*l.* householders in country towns. As the county constituencies will be vastly increased, it does not seem unreasonable that the 40*s.* freeholders, who now vote for the county, out of property situate in the parliamentary boroughs within its confines, should be given the alternative at least of voting for the borough where their qualification lies, instead of the county wherein it does not. There cannot possibly be a greater anomaly than the present system; and there could not be a more legitimate method of reinforcing with a sound and independent element, the constituencies of the towns. Nevertheless, we think it not improbable that a cry will be raised against the change we have indicated, not on account of its legal or constitutional tendencies, but because some foolish Whigs imagine that they would lose a certain amount of available party strength in counties they have hitherto looked upon as their own. They cannot, indeed, avow this as a reason for objecting, and it will be difficult to invent one of a broader or more legitimate kind that will stand the test of discussion. Where political power is, however, in question, men seldom fail to devise plausible pretences for what they seek to accomplish. We do trust that the earnest section of Liberals will not give any countenance to factious proceedings in the conduct of the coming controversy.

Once more, however, we must repeat our sincere persuasion that the reception which the bill will meet with generally, and its ultimate fate—whether that fate is to be decided in the lobby or on the hustings—will mainly depend upon the extension of the suffrage to the inhabitants of towns. It is, after all, by the cordiality with which they accept and adopt the measure that its success can alone be insured. Neither cajolery nor coercion can avail aught in determining their verdict. If Mr. Disraeli is authorised to announce a substantial increase of the voting privileges the industry and intellect of the towns are now permitted to exercise, he need care little for the desertion, on the

second reading, of a perverse or fanatical few whose support, he must well know, can be purchased by nothing short of a thoroughly bad bill.

LORD JOHN RUSSELL ON BANKRUPTCY.

We like Lord John Russell's measure, to amend and consolidate the Bankrupt Laws, better than the measure of the Lord Chancellor. It gives us only one enactment for the old twenty and a new "patch." It supplies, too, a method of regulating compromises, and a method of enabling creditors to divide a bankrupt's estate without incurring the expense of going through the Bankruptcy Court; it gives a jurisdiction in bankruptcy to the county courts, and, carrying out more effectually than the rival measure the views of the commercial delegates, is to be preferred. Like the Lord Chancellor's measure, it abolishes the distinction between bankruptcy and insolvency, and establishes only one court for both. It throws the expense of administering justice in this case, as in others, on the public rather than on the suitors. One of the greatest improvements proposed by Lord John Russell is that of doing away with the necessity of having recourse to an official assignee, which is entirely due to Lord Brougham's enactment. Before it was passed, the creditors appointed their own assignee, and Lord John will enable them again to do this. With what we regard as insincerity, however, the latter noble lord, while he entirely upsets his noble friend's enactment, found it necessary to compliment him for his spirited exertions to improve the law. It would be more creditable to both did the praise come from a person who had not been at the time a colleague, and therefore an accomplice, of Lord Brougham in passing the injurious law which Lord John at once praises and proposes to abolish. There is a want, perhaps, in the bill of some coercive measure to make the bankrupt give up all his property; at least, that is complained of, but we do not see how any measure more coercive could be adopted than the present practice of making it felony for a bankrupt to conceal or surreptitiously subtract his property from the control of his creditors. Lord John does not, like Lord Chelmsford, make it compulsory on the court to award a certificate after a certain period, which we think should be the necessary consequence of a bankrupt passing his examinations. He proposes to do away with different classes of certificates, and enables the court to grant or withhold a certificate. He proposes, which we think quite proper, to provide a means for prosecuting any bankrupt accused of fraud, and punishing him as any other knave should be punished. For want of a public prosecutor these means may not be immediately ready; but it is a right principle that punishment should only be inflicted by the award of jury. A conviction before a jury is to be sufficient to prevent a person entering into trade and again cheating those who confide in them. All these seem to be good propositions, and we trust they will be skilfully carried out by the bill introduced by the noble lord, with the co-operation of the delegates from the Chambers of Commerce.

MR. GLADSTONE'S MISSION.

NOTWITHSTANDING the malevolent pains taken to disparage Mr. Gladstone's motives in going to Ionia, and to defame him during his sojourn there, not a single individual could be found among the numerous constituency of Oxford to raise a question as to the propriety of his conduct during the last three months; and he has, for the sixth or seventh time, been re-elected member for the first and greatest of our Universities. It is to be hoped that after this unanimous and unhesitating verdict we shall hear no more of the charges of personal treachery and public treason so wantonly preferred against the distinguished Envoy. It is infinitely to Mr. Gladstone's credit that he has neither shrunk from accepting, *ad interim*, the post vacated by Sir John Young, when it became apparent that his doing so might enable him, with better effect, to promulgate the reforms contemplated by the Home Government; nor suffered himself to be bullied by sneers or taunts at home into departing from that calm and dignified tone of conciliatory firmness which alone is worthy the representative of a great empire when expostulating with an angry but helpless people.

Having read to the Ionian Assembly the answer of the Queen to their petition for annexation to Greece, in which her Majesty peremptorily refused

to entertain the question in any form or under any contingency, the temporary Lord High Commissioner proceeded to expound, with his usual precision and clearness, the constitutional changes by which it is hoped, some of the causes of discontent in the islands may be removed. Without entering into all the minute details of these alterations, we may say that they present a copy of our own approved system of parliamentary government, adapted, as far as circumstances will permit, to the peculiar condition of the Septinsular State. The right of taxation is frankly recognised in the popular branch of the legislature, subject only to the two checks upon abuse which have long prevailed amongst ourselves, namely, that every vote in the way of expenditure should originate with some responsible minister of the Crown, and that the Upper Chamber should have the power of interposing its veto when any money bill came before it, but not of discussing its provisions or modifying them. The first of these reservations has in every free government been sooner or later adopted, with a view to prevent inconsiderate votes of public money in accordance with the impulse of the hour; and the preservation to the more aristocratic branch of the legislature, of the privilege to say aye or no when any new outlay is proposed, acts in its way likewise as a wholesome check upon additional expenditure, which is sometimes lavish and wasteful, though momentarily popular. The mode of constituting the Senate, or Upper House, is not fully explained to us in Mr. Gladstone's address. All we are told is, that in default of any hereditary class claiming by right of birth to constitute a chamber of nobles, one is to be composed of a majority elected at fixed intervals, by the wealthier and more highly-educated section of the community, and of a minority named by the Crown. The proportion which the latter element is to bear to the former is not precisely stated; and obviously upon its fair adjustment much would depend. The nominative element in our own House of Lords is really greater than people sometimes remember. The bishops and law lords, together with the eminent soldiers and sailors, from time to time raised to the peerage, constitute fully one in ten of the total number privileged to vote in what is called the hereditary branch of the legislature; and it is not too much to say that practically they constitute a fifth of the deliberative and voting power of the House of Lords. We see, therefore, nothing in the principle of direct nomination by the Crown to seats in the Senate inconsistent with our own constitutional usages: the length to which the exercise of such a prerogative ought to be carried is, of course, a different matter. The viceroy, instead of direct and personal communication with his little Greek Parliament, is to be represented by the heads of departments having seats in either chamber, and who are to form the cabinet responsible for his administrative as well as legislative acts. These ministers are to be removable on the joint address of the two houses; and, like all other officers of the government, are to be liable to impeachment. The Lord High Commissioner himself is to be amenable to complaint duly preferred by the Ionian legislature against him, and triable by the Queen in council, or otherwise as may be determined; and the charges of an agent in England sent to conduct such accusation are to be legally payable as an item of civil contingency. We own we think this last a somewhat questionable provision: it ought, at all events, to be very rigidly guarded, lest it should become a source of exaction and imposture.

We do not venture to anticipate an immediate acceptance, by the discontented Greeks, of these propositions. They will, in all likelihood, reiterate their favourite demand, and may not easily be convinced of its futility. Explanations will, no doubt, be sought from the gifted member for Oxford, on his reappearance in the House of Commons; but we do not believe that any politician of mark will venture to call in question the acts or the motives of his mission when he is on the spot and able to defend them.

DICKSON *versus* WILTON.

It is very fortunate for the military reputation of this country—already sufficiently undervalued abroad—that our neighbours across the Channel do not possess a single available satirical writer who knows anything about English affairs. M. John Lemoine might have taken us in hand, but

he is fast bound to do rigid and cautious *doctrinaires* of the *Journal des Débats*, who are merciful towards England, through delicacy for Clermont. M. Alphonse Karr might have directed some stinging *guesses* to our address; but he is—*O factum bene!*—busy planting his cabbages at Nice, and forcing asparagus for the Paris market. The continental press, indeed, teems with abuse of the English army; but its publicists deal through ignorance in generalities and in platitudes. That we have an army of mercenaries who are flogged to the charge like hounds to the chase; that we were too stupid to know when we were beaten at Waterloo; that the Duke of Wellington murdered Marshal Ney; that the defeat of St. Cast eclipsed the victory of Blenheim; that in default of the “rosbif” and the “monstrous grogs,” without which the British soldier cannot fight, we were reduced to destitution, to pusillanimity, and almost to cannibalism in the Crimea. These are topics, on which foreign journalists are never tired of dilating, but which have scarcely more novelty now to recommend them than the narrative of the capture of the *Guerriere* by the Constitution, the woful history of our vandalism in burning the archives at Washington, and the recapitulation of our errors at the siege of New Orleans. Fortunately, we repeat, our military *chronique scandaleuse* is a sealed book to the alien gazetteer. It is probable that the *Droit* or the *Gazette des Tribunaux* will give a summary of the egregious trial of Dickson *versus* the Earl of Wilton; and will point to its concurrent exposures as only another proof of the barbarism of a people who sell their wives in Smithfield, stupify themselves with “porter beer” during the Parliamentary debates, and occupy their leisure moments in torturing the enslaved and oppressed Hindoo, and wringing the life-blood from the docile and kind-hearted Irish peasant. But if France could only send over here a “chiel” capable of “taking notes among us,” and if there existed a public across the water who could understand when he was moved to “print it,” how overwhelming might be the ridicule brought upon our military system by a writer who combined humour with observation, and malevolence with both! There is the Earl of Wilton, doubtless a benevolent and urbane, certainly a gay and courtly nobleman, but a carpet knight, a warrior who has never smelt powder save at a *battue* of snipes and partridges, and who is about as well qualified to have a regiment as is Mr. Thomas Sayers to edit this Journal, and who is appointed to the full Colonelcy of the Second Regiment of Tower Hamlets Militia. On the other hand, is Lieutenant-Colonel Dickson, an officer who has seen service in the Queen's army in almost every part of the world during a period of nearly thirty years, who is appointed to the virtual command of the regiment, who is responsible for its training, its discipline, its internal economy, its soldierly bearing and efficiency, and who yet is at the mercy of a cabal composed of two or three inferior officers of his regiment, who concoct a series of charges—half absurd and half false and malignant—against their commanding officer; the charges are brought under the cognisance of Lord Wilton, who, we hope, more through carelessness and ignorance than through the desire of satisfying a petty *vendetta* for having been sued on an unpaid crockery bill, forthwith writes a letter to Lord Combermere, imputing conduct very little short of peculation to Colonel Dickson, and requesting his immediate removal from his service. The noble and nonagenarian Field-Marshal—albeit, he confessedly is unable to “make head or tail” of the case—is only too ready to assist his noble friend in ruining and disgracing a gallant veteran of the Queen's army. General Peel, when appealed to, grants with much reluctance a Court of Inquiry, composed of military red-tapists, who sit with closed doors, dispense Lord Wilton from attendance for the purpose of being examined, and never send in any report at all. Meanwhile, a quiet notice appears in the *Gazette* that Lieutenant-Colonel Dickson is displaced from his command; and he is, to all intents and purposes, kicked out of the army, ostracised from an honorable career, without trial, and without condemnation. Fortunately, Colonel Dickson had yet two tribunals remaining to which to appeal—the Court of Queen's Bench and the columns of the press—and justice has been awarded to him in both. A jury has cast Lord Wilton in two hun-

dred and five pounds damages for the libels he wrote concerning Colonel Dickson to Lord Combermere, and the slander he spoke regarding him to the gentleman who acted as *amicus curie* in the matter, Mr. Thomas Duncombe; and in almost every journal possessing the slightest influence, and in journals of almost every shade of political opinion, a cry of indignation has been raised at the scandalous injustice received by Colonel Dickson, not only from Lord Wilton, but from the incapable martinets who seemed to have coalesced to thrust him from the Army List.

We will not inflict upon our readers anything like an analysis of the evidence offered in a case whose proceedings bade fair to be interminable, and of which every person concerned in it—excepting, of course, the plaintiff and defendant—from Lord Campbell to the crier of the court, must have been heartily tired. From the charges of malversation of the funds over which he had control, Colonel Dickson has been, virtually, most thoroughly acquitted, and it now only remains to be seen whether our military authorities are disposed to render a modicum of justice to the officer so unworthily traduced and so scandalously ill-treated, by re-instating in that regimental rank from which he should never have been ousted, save after a searching and impartial investigation. As for the Right Honorable the Earl of Wilton, we dare say that the verdict of the jury, the perusal of a two-fold bill of costs, and the obloquy he has brought upon himself by his unwarrantable conduct, will be sufficient to cure him for some time of his passion for soldiering, and that lord-lieutenants of counties will henceforth be chary in nominating him to the command of militia regiments.

The conclusion at which Mr. Stephen Blackpool, the hard-handed and hard-headed hero of “Hard Times,” arrived anent the conduct of public affairs in this country was, that it was “awful a muddle.” If Oliver Goldsmith's Chinese Philosopher could once more revisit England, he would doubtless be of the same opinion as Mr. Blackpool. A Royal Highness commanding-in-chief stating calmly in a court of justice that he “knew very little of military matters,” a field marshal once entitled to our respect and admiration as the gallant Sir Stapylton Cotton, but in whose memory there are lapses of forty years, and who gravely avers that he came to town last January twelvemonth to attend the marriage of the Princess Charlotte, meaning that of the Princess Frederick William, and who owns that he had counselled the dismissal of an officer from the army, of whose case he had not been able to make head or tail; a parcel of militia officers squabbling about cups and saucers, unpaid dinners, and Cremorne *fêtes*, and a peer of the realm soiling his ermine with the libeller's dirty ink. The whole affair is such an imbroglia of meanness, petty vengeance, and petty spite, that it would be ridiculous, were it not disgraceful, that we feel inclined to agree with Beaumarchais Figaro, and hasten to laugh at such a drama, lest we should be compelled to weep at it, for very shame.

