

Fredrick Quer Tomlin's, 10 Cashmere St. Strand.
Publisher

The Leader.

A POLITICAL, LITERARY, COMMERCIAL AND FAMILY WEEKLY NEWSPAPER,
AND

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

VOL. X. No. 507.]

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1859.

PRICE { UNSTAMPED..FIVEPENCE
Stamped.....Sixpence.

NOTICE.

THE Court of Directors of the ST. KATHARINE DOCK COMPANY do hereby give notice that a HALF-YEARLY GENERAL MEETING of the PROPRIETORS of the ST. KATHARINE DOCKS will be held at the Dock House, Tower Hill, in the County of Middlesex, on FRIDAY, the 20th day of JANUARY next, at One o'clock precisely, for the purpose of declaring a Dividend on the Capital Stock of the Company, for the Half Year ending the 31st of December next. The Accounts of Receipt and Expenditure of the said Company for the year ending the 31st December next, will be ready for inspection and examination by the Proprietors, at the Dock House, on and after Friday, the 6th day of January next. The Transfer Books of the Company will be Closed from Thursday, the 22nd December next, until Tuesday, the 31st January next, both days inclusive.

By order of the Court,
T. W. COLLET, Secretary.
St. Katharine Dock House, 29th November, 1859.

THE FESTINOG SLATE QUARRY COMPANY (LIMITED).

A LARGE portion of the required New Capital is now Subscribed for, and it is probable that allotments to the public will shortly close.

The contract for the purchase of the fee-simple of the Estate (260 acres) has been effected upon very advantageous terms.

Preliminaries for the construction of the proposed Railroad and the expansion of the Works are entered upon, and both operations will be carried out with as little delay as possible, so as to secure an early dividend.

The CAPITAL of the COMPANY consists of £100,000, in 20,000 SHARES of £5 each.

Of two classes, viz.:—A. participating in the entire profits after paying of Dividend to B. B. bearing a Preference Dividend not exceeding 7½ per cent. per annum, payable out of the profits of the year.

Deposit 1s. per Share on application, and 19s. per Share on Allotment.

DIRECTORS.

David Davies, Esq., St. James's Mount, Liverpool.
Alfred Erasmus Dryden, Esq., Lincoln's Inn, London.
Richard Morris Griffith, Esq., Banker, Bangor.
William Mountcastle, Esq., Market Street, Manchester.
Hugh Pugh, Esq., Banker, Pwllheli, North Wales.

BANKERS.

The London Joint Stock Bank, London.
The National Provincial Bank of England, Bangor.

The Quarries of the Company are situated on the Tyddynbach Estate, Festinog, North Wales, contiguous to the extensive and profitable quarries of Lord Palmerston and others, whose production is known as the Portmadoc Slate. The Tyddynbach Estate contains 260 acres of Proved Slate Rock of excellent quality, and of a dip most favourable for economic working, affords natural drainage, a plentiful supply of water power, and ample room for deposit of waste.

The Property is held by the Company under a 42 years' lease granted in 1848 to the former small proprietor at a low Royalty, with an option to purchase the fee-simple. This Lease and Option with the whole of their Quarries, Buildings, Works, and Plant have been purchased from the former proprietors by an allotment of 7,514 Shares in the present Company taken at £4 per share paid.

The Quarries have been in operation since 1848, and the quality of the Slate and Slabs produced, the Reports based upon Scientific Surveys of the whole Estate, and Experimental Tests applied at different points (see Prospectus), fully establish the soundness of the undertaking and the certainty of a large dividend resulting from further outlay of capital.

It is estimated that a further capital of from £30,000 to £40,000 will enable the Company to purchase the Fee-simple; to construct a Railroad three miles in length, connecting the Quarries with the Port of Shipment (Portmadoc) whereby the cost of transit will be reduced two-thirds, and to increase the Workings up to a production of 50,000 tons per annum, from which it is estimated a profit of from £30 to £40 per cent. would be realised.

Application for Shares must be made to the undersigned, from whom proper forms and prospectuses may be obtained.

HARRIS & WHITEFIELD, Solicitors.
HENRY WHITEWORTH, Secretary.

Office, 6, Cannon-street, London, E.C.

DEPOSIT AND DISCOUNT BANK.

FIVE PER CENT. on sums for fixed periods, or at seven days' notice, or Three per Cent. at CALL.

G. H. LAW Manager.

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

INVENTORS' ASSISTANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

Capital, £25,000, in shares of £1 each (with power to increase it to £100,000).
Deposit 5s. per share.

Incorporated under Joint Stock Companies' Acts, 1856-57-58. Under the direction of a Council and Managing Committee appointed by the Shareholders.

5s. per share to be paid on application, and 5s. per share at one month after allotment. With two calls, if required, of 5s. each share, at intervals of not less than three months, and with sixty days' notice in each case.

DIRECTORS.

Samuel Hall, Esq., 19, King's Arms Yard, City (ex-Director and Chairman of the Midland Counties Railway).
Adam Stoker Mather, Esq., 22, Hollingworth-street, Barnsbury.

Stephen Henry Crosswell, Esq., 86, St. James's-street, Piccadilly.

BANKERS—Ransom, Bouverie, and Co., Pall Mall East.
SOLICITORS—Grane, Son, and Fesenmeyer, 23, Bedford Row, W.C.

SECRETARY—Sitwell Harris.

OFFICES AND MANUFACTORY.

Nos. 1, 2, and 3, GOUGH STREET NORTH, Gray's Inn Road, W.

ABRIDGED PROSPECTUS.

THE leading feature of this Company is, that it investigates the merit of any invention submitted to it, by the aid of scientific and practical men, selected with special regard to their qualifications, as impartial judges. Such inventions as are approved are patented or registered, and manufactured by the Company, for sale, on a scale sufficient to establish their value, without cost to the inventor, who will share, under agreement, in all profits arising therefrom.

As an earnest of these intentions, the Managing Committee have secured a long lease, on most advantageous terms, of extensive premises, containing a spacious manufactory, provided with suitable plant, where models can be made and tried, and patented articles manufactured for sale.

Valuable patents, already arranged for, are now being so manufactured, at a net profit of 300 per cent.; while several very promising inventions are under consideration.

The advantages thus enumerated justify the Directors in recommending the undertaking to the notice of small capitalists, as an investment well worthy their special consideration.

That the large mass of inventors are unable to carry out their designs, is a fact patent to most practical observers. It is equally true that a great number of cases only require the judgment and kindly assistance of scientific and practical men to render them productive of immense public benefit. It is incontrovertible that our national importance and wealth have been more promoted by inventors than by any other class of men. Arkwright, Watt, Cort, Stephenson, and others scarcely less eminent, have produced an amount of wealth almost beyond calculation, though their inventions were received at first with coolness and incredulity. In short, all the improvements for our convenience and comfort, dating from a state of barbarity to one of high civilisation, are but the cumulative results of inventive ingenuity.

It must not be overlooked by the Shareholder that a patent gives an exclusive trade with the customers of the world, and that this Company will possess in no common degree such advantages as will, on the average, be immensely productive, and ensure a dividend that may surprise, and must satisfy all investors.

Applications for Shares, and full Prospectuses giving the fullest information, to be made personally, or by letter, to the Secretary, at the Offices, as above.

THE MINERVA LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

ESTABLISHED 1836.

HEAD OFFICE—No. 1, CANNON STREET WEST, LONDON, E.C.

EDWARD S. CODD, Esq., CHAIRMAN.

WM. CHIPFINDALE, Esq., DEPUTY-CHAIRMAN.

The Assurances in force on 31st December, 1858, amounted to £1,771,508.

The accumulated funds amounted to £302,045.

The annual income exceeded £77,000.

A fixed surrender value for whole-term policies.

This Company has always permitted the Assured to serve in Volunteer Corps or Local Militia without extra charge.

Policies effected on or before 31st December next will acquire an additional year's standing, if then in force, at the fifth division of profits in 1862.

W. T. ROBINSON, Actuary and Secretary.

ARGUS

LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY

39, THROGMORTON STREET, BANK.

Chairman—WILLIAM LEAF, Esq.

Deputy Chairman—JOHN HUMPHREY, Esq., Alderman.

Richard E. Arden, Esq.

Rupert Ingleby, Esq.

Edward Bates, Esq.

Saffery Wm. Johnson, Esq.

Thos. Farncomb, Esq., Ald.

Jeremiah Pilcher, Esq.

Professor Hall, M.A.

Lewis Pocock, Esq.

Physician—Dr. Jeaffreson, 2, Finsbury-square.

Surgeon—W. Coulson, Esq., 2, Frederick's-place, Old Jewry.

Actuary—George Clark, Esq.

Advantages of Assuring with this Company.

The Premiums are on the lowest scale consistent with security.

The assured are protected by an ample subscribed capital—an assurance fund of £480,000, invested on mortgage and in the Government stocks—and an income of £85,000 a-year.

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

Mutual Branch.

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

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

At the first division, a return of 20 per cent. in cash on the premiums paid was declared; this will allow a reverberatory increase, varying, according to age, from 66 to 28 per cent. on the premiums, or from 5 to 15 per cent. on the sum assured.

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

Claims paid in one month after proofs have been approved.

Loans upon approved security.

No charge for Policy Stamps.

Medical attendants paid for their reports.

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

No extra charge for the Militia, Volunteer Rifle, or Artillery Corps on Home Service.

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

E. BATES, Resident Director.

THE MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

(Established A.D. 1834.)

39, KING STREET, CHEAPSIDE, E.C., LONDON.

This is a purely Mutual Life Assurance Society, with a capital of 350,000, invested in Government and real securities, created entirely by the steady accumulation of the premiums, and all belonging to the members. The assurances in force are 1,400,000, and the income upwards of 60,000, per annum.

No extra charge to Assurers joining Volunteer Rifle or Artillery Corps.

CHARLES INGALL, Actuary.

N.B.—All Policies taken out on or before the 31st December, 1859, will have the advantage of one year in every Annual Bonus.

ESTABLISHED 1838.

VICTORIA AND LEGAL AND COMMERCIAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

18, KING WILLIAM STREET, CITY.

THE Business of the Company embraces every description of risk connected with Life Assurance.

Credit allowed of one-third of the Premiums till death, or half the Premiums for five years, on Policies taken out for the whole of life.

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

WILLIAM KATRAY, Actuary.



IMPERIAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.

1, OLD BROAD STREET, LONDON.—Instituted 1820

DIRECTORS.

GEORGE WILLIAM COTTAM, Esq., CHAIRMAN.
FREDERICK PATTISON, Esq., DEPUTY-CHAIRMAN.
Thomas G. Barclay, Esq.
James C. C. Bell, Esq.
James Brand, Esq.
Charles Currey, Esq.
George Henry Cutler, Esq.
George Davidson, Esq.
George Field, Esq.
George Hibbert, Esq.
Samuel Hibbert, Esq.
Thos. Newman Hunt, Esq.
J. Gordon Murdoch, Esq.
William R. Robinson, Esq.
Martin T. Smith, Esq., M.P.
Newman Smith, Esq.
SECURITY.—The assured are protected by a guarantee fund of upwards of a million and a half sterling from the liabilities attaching to mutual assurance.
PROFITS.—Four-fifths, or eighty per cent. of the profits are assigned to Policies every fifth year. The assured are entitled to participate after payment of one premium.
CLAIMS.—The Company has disbursed in payment of claims and additions upwards of £1,500,000.
Proposals for insurances may be made at the Chief Office, as above; at the Branch Office, 16, Pall-mall, London; or to any of the agents throughout the Kingdom.
SAMUEL INGALL, Actuary.

INCORPORATED 1847.

BRITISH EMPIRE MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

32, NEW BRIDGE-STREET, LONDON, E.C.

Annual income, £58,388.
Accumulated Fund £151,807 12s.
The profits declared have amounted to £63,418, yielding a Bonus of 27½ per cent. on the premiums, returnable in CASH to the members.
Since the commencement of the Company the amount paid to the widows and other representatives of deceased members is £79,142 3s. 9d.
Persons insuring this year will share in the Bonus to be declared up to December, 1863.
JAMES INGLIS, Secretary.