AN EXPECTED OVATION.

[Communicated from an Ionian Correspondent; and well-merited, although we do not endorse all his sentiments, nor altogether approve the style, which seems to follow that of the celebrated dispatch from the Secretary of the Colonies.]

Blow gently, ye breezes—he calm, ye waves, that waft our Gladstone homewards from the Ionian Isles. Since the vessel big with the fate of Troy, that bore Helen and her paramour across the self-same waters to the shores of Ilion, never has ship been loaded with a freight so precious. What would be the fate of Greece—what would become of England—where would be the hopes of Oxford, if the bark were to founder, orator and all? The grief of Venus when Adonis died would be nothing to our sorrow. Great, however, as are our fears, our hopes are greater still. If the ancient gods of Greece be not all unmindful of the past; if from the Wallhalla, sacred to deposed deities, they still cast a fond and longing glance on the land where once they reigned supreme, they will surely protect the fortunes of the last and most illustrious of their worshippers. Neptune will bid his subject waves be still, and Æolus will restrain the fury of his rebellious blasts. Even if the power of the old gods be altogether departed from them, we are not devoid of hope. The priests

of the new faith—the “papas” of the Greek church—will take heed for the welfare of their devout and hopeful neophyte. Sacrificial candles will be burnt in Grecian churches; votive wreaths will be suspended before the shrines of Grecian saints, and the noble Phil-Hellene will be attended on his voyage by the supplications of the Grecian faithful. Moreover, if the waves—true disciples of the Buckleian philosophy—be inaccessible to the efficacy of prayer, there is hope left for us as long as Gladstone has voice to speak. The most obdurate of tempests—the most obstinate of squalls—could not but be lulled to rest and talked to sleep by that continuous and never-ending flow of words. Like oil upon the troubled waves—like a sermon on a summer day, is the eloquence of Gladstone—the many-counselled, the mellifluous.

Our anxieties, indeed, arise from the reflection how, in these degenerate days, in our unromantic land, and amongst our unclassical population, we can bestow a worthy welcome on our returning hero. Surely, so great an event should be celebrated by some appropriate ceremony. With such a minister as the author of “The last Days of Pompeii” there can be no difficulty about composing a proper programme. Mr. Cox would, doubtless, volunteer to supply the historical allusions, and the services of Mr. Kean might be secured in order to ensure everything being strictly classical and appropriate. For our own part, we would humbly suggest the revival of a Roman triumph. The coast of Deal—as being the scene of Cæsar landing—would be the most suitable locality for the disembarkation. The episode of the Roman standard-bearer might be repeated with effect. Some devoted adherent—some follower *quand même* of the Ministry (possibly the late Lord Mayor, Sir Robert Carden)—might be induced to plunge into the sea, and, struggling through the surf, to plant upon the beach the charter of the Ionian isles. As the boat, bearing the conqueror, approaches the shore, a jubilant anthem should be intoned, composed expressly for the occasion on the words of “Veni, vidi, vici,” with considerable variations, especially on the last paragraph. On landing, a chorus of white-robed virgins—or, in default thereof, of the maids of Pantion-street, sacred of yore to the memory of the hero’s virtue—should crown him with the wreath of laurel, while a select *troupe* of Greek merchants, who could all show their certificates of bankruptcy, should bear him aloft on a phalanx of shalups richly studded with Turkish piastres, coined and cast exclusively by the hands of Grecian patriots. As the progress from our Ostia to the Capitol—from Deal to Westminster—would be somewhat tedious, we fear that the anachronism must be committed of conveying the whole procession by rail in Roman cars. In order, however, to preserve the illusion, everything will be conducted with the strictest accuracy of classical detail: the prices at the refreshment-stalls will be carefully calculated in obols and denarii, and even the buttons on the policemen’s coats will be copied from coins of the later Empire. On arriving at the terminus, our “patres conscripti”—the Aldermen and Sheriffs of the City of London—will be there to welcome the citizen who has deserved well of the commonwealth, and who in the day of doubt and danger did not despair, even of the Ionian States. Mr. Gladstone will then ascend the triumphal car, the procession will be re-arranged. Probably, for a consideration, Mr. Wellington Guernsey could be induced to enact the part of the suppliant captive at the foot of his magnanimous conqueror; while, for the post of the buffoon who was placed beside the triumphant hero in his car, to remind him of the vanity of fame, we should hope that the claims of the member for Midhurst would not be forgotten. Amidst the acclamations of an operative populace, trained expressly for the occasion to shout “Evoc! evoc!” the procession will proceed along our *cloaca maxima*—the New-cut of Lambeth—across the modern Tiber, the sacred Thames, to the Halls of Westminster. There the House of Commons, attired in the garb of Roman senators, would be ready for the reception. Bulwer Lytton, in the character of Pontifex Maximus, would proclaim the virtues of his colleague in classical and sonorous periods. He would tell how the modern Cincinnatus had deserted his quiet home and his learned leisure for the good of the Republic—how he had braved the perils of the cruel sea, and the still more cruel mosquitoes—how, from the historic isles of Greece, he had

driven forth the demon of discord and hatred, and satisfied everybody by promising everything—how, during his short reign, he had emulated, if not surpassed, the glories of Sancho Panza’s dukedom—and how, at last, like a true and faithful servant of the Trinity of men’s worship—the Good, the Beautiful, and the True—he had returned home harbouring no ambitious designs against the safety of the State, but really to resume the duties of a simple citizen. The proceedings would then terminate by a vote of the Senate proclaiming Mr. Gladstone to be “Pater Patriæ.” Surely, in the words of Cicero, that one day would be worth an immortality.

If some inveterate sceptic, without respect for things sacred or profane, should suggest that all this savours of burlesque, we should only answer, so much the better. The whole affair has been a burlesque from beginning to end. Greek nationality is a humbug—ministerial sympathy with the wrongs of the Ionians is a humbug too; and the some-time commissioner extraordinary—then Lord High Governor, and now independent statesman,—is the greatest humbug of the lot. The affair was a political demonstration, of which nothing has come—nothing could come—and nothing was meant to come. As Byron said of Wilberforce, these were “words, words, words, and nothing but words.” Poor Sir John Young was unfortunate enough not to take the joke, and was punished for being in earnest, by losing his appointment. We are surprised that Mr. Gladstone should have been able to play out the farce to the end. Why, even Mr. Arthur Gordon refused to follow his leader. Since the days when Balaam’s ass turned round and spoke, there has been no instance of a warning so remarkable and so unheeded. We are driven to the supposition that Mr. Gladstone, on his return, intends to drive Albert Smith out of the field, with the recital of “A Comic Journey to Corfu and back again,” interspersed with a variety of startling impersonations. We had, indeed, hoped better things of the oldest of Sir Robert Peel’s disciples. When will he take the advice of the Thersites of Shakespeare and keeping—“Where wit is stirring, leave the faction to fools.”

FOREIGN WINES FOR THE ENGLISH MARKET.

At that north-western corner of the Mediterranean, where the blue waves of the Gulf of Lyons beat upon the smiling shore of Languedoc, stands the smiling and prosperous little town of Cette. Its harbour is convenient, and usually crowded with shipping, displaying the flags of many nations. A stranger is often at first sight puzzled to determine what may be the particular branch of trade to which the inhabitants are indebted for their wealth. The warehouses are numerous, the stores commodious; there are no beggars, and there is no appearance in any part of indigence or idleness. Among the craftsmen, perhaps, a preponderance of coopers is observable; vast indeed is the consumption of staves and hoops. Logwood here is also used largely, cider extensively, sugar not a little; Cheropiga and Benicarlo are imported in great quantities, but never leave Cette under their original names. To be brief, within the limits of this little Mediterranean seaport, and from the crude materials above enumerated, are produced in enormous quantities imitations of every known vintage: Claret, Hockheimer, Johannisberg, Burgundy, Champagne, Moselle (sparkling or still), Madeira, Lachrymæ Christi, Constantia, humble Port, or imperial Tokay. It matters not how rare nor how choice the original sample may be, so accurate is the palate, so nice the skill of this little colony of thrifty wine merchants, that they can, with more than Chinese precision, imitate the flavour and copy the colour of the required fluid; nay, even the very form of the bottle in which the genuine wine is ordinarily met with; so that an experienced judge is not unfrequently imposed upon. A bad vintage, or even a succession of bad seasons, is regarded there rather as a blessing than as a misfortune. The price of wine naturally rises, but the cost of the ingredients used by the manufacturer of Cette remaining pretty nearly the same, he is enabled to supply his customers with increased advantage to himself. Little, therefore, does he pray for an abundance of grapes or a genial September sun. Let but the cider crop be copious, and the Bay of Campeche yield liberally its useful stores, and he will take care that the cellars of England shall not lack replenishment with the finest Port.

It is said that some time since this industrious city was reduced to the greatest straits by the wreck of a long-expected vessel with heavy consignments of bois de Bresil. But for a happy thought there would probably have been a fearful advance in the

price of Port here. Luckily, however, the beet that summer had been unusually prolific, and madder was obtainable at easy rates. The loss of the ill-fated ship soon ceased to be bewailed, the honour of Cette was saved, and her profits even exceeded the average of former years!

From long practice the taste and requirement of each different market are perfectly known; and the manufacturer, as he displays his varied stores, knows in a moment, by the accent of his visitor, the precise flavour that will suit his palate. Little of these factitious wines find their way, however, into the interior of the country; they are mostly despatched to distant markets. The writer of an elaborate treatise on the art of wine-making, says, with amusing ingenueness:—“Laissez vos liqueurs factices, vos vins frêlés à la jalouse Angletterre, à la sauvage Sibérie; portez-les leur si vous êtes satisfaits d’une découverte désastreuse; mais, si vous restez sur le sol sacré, sachez le respecter, ne venez point deshérer vos compatriotes d’une production naturelle.”—*Daily News*.

THE HISTORIAN PRESCOTT.

WILLIAM HICKLING PRESCOTT is dead. There is no spot on this earth where the English language is spoken—indeed, no one in which letters are valued—in which this intelligence will not fall with a saddening weight upon the heart. At 12 o’clock on 28th January he was in his usual health; at half-past 12 he was stricken with apoplexy, and at 2 o’clock he breathed his last.

Mr. Prescott belonged to a New England family of high honour. His grandfather, Colonel William Prescott, as is well known, commanded the American forces at the battle of Bunker’s Hill. His father, William Prescott, generally known and addressed in this community during the later years of his life, as Judge Prescott, was one of the best and wisest men who have ever lived and died amongst us. The historian was born in Salem, Massachusetts, May 4, 1796, and resided there until his father’s removal to Boston, when he himself was 12 years old. He entered Harvard College in 1811, and graduated in 1814. While in college he was deprived by an accident of the use of one eye, and the sight of the other was so impaired as to prevent him from engaging in any occupation in which the constant use of that organ should be necessary. Soon after leaving college, he went to Europe, and spent two years in an extended journey through England, France and Italy, and at the end of it returned home in excellent general health, but with no great improvement in the state of his eyes.

His marriage soon after took place; and from this period his marriage flourished on in diligent and uneventful devotion to literary pursuits. He was never enabled to use his own eyes but for a short time in the day, but was constantly obliged to use the eyes of others for his studies and researches, as well as to record the results of them. His quiet perseverance and continuous industry enabled him to triumph over this difficulty, and to achieve an amount of literary production which is not merely most honourable to his intellectual powers, but conveys a noble moral lesson to all who may be burdened with similar trials. His earliest literary efforts were contributions to the *North American Review*, upon subjects drawn from Spanish, English, American, and especially Italian literature. In 1838 he published his *History of the Reign of Ferdinand and Isabella the Catholic*. It was soon translated into French, Spanish, and German. Its author was immediately elected a member of the Royal Academy of Madrid. The popularity which it gained upon its first publication it has since steadily maintained. It has gone through several editions in England and America, and is one of the established classics in the language.

In 1843 appeared the *History of the Conquest of Mexico, with a Preliminary View of the Ancient Mexican Civilization, and the Life of the Conqueror, Hernando Cortez*; and in 1847 was published, in two volumes, the *History of the Conquest of Peru, with a Preliminary View of the Civilization of the Incas*, a work of kindred and commensurate excellence to that of the *History of the Conquest of Mexico*. Mr. Prescott now devoted himself with unabated ardour to the preparation of a work of wider range—the *History of the Reign of Philip II*. He had now become one of the great literary names of the age, and found everywhere persons who were ready to give him assistance. Public collections and private archives were thrown open to him. While preparing for this work he visited England. He took ample time for this task, which he destined to be the crowning work of his life. In the latter part of 1855 appeared the first two volumes of this work, under the title of the *History of the Reign of Philip II., King of Spain*. In dealing with this more comprehensive subject, it was admitted that he had shown the same careful research, the same conscientious balancing of authorities, the same calm and judicial temper, the same picturesque narrative, and the same fascination of style.

A few weeks since, the third volume of his *History of Philip II.* appeared. Little did we then think that we should be so soon called upon to lay this tribute upon his grave.

Mr. Prescott was as rich in the love of his friends as in the admiration of the literary world. His manners were most frank, simple, and engaging; his social nature was strong and active; and his sympathies were ever ready and easily moved. His countenance was extremely fine and prepossessing, and retained to the last a youthful glow and animation which were the faithful expression of a sunny temper and an ever young heart. Prescott leaves a widow and three children—two sons and a daughter.—*Boston Courier*.

INDIA AND INDIAN PROGRESS.

LORD STANLEY'S SPEECH.