BANK OF DEPOSIT,

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1844.

3, PALL MALL EAST, LONDON.
CAPITAL STOCK, £100,000.

PARTIES DESIROUS OF INVESTING MONEY are requested to examine the Plan of the Bank of Deposit, by which a high rate of interest may be obtained with ample security.
Deposits made by Special Agreement may be withdrawn without notice.
The interest is payable in January and July.
PETER MORRISON, Managing Director.
Forms for opening Accounts sent free on application.

THE DISTRICT SAVINGS BANK, (LIMITED),

67, FLEET-STREET, LONDON, E.C.

THE experience which has attended the operations of savings banks and loan societies is such as to make it evident that an extension of their principles, upon a liberal yet sound basis, will prove highly advantageous both to the proprietors and the public.
The District Savings Bank receives deposits (paid in at one time) from One Penny to Ten Pounds, the aggregate amount to be unlimited, and subject to the usual arrangements, on withdrawal, of ordinary savings banks.
JOHN SHERIDAN, Actuary.

ACCIDENTS ARE OF DAILY OCCURRENCE.

Insurance data show that ONE PERSON in every FIFTEEN is more or less injured by Accident yearly.

An Annual Payment of £3 secures
A FIXED ALLOWANCE OF £6 PER WEEK
IN THE EVENT OF INJURY, OR
£1,000 IN CASE OF DEATH FROM
ACCIDENTS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION,
By a Policy in the

RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE COMPANY,

Which has already paid in compensation for Accidents £37,069.

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

NO CHARGE FOR STAMP DUTY.

CAPITAL, ONE MILLION.

WILLIAM J. VIAN, Secretary.

Railway Passengers' Assurance Company,
Offices, 3, Old Broad-street, London, E.C.

PRIZE MEDAL LIQUID HAIR DYE.

ONLY ONE APPLICATION.

INSTANTANEOUS, INDELEBIL, HARMLESS, & SCENTLESS.
In Cases, post free, 3s. 3d. and 6s., direct from E. F. LANGDALE'S Laboratory, 72, Hatton Garden, London, E.C.

"Mr. Langdale's preparations are, to our mind, the most extraordinary productions of modern chemistry."—ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, July 19, 1851.

A long and interesting report on the Products of E. F. Langdale's Laboratory, by a Special Scientific Commission, from the Editor of the LANCET, will be found in that journal of Saturday, January 10th, 1857. A copy will be forwarded for two stamps.

AGENTS WANTED.

THE NEW DISCOVERY.—For the Restoration and Reproduction of the Hair.—Mr. Langdale guarantees his QUINTESSENCE OF CANTHARIDINS most successful as a restorative, also in checking greyness, strengthening weak hair, and preventing its falling off; most effectual in the growth of whiskers, moustachios, &c. The money immediately returned if not effectual. Post free for 2s. 6d. in Stamps.—Laboratory, 72, Hatton Garden.

E. F. LANGDALE'S RASPBERRY AND CHERRY TOOTH PASTE.—The most delicious preparation ever produced for the Teeth, Gums, and Breath. Post free from the Laboratory, 72, Hatton Garden, for 1s. 3d. in stamps.

THE DAY OF SMALL THINGS.

By the Author of "Mary Powell."

ARTHUR HALL, VIRTUE and Co., 25, Paternoster-row.

This day, 2nd edition, 8vo., cloth, 6s.

SOME MEMORIALS OF RENEE OF FRANCE, DUCHESS OF FERRARA.

London: BOSWORTH and HARRISON, 215, Regent-street.

In crown 8vo., price 5s.

STUDIES ON BLAISE PASCAL.

By ALEXANDER VINET, D.D. Translated, with an Appendix of Notes, by Rev. T. SMITH, A.M.—"Welcome to all who sympathise with what is rare in intellect, beautiful in sentiment, or noble in character." The translation, apparently, is forcible and faithful.—"SPECTATOR."—"An extraordinary book. The studies of Vinet are often as profound as the thoughts of Pascal; and that is the very highest praise."—EVANGELICAL MAGAZINE.
Edinburgh: T. & T. CLARK. London: HAMILTON & Co.

THE NEWS.

No. 89, published this day, Saturday, December 10th, 1859. Contains:—A full Report of the Speeches delivered at the Annual Dinner of the UNITED ASSURANCE CLUB—THE LIVERPOOL and LONDON ASSURANCE COMPANY—Important Letter from one of the Purchasers of MR. MATTHEW FOSTER'S SHARES, showing the means employed by Mr. Foster to get a high price for his Shares—Caution to the Public on the Assurance Advice Office Dodge—and all the Assurance news of the week.
Office, Strand-buildings, Strand; any news vendor; and at the railway stations.—PRICE ONE PENNY.

THE ATLAS.

A WEEKLY JOURNAL of News, Politics, Literature, Science, and Art. Established, 1826. An organ of Social and Political Progress: a record of Home and Colonial intelligence; an able and impartial Critic in Literature and the Fine Arts.—Published every Saturday, price 5d, stamped 6d. Office, 6, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND.

ATTIRE FOR THE SEASON.

LAWRENCE HYAM has to announce his preparations for the Autumn and Winter. Gentlemen will now find his stock of Garments for immediate wear complete in every department. The productions of the various manufacturers exceed, in variety of design and material, those of all former years.

LAWRENCE HYAM'S OVERCOATS, of the latest fashion, comprising the INVERNESS CAPE, the ALBERT, the CLAKENDON, the SAC, &c., are made from the most suitable materials, and in the strongest manner. 21s., 30s., 42s., 50s.

LAWRENCE HYAM'S Walking, Dress, and Surtout Coats,—sound in material and make, exact in fit, and fashionably designed and finished.—Surtout and Dress Coats, 26s. to 60s. Walking Coats, from 14s. to 35s.

LAWRENCE HYAM'S Vests, in Cloth, Silk, Satins, Tweeds, &c., either for ordinary wear or dress purposes, faultless in design and material, varying in price, from 4s. 6d. to 21s.

LAWRENCE HYAM'S Trousers, celebrated for their true and comfortable fit, made of the strongest and newest fabrics.—Prices, 10s. 6d., 12s., 14s. 6d., 17s., 21s.

CITY ESTABLISHMENT—
36, GRACECHURCH STREET.
WEST-END ESTABLISHMENT—
189 AND 190, TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD.

DOES YOUR TAILOR FIT YOU?

TRY J. SMITH, 38, LOMBARD STREET, E.C.—SOL-FERINO TROUSERS, all Wool, of the Newest Designs, in endless Variety, to order, 16s.—Observe the Address—38, LOMBARD STREET.

WINTER HOSIERY

Of the softest and warmest description, including all the newest patterns and colours. Under clothing for family use, and for invalids. Printed flannel shirts and dressing-gowns. POPE and PLANTÉ, manufacturers, 4, Waterloo-place, Pall-mall, London, S.W.

THE VICTOR NEW OVERCOAT.

25s., 30s., and 35s.
Introduced by B. BENJAMIN, Merchant and Family Tailor, 74, Regent-street, W.

THE INVERNESS WRAPPERS, at 25s. and 30s., are unequalled in appearance and value.
THE SUITS at 47s., 50s., 55s., and 60s., are made to order, from Scotch Heather and Cheviot Tweeds and Angoras, all wool, and thoroughly shrunken. THE TWO-GUINEA DRESS AND FROCK COATS; THE GUINEA DRESS TROUSERS; and THE HALF-GUINEA WAISTCOATS.
N.B.—A Perfect Fit guaranteed.

MIDWIFERY.

Private Medical Advice in Pregnancy, Obstructions, Sterility, and Disappointment of Marriage, by HENRY SCOTT, F.R.S.E., Accoucher of twenty-six years' London practice. Ladies consulting by letter must be explicit and confidential. At home for consultations from twelve to five daily. Female Obstruction Pills, 4s. the box. The "Ladies' Medical Confidential" sent post free for seven stamps. Address, 17, ADAM STREET, STRAND, LONDON.

BLAIR'S GOUT AND RHEUMATIC PILLS.

PILLS. Price 1s. 1½d. and 2s. 6d. per box. This preparation is one of the benefits which the science of modern chemistry has conferred upon mankind; for during the first twenty years of the present century to speak of a cure for the Gout was considered a romance; but now the efficacy and safety of this medicine is so fully demonstrated, by uncollected testimonials from persons in every rank of life, that public opinion proclaims this as one of the most important discoveries of the present age. These Pills require no restraint of diet or confinement during their use, and are certain to prevent the disease attacking any vital part. Sold by all medicine vendors. Observe "Thomas Prout," 220, Strand, London, on the Government Stamp.

OPORTO.

AN OLD BOTTLED PORT of high character, 48s. per dozen, Cash. This genuine Wine will be much approved. HENRY BRETT and CO., Importers, Old Farnival's Distillery, Holborn, E.C.

EAU-DE-VIE.

This pure PALE BRANDY, though only 16s. per gallon, is demonstrated, upon Analysis, to be peculiarly free from acidity, and very superior to recent importations of veritable Cognac. In French Bottles, 34s. per dozen; or securely packed in a case for the country, 35s.—HENRY BRETT and CO., Old Farnival's Distillery, Holborn.

NOTICE.

TO INDUCE A TRIAL OF SOUTH AFRICAN WINES

At 20s. and 24s. per doz., bottles included, (The consumption of which has now reached 420,000 dozen per annum—vide "Board of Trade Returns"), A CASE containing four samples, sealed and labelled, will be forwarded on receipt of THIRTY POSTAGE STAMPS, viz.:—

Half-pint Bottle of best South African Sherry,
Half-pint Bottle of best South African Port,
Half-pint Bottle of best South African Madeira,
Half-pint Bottle of best South African Amontillado,
Bottles and Case included.

COLONIAL BRANDY, very superior, 15s. per gallon.
BEST GIN, full strength, 11s. 3d. per gallon.

Price Lists free on application.
Address—ANTHONY BROUGH, Wine and Spirit Importer, 29, Strand, London, W.C.

ECONOMY.

A Ten-Gallon Cask (equal to Five Dozens) of the Finest SOUTH AFRICAN SHERRY or MAZALA for Four Guineas, or 20s. per dozen; best PORT, MADEIRA, BUELLAS, or AMONTILLADO, £5 per Cask, or 24s. per Dozen. CASH.

HENEKEYS, ABBOTT, AND CO., IMPORTERS,
22 AND 23, HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.
ESTABLISHED 1831.

HENEKEYS' COGNAC, a pure French Brandy, pale or brown, 20s. per gallon, 42s. per dozen. Packages to be returned within three months, or charged 1s. per gallon. Six gallons, the cask included and carriage paid.

HENEKEYS' LONDON BRANDY, Pale or brown, 14s. per gallon, 30s. per dozen. Three dozens carriage free.

HENEKEYS' LONDON GIN, as from the still, and the strongest allowed, sweet or dry, 12s. per gallon, 26s. per dozen. Six gallons, the cask included and carriage paid. Country orders must contain a remittance.

HENEKEYS' PRICES CURRENT of WINES and SPIRITS sent post-free on application. HENEKEYS, ABBOTT, AND CO., Gray's Inn Distillery, 22 and 23, High Holborn, W.C. Established 1831.

THE BEST AND CHEAPEST TEAS AND COFFEES IN ENGLAND

ARE TO BE OBTAINED OF

PHILLIPS AND CO.,

TEA MERCHANTS, 8, KING WILLIAM ST., CITY.

Good strong useful Tea, 2s. 8d., 2s. 10d., 3s. and 4s.; rich Souchong, 3s. 8d., 3s. 10d., and 4s. Pure Coffee, 1s. 1s. 2d., 1s. 3d., 1s. 4d., 1s. 6d., and 1s. 8d.

Tea and coffee to the value of 40s. sent carriage-free to any railway station or market town in England. A price current free. Sugars at market prices. All goods carriage-free within eight miles of the City.