On Monday night Lord Stanley made a most important statement on what is called the financial position of India, but which is in reality a declaration of the policy of the Government and the administration of India, and which will be read with gratification by the friends of progress. The speech, unfortunately, from the want of conversance of the reporters with the details, is published with many inaccuracies. The subjects it deals with are numerous and weighty, and we can only touch on some of those which are of greatest interest from our special view.

The basis of Lord Stanley's system of finance is founded on the fact that at the time of the outbreak of the mutiny, the equilibrium between income and expenditure was nearly restored, and he expects therefore, on the establishment of a regular system of administration, and by taking measures for promoting the progress of the country, to bring the income and expenditure within bounds, and he proposes to meet the temporary deficit by a loan. Still looking to the fact that in Bengal the land revenue is inelastic, and that the opium monopoly is an uncertain reliance, Lord Stanley keeps in view the imposition gradually and steadily of new taxes, the produce of which may be assisted by the development of the country. It may be seen that Bengal will be subjected to a new fiscal system, for Lord Stanley maintains the land settlement, but he proposes, with a view to promote English colonisation and progress, to sell the waste lands in fee simple as in the other colonies, and, what is of no less importance, to enfranchise the Zemindari tenures, so as to make them freehold. Thus the English and native freeholders will be left open to the action of the usual fiscal expedients, and these must ultimately result in a considerable revenue; for Lord Stanley shows by its commercial statistics that the produce of India is as rapidly increasing as that of the most progressive countries in Europe. He referred, in support of this, to the facts, that in the last twenty years the imports of India were at the beginning 43,500,000*l.*, and at the last return 112,700,000*l.*; that the exports have advanced from 62,230,000*l.* to 112,700,000*l.*; the tonnage entered and cleared from 10,700,000 tons, to 19,000,000 tons; and that the average yearly export of cotton to this country has increased from 77,000,000 lbs. to 172,000,000 lbs. We have found it difficult however to follow the detailed figures, as in some cases five yearly terms have been taken, and in others the average of five yearly terms, and in one case the absolute yearly returns.

Lord Stanley dwelt very strenuously on the effect that public improvements are likely to have on India. Thus, in speaking of the land revenue, he said it must be considered as comparatively inelastic, except there may arise an increase of English territory, a cause of increase which has been most active in times past, or where land, hitherto waste, may be brought into cultivation; and that increase, he affirmed, is likely to take place to a considerable extent in proportion as the railways and other means of communication shall open up the country to individual enterprise. It is obvious that several of the lines traversing the Dekkan through wild countries will be the means of extending cultivation and extending revenue. He laid stress, too, upon the value of improving the communication between the two countries by telegraph, and referred to the Red Sea telegraph and that by the Euphrates. We wish he could have said something about improving and cheapening the communication by steamer between England and India. It is to be hoped the Great Eastern may be able to help in some respect in showing the way to improvement.

It is strange, considering the resistance of the Indian authorities here to railway extension—a resistance which still prevails—to find Lord Stanley using the progress of railways as a chief argument for his confidence in the future of India; and yet the whole length of line that he is able to boast of as open is only 569 miles, and there is only under construction about 2,823 miles, making, as he said, five or six miles in construction for one open, and which it will take several years to effect.

This, after all, was a weak point in his case, for if railways are so valuable 3,400 miles is quite inadequate to provide proper accommodation for the vast extent of India. If we imagine the London and North Western, the Great Western, the Great Northern, and three or four other railways as providing the whole railway accommodation for these islands—France, Spain, Italy, Switzerland, Belgium, Holland, Denmark, and Germany—it may give us some notion of the inadequacy of the length of line the Government has provided for India, and which some people object to extend by a single mile till these few lines are opened. Lord Stanley was very distinct in his avowal that the liabilities under the railway guarantees cannot be considered as burthens on the Government of India. Setting aside the enormous benefit that must eventually accrue to Government from the opening up of the country, which these railways will effect, he believed that the arrangements made in connexion with them can but result beneficially; and here he appealed to the opinion of the great founder of Indian railways, Sir Macdonald Stephenson, whose energy, talent, and unquestionable ability, he said, give weight to the opinions expressed by him, that the Government will not in any case be called upon to pay the interest; for his estimate shows that the profits on these lines will exceed 5 per cent.—Sir Macdonald Stephenson, be it remembered, to whom the Government refuse to pay his annuity, although the shareholders of East Indian Railway are willing. Lord Stanley cautioned the House that, however favourable the traffic may be, on the whole, that the lines at present are far from complete.

Of other works he was able to say but little; for there are only the harbours of the Mutlah and Kurrachee, and the Madras irrigation works. There was one project mentioned by Lord Stanley, in which we are far from having confidence. While he shows a natural distrust for the military system of employing uneducated officers as engineers, and which the brilliant example of a man of genius like Sir Proby Cautley cannot redeem, he purposes to substitute for an open body of practising civil engineers, a corps of officers like those of the Ponts et Chaussées. True it is Lord Stanley proposes to draft these from among civil engineers, practically educated in this country before they leave; but any system of men left practically irresponsible and free from competition will never work well. Of whatever class the men may be in the beginning, they will soon cease to exert themselves, and the public works of India will be always backward, and far behind those of the general body of practising engineers. What India wants is free enterprise, and not doctrinaireism or any kind of red tapism, from which it has already too much suffered.

In connexion with this plan there is a hint likewise unfavorable, that the system is to be carried out, of the substitution of cheap native agency in the government of India for the comparatively costly agency of Englishmen. In this development of the policy of the old civil Indians, Lord Stanley shone least, and he will need the pressure of public opinion to enable him to carry out an enlightened and effective policy. Lord Stanley offered an argument in behalf of the covenanted rate of salary, and appealed to the paucity of medical candidates as one proof that moderately paid Europeans cannot be got for India; and, as another proof, to the salaries paid in the engineering establishments by the railway companies. Now, it is notorious over India that the rate of remuneration for all civil employment of Europeans is declining, and never was so moderate; and that the railway companies are paying generally very moderate rates. Thus we shall in a short time find the Government diminishing the number of English employés, whilst private establishments, or even natives, are increasing them. While a coffee-planter finds it worth while to employ an English superintendent, or foreman, at 180*l.* a year, and can get such in abundance, the Government cannot find Europeans for its service. Our comment on this fallacy is, that India wants for its government more Europeans, and that they must be had.

Another declaration of the results of old Indian policy, which was not heard in the House without creating a great sensation, was, that notwithstanding the increase of English troops, from 45,522 to 91,580, the number of native troops had been allowed to increase from 232,254 to 243,961. This might well be received with indignation, but we fear there is a determination to keep up that system of jobbery, the native army, with lieutenants and captains paid as lieutenant-colonels and colonels. The English army is now required to watch the legions of Sepoys, Sikhs, and other suspicious characters, instead of these being disbanded, and an English army being maintained in the hills. We believe that the whole of the hill stations of India, at this present moment, even with all the new cantonments, have not barracks for 10,000 English, and that several of them, for want of railway communication, can only be used as distant reserved depots. The true source of economy in expenditure is to be sought by placing the English soldiery in the hills, where they can be maintained on home pay, and thus the whole 91,580 English soldiers now in the country might be maintained for the same price formerly paid for the 45,522, and the whole body of the native recruits for rebellion be forthwith disbanded.

No task can be more difficult than that now imposed on Lord Stanley, of governing in India with the clog of a body of men who insist on impeding the policy of progress, and carrying out the condemned policy which has retarded the welfare of India and subjected it to civil war. Lord Stanley has, however, announced such reforms in the land system of India as will greatly promote English settlement, and thereby effectually dispose of the obstructive policy and its adherents, render the native army less dangerous and insure its suppression, and provide for the restriction of the native officials and the suppression of their corruptions, extortions, and tortures. This Lord Stanley, some years hence, will have the proud satisfaction of knowing he has effected.

THE MADRAS RAILWAY.

The report of the Madras Railway Company, presented at the meeting yesterday, is a document most important as to the progress of India, and every paragraph of which demands attention.

One announcement is, that a considerable addition has been made to the company's engineering staff, and that on the other hand arrangements have been made to substitute natives for Englishmen in minor posts, which has been gradually carried out, as the natives get trained. The results are favourable, as the work is done as cheaply, and with equal efficiency as before, or even greater. This will be done with advantage in many cases, obtaining assistants used to the country and preferable to low class English of dissolute and unruly habits.

The surveys and the extension of such of the line as is open have proceeded slowly and steadily. It will be remembered that not far from Madras the line forks, one trunk proceeding north-west, and the other south-west. In this latter direction the line is now open as far as Goriattum, 96 miles, and active measures are in progress for the simultaneous opening of the line as far as Salem, being a distance of 200 miles from Madras. This is however delayed for some months, as great difficulties have been found in the works on the Palar river, between Goriattum and Vanicumbady.

The progress of this line is of great importance for the military arrangements of the Madras presidency, and for the promotion of English settlement, as it is the main route to the uplands of the interior. The line throughout its length skirts the fine coffee district of Mysore, and the healthy European settlements on the Shevaroy and the Neilgherries, and runs close to the Pulneys. The opening to Salem will be in fact an opening to the Shevaroy, and indeed the railway is already open half way to the Shevaroy and to Bangalore, making those districts more accessible to English invalids and troops. Bangalore, on the table land of Mysore, is well known as one of the healthiest stations of Madras, and great exertions are being used by the Madras Railway

Company, to provide it with a branch line. The survey is now going on, and the branch will start from Vaniembady, about 120 miles from Madras, and being 80 miles in length, will be at a total distance of 200 miles from Madras, and being accessible in a few hours, will become for the present the chief military station of Madras, and enable the native army to be largely reduced—a measure most desirable for the Government.

Still Bangalore is not altogether the best climate for the European women and children, and the main line to the Shevaroy's will be earlier opened. These hills, likewise within 200 miles of Madras, have been only lately occupied by the English, and are being most rapidly cleared for coffee plantations, and they will soon be, with the railway communication, among the most favourable coffee districts in the world, having access to shipping ports on the east and west coast. The Shevaroy's, although of limited extent, are most suitable for English occupation, and will doubtless be occupied by cantonments, so as to station English regiments there, forming a station further south than Madras, and constituting one of the most important central strongholds in Southern India.

The Neilgherries are, however, from their longer occupation by the English, and from their regular resort by the Governor, Commander-in-Chief, and officials, the favourite district in the south; and the attention of the Directors is seriously given to the completion of railway communication with them. In the beginning but little notice was taken of this district, and it was not considered a source of traffic; but it is now evident it will be one of the main feeders of the line, with the best description of traffic—English first-class passenger traffic—as will the Shevaroy's and Bangalore, adding much to the revenue and value of the line. Such is the increasing attention paid to English settlement in India, that the directors observe in their report that they have sent out instructions to survey a short branch from the main line to the foot of the hills, it being considered that the largely increased number of English residents and convalescents, and the contemplated extension of the Government establishments in that salubrious table-land, afford good prospects of traffic. The works on the main line between Goriattum and Beypore are likewise proceeding. Thus it will be seen that the progress of English settlement in India is rapid and determined, and that the attention of the Government and the railway authorities is steadily directed to its advancement. When the line is completed from Beypore inland, the foot of the Neilgherries will be reached in two or three hours by settlers arriving on the western shore.

As we have before announced, a communication is provided by the Madras Government by water between the ports of Beypore and Cochin. Although this is done on the plea of economy, the railway branch must, nevertheless, be made in the end.

The north-west line to connect Madras and Bombay is chiefly under survey, but the works are in progress between the Arcotum junction and Cuddapah, to which a comparatively early opening will take place.

The state of the traffic is satisfactory to some extent, but very much kept back by want of roads, which were of course non-existent; but through the influence of the railway company branch roads are now in progress to the railway stations.

NOTES ON INDIAN PROGRESS.

THE enemies of India and England received a severe blow on Monday from Lord Stanley's statement, which shows that the Government of India is determined to give every facility for Englishmen obtaining the tenure of land in fee simple in India, and for the promotion of public works and improvements.

It is reported that Lord William Hay, the Commissioner for Simlah and the Hill States, is to be sent as Resident to Nepal. If so, it is to be hoped some one will be appointed in his place who will maintain the cause of English advancement in the hills.

Capt. E. J. N. Burton has six months' leave to the hills north of Deyrah.

Lieut. Whitlock has leave for a year to the Neilgherries and Bangalore. Assistant-surgeon Busted has four months' leave. The leave of Lieut. C. Elliot has been extended. Major-General Williams

is allowed to become a resident in the Neilgherries, and to draw his pay there or at Bangalore.

A branch railway is being surveyed to the Neilgherries, and another to Bangalore, each from the Madras railway.

Mr. Ewart's Committee has a large body of witnesses ready for examination.

It may be taken as a proof of the growing attention to emigration to India that Mr. J. H. Stocqueler proposes to give a public lecture on the subject.

We regret to hear a report that the Calcutta Volunteer Guards are to be disbanded.

In keeping with this is the announcement that a fourth extra regiment of Native Infantry is to be raised in Madras. This nursery of mutineers is to be supervised by three English officers.

The formation of the colony in the Andamans is proceeding, and the rebel sepoys will be made instruments of establishing a new possession.

The deputation of flax-growers had an interview with Lord Stanley on Tuesday, to urge that measures should be taken to promote the growth of flax in India, but their suggestions were, to some degree, forestalled by the announcement made in the House of Lord Stanley's policy. Thus he was enabled to refer to the concession of a freehold land tenure, and of the promotion of public works as settled points, and he agreed to take measures for the distribution of flax seed, and for giving powers to cultivators. It will be seen how different is the spirit now displayed at the India House from that which formerly animated it; but we must caution the flax and cotton deputations, that although they have a stronghold in Lord Stanley, they must support him, for the land tenures will not otherwise be soon settled, and the guarantees of public works will be stopped by the active interests in the India House.

At this moment the tea and coffee cultivations are much checked in the hills, from the undecided state of the land regulations.

The success of the Alpaca in Australia ought to draw attention to its introduction into Sind.

It is a strange comment on the state of communications in Bengal that the inspector of schools is compelled to report that he is delayed in his proceedings from the want of roads; for no one would dream of taking a wheeled conveyance sixteen miles from Calcutta; and river conveyance is impeded for the want of towing-paths.