CHEDDAR LOAF CHEESE

6½d. and 7½d. per lb. Rich Stilton, 1½d. per lb. Ripe Blue Mould ditto, the Connoisseur's delight, 15d. per lb. Sugar-cured Bath Chaps. Superior Westphalia Hams, 7½d. and 8d. per lb. Russian Ox Tongues, 15d. each, or 14s. 6d. per dozen. Osborne's Peat-smoked Breakfast Bacon, pronounced by Paterfamilias to be the greatest luxury ever yet introduced into the domestic circle, now selling at 8d. per lb. by the half side. Butters in perfection at reasonable rates. A saving of 15 per cent. is effected by the purchaser at this establishment on all first-class provisions. Packages gratis.

"Palmarum qui meruit ferat."

OSBORNE'S CHEESE WAREHOUSE.

OSBORNE HOUSE.

30, LUDGATE HILL, NEAR ST. PAUL'S, E.C.

HARVEY'S FISH SAUCE.

Notice of Injunction.—The admirers of this celebrated Fish Sauce are particularly requested to observe that none is genuine but that which bears the back label with the name of WILLIAM LAZENBY, as well as the front label signed "Elizabeth Lazenby," and that for further security, on the neck of every bottle of the Genuine Sauce will henceforward appear an additional label, printed in green and red, as follows:—"This notice will be affixed to Lazenby's Harvey's Sauce, prepared at the original warehouse, in addition to the well known labels, which are protected against imitation by a perpetual injunction in Chancery of 9th July, 1858." 6, Edward street, Portman-square, London.

KEATING'S PALE NEWFOUNDLAND

COD LIVER OIL, perfectly pure, having been analysed and reported on, and recommended by Professors TAYLOR and THOMSON, of Guy's and St. Thomas's Hospitals, who, in the words of the late Dr. FERREIRA, say that "The finest oil is that most devoid of colour, odour, and flavour." Characteristic this will be found to possess in a high degree. Half-pints 1s. 6d., Pints 2s. 6d., Quarts 4s. 6d.
70, St. Paul's Churchyard, London.

When you ask for

GLENFIELD PATENT STARCH,

SEE THAT YOU GET IT.

As inferior kinds are often substituted.
Sold by all Chandlers, Grocers, &c., &c.
WOTHERRSPON and CO., Glasgow and London.

THE LEADER.

Contents:

REVIEW OF THE WEEK—		ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENCE—		The Choice of Plenipotentiaries.. 1347		The London Orchestral Association	
HOME INTELLIGENCE. PAGE		Germany		Mr. Bright's Leadership..... 1348		tion	
Political Foreshadowings		INDIA AND INDIAN PROGRESS—		LITERATURE—		Campbell's Minstrels	
The Brokers and the Emperor.. 1336		A Native Parliament..... 1342		Notes of the Week..... 1349		Miscellaneous	
Smithfield Club Cattle Show		Latest Indian Intelligence		Heathen and Holy Lands		COMMERCIAL—	
Naval and Military		Foreign Incidents		At Home and Abroad		Corn, Gold, and Politics	
The Volunteers		Postscript..... 1344		Life in Spain		Money Market and Stock Ex-	
Ireland..... 1339		PUBLIC AFFAIRS		Australian Facts and Prospects 1350		change..... 1352	
Law, Police, and Casualties		The Perils of the Congress..... 1345		Stories of Inventors, &c. 1351		General Trade Report	
General Home News..... 1340		Financial Reform		Boys' Books		Stocks and Shares	
FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.		MUSIC AND THE DRAMA—		Serials		Joint-Stock Companies..... 1353	
Foreign Summary		St. James's Hall		General Commercial News..... 1354			
1341							

Review of the Week.

THE Emperor of the French, on his return from Compiègne to the Tuileries, was, most probably, as much surprised at the epistle which he found waiting him there from the now famous Liverpool brokers, as any of their disgusted fellow-countrymen could possibly be. Louis Napoleon, however, who never loses an opportunity for any effective display, thought fit to humour the joke, and though he must, doubtless, have guessed, from his knowledge of England and Englishmen, that the proceeding of these Liverpool politicians would draw upon it the mingled ridicule and condemnation of the country, he has chosen to reply to their letter in ingeniously chosen terms, which leave the reader in doubt, whether the writer is laughing at or sympathising with his correspondents.

The preliminary arrangements for the approaching Congress appear to be rapidly approaching completion; and we learn from the foreign journals (which, for some reason, appear to be better informed than our own), that Lords Cowley and Wodehouse are to be the British plenipotentiaries, and that the various representatives are ready to set out from the courts of Austria, Russia, Prussia, Sardinia, Spain, and Portugal. The celebrated Cavour, it is said, is about to resume his position and influence in the councils of his country, and will be her spokesman at the Congress, which, if true, is a pretty significant indication of the part that Sardinia is likely to take in the discussion. From French sources comes the rumour of a plan to be arranged between France and England for the settlement of Italian affairs, to which arrangement Russia and Prussia will consent, though it is not so certain to please Austria. Already the idea gains ground, that the one united kingdom of free Italy is a chimera and an impossibility, not even believed in by the ambitious Piedmontese and their gallant Sovereign. The scheme, as now foreshadowed, points to a kingdom of Central Italy, detached from Sardinia, to be governed by an Austrian or Bonapartist satrap. Another project is that of a division of the Central Italian States and the Legations into two constitutional states, as the probable solution of the difficulty. It remains to be seen whether the Italian people will have strength and courage to make their voice heard at the consultation. Meantime, the indefatigable and turbulent Mazzini is busy in stirring up the dying embers of his countrymen's enthusiasm; he points out to them the false direction into which their affairs are drifting, calling upon them to look to Garibaldi as their leader, and appealing to the patriotism of that great man to take his proper position at their head, and to give the aid of his energy and ability to bring matters to a successful and glorious termination. From Rome we learn that the Holy Father has resolved upon a temporising policy, and has, in reply to the urgent demonstrations of the Financial Consulta, promised to look into his affairs, and see what can be done to arrange matters pleasantly and comfortably.

From the United States of America, the welcome, but not unexpected, intelligence has arrived of an approaching adjustment of the San Juan dis-

pute; General Scott and Governor Douglas having come to an understanding upon the matter; while the magnanimous Harney—the Bombastes Furioso of the situation—has retired in dudgeon at being thwarted in his anticipation of bloodshed and gunpowder. From India, the majestic pomp of the Governor-General's triumphal progress forms the theme of the journals, and his address to the talookdars of Oude, is quoted as a worthy pendant to the magnificent periods of Lord Ellenborough during the time of his rule.

The most interesting event in domestic politics is, of course, Mr. John Bright's declaration of the policy to be followed by himself and his followers during the ensuing reform discussion. Alluding to the Reform Bill which he had himself prepared, and which he declared to be complete in itself and ready for immediate launching upon the stormy sea of debate, he yet acknowledged that a non-official member of the House was not exactly the suitable person to bring in such a measure, which required the united force of a strong Cabinet. The bill of 1832, he said, purposely excluded the working-classes; but the scheme of his friend, Lord John Russell, avoided this error, and would be a bill of admission for the industrious order. He touched upon the corruption of the present electoral system, and insisted, truly enough, that the morality and happiness of the nation must be increased by the cutting out of that canker from the social fabric. Finally; he and his friends will support Lord John's bill, even though it does not contain the ballot; and if the veteran reformer's measure should be upset, Bright himself will rush to the rescue with the perfect measure before mentioned, which at present he keeps safe in his own pocket.

Of the other speeches of the week, the burden has been chiefly the position of the country with regard to foreign affairs, and the measures which tardily, but effectually, we are taking to preserve our empire from foreign attack. The Duke of Rutland, it is true, at Leicester abused the fallacies of Mr. Bright in good round terms, and taunted him with his model—the United States—who John Bright well knows will never give up protection. For the invasion question, the noble duke, while praising the measures taken, of precaution and defence, thought the honour and peaceable policy of Napoleon ought not so violently to be questioned; and asked—if he had hostile intentions against us, why did he not put them in operation during the time of our trouble in India. At Sturminster, Mr. Sturt, in homely language gave expression to some sensible remarks; he, with many others, has no stomach for the new combined Franco-Anglo-Chinese expedition, and would rather we should settle our own quarrel alone by the aid of our own strong right arm. The great master of France he denominated an expensive ally; and as his reason for that title, pointed to the outlay which must go on increasing in our naval and military departments at the same rate as in the dockyards and arsenals of France. Mr. Ker Seymour, also, in a speech made this week, observed that, since France picked a quarrel with Austria for “an idea,” the same eventuality might take place with regard to England—the “idea” being the old worn theme of vengeance for Waterloo. At Bridgewater, the venerable Col. Kemys Tynte spoke boldly, as an

Englishman should, upon the Italian question; and asked why the free Italian people had not as good a right as we ourselves had exercised, to send away their despots, and to establish a constitutional rule, as we had done in old England. Mr. Kinglake, in an address which he has delivered, denounced the folly of mincing terms. “Against whom are our armaments,” asks he, “if not against France?” Speaking from personal experience, he considers the bulk of the French people, and half their army, to be earnestly desirous of peace with England—whence then the danger?—it is in the irresponsible power of one man; and Mr. Kinglake, truly remarked, that there is no remedy for this chronic uneasiness but a recurrence by France to a system of Parliamentary government. Last, but not least, comes old Lord Berners with his Cattle Show speech, in which he professed that he thought the French had no inclination for war, but that their overgrown army might force them into collision somewhere; the rifle volunteers he knew would do their duty if called upon, and he could answer for the strong arms and good steeds of the English farmers being forthcoming in the cause of their country and their Queen.

The volunteer agitation, in good sooth, has now attained imposing proportions. This week we have to chronicle the formation of a number of new corps, both in town and country. A most healthy symptom is—that among the various companies forming we find the artisans taking their part, to a considerable extent. To make these corps merely playthings for idle gentlemen would be almost to encourage a daring invader; but the movement now assumes a national character, the lord and the swain shoulder their rifles and go through their drill side by side.

The admirable regulation of the Commander-in-Chief with regard to corporal punishment in the army is, Englishmen will rejoice to hear, to have its counterpart in a similar code of rules for the navy. The unhappy affair of the “Princess Royal,” therefore, it is not surprising to learn, has been brought to a conclusion by a sentence of imprisonment upon no less than 109 seamen; but the degrading lash, which would, to a certainty, have been their fate but a few years back, is not again to be called into use.

The record of crime this week, both in the metropolis and the provinces, is unusually heavy. From Ireland we hear of no less than five murders, most of which are to be traced to the “agrarian” bitterness. More particularly at home we may notice the committal of the lunatic Moore to take his trial for the horrible murder of his wife; and a brutal case of manslaughter on board an American ship, which has been adjudicated upon at Newcastle.

Prominent among the various cases of interest in the law courts this week, has been the trial of Sarah Dyer. That theft should be prohibited and punished is an undoubted necessity—but it would take an able casuist to prove that in this instance the blame was rather due to the poverty-stricken seamstress, than to her crinoline bedecked customers in Russell-square and Lighbury, who perhaps, as advocates of “charity,” may even be found, in the words of a contemporary, among the brilliant throng who “dance for Poland and pray for Patagonia.”

Home News.

POLITICAL FORESHADOWINGS.