The new shares of the East India Steam Navigation Company have, we are glad to see, come out at a premium. They were first called $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$, and business was done at $\frac{1}{2}$ premium.

The Madras Irrigation Company have announced the appointment of Major Hugh Calverley Cotton as their chief engineer in the Madras Presidency. Major Cotton is brother of the canal projector, Colonel Arthur Cotton, but reputed to be a more practical man. Major Cotton is instructed to take measures with the Government for beginning operations as soon as possible.

We regret to learn that the photographic department of the Elphinstone College, at Bombay, has been broken up, and that photography has ceased to be studied there by amateurs. In Calcutta, however, amateur photography is maintained.

105 elephants have been introduced at Calcutta in one shipment from Burmah. This is the largest cargo ever imported.

The King of Burmah has abandoned all his monopolies, except timber and earth-oil, so that the trade with Burmah is expected to increase.

The *Calcutta Review* is in the hands of the friends of progress, Mr. Townsend, the editor of the *Friend of India*, having become the editor of the *Review*.

The *Friend of India* is earnestly advocating the suppression of that nest of bigotry and intolerance, the Mudruseh of Calcutta, which, although founded by Warren Hastings with good intentions, has, in fact, done much to retard the progress of the Mahomedans of Calcutta.

The Asiatic Society has with great public spirit memorialised the Government of Bengal on the establishment of an imperial museum at Calcutta, on the acceptance of which they propose to endow it with their own collections. We trust this proposal will be adopted.

It is reported that the native officials in the Delhi government have altered the word "arms" in the proclamation to "handmills," so as to make it penal for any one possessing or using the latter; with a special proviso, that no flour, &c., is to be made except by the servants of the State, or persons licensed by them.

The Government of India has agreed, on the principle of the Australian and Canadian Governments, to give a grant in aid of £120 a-year for each clergyman maintained by private subscription, and the Bishop of Calcutta has therefore urged exertions to profit by this arrangement.

Dr. Triumph of the Church Missionary Society has arrived to take charge of the Punjaub mission.

INDIA.

TELEGRAPHIC despatches received on Wednesday bring highly satisfactory intelligence, but as usual, confused in some particulars. The rebellion in Oude is entirely suppressed. The Begum and some followers have gone by night marches into Nepal, partly forcing, partly bribing her way; the sepoys of her party are said to be plundering the Nepaul villages. A corps of observation remains on the frontier. The Nana is supposed to be with the Begum. Those of the rebels who have not come in under the amnesty have either dispersed and gone to their homes, or have fled into the Terai. One body of them under Bala Sam is reported to have entered the Nepaul forests. The Nawab of Furruckabad has surrendered himself.

From Central India we learn that Col. Benson, after marching 140 miles in five days, attacked Tantia Topee's force, and defeated it with much slaughter, taking six elephants. Tantia was also attacked and defeated by the force under Col. Somerset at Chuppra, and again at Burrod, in the Kotah territory. Brigadier Showers, with a column from Agra, came up with the rebels under Tantia Topee, at Boshia, on the 16th of January, having marched ninety-four miles in three days. They defeated and dispersed them, killing about 300. Three chiefs fell on the field, and one, on an elephant, was overtaken and killed by Lieutenant Hadfield, of the Agra police cavalry. The rebel leaders are said to have been Tantia, the Rao, and Feroze Shah.

The Commissioner of Rohilkund reports that the rebels, who numbered from 20,000 to 30,000, were defeated with slaughter, and driven across the Sartheas, their guns taken, and Nurput Sing, of Rooza, and Bence Sing, killed.

Col. Hill's force had a severe action with the Rohillas and Arabs on the 15th inst. at Chicoumba, thirty miles north-west of Hingolee. The British loss was Capt. Mackinnon killed, and three other officers wounded.

Sir H. Rose is at Jaulnah.

The Bombay Presidency is quiet, with the exception of slight disturbances among the Bheels on the northern border of Guzerat.

THE OUDE POLICE.

This new force is thus described by a correspondent in India:—"The only body in Europe to which the new force is at all assimilable is the Irish constabulary. The force consists of infantry, drilled, armed, and clad like soldiers, and of cavalry which are in all respects like the troopers of the Irregular Horse. The infantry are purely protective; the cavalry are partly protective and partly detective. In the large cities there is a separate local police under the city magistrate; but in the rural districts the force only obeys its own officers, who are held responsible if they refuse, without good cause, obedience to the requisitions of the magistrates. This would seem to be objectionable, as opening up sources of discord between the civil power and the police; but Mr. Frere says that practically no such result is apparent. The old village choukedars are not acknowledged by the police; they are tolerated as agents of the zemindar, who is held responsible for their conduct, and they can be removed by the police-officer if he thinks fit. It appears to me that the removal by the police of an official whose existence is not acknowledged, though it be tolerated, is rather anomalous. The district and divisional officers are Europeans, the inferior officers being natives, promoted from the cavalry for good conduct. The officers have full power to punish their men for military offences, and in mixed offences, where the police and others are concerned, they may send their men to be tried by the magistrate."

THE SHIPPING INTEREST.—Newcastle held its shipowners' meeting on Wednesday, in the Guildhall, which was presided over by the Mayor. The principal speech was made by Mr. Jackson who attended as the representative of the Mercantile Marine Association. He discussed the alleged unfair burdens to which the shipping interest is liable, and urged the shipowners of the Tyne to unite with those of other ports in seeking to obtain from Government and the country something like a practical acknowledgement of their just position, by the removal of those burdens. Resolutions were unanimously adopted, calling for a general repeal of the timber duty, and the abolition of the light dues, passing tolls, and other unfair imposts and restrictions; a petition to Parliament, based on these demands, being also agreed to.

NEW RUSSIAN STEAM SHIP COMPANY.—The new Lübeck-St-Petersburg Steam Navigation line has been confirmed by the Emperor. The capital of the company amounts to 400,000 roubles, and the shares are almost exclusively in the hand of the Lübeck houses, Clemens, Tunder, and Co., Schüssler and Co., Alexander D. Rodde, Rodde, Schröder, and Co., and K. G. Wildfang.

COMMERCIAL.

TRADE OF 1858.

Six weeks after the close of the year, the Board of Trade has favoured us with its accounts of the trade of 1858, and informs that the delay has been occasioned by requiring time as usual to make up the landing accounts of all cargoes properly appertaining to 1858. It might have been as well had the board delayed the publication till the account of the value of imports for the year was completed; or, better still, had it used more diligence in making it so, and had now published it for the whole year, instead of only for twelve months. We must, however, make the best use we can of what we have got. The principal imports for the year in quantities—except flax, hides, silk, timber, wine, and wool—exceeded the imports of 1857; but in value, to the end of November, they declined 19,832,633*l.*, from which we have no hesitation in concluding that we have got more in proportion to the cost of the goods in 1858 than in 1857. The total value of the principal articles imported in eleven months of 1857, was 135,051,444*l.*; and of 1858, 115,218,811*l.* It is possible that some of this difference may disappear when the returns of the value are completed for the year; but, as they now stand, the real condition of our import trade at the end of the year is less unfavourable than was anticipated it would be at the commencement.

The only articles of foreign produce re-exported in which the public is peculiarly interested are the materials of manufactures, and of these cotton and silk were exported in greater quantities than in 1857. The quantity of wool exported was 10,200,000 lbs. less in 1858 than in 1857, which is nearly 8,000,000 lbs. more than the deficiency of the quantity imported, leaving the balance in our favour. Of cotton, the excess of imports in 1858 over the excess of exports was 590,000 cwts., so leaving us better supplied with cotton and wool in 1858 than in 1857. The deficiency in the silk imported as against 1857 was 5,800,353 lbs., and excess of exports was 607,994 lbs., making a total deficiency in 1858 of 6,408,347 lbs. But the imports of silk in 1857 were upwards of 12,000,000 lbs., or nearly 5,000,000 lbs. in excess of 1856, and we therefore had at the beginning of 1858 a large stock.

The total value of the exports in 1858 was 116,614,331*l.* against 122,066,107*l.* in 1857. The net customs duties in 1858 amounted to 23,816,145*l.* against 22,619,146*l.* in 1857. The bullion imported was of the value of 29,493,190*l.*, and exported 19,628,876*l.*, leaving us a balance of 9,864,314*l.* The shipping entered inwards was in 1858, 8,816,133 tons, in 1857, 8,732,180 tons; cleared outwards respectively, 9,936,705 tons, and 10,340,299 tons, leaving us no reason to complain at the end of the year of delaying trade.

REVIVAL OF TRADE IN THE UNITED STATES.

"The importations into New York," says the *Times* correspondent, "are now very heavy. The daily custom receipts are returning to the old figure, and a great amount of goods goes into bond to be brought out in the spring and summer." In conformity with this statement, the *New York Tribune* of the 29th ult., states of the dry goods market there: "More steadiness has been noticed the past week in all departments, and our market continues strong and healthy. The Jobbing trade have added largely to their stocks, and many present full and complete assortments. The daily arrival of merchants is increasing, and the confidence with which they purchase is quite cheering. The business of the next thirty or sixty days will be large, but we are not so confident respecting the later trade. The incubus which rests upon Northern Indiana, Wisconsin, Minnesota, and many portions of the West, is of that character which nothing but time will remove. Their investments in lands were made at high speculative prices, the folly of which the revulsion exposed. Their crops have disappointed them both in the quantity secured and

the prices current. In addition to that, their farms have been in some instances mortgaged to build unfinished railroads; and, smarting under wrongs which they have suffered in that connection, a spirit of repudiation exists which will have an unfavourable influence not only on their credit, but that of the whole West, and limit their purchases to articles of prime necessity."

The condition of the West is indeed a great impediment to a rapid revival of trade. The harvest there last year was unusually unfavourable; and there being no demand for Europe, the price of corn has at the same time been low. From September to the end of January, the quantity of flour exported from the United States to Great Britain, was only 85,731 barrels, against 507,769 in the same period of 1857-8; and the quantity of wheat only 412,425 bushels, against 3,199,187 bushels in 1857-8, and against 6,507,204 in 1856-7. The cotton crop however is unusually large, and the receipts at the ports are upwards of 800,000 bales in excess of last year. If the Americans have but comparatively little corn to give us, they will have a large quantity of cotton; and now that trade has begun to revive, we may expect it will extend, though not very rapidly, nor will the trade with America on the whole be for some time so extensive as it was in 1856.

PORT OF LONDON.—The general business of the port during the past week has been very inactive. The number of ships reported inward was 146, and of those cleared outward 95, including 11 in ballast. The ships now on the berth loading outward comprise 46 for the Australian colonies, 7 for China, 2 for San Francisco, and 1 for Vancouver's Island.

TARIFFS.—A parliamentary paper has just been issued, showing the new and old rates of duty levied by Russia, Sweden, the Zollverein, France, Spain, Portugal, the Two Sicilies, Tuscany, Modena, Greece, Morocco, Tunis, Monte Video, and Brazil, between July, 1857, and August, 1858. An abstract cannot be well given of the details, but it is a document that should be in the possession of almost every mercantile and trading establishment.

FLAX FROM INDIA.—A deputation from gentlemen in Scotland, interested in the growth of flax, had an interview on Tuesday with Lord Stanley, on the subject of the capabilities of India for the supply of flax to this country. Mr. Miller, chairman of the Dundee Chamber of Commerce, stated that there was every reason to believe that flax could be produced in India of fine quality and texture. Indeed, he had himself received a sample, which had been fairly tested, and was found to be admirably adapted for the manufacture of canvas for the navy. The British manufacturer was at present in a somewhat critical position with respect to the supply of the raw material. Neither Russia nor Ireland were likely to increase their production of flax; on the contrary, it was more than probable that, from the increased value of land and the rise in the price of labour, the supply from those sources would be diminished. It was stated by several of the manufacturers present that at this moment it was impossible to obtain a sufficient supply of the raw material, and that some of the mills were actually standing still in consequence. Lord Stanley said the subject was one of great importance to the country, and that they might depend upon it it would have the closest attention of the Government.

PUBLIC DEBT AND RESOURCES OF CANADA.—In the speech of the Governor-General no allusion is made to the consolidation of the public debt of the province, which is estimated by the Canadian opposition papers at 15,000,000*l.*, with a population not exceeding 2,500,000. We shall look forward with much interest to the financial statement of the Ministers, and hail with satisfaction some decided course of policy for reimbursing the advances made on account of municipalities who have failed to pay the taxes required for the purpose of making good their engagements. That the Government of Canada debt embraces the advances to municipalities and railways is the cause of the debt being so large; but, as in speaking of the debt of India, that portion which exists as a guarantee only should be held distinct from that for which the revenue of the country is alone chargeable. Our attention this day is particularly directed to the debt of India, and we cannot but institute some comparison between its progress and that of the progress of the debt of

Canada. Both countries are yet in their infancy, and will be dependent upon railways for the development of their future progress. India has long been the ideal land of wealth, and its population is countless; while Canada is rich only from the productiveness of its soil, and relying upon an immigrant population. With all the advantages in favour of India, her imports and exports have not much more than doubled since 1840; but in Canada the customs' duties doubled themselves in seven years, and in fourteen years they are trebled, the direct debt of Canada being doubled only in the same period. So that although Canada cannot boast that her revenue is one-half of her debt, yet she claims an advance in commercial prosperity which India has yet to realise. One great feature in the comparison must not, however, be overlooked, and that is, of the 74,500,000*l.* debt of India in 1858, 59,500,000*l.* has been subscribed in India. This is not so with regard to the contributions towards the debt of Canada, and it accounts for the difference in the nature of the two securities; for, when a country's population contributes largely to its own necessities, its engagements are held in higher estimation than when native capitalists cannot give their active support.

TRADE OF GREENOCK.—We are happy to observe that trade is now gradually improving. There are at present building, or about to be commenced, in the various ship-building yards, nine iron steamers, and five wooden sailing vessels. The engineering works are pretty busy. The joiners and masons are pretty well employed on new properties at present building.—*Scottish Guardian*.

THE AMERICAN FLOUR SUPPLY.—Serious fears are entertained that the supply of wheat and flour on the American continent will scarcely suffice for home consumption until another crop is reaped, and consequently, although the prices had again, by the latest advices, fallen in Europe, they have gone up rapidly in all the American and Canadian markets. The advices from Lower Canada are more favourable as regards the supplies for the markets; but from Upper Canada we learn that business has been marked by no feature of prominence, except that it has been more than usually dull in consequence of the absence of sleighing, and the uncertain state of the weather. In this respect the present winter was remarkable for its unusual variations of climate, as there had been no improvement in the deliveries of produce from farmers, and many were beginning to fear that the surplus yet to be brought in was exceedingly small, and that for local consumption alone there was not more than sufficient.—*Canadian News*.

THE STAMP DUTY ON MARINE INSURANCE.—Last year the stamp duty on marine insurance was 319,508*l.*, and on fire insurance 1,356,069*l.* The duty on insurance is under the consideration of the Government.

NATIONAL BANK OF TURKEY.—It is stated that the firm for this bank, the establishment of which has for a length of time been a subject of contest between rival interests, was delivered on Tuesday to the concessionaires represented by Messrs. Wilkin. Its provisions are upon the basis previously described, and the stipulated capital is 1,000,000*l.* In the present position of Turkish stock, and with the prospect of serious political events, the probability of shares to this amount being taken up in London must appear very doubtful; but it is asserted that a combination of Greek and native merchants and London capitalists has been formed capable of establishing the project without other aid, and that one-half of the amount has already been promised in Turkey.—*Times*.

THE NEW CORN WEIGHT.—The cental of 100 lbs. weight is now fairly a success on this (Liverpool) Corn Exchange, and since the 1st inst. has commanded the hearty adhesion and support of fully nine-tenths of the merchants and brokers in the trade. The town bakers are, for the most part, opposed to the change. No difficulty whatever has been raised, thoughtfully, against the well-weighed new system, which must eventually find favour in other corn markets, where prejudice very naturally will exist for a time. Nothing can exceed in conciseness the cental points 10, 15, 20, and so on up to 100. We learn by letters and circulars received from New York and Montreal, per mail steamer arrived last evening, that the cental had already been adopted in those cities. The comity and civility of all nations will, with very little doubt, ultimately do homage to this simplicity of weight, and also combine with it one uniform decimal standard of money.—*Proctor's Corn Circular*.

JOINT-STOCK BANKS OF LONDON.

HALF-YEAR ENDING 30TH JUNE, 1858.

NAME OF BANK.	When established.	Number of Proprietors in February, 1858.	Amount of Capital Paid up.	Capital apportionable to each Proprietor.	Amount of Deposits and Current Accounts.	Ratio of Deposits and Current Accounts to Paid-up Capital.	Net Profits.	Ratio of Net Profits to Paid-up Capital.	Reserved Fund.	Ratio of Reserved Fund to Paid-up Capital.	Ratio of Reserved Fund to Deposits.	Dividends and Bonuses.	Ratio of Dividends to Paid-up Capital.
London and Westminster...	1834	1,648	£ 1,000,000	£ 606-80	£ 12,443,746	Per Cent. 1244-40	£ 93,882	Per Cent. 9-39	£ 158,597	Per Cent. 15-86	Per Cent. 1-27	£ 80,000	Per Cent. 8-00
London Joint-Stock.....	1836	1,149	600,000	522-19	10,287,623	1714-51	99,871	16-65	189,820	31-64	1-84	67,500	11-25
Union.....	1839	1,109	600,000	541-03	9,082,135	1505-36	67,495	11-25	150,000	25-00	1-66	45,000	7-50
London and County.....	1839	821	500,000	609-01	4,178,283	835-66	29,030	5-81	105,000	21-00	2-51	25,000	5-00
Commercial.....	1840	375	300,000	800-00	935,081	311-69	14,019	4-67	75,000	25-00	8-02	9,000	3-00
City.....	1855	278	300,000	1079-10	1,252,251	417-42	16,592	5-53	28,000	9-33	2-24	12,000	4-00
Bank of London.....	1855	344	300,000	872-09	1,059,352	353-13	12,365	4-12	4,680	1-56	0-44	7,500	2-50
Unity.....	1855	459	161,305	351-43	103,447	64-13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Western Bank of London...	1856	288	200,000	694-44	228,622	114-31	4,311	2-15	2,244	1-12	0-98	...	...

HALF-YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1858.

NAME OF BANK.	When established.	Number of Proprietors in February, 1858.	Amount of Capital Paid up.	Capital apportionable to each Proprietor.	Amount of Deposits and Current Accounts.	Ratio of Deposits and Current Accounts to Paid-up Capital.	Net Profits.	Ratio of Net Profits to Paid-up Capital.	Reserved Fund.	Ratio of Reserved Fund to Paid-up Capital.	Ratio of Reserved Fund to Deposits.	Dividends and Bonuses.	Ratio of Dividends to Paid-up Capital.
London and Westminster...	1834	1,648	£ 1,000,000	£ 606-80	£ 11,465,815	Per Cent. 1146-59	£ 86,351	Per Cent. 8-63	£ 175,204	Per Cent. 17-52	Per Cent. 1-53	£ 90,000	Per Cent. 9-00
London Joint-Stock.....	1836	1,149	600,000	522-19	9,367,722	1561-28	107,700	17-95	192,667	32-11	2-06	97,500	16-25
Union.....	1839	1,109	600,000	541-03	10,146,366	1690-99	67,541	11-26	165,000	27-50	1-63	45,000	7-50
London and County.....	1839	821	500,000	609-01	4,264,127	852-82	31,166	6-23	105,000	21-00	2-46	30,000	6-00
Commercial.....	1840	375	300,000	800-00	902,884	300-96	13,822	4-61	75,000	25-00	8-31	9,000	3-00
City.....	1855	278	300,000	1079-10	1,749,747	583-23	17,382	5-79	30,000	10-00	1-71	7,500	2-50
Bank of London.....	1855	344	300,000	872-09	1,300,903	433-63	11,891	3-96	8,160	2-72	0-63	7,500	2-50
Unity.....	1855	459	172,660	351-43	106,718	61-81	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Western Bank of London...	1856	288	200,000	694-44	278,951	139-48	5,677	2-84	2,244	1-12	0-80	3,000	1-50

POSITION OF THE FOLLOWING BANKS ON THE 30th JUNE, 1855.

NAME OF BANK.	When established.	Number of Proprietors.	Amount of Capital Paid up.	Capital apportionable to each Proprietor.	Amount of Deposits and Current Accounts.	Ratio of Deposits and Current Accounts to Paid-up Capital.	Net Profits.	Ratio of Net Profits to Paid-up Capital.	Reserved Fund.	Ratio of Reserved Fund to Paid-up Capital.	Ratio of Reserved Fund to Deposits.	Dividends and Bonuses.	Ratio of Dividends to Paid-up Capital.
London and Westminster.	1834	1,220	£ 1,000,000	£ 819-67	£ 8,166,553	Per cent. 816-66	£ 81,089	Per cent. 8-11	£ 134,526	Per cent. 13-45	Per cent. 1-65	£ 70,000	Per cent. 7-00
London Joint Stock	1836	850	600,000	705-88	6,594,238	1089-03	72,624	12-10	158,373	26-39	2-42	37,500	6-25
Union	1839	670	600,000	895-52	8,363,460	1393-93	*139,967	*23-33	120,000	20-00	1-44	*119,511	*19-92
London and County	1839	577	466,333	808-20	4,012,224	860-38	*34,394	*7-48	103,720	22-24	2-58	*21,201	*4-55
Commercial.....	1840	314	300,000	955-41	1,317,554	439-20	36,180	12-06	66,109	22-04	5-02	30,000	10-00

* For twelve months.

TABLE, SHOWING THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE AMOUNT OF "DEPOSITS," "NET PROFITS," "RESERVED FUND," AND "DIVIDENDS AND BONUS," FOR THE HALF YEAR ENDING 30TH JUNE, 1855, AND 30TH JUNE, 1858.

NAME OF BANK.	WHEN ESTABLISHED.	DEPOSITS.		NET PROFITS.		RESERVED FUND.		DIVIDENDS AND BONUS.	
		Difference.	Per Cent.	Difference.	Per Cent.	Difference.	Per Cent.	Difference.	Per Cent.
London and Westminster.....	1834	£ +4,277,193	+52.37	£ +12,793	+15.78	£ +24,071	+17.90	£ +10,000	+14.28
London Joint Stock.....	1836	+3,753,385	+57.44	+27,247	+37.52	+31,447	+19.86	+30,000	+80.00
Union.....	1839	+668,675	+7.99	*16,998	*12.14	+30,000	+25.00	*29,511	*24.69
London and County.....	1839	+166,059	+4.14	5,864	16.81	+1,280	+1.23	+3,799	+17.92
Commercial.....	1840	-382,473	-29.03	*6,695	*18.50	+8,891	+13.45	*12,000	*40.00

* For twelve months.

TABLE, SHOWING THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE AMOUNT OF "DEPOSITS," "NET PROFITS," "RESERVED FUND," AND "DIVIDENDS AND BONUS," FOR THE HALF YEAR ENDING 30TH JUNE, 1855, AND 31ST DECEMBER, 1858.

NAME OF BANK.	WHEN ESTABLISHED.	DEPOSITS.		NET PROFITS.		RESERVED FUND.		DIVIDENDS AND BONUS.	
		Difference.	Per Cent.	Difference.	Per Cent.	Difference.	Per Cent.	Difference.	Per Cent.
London and Westminster.....	1834	£ +3,299,262	+40.40	£ +5,262	+6.49	£ +40,678	+30.15	£ +20,000	+28.57
London Joint Stock.....	1836	+2,833,484	+43.36	+35,076	+48.27	+34,294	+21.65	+60,000	+160.00
Union.....	1839	+1,782,906	+21.32	*4,931	*3.52	+45,000	+37.50	*29,511	*24.69
London and County.....	1839	+251,903	+6.28	3,728	10.61	+1,280	+1.23	+8,799	+41.50
Commercial.....	1840	-414,670	-31.47	*8,339	*23.05	+8,891	+13.45	*12,000	*40.00

* For twelve months.

THE JOINT STOCK BANKS OF LONDON.

ONE of the most remarkable features of modern trade is the great success of the London Joint Stock Banks. The oldest of them has not yet been twenty-five years in existence. Till the year 1826 such banks could not be established here—they were contrary to law, which regarded them with abhorrence, as housewives regard vermin, and would on no account tolerate them. Even then the State—representing the whole people, whose rights had been sold for a very meagre mess of pottage to the Bank of England—was obliged to ask its consent to repeal the law, or contract, of 1708, and allow banks to be established in England with more than six partners. The original intention of the law was to secure a monopoly to the Bank of England, and as this was conferred in return for a small loan to the State, the transaction was considered to be a bargain, and as the Bank is itself a chartered joint stock bank, none other was allowed. In Scotland, joint-stock banks were established very soon after the Bank of England; and they flourished there in almost perfect freedom from that time to the present. In somewhat different forms, too, joint-stock banks were established in other countries, and had been found very useful. Our legislature, however, was not taught the great injuriousness of its restrictions, till numerous and repeated disasters of private banks—brought about in the main by extreme variations in the value of securities and produce, caused by its conduct—drove it to review its own acts, and led to the relaxation of the old monopoly. Joint-stock banks were thereafter soon and eagerly established, because they were required in most of the large towns of the kingdom. They were not always well managed, and the successive failures of the Bank of Manchester, the Bank of Liverpool, and the Great Northern Bank, taught the public that the joint-stock principle did not necessarily ensure good management, and that, wanting correct knowledge and wise energy, banks could no more be successful than legislation, or any other work of man. In 1833 an Act further relaxed restrictions and enabled joint-stock banks to draw bills on their London agents, payable on demand, for a less sum than 50l.; and in 1834, the first joint-stock bank—The London and Westminster—was established in the metropolis. This was soon followed by the London Joint-Stock Bank, established in 1836; by the Union and London and County Bank, established in 1839, and by the Commercial in 1840. Then there was a pause for a considerable period, till the mismanaged Royal British Bank came to add to the conviction, that joint-stock banking demanded above all things honesty, care, and discretion. Since 1855 four more banks have been successfully established, and several attempts have been made to establish others. Now we are enabled to compile a table of nine successful joint-stock banks existing in the metropolis alone, and illustrate by a few figures, in conjunction with the facts just stated, the injury of restrictions and the wonderful advantages of freedom.

The nine banks belong to 6,471 proprietors, who shared amongst them, for the half-year ended December 31st, net profits to the amount of 841,530l., some of it being appropriated to increase their capital under the name of a reserved fund, and 289,500l. having been handed over to them in bonuses and dividends. Only one, the Unity, paid no dividend; the dividends of the others in the half-year varied between 1.50 and 16.25 per cent. on the paid-up capital of the shareholders. The reserved fund, or sum gained and put aside by the several banks to meet contingencies amounts to

no less than 753,275*l.*, while the paid-up capital is 3,972,660*l.*, making together a sum of 4,725,935*l.* belonging to the shareholders. These vast sums subscribed and gained, give, however, only a faint notion of the business carried on by these banks. On the security offered by their capital, and the continued prudence by which their affairs have been managed, the public entrusts them with money on current accounts, and in deposit, to the amount, at the end of December, of 39,583,233*l.* This is 16,873,586*l.* more than the deposits, not distinguished from the accounts current entrusted to the keeping of the Bank of England which, at the same period, amounted to only 22,709,647*l.*, though then swollen by all the public money, which in a few days was to be disbursed to pay the dividends on the National Debt. The capital of the Bank of England, and its reserved fund amounting only to 17,668,077*l.*, the money entrusted to the joint-stock banks is only 794,491*l.* less than the sum entrusted to the Bank of England and its whole capital together. In less than twenty-five years the abolition of one trifling and almost meaningless restriction, to which no person for many years paid any attention, has permitted the development of a branch of industry more serviceable to the public, tested by the use they make of it, than the Bank of England, and, judging by the average dividends, almost twice as advantageous to the 6,471 proprietors as shares would be in the stock of this renowned corporation. So far as banking capital leads to the development of commerce these banks are now of nearly twice as much service to trade as that renowned Bank. That many circumstances have combined to produce this extraordinary result, such as the invention of railways and the great progress of society since 1834, is unquestioned; but such improvements and such inventions are always taking place; and always there are in existence—though a few inquirers only are acquainted with some of them—numerous restrictions, which everywhere prevent—as the old monopoly of the Bank of England prevented—the development of new, useful, and profitable branches of industry. Man's knowledge, too, of society is so imperfect that he can never learn how much injury such restrictions cause till after they are abolished and the new industry they prevent has become a living fact. We can, therefore, have no other guide to legislation on such matters than the general principles of freedom; and every restriction, consequently, should be opposed as certain to do harm, though we may not know in what manner and in what form the harm will come.