THE Duke of Rutland presided at an agricultural dinner last week, on which occasion he said, with regard to the generally felt presentiment of invasion:—"I wish to say that I, for one, have not shared in the apprehensions that have been so generally entertained by my countrymen. I think that we have been alarmed rather needlessly, because I think that if the Emperor of the French had ever seriously contemplated the invasion of this country, a man of his sagacity, of his foresight, and of his intellect, would not have allowed the opportunity to slip, that was presented to him during the time of the Indian mutiny. If he had contemplated such a thing as the invasion of this country, that was the time, that was the opportunity that he would naturally have seized upon. When I say, therefore, for God's sake let us put this country in an efficient state of defence—let us call out the militia, encourage the rifle corps, and do all we can to make ourselves safe—I say, also, let us not in the same breath, which is not necessary, abuse the ruler whom the French people have chosen, or run down the church which they choose to support. And if there is a feeling in France—and I fear to some extent it is true—against this country, I ask whether it has not been mainly fermented, and whether it is not mainly owing to the vituperative language that has been used by the press of England?" Referring to a recent speech of Mr. Bright, he said, "Mr. Bright evidently thinks it is no longer fitting that the agricultural body should have any political influence in this country of England. From his speech, I collect that, although the agriculturists are not any longer to have any political power, as far as I can understand the mass of figures with which he overwhelmed his Liverpool audience, he does not contemplate, while he relieves us from all responsibility and all power, that we should be relieved from all taxes. He says, 'Gentlemen, I don't wish you to be disturbed by the knock at the door of the candidate for your suffrages, but I have no objection to the tax collector coming to you and asking you for your money.' Mr. Bright talks of doing away with all indirect taxes, and he mentions a great number of them; but I remark that he never alludes to the malt tax, which is an indirect tax of a very large amount. Gentlemen, this is not the place, the time, or the opportunity, in an after-dinner speech, to meet these arguments of Mr. Bright, but perhaps you will allow me generally to state my own conviction that direct taxation is the very worst taxation you can have—that it does press on the poor, not directly, but indirectly—that it crushes the springs of prosperity and industry; that it drives capital abroad; that it reduces the wages of the labourer, and that it is paid by the honest man and evaded by the dishonest. I would also make this further remark on Mr. Bright. In all his speeches, he has held up America as the model that we are to copy. Mr. Bright forgets, however, that one of the main distinctions between this country and America is, that while we raise our revenue, partly by direct, and partly by indirect taxation, America raises the whole of her revenue by indirect taxation. Mr. Cobden has lately been to America, but I doubt whether, even with his eloquence he has been able to persuade the Americans to give up one jot of the protection which they give to their manufactures in that country."

At the Sturminster Agricultural Society's dinner, Mr. H. G. STURT, M.P., in a discourse upon public affairs said:—"With regard to the Chinese expedition, he himself was rather opposed to our engaging in any military expedition with the French, because in the Crimea we got all the fighting and they got all the glory. He hoped that orders would be given to our generals that, if this or that fort were to be taken, it should be done by our own men, and that if we won, as of course we should, that the credit due to the victory would not be swallowed up in the flowery reports of our Imperial ally. He had no hesitation in saying that the Emperor Napoleon was a very expensive ally, for we were in the habit of annually paying large sums of money solely on account of the policy of his Imperial Majesty. Within the last eight or ten years the Emperor had increased his navy to a most unprecedented extent, and as a necessary consequence we had been obliged to increase our own. It was difficult to know what to do, but at present our alliance with France was like one person greeting another with his right hand and holding a revolver behind him with his left. The Government, however, had taken every precaution, and had exerted every influence to avert the impending danger. They had given countenance, for instance, to the formation of rifle corps, which was a very capital movement. It ought to be encouraged throughout

the length and breadth of the land, for the panics by which England was occasionally seized were humiliating to the country. They had heard something of a general disarmament, but he hoped the answer of the Government would be, although in more diplomatic language "Catch a weasel asleep." It was all very well for the French with their system of conscription, to make such a proposition. The French Emperor had only to write a few lines to raise as many soldiers as he liked; but it must be remembered that in this country the raising of an army was a work of time. We were living in momentous and critical times, and he hoped, that in the ensuing session, the Conservative party would offer no factious opposition to the existing Government. Parties in the House of Commons were, no doubt, evenly balanced, and there would probably be great temptations to a trial of strength in the ensuing session, but he himself would be no party to a factious vote as long as the Government kept us prepared against every foe. With regard to the subject of Parliamentary reform, he said the necessity of a change had been acknowledged by all parties, and therefore the sooner the question was set at rest the better. That question would doubtless be the battle ground of the ensuing session. He had no doubt the Government would bring in a Reform Bill, but he was afraid that his party (the Opposition) would attempt to make political capital out of it. He only hoped that the Government would bring in a moderate bill, and one which would set the country at rest for the next twenty-five years. Notwithstanding the temptations there might be to turn out the Government, it was the bounden duty of every Conservative, and of every man who called himself a Conservative, to support such a measure, and to assist in carrying it into effect."

On the same occasion Mr. KER SEYMER, M.P., also alluded to the question of the *entente cordiale*. He said:—"We had no wish to send out a single man to invade France or any other country, but while such was the feeling on this side the channel, he regretted to say that there were thousands on the other side who would like nothing better than a 'go' at this country. Our French neighbours, having upset half-a-dozen Governments of their own, now wished to disturb the peace of Europe, and we had therefore become alarmed. This time last year Europe was in a state of profound peace. Everybody knew at that time that Austria did not govern her Italian provinces as she ought, but the mere fact of that misgovernment could have afforded no ground of offence to France, and France had no more right to go to war with Austria than with England. And yet, at the beginning of January, the French Emperor came out with a war-like speech, and it was evident from that time that France was determined to pick a quarrel with Austria. That quarrel had resulted in war, and we were told that it was all for an idea. Now, people who went to war for an idea were most dangerous enemies, for it was impossible to say what the next idea might be. It might be to avenge Waterloo, and that, he believed, was the idea of France. If so, we must look out for squalls; the Emperor of the French was a wary and clever man, and had no desire, himself, for a war with England; but he was obliged to do that which was necessary to keep him on his throne. He might have no desire to attack or invade this country, but it must be remembered that the army was his master, and that if the feeling of that army was in favour of war, he must engage in it. It therefore rested with ourselves to show such a bold front that, whatever the design might be, the actual operation of invasion should not take place. It was, therefore, highly important that we should look to our fleet. But, supposing it possible, as had been suggested, for the French fleet and the French army to slip over in a fog, he believed that such a spirit had been aroused among the general population as would show the enemy that we were prepared to resist foreign aggression to the last. Looking at the great interests we had to defend, he would say—we will continue to arm, and we will not disarm. He highly approved of the rifle movement, and he would tell them why. If the French Emperor talked about a mutual disarmament, he could not ask us to disarm our volunteers, who, to a great extent, had been at the expense of their own equipment. As long, therefore, as we had 200,000 or 300,000 men ready to fight for the country, he thought we should do pretty well."