Having on general principles said thus much, let us now turn to the tables we have compiled, which show us the condition of each bank now and at the end of June, 1858, and the condition, for comparison, of such of these banks as were in existence at Midsummer, 1855. First, we see that since 1855 the capital of the five banks then established has only been increased by 33,667*l.*, while their reserved fund has been augmented from 582,728*l.* to 702,871*l.* They have all, therefore, been enabled to lay something by out of their gains. Our tables will show the reader the sums appropriated by each bank to the reserve, which makes it needless for us to dwell here on the proportions. It will be seen, however, that the net profits of these banks were considerably less—58,174*l.*—in the half-year ended with December last, and less in the half-year ended with June last, than they were in the year ended with June, 1855. They were, however, a small sum greater in the half-year ended with December than ended with June—facts which show that the joint-stock banks suffered to some extent from the commercial convulsion of 1847, but that the suffering was greater in the early part of the year than in the latter. It may be noticed that at both periods the largest

ratio of net profits per cent. to paid-up capital was found as the rule, though there is a slight exception in the case of the Union in the last half-year, in conjunction with the largest ratio of deposits and current accounts to paid-up capital. In other words, as the sum of money entrusted to the banks in proportion to their own capital was large, so was the amount of their net profits and the ratio of these to paid-up capital. This leads us at once to the source of the profits obtained by these banks. Confidence is not, as Mr. Gilbert says, money, but it is the means, if honestly and properly used, of making money. The vast sum, then, which the public places in the hands of these banks, enables them—actuated as they always are by similar motives and, therefore, as the rule, pursuing one line of conduct—to obtain a command over the markets of public securities far greater than is acquired by individuals. They are thus enabled to deal with such subjects on more advantageous terms than individuals, and to make a large profit on the aggregate sums entrusted to their keeping, which the individuals to whom they belong could never make, each by his own means, even if each one could turn his money to any account at all. The shareholders, then, obtain large dividends, and the depositors obtain a considerable interest by the sums placed in any bank being large in amount and skilfully handled. This principle is equally true of private bankers. They make large fortunes when they obtain confidence and behave well; and we have no doubt were their ledgers exhibited to public inspection we should find in many of them proofs that such men as Lord Overstone, and other bankers, had made far greater profits per cent., in proportion to their capital, than ever were made by any joint-stock banks, large as some of their profits have been. Indeed, it is known from many instances, that men who have deservedly acquired the confidence of their fellows have made fortunes, as bankers, without possessing any capital. One, then, of the great benefits of joint-stock banks, properly managed, is to diffuse amongst a great body of shareholders the vast advantages which accrue to individuals from enjoying the public confidence. With this is combined a very considerable advantage—an exposition of their affairs, which at once tends to make them deserve the public confidence, informs the public of the great advantages of credit, and reveals to it the chief mystery of the art by which so many individuals have made large fortunes.

It is for us rather a pleasant feature of the joint stock banks that the number of proprietors is increasing. By referring to the table it will be seen that, since 1855, the number in every one of the banks of which we have given a description in that year, had increased in 1858, and the average capital apportionable to each proprietor had decreased. To take the first and last of the series in 1855 the number of proprietors was 1,220 of the London and Westminster, and 314 of the Commercial; and the apportionable capital for each shareholder was then 819,67*l.* of the former, and 955,41*l.* of the latter. In 1858, however, the figures were—number of proprietors of the London and Westminster, 1,648; of the Commercial, 375; apportionable capital—former, 606,80*l.*; latter, 800,00*l.* The number of proprietors then is continually increasing, and the proportionable capital of each one decreasing. Such a fact recommends these banks to public approbation. They diffuse their advantages.

Referring more particularly to the instructive tables, which have been compiled with great care, with a view to notice the progress of the banks in the last six months, it will be seen that the current accounts and deposits of the London and Westminster declined in the half-year from 12,443,740*l.* to 11,465,815*l.*, or 977,931*l.*; the ratio of net profits to capital accordingly fell off from 9.39 per cent to 8.63, but the ratio of dividends to paid-up capital

increased from 8.00 to 9.00 per cent. The last half-year, therefore, was not, for the London and Westminster, so profitable as the first half-year of 1858,—rather at variance with the general fact already stated.

The deposits and current accounts in the London and Joint-Stock Bank also declined from 10,287,623*l.* in June to 9,367,722*l.*, or 919,901*l.* in December, and yet the amount of net profit was greater in the last than in the first six months of the year, and the ratio of net profits to paid-up capital was 17.95 in the latter, and only 16.65 in the former. The ratio of dividends also to paid-up capital was only 11.25 per cent. in the half-year ended with June, and 16.25 in the half-year ended with December. This bank seems, therefore, to have found—differing from its competitors—a more profitable employment for its diminished resources than for the larger sum entrusted to its care. This is somewhat contrary to the principle that profit depends on the sums entrusted to the banker and may require.

The Union Bank shows a considerable increase of deposits on current accounts—1,114,231*l.* more in December than in June; and in accordance with principle, and the general state of our commerce, it shows a very slight increase of net profits, and a very slight increase in the ratio of net profits to capital, and the same ratio of dividends to paid-up capital in the six months ended with December, compared to the six months ended with June.

The London and County Bank also shows an increase, though slight, of deposits in the last half-year, a small increase of net profits, and an augmentation of the ratio of net profits to paid-up capital, and of the ratio of dividends to paid-up capital from 5.00 to 6.00 per cent.

The deposits and current accounts in the Commercial Bank were less in the last than in the first half-year of 1858 by 32,197*l.*, on a total sum of 935,081*l.*, and its net profits diminished, as did the ratio they bear to its paid-up capital; while the ratio of its dividends was the same, and was at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum.

We shall not now extend in detail our remarks to the remaining four banks, all of which were established in or since 1855. We must observe however that both the City Bank and the Bank of London—the former with 1,749,747*l.*, amount of deposits and current accounts, at the end of December, and the latter with 1,300,903*l.*, and the former with a net profit in the half-year of 17,382*l.*—already exceed the Commercial on these points, which has the same amount of capital as each of them has, and was established fifteen years before them. It would seem therefore that the new banks are not uncalled for. Their success has been great; and in all of them the deposits and current accounts were greater in the last than in the first half-year of 1858. The total amount of deposits and current accounts, in the whole nine banks, was, in fact, at the close of the year—notwithstanding the diminution in those of the Westminster and London Joint-Stock—only 302,798*l.* less than at the end of June. We do not argue from this that the new banks have gained what the others lost; on the contrary, we believe that most of the accounts with the new banks are really new accounts, other men becoming depositors and keeping a banker; and that the accounts and deposits which the five banks have lost have been the consequence of the commercial disorder which affected so many persons. We shall probably find it necessary to refer to this very interesting subject.

BANK OF AUSTRIA.—The cash payments of the Bank are for the moment almost suspended, as all kinds of difficulties are thrown in the way of persons who wish to obtain silver in exchange for their notes. The rate of exchange on London is 105*fl.* Austrian currency for £10 sterling, which is equivalent to 10*fl.* conventional currency for £1 sterling.

GENERAL TRADE REPORT.

London, Friday Evening.

THE dulness which some staple manufactures have evinced during the week is solely attributable to the apprehensions of war, and the little reliance that is placed on the assertions of peace by foreign powers, while warlike preparations are continued by them with unabated activity. It is the general feeling that it would be better to have war on the Continent than to continue thus in a state of uncertainty, which presents a serious obstacle to the legitimate action of commerce.

LIVERPOOL.—A large demand sprung up in the early part of the week as hopes of peace became stronger. American descriptions were bought freely at an advance of one-eighth. No marked change has occurred in Brazilian or Egyptian sorts, but prices are very firm. The demand somewhat moderated later in the week, owing to higher prices and to renewed fears of war, but it revived at the close of the week, and continues brisk.

MANCHESTER.—The favourable advices from the Indian markets continue to influence trade. The last report from Calcutta indicated that the demand for English manufactures was still very active, and that prices had steadily advanced. The result of this satisfactory condition of affairs in India was to produce renewed activity in goods suited to the Eastern markets. It had the further beneficial effect of giving increased tone and firmness to the Home market. Orders for the Levant were also freely given out; and altogether, mills and manufacturers of yarns, twists, and cloths, are well employed at full prices, and will continue so for some time to come.

LEICESTER.—The hosiery trade, though not so active as it was last month, is still tolerably brisk. All useful goods are in demand at fair prices. The fancy trade, however, is dull. At Hinckley, Loughborough, and other hosiery districts, trade is active, but not brisk. The frame-work knitters in the town and in the neighbourhood are well employed.

NOTTINGHAM.—A slight improvement has taken place in the lace trade. The cotton branch of the trade has felt the improvement most, and the prospects are certainly brightening. In silk goods the trade is very slack. The hosiery trade is, however, very brisk. Manufacturers are tolerably well supplied with orders, and a good spring trade is anticipated. Useful goods are in demand for the home trade. Stocks are low, and wages and employ very good in the hosiery districts.

LEEDS.—The demand for fine goods not very large, but mixed and ordinary sorts found a ready market. The halls have been fairly but not largely attended.

ROCHDALE.—The work market has had a steady trade; but the colonial sales continue to attract attention. Long lustré wools continue to fetch high prices.

BIRMINGHAM.—Trade is pretty good, though the orders for export are not so large as anticipated.

SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE.—The iron trade is well employed with orders on hand both for home and foreign requirement. The Welch iron districts are likewise tolerably busy with orders for railway materials.

The **COAL TRADE** is active, but there still exists some discontent among miners in several districts.

HOME, COLONIAL, & FOREIGN PRODUCE MARKETS.

REVIEW OF THE WEEK.

Friday Evening.

THE general character of business in these markets has been inanimate, and purchases are still confined to the bare sufficiency for immediate requirement. A little more buying may be observed in some articles, as the result of a more hopeful feeling on political matters, but the restoration of confidence is very partial, and as a consequence, trade is still greatly retarded in those branches that are dependent upon continental demands.

CORN.—The continuously humid state of the atmosphere acts most prejudicially upon the newly threshed wheat, and so tends to keep the markets exceedingly dull, and notwithstanding the small quantity arriving at market, prices for badly conditioned samples have suffered a further decline of 1s. to 2s. per qr.; soft qualities of new white wheat have sold at 37s. to 38s.; good runs, 40s. to 41s.; dry, 40s. to 42s.; choice samples of old have realised about the previous currency. Foreign wheat: of wheat the imports have been moderate; can hardly be quoted cheaper, although the terms required are not readily obtainable. Choice Dantzic is held 54s. to 55s.; good, 50s. to 52s.; Brabant and Lorraine, white, 45s. to 46s.; red, 43s. to 44s.; St. Petersburg, 40s. to 42s.; Archangel, 39s. to 34s. per qr. Flour is somewhat irregular in price, according as factors are more or less disposed to force sales, the actual demand being upon the most limited scale. The top price of town made is however retained at 40s.; town household, 31s. to 32s.; seconds, 28s. to 29s.; and Norfolk, 27s. 6d., but on some occasions terms rather under these are accepted to. Foreign flour remains without quotable change, French marks being worth 93s. to 94s. per sack; best American brandy, 24s. to 25s.; good, 22s. to 23s.; and sour, 20s. to 21s. per barrel. The supplies of fixed malting barley are still small, and find a steady sale at full prices; select, 42s. to 44s.; good, 38s. to 41s.; common, 32s. to 33s. Foreign, although less plentiful, meets but a moderate sale, 23s. being the extreme price for the best samples of Odessa. In malt, the dealings are merely of a retail extent, and quotations are rather

easier; choice ware is worth 66s.; prime samples, 63s. to 64s.; low quotations, 55s. to 57s. Beans are not quite so disposable as in the previous week; best qualities have, however, commanded former rates. Peas, for stock feeding, continue in steady request, but otherwise, the mild weather checks consumption, and renders the trade dull. The very moderate imports have imparted increased firmness to the market, but the principal buyers hold off in expectation of better supplies shortly. For prime qualities adapted for seed, high prices are, however, paid and somewhat readily.

SEEDS.—Arrivals are again large, being 25,450 qrs. of which 24,100 are from the East Indies, and 1,350 from Odessa. Prices are, however, well supported—Bombay at 51s. 6d. to 52s. 6d., as to quality. But one cargo of Black Sea remains on the coast for sale. Advices from ports in the North of Russia confirm the reports current some time ago, that the forthcoming supplies will be abundant and quality fine. The arrivals of rapeseed have been unusually large, but the condition very bad, and fine sound qualities are consequently much wanted; Calcutta is quoted 50s. to 51s. 6d., fine; Bombay, Guzerat, 61s.; Ferozepore and Scinde, 46s. to 52s. per qr.

HOPS.—The demand for choice qualities continues active, and quotations have still an upward tendency. For other descriptions there is a steady market, and the turn of quotations is against the buyer.

POTATOES.—The demand continues very inactive, but York Regents, from their comparative scarcity, command full prices; Scotch are arriving pretty freely, and are in some cases rather cheaper. Better supplies generally are expected shortly, and purchases are made very sparingly in consequence. This morning York Regents were quoted 100s.; Scotch, 60s. to 70s.; cups, 60s. to 70s.; Dunbar Regents, 80s. to 90s.; cups, 70s. to 80s.; French, 60s. to 65s.; Dutch Regents, 55s. to 60s. per ton.

LIVE STOCK.—The number of cattle at market this week has been small. Prime breeds were in a steady demand at former prices, but inferior were difficult of sale, except at rather lower prices. Sheep, of which the supplies were also short, sold readily at 2d. per stone; advanced calves realised a further rate of 2d. to 4d. per stone. The numbers at market and current prices were as follows:—

MONDAY.			
Beasts.	Sheep.	Calves.	Pigs.
3,343	15,070	101	420
4s. to 4s. 10d.	4s. 4d. to 5s.	4s. 2d. to 5s. 8d.	3s. to 3s. 8d.
THURSDAY.			
950	4,050	90	180
4s. to 4s. 10d.	4s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.	4s. 4d. to 6s.	3s. to 3s. 8d.

PROVISIONS.—The dead meat markets have been moderately supplied, but the close weather has checked the demand, and prices show no improvement, although such might be reasonably expected from the high terms required for live stock. Beef this morning made 2s. 8d. to 4s.; mutton, 3s. to 4s. 2s.; veal, 4s. to 4s. 4d.; pork, 3s. to 4s. 4d. per stone.

SUGAR.—Purchases are not extended beyond the execution of immediate orders, but stocks are firmly held, and sales are not brought forward in excess of the actual demand. Grains Mauritius sugars: rve made rather higher prices. All good qualities of West India, from their comparative scarcity, are very firm. Benares may be quoted slightly easier, but other descriptions of Bengal remain about the same as before. The sales on the spot have consisted principally of Mauritius, at 38s. 6d. to 40s. 6d. for brown, 41s. 6d. to 45s. for yellow, and 43s. to 46s. 6d. for some grainy; Madras, at 45s. to 47s. 6d.; Bengal at 35s. to 37s. for date brown, 30s. to 30s. 6d. for yellow, and 44s. to 47s. 6d. for middling to fine white Benares; Havannah at 47s. to 47s. 6d. for florette, 41s. 6d. to 46s. for yellow. A floating cargo Rio Grande sold for the United Kingdom at 25s. 9d., and one of 300 tons, landed, at 35s. 6d. to 38s. 6d. per cwt. The West India advices report favorably of production. Refined sugars have been in very moderate demand; Brown lumps were to-day quoted at 52s. 6d. to 52s. 9d.

MOLASSES.—About 200 tons have been sold at 13s. 6d. to 18s. per cwt.

COFFEE.—Plantation Ceylon is sparingly offered, and prices are firm; fine ordinary to good is worth 60s. to 80s.; and fine Mocha, 85s. to 97s. Native Ceylon sells slowly at 51s. for good ordinary. For small parcels of Mocha high prices are asked. Rio coffees are in steady request. A landed cargo of 3,000 sold publicly at 40s. 1d. to 51s. for good and fine ordinary; and a floating cargo of 4,400 bags sold privately at 48s. for a near continental port.

TEA.—After remaining inactive during the great part of the week, the market yesterday was buoyant, and a further advance of 1d. per lb. was established. On Change this afternoon common congo sold at 1s. 1 1/2d. per lb.

COCOA.—Prices have not varied. A Government contract for 100 tons is advertised.

RICE.—Within the last two days a considerable demand has sprung up for soft grain descriptions, and about 30,000 bags have changed hands, including Bassem at 7s. 10 1/2d., Rangoon at 7s. 9d., and Neeangle at 8s. 4 1/2d. At auction, good Ballam sold at 8s. Bengal rice is firmly held, but meets comparatively little attention.

OILS.—The export demand for linseed has abated, and the production increased. On the spot 20l. 10s. to 20l. 15s. is now the extreme value. Rape oil continues out of demand, and prices incline in the buyer's favour; fine foreign refined offering at 45l. to 45l. 10s.; brown, 41l. 10s. to 42l., and English brown, 40l. 10s. to 41l.; for future deliveries, 15s. to 20s. under these prices have been accepted. Olive is again quoted slightly cheaper, with very little inquiry; Gallipoli, 40l.; Mogadore, to 43l. 10s. Light stock and anticipated falling-off in

supplies have led to a further improvement, and 44l. per ton has in many instances been paid, but there are now ready sellers at the price. Owing to large supplies expected from the United States and the colonies, sperm has declined to 97l. and 98l. Cocoa-nut oil has again sold largely at 43l. to 43l. 10s., for Cochin; 40l. to 41l., for Ceylon; and 40l. for good Sydney, but the market closes with less buoyancy.

WHALEFINS.—A few tons very fine long Polar, just in from the United States have sold at 500l. per ton, and also several parcels, Southern, from our own colonies, from 385l. to 400l. per ton.

TURPENTINE.—Rough quoted 11s.; no arrivals. Spirits 41s. 6d. to 42s. American, and 40s. English.

SALTPETRE.—Transactions are limited, but holders show no disposition to press sales. On the spot, some small parcels (fine) have sold at 43s. 6d.; and for arrival 40s. to 41s. is quoted.

SPIRITS.—Moderate sales of rum have taken place at late rates. Demerara, 2s. 1d. to 2s. 4d.; Leewards, 1s. 7d. to 1s. 9d. Stock 26,980 puncheons against 20,300 last year.

SPICES.—White pepper is delivered for stiffer prices. At sale, Singapore and Penang imports were bought in at 8 1/2d. and 8 1/2d.; black is again rated dearer; 4d. paid for Sumatra cloves have been taken off freely at 3 1/2d., and 3 1/2d. for good Zanzibar; Pimento is steady in value at 3d. to 3 1/2d. for ord. to good mid. Cassia Lignea is unsaleable in quantity except at lower prices.

INDIGO.—The quarterly sales of East India, comprising 9,900 chts., which commenced on the 8th, were concluded on Tuesday. The demand which, affected chiefly by political influences, was languid at the opening, improved throughout the sale, and at the close, prices of Bengal ranged from the average rates of the October sales to 3d. advance; Kurpali and Madras sold at the previous value. Of the total declared, 3,628 chts. were withdrawn, 2,472 bought in, and 3,852 sold. The sales of 1,712 tons Guatemala followed, the greater portion selling with good spirit at about 2d. under the January quotations, but 2d. to 3d. above the October sales.

COCHINEAL.—Clean grain is taken off steadily, at about late rates. Low pasty grains are irregular in price, with a limited demand.

DYE WOODS in general have been well supported. CAMPHOR has advanced to 75s. per cwt. Otherwise but little interest has transpired in drugs generally.

JUTE.—Fine qualities are much dearer, bringing from 23l. to 24l. 17s. 6d. Other grades are unaltered, and dull of sale.

COTTON.—A better demand has been experienced both here and at Liverpool. With a moderately good business, prices have, in some instances, improved 1/2d. per lb. The former accounts from the United States, and a more hopeful feeling on political matters, have chiefly contributed to the better position of the trade.

METALS.—The market has been dull for most descriptions, but prices have fluctuated much, except for Scotch pig iron, and spelter, both of which have been depressed. The former has been as low as 51s. 3d. to 51s. 6d., but closes to-day at 51s. 9d. to 52s.; and the latter has sold with much irregularity at prices varying from 21l. 17s. 6d. to 22l. 2s. 6d. per ton, and to-day is merely nominal.

TALLOW.—We have had a heavy market during the week; the delivery has been very moderate, consumers having purchased only to satisfy immediate want; there is still no surplus of Town tallow, and as the trade generally are out of stock we look for a revival of demand. We close flat; 52s. 9d. to 52s. 6d. spot; 52s. 6d. to 52s. 3d. February-March; 52s. 6d. March; 52s. 6d. April-June; and 52s. 3s. October-December. The public sales to day went off very flat; Australian beef at 51s. per cwt. St. Petersburg letters state the price, 169 spot; 170 May and June; 169 1/2 August, 170 sellers, 169 offered; 167 September, with 10 down. Cash tallow, August, 164. Exchange; 35 1/2s. Town tallow, 54s. 3d. Rough fat, 2s. 10d. Melted stuff, 40s.

RAILWAY INTELLIGENCE.

At the half-yearly meeting of the Edinburgh and Bathgate Railway a dividend was agreed to at the slightly increased rate of 6s. per share.

The Llynol Valley Company, at their meeting, passed a resolution adopting the report, declaring a dividend at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum on the preference stock and shares of the company, and at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum, free of income-tax, for the half-year ending the 31st of December last, upon the ordinary stock of the company, payable on the 21st inst.

At the half-yearly meeting of the Mid-Kent Railway Company, a dividend was declared at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum. The revenue of the six months had improved by 880l. over the like period of 1857. There was very little discussion, and the report was adopted.

The directors of the Scinde Railway Company will receive payments, in anticipation of calls upon the shares of the Indus Steam Flotilla, up to the 20th instant.

The directors of the Brighton Railway Company invite tenders for the construction of the first section of the Shoreham, Henfield, and Mid-Sussex branch. The first contract embraces about 10 miles.

At the half-yearly meeting of the Blackwall Railway Company, a dividend was declared of 3s. 6d. per share on the Old, and 3s. 2d. per share on the New series of Shares, for the six months just termi-

nated. The revenue for the half-year had improved by 2,593*l.* over the corresponding period of 1857. It was proposed by the directors that the shares should be consolidated into stock, at the rate of 10*l.* per share. Some discussion took place, but it was of a friendly character, and the report was adopted unanimously.

A dividend at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum was declared at the half-yearly meeting of the Kingston and Hitchen Railway Company, on the Kingston and Shepworth Extension Consolidated Stock.

The half-yearly meeting of the Stockton and Darlington Railway Company, on Monday, went off satisfactorily. The report was unanimously adopted, and the following dividends, payable on the 23rd inst. (less income-tax), were declared: Five per cent. on preference A and B; 6 per cent. on preference B and C; and 9½ per cent. on ordinary shares.

The half-yearly meeting of the Northern Counties Union Company was held on Wednesday. The chairman announced that the suit with the North Eastern had at length been brought to a successful termination. The proposed dividend of 2*s.* 8*d.* per share would take about 7,000*l.*, leaving a balance in hand of about 7,000*l.* The directors did not expect to be in a position to continue the half-yearly payment of 1*s.* 4*d.* per share. The report and dividend were agreed to.

At the meeting of the Midland Railway Company, held at Derby on Wednesday, the report was adopted, and a 5½ per cent. dividend declared.

A general half-yearly meeting of shareholders in the Lancashire and Yorkshire Company agreed to a dividend of only four per cent. The directors took credit for reducing the dividend to meet the legitimate expenses of the company.

BEDFORD, POTTON, AND CAMBRIDGE.—A public meeting held at Cambridge, the Mayor in the chair, has expressed approval of this project. It proposes to extend the Bletchley and Bedford branch of the London and North-Western from Bedford to Sandy, which is already connected with Potton by a line constructed by the late Sir William Peel. The new company proposes to purchase or lease this little line, and to carry their railway on from this point to Cambridge, forming a junction with the Eastern Counties at the bridge on the Hills-road.

FRENCH RAILWAYS.—The following are the last returns of the gross receipts of the principal French railways, from Jan. 29 to Feb. 4:—

	Passengers.	Goods.	Total.	Corres. week last year.
Northern.....	269,170	749,486	1,018,656	1,017,031
Western.....	291,491	462,659	754,150	637,378
Orleans.....	285,332	783,255	1,068,587	944,447
Strasbourg.....	251,554	748,754	1,000,308	1,000,308
Paris to Medit.....	436,626	1,182,668	1,619,294	1,376,681
Southern.....	93,816	283,741	377,557	245,063
Lyons to Geneva.....	16,706	17,398	34,104	19,232

JOINT-STOCK COMPANIES.

A MEETING of the European and American Steam Company took place on Saturday, Mr. Austen in the chair. The accounts with Messrs. Croskey are still before the arbitrators. The negotiations for the permanent employment of the ships of the company in the transport of troops to India or for their sale to the Government have ceased for the present, the Council of India being unwilling to accept the terms proposed. The issue of new debentures has not met with the success that had been anticipated, but, from the directors and their friends having subscribed to meet pressing claims, the financial position of the company is thus far satisfactory. Several proposals having been received for the purchase of some of the company's ships; a resolution was passed empowering the board to accept any offer that may appear advantageous.

The meeting of proprietors of the English, Scottish, and Australian Chartered Bank was held on Wednesday. The dividend declared, out of a balance of 13,568*l.*, was at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum, leaving, after deductions, 2,068*l.* to be carried to the reserve fund, thereby increasing it to 8,960*l.* The operations for the half-year have been less favourable than was expected, a result which is ascribed to the high prices maintained for gold for transmission to this country, with the consequent effect upon the exchanges. The directors' report was adopted.

The second ordinary general meeting of the British and Irish Magnetic Telegraph Company was held on Tuesday at Liverpool. The balance-sheet shows the total working expenses for the half-year to be 41,578*l.* 5*s.* 11*d.*; the interest on loans and dividend for year on terminable preference shares (class B), 6,990*l.* 11*s.* 5*d.* The receipts are 72,836*l.* 3*s.* 8*d.*; the balance available for dividend on shares (classes A and C) to 31st December being 12,000*l.* 10*s.* 4*d.*

At a meeting of the Lands Improvement Company, Sir Charles Rich, Bart., in the chair, the report was adopted and a dividend declared for the past half-year at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum,

free of income-tax, with a bonus of 2*s.* 6*d.* per share. Notwithstanding the general stagnation in 1858, the business of the company has exceeded the original calculation of 200,000*l.* per annum. The net profits for the half-year have been 2,171*l.*

At the half-yearly meeting of the Berlin Water Works Company a report was presented, showing very slow progress in their operations, and a deficiency on the six months of 343*l.* 7*s.* 7*d.* The revenue was however improving; and it was hoped that the lowering of the pipes, so as to prevent future disasters, would enable them to obtain the confidence of the population of Berlin. It was stated by the chairman that they had every prospect of obtaining an extension of the company's privileges, and that there was a stipulation that, at the end of the concession, a valuation should be made of the property, so that the shareholders might be reimbursed, in the case of the Government wishing to take over the company's works. The report was adopted.

The Inter-Colonial Royal Mail Steam Company have lately received very favourable advices from Australia, where their vessels had commenced the postal service between Sydney and the various ports in New Zealand. The colonists were very pleased with the steamers, and the establishment of an efficient communication had given general satisfaction.

MONEY MARKET AND STOCK EXCHANGE.

FRIDAY EVENING.

THE continued dullness of the market for public securities, when the great abundance of money and the little demand for it, with a general appearance of prosperity, all tend to a rise in prices, is a strong testimony to the uneasiness which the conduct of the French and Sardinian rulers continues to excite. Inanition is the character of these markets, both at home and abroad. On the Stock Exchange to-day, and, indeed, for three days past, scarcely a bargain has been made, and only those who have to reiterate similar or routine facts, day after day, can have much to write. Telegrams from Vienna and Paris brought information to-day of lower prices or stagnant markets from both places, which helped to make our markets flat and drooping. Consols were at 95½ or ½ all day, and other stocks remain in their former condition. For money there is no demand, and the terms are about the same as last week—2 per cent. for the best bills, as nobody is willing to force the market. For this stagnant, and to all dealers unpleasant, condition, only the Emperor of the French and the King of Sardinia and his minister are considered responsible, and there is growing astonishment at the fact that power should be given to such persons to disturb all Europe. East India Stocks are somewhat in demand, and India Debentures are firmer. The financial condition of our empire in Asia is not regarded as extremely unfavourable, in spite of the demands—not so large as were anticipated—which it makes, through Lord Stanley, on our money resources.

Bullion continues to arrive from many quarters, and there is no want of this usually considered most precious commodity.

Attention has been properly directed in the week to the great cost of the Post Office Mail Packet service—very nearly a million sterling. The sum would not be begrudged were the service well performed; but it is not; and, meanwhile, men are aware that with freedom, trade could organise a service much cheaper, and far more satisfactory, than that of the Government. This stands, as it were, apart from trade, and the two do not always take the same course. Letters and passengers are, in the main, consequences of trade, and should follow its routes. They could at least help one another more efficaciously than they are helped by Government.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending on Wednesday, the 10th day of February, 1859.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.	
Notes issued.....	£33,530,330
Government Debt	£11,015,100
Other Securities	3,450,000
Gold Coin & Bullion	10,004,330
Silver Bullion	—
	£33,530,330
BANKING DEPARTMENT.	
Proprietors' Capital.....	£14,551,000
Reserve.....	3,350,321
Public Deposits (including Exchange, Savings Banks, Commissioners of National Debt, and Dividend Accounts).....	7,020,255
Other Deposits.....	14,538,808
Seven Day and other Bills.....	700,048
	£40,871,422
	£40,871,422
M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.	
Dated Feb. 17, 1859.	

THE PIEDMONT LOAN.—"It is rumoured," says *Galignani*, "that M. Charles Lafitte, the banker, and two English houses, are about to undertake the Piedmontese loan."

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, February 15.

BANKRUPTS.

- WILLIAM TIBBS, Ketland, Rutlandshire, parchment and leather manufacturer.
- JOHN KNOTT, Maidstone, draper.
- JAMES WINDSOR SLEGG, Strood, near Rochester.
- JUDAH COSTA DAVIS, and CHARLES, Minories, foreign importers and merchants.
- THOMAS RATTRAY, Commercial-road, Middlesex, iron-monger.
- WILLIAM GOODMAN, Birmingham, leather merchant.
- WILLIAM FOWLER, Bradford, grocer.
- Friday, Feb. 18.
- JOSHUA SCOTT, cloth manufacturer, Thackley, Yorkshire.
- WILLIAM WILLIAMS, grocer, Newport, Monmouthshire.
- JOSEPH GIBBONS VICKERS, licensed victualler, Liverpool.
- WILLIAM HENRY NEWTON, builder, Stratford.
- SAMUEL DAWSON, worsted manufacturer, Wakefield.
- THOMAS COULSON TAYLOR, house decorator, Conduit-street, Hanover-square.
- WILLIAM BOULD, boot maker, Wolverhampton.
- JAMES PURSELL, confectioner, Cornhill, and Hernehill, Surrey.
- JOHN LANGDALE, innkeeper, and butcher, Brompton.
- BERNARD POLAK, foreign importer and dealer, Broadstreet Buildings.
- RICHARD HENRY LONGSTAFF, draper, Brewer-street, Somers's Town.
- EDWARD HEWITT, corn-factor, late of Chatham.
- SCOTCH BANKRUPTS.
- JOHN DREW EWING, property agent, Glasgow.
- ALEX. GRAY SIMPSON, coalmaster, Glasgow.
- DAVID LOW ERSKINE, farmer, Drumkilbo, Perthshire.

THE NEW RUSSIAN LOAN.—Representatives of the banking firms of Baring, in London, and Hope, in Amsterdam, have arrived in St. Petersburg, to make arrangements for that part of the new Russian loan not to be disposed of within the frontiers of the Empire. The negotiations at their present stage are enveloped in mystery.

THE LESSEPS SCHEME.—M. Ferdinand de Lesseps left Paris on Wednesday, for Alexandria, for the expressed purpose of commencing the works of the Isthmus of Suez Canal. A grand farewell dinner was given to him on Monday by the directors of the concern.

THE LIVERPOOL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.—At an adjourned meeting held on Monday, a memorial to the Board of Trade, in support of the bill promoted by the Mersey Docks and Harbour Board, for power to borrow 300,000*l.* for additional dock works on the Liverpool side of the Mersey, was agreed to. It was stated that the opposition to the bill which had sprung up was neither from parties connected with the port nor from the manufacturers of Lancashire or Yorkshire. At the same meeting, Messrs. Torr, Birch, and Heath were elected members of the council of the chamber in place of those retiring.

NEWFOUNDLAND FISHERIES.—A statement has been made to the effect that the Governments of France and England have arranged to appoint Commissioners to investigate the Newfoundland fisheries dispute, in which the late Government, it is said, gave undue advantages to France. A commission such as is proposed would be able to ascertain the real facts of the case, and we should hope that future negotiations on the subject would thereby be rendered more just and easy.

AUSTRIAN SUBMARINE TELEGRAPH.—The negotiations between England and Austria, relative to the construction of an electric telegraph from Ragusa to Alexandria, have terminated, and a convention has been concluded on the subject. Austria undertakes to lay cables between Ragusa, Corfu, Zante, Candia, and Alexandria; that is, to lay one cable containing three electric wires between each of the places mentioned. The estimated outlay being 500,000*l.*, England agrees to guarantee, for a period of twenty-five years, one-half of an interest of 6 per cent on that sum. It is agreed that all the cables shall be laid within eighteen months, but the Austrian Government is resolved, if possible, to complete the telegraph from Ragusa to Alexandria within one year from the month of May. Austria is only bound to lay one cable, but it is thinking of having three. The cables between Ragusa and Corfu, and Corfu and Zante, are to be down in the course of this year. Mr. Brett was the original contractor with the Austrian Government, but he is said to have ceded his rights to Mr. Newall. When the electric telegraph is complete it will be transferred to an Anglo-Austrian Company, the composition of which is exactly specified in the convention.

HATTON TO STRATFORD-ON-AVON.—This new line of railway will branch out at the Hatton station of the Great Western Railway, and will be about nine and a half miles in length. The estimated cost is from 75,000*l.* to 80,000*l.* The mixed gauge will be laid throughout, as there will be three stations between Hatton and Stratford.

SHARES AND STOCKS.

Main table listing various companies and their shares, including Ambergate & Co., Chester and Holyhead, Eastern Counties Extension, and others. Columns include No. of Shares, Amount of Shares, Name of Company, and London.

Summary table for ENGLISH STOCKS, FOREIGN STOCKS, and FOREIGN STOCKS. Includes entries like Bank Stock, Do. Do. Scrip, Austrian Bonds, and Russian Bonds.

* Ex. Dividend, or ex. New.

* Ex. Dividend, or ex. New.

JOINT STOCK BANKS.

JOINT STOCK BANKS.

Table listing joint stock banks with columns for No. of Shares, Dividends per annum, Names, Shares, Paid, and Price per Share.

THE PRESS IN CHINA.—A meeting of public interest was held at Newcastle-on-Tyne, on Wednesday. In November last the Government of Hong Kong prosecuted Mr. William Tarrant, the editor of the *Friend of China*, for charging them with having destroyed certain documents, which implicated Mr. Caldwell, the Registrar-general and Protector of Chinese. It had been imputed to Mr. Caldwell that, although a British official, he had held intimate relations with one Mahchow Wang, a notorious pirate, who, although great efforts were made to effect his release, had been tried for his crimes, and convicted by a jury. The evidence of Mr. Caldwell's connection with the pirate was said to be contained in the papers which had been destroyed by the local Government. The witnesses for the prosecution, some of whom were members of the Government, admitted that the documents in question had been burnt, and the result was that the jury returned a verdict for the defendant without calling upon him for his defence. Another singular feature of the case was, that Mr. Chisholm Anstey, the Attorney-General, who had been suspended by Governor Bowring, was retained as counsel for the defence; but by the precipitate verdict of the jury he was prevented from delivering a speech which would, perhaps, have shed some light upon his own case, as well as have given us a more intimate acquaintance with the conduct of the Government in regard to Mr. Caldwell. Be this as it may, enough is known to require from Parliament a searching investigation.

COLONIAL CONGRATULATIONS FOR THE QUEEN.—The Hon. John Baker, member of the Legislative Council at Adelaide, has just arrived in England. This gentleman, who is one of the largest landed and stock proprietors in South Australia, where he has long resided, lately held the office of first minister in the colony, and by the unanimous vote of the council is charged with an address to her Majesty on the marriage of the Princess Royal.

A BRACE OF ADVANTAGES.—One advantage of living at Eastbourne,—that you get the morning papers earlier than you do in London. One advantage of living in London,—that you get much better fish than you do at Eastbourne.—*Punch.*

KEATING'S COUGH LOZENGES.

A safe and certain remedy for Coughs, Colds, Hoarseness, and other Affections of the Throat and Chest. In INFLUENZA, CONSUMPTION, ASTHMA, and WINTER COUGH they are unfailing. Being free from every hurtful ingredient, they may be taken by the most delicate female or the youngest child; while the PUBLIC SPEAKER and PROFESSIONAL SINGER will find them invaluable in allaying the hoarseness and irritation incidental to vocal exertion, and also a powerful auxiliary in the production of MELODIOUS ENUNCIATION. Prepared and sold in Boxes, 1s. 1/4d., and Tins, 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d., and 10s. 6d. each, by THOMAS KEATING, Chemist, &c., 79, St. Paul's Churchyard, London. Retail by all Druggists and Patent Medicine Vendors in the World.

HALSE'S SCORBUTIC DROPS.

This old-established HERBAL PREPARATION has a marvellous 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.

ECLECTIC MEDICAL INSTITUTE.

And PRIVATE BATH ESTABLISHMENT, 105, Great Russell-street, Bloomsbury, W.C.—Simple and Medicated VAPOUR, GALVANIC, and ELECTRO-CHEMICAL BATHS, on improved principles. For the extraction of Lead, Mercury, and other Minerals from the body, and for the cure of Nervous, Diabetic, Paralytic, Cutaneous, Hepatic, Spinal, Rheumatic Gout, and other diseases. Medical Superintendent—JOHN SKELTON, Esq., M.D., M.R.C.S., Eng.

For terms, &c., see circular, sent free upon receipt of address.

TRIESEMAR.

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. TrieseMAR, No. 1, is a remedy for relaxation, spermatorrhoea, and exhaustion of the system. TrieseMAR, 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. TrieseMAR, 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. TrieseMAR, Nos. 1, 2, and 3, are alike devoid of taste or smell, and of all nauseating qualities. They may lie on the toilet table without their use being suspected.—Sold in tin cases, price 11s., free by post 1s. 8d. extra to any part of the United Kingdom, or four cases in one for 33s., by post, 3s. 2d. extra, which saves 11s.; and in 57 cases, whereby there is a saving of 17. 12s.; divided into separate doses, administered by Valpeau, Lallemand, Roux, &c. Sold by D. Church, 78, Gracechurch-street; Bartlett Hooper, 43, King William-street; G. F. Watts, 17, Strand; Prout, 220, Strand; Hannay, 63, Oxford-street; Sanger, 103, Oxford-street, London; R. H. Ingham, Market-street, Manchester; and Powell, 15, Westmoreland-street, Dublin.

NERVOUSNESS, EPILEPSY, MIND, and HEAD COMPLAINTS, INDIGESTION, DYSPEPSIA, &c., their Causes and Cure.—AN ESSAY; the result of a long and extended practice in the treatment of nervous maladies, head affections, indigestion, relaxation, debility, &c., and intended as a source of easy reference for the non-professional reader. By A PHYSICIAN. Few diseases are more prevalent, less understood, and consequently more erroneously treated, than the above, to which thousands of invalids, whose prolonged sufferings have been an enigma to their friends, trace their position; while in most cases the immediate cause of those complaints remains unknown to them, and any treatment, in the absence of this knowledge, becomes uncertain, often fruitless. Where ordinary resources prove abortive, the use of the microscope is not unfrequently attended with the happiest results, the long-concealed cause of much misery being thereby brought to light, and a correct and generally successful mode of treatment at once indicated. The object of this work is to clear up some matters of vital importance that have hitherto remained obscure, and to point out to the nervous and hypochondriacal invalid the means by which he may arrive at a state of health to which, in all probability, he has long been a stranger. The above will be sent post free on receipt of twelve postage stamps, by Mr. RUDGE, 4, Hand-court, Holborn, London.

PUBLIC OPINION AND PATRONAGE have proved that the supply of the 45s. Black Cloth Frock and Dress Coats are the best in London. Observe the address—J. SMITH, 38, LOMBARD-STREET.

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 breath and lungs. They have a most pleasant taste. Price 1s. 1/4d., 2s. 9d., and 11s. per box. Sold by all medicine vendors.

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