At Bridgewater, on Monday, Colonel KEMMERS TRENT, M.P., addressed a large and enthusiastic meeting, upon foreign and domestic politics:—"He wanted to know whether the Italian people had not the same right that we had, at our great revolution, when we sent away a king unfit to govern us, and by virtue of which, our present valued Queen occupied the English throne. He wanted to know by what right any Congress could send back the deposed Princes to peoples discontented and opposed to their tyrannical sway? It was the duty of Englishmen to speak out and to boldly state that they expected

the representative of Great Britain at this Congress to perform his mission manfully, for much would depend on the energy and resolution of the British Minister whether Italy was to be freed or not. Our assistance ought only to be given with the view of securing to the Italians the rights they justly claimed. Referring to the necessity of this country being speedily placed in an efficient state of defence, the gallant colonel said that no one unacquainted with the scenes on a battle-field could imagine what a fearful thing war would be in this country. With the feverish anxiety every one appeared to entertain as to what might possibly take place, it behoved us to be ready to defend our country against any hostile power. He claimed their support in the votes he should probably have to give on the Army and Navy Estimates to be submitted during the approaching Parliamentary session, for he could not place his hand on his heart and say he had acted honestly as a member of the House of Commons if he did not vote for estimates calculated to place the army and navy in a fitting position to ensure the safety of this country. The famous exploits of American riflemen in former days against picked British troops could be equalled, if not surpassed, by the riflemen of England, and he sincerely and heartily wished the volunteer movement the utmost success. With respect to the question of Parliamentary reform, they well knew it was much wanted and must come. During the last ten years they had had three Reform Bills brought into the House of Commons, and another suggested by Mr. Bright; they had had three Queen's Speeches recommending reform, and they had also had the response of Governments and the sanction of the House of Commons. The Sovereign, the Government, and the House of Commons were pledged to a Reform Bill. The men now in office would be disgraced for ever if they did not bring forward such a measure as would answer the reasonable expectations and wishes of the people. He voted against the sham Reform Bill brought in by the Derby Government because it did not enfranchise the working classes, so called, who were entitled to a voice in the expenditure of taxation to which they contributed so largely. On this occasion, Mr. A. W. KINGLAKE, M.P., denounced the absurdity of concealing the fact that the armaments we are making are against France alone and not against any other power; for that there is no other State that is strong enough to cause us any uneasiness. The hon. member said that the bulk of the people and of the army of France were inclined to peace rather than war; but he pointed out the real danger of a collision in these words:—"In the state of things which actually exists you have the vast army of France, the enormous pecuniary resources of France, the navy of France, and even the commercial navy of France, all placed under the power of one human being. The Emperor of the French not only commands all the armies of France—not only commands the navy of France, but he has the power of marching almost the whole of the commercial navy of France—marching them like soldiers—to serve in the military navy of the country; and we all know, also, that he has succeeded in inventing a financial system which enables him to borrow the earnings of the country, and to raise almost any amount of money at a very short notice, and without the intervention of the ordinary capitalists who used to be employed for purposes of that sort. It comes to this—that you have sitting, as it were, in his library a thoughtful man who is in the habit of keeping his own counsel—a man who pores over books relating to battles and wars. I recollect he told me once that he was engaged in writing a history of all the battles that had ever been fought. There he sits alone in his library, surrounded by books of this description, surrounded by plans and designs of all contrivances which human ingenuity has invented to destroy human life, and commanding at the same time the resources of which I have endeavoured to give you some conception. It is very evident that this man is a dangerous neighbour. Any medical man will tell you that, however friendly his feelings may be to-day a mere fit of the gout or of indigestion may convert him into an enemy to-morrow. Your security, if you rest it upon the French, must repose upon the will of one man. Will you trust it to the good-will of one man? (Cries of "No.") What we must look to is not to the words of the Emperor of the French, or of any living Prince, but to his acts. The acts of the Emperor of the French are of this kind:—He has surrounded himself with so vast an army, under the name of a peace establishment, that at a few weeks' notice he can attack and victoriously attack, one of the greatest military empires in the world. But against whom is he making his great naval preparations? For what purpose is he busily engaged in preparing the coast fortifications of France? Why all the world knows that there is no country against which the naval preparations of France can be directed except England. It comes to this, that you have one man,

with the vast resources of 37,000,000 of people, without any 'Minister', governing alone, with this enormous power,—not quarrelling with you—he is much wiser than that—but preparing for the eventuality of war. I say that if we were to remain perfectly passive in this state of things we should be madmen or idiots. You will ask me, how long is this state of things to last? when is there to be an end of all this? when is there to be a termination of this miserable state of things, which brings two European countries into the wretched condition of perpetually arming against each other? I can only answer that, in my own opinion, the end of it will be in the day when it shall please France to return to Parliamentary Government. Mr Kinglake proceeded to describe the two ways in which a fatal blow could be struck against the greatness of England—the depriving her of a supremacy at sea—or a successful invasion of this island; of this latter catastrophe, (supposing it should ever occur) he asked:—"How is it to be met if it does come to pass? Why, gentlemen, all England has answered the question. The Emperor of the French came over here as our ally and our guest, and he saw the reception which a free people was able to give to an allied Sovereign towards whom they bore good-will. If it should ever be his mission, or his destiny, as he would perhaps call it, to come here as an invader, then he will see, if I mistake not, what kind of a reception a free people can give to an enemy who dares to invade their shores. (Protracted cheering.) I have great faith in our army, and no one can be more impelled by a thousand circumstances than I am, to look with affection and admiration to the achievements of that brilliant force. The invader, whoever he may be, will hear something of our army; but if I mistake not, should he ever touch the beach he will hear something of the volunteer artillery (cheers), and if he comes a little further, and gets into our turnpike roads and our lanes, and comes to our homesteads to help himself to our hay, or to our turnip fields to make a meal of the soup (laughter), he will hear something likewise of our rifle volunteers."

On Wednesday afternoon a meeting of gentlemen in favour of Parliamentary Reform convened by a Reform Committee sitting in King-street, Cheapside, was held at the Guildhall Coffee-house. Many members of Parliament were present, and Mr. Wm. Hargreaves was called to the chair. The Chairman, in his opening speech, remarked upon the rifle volunteer movement as likely to interfere with the cause they had at heart. A resolution expressive of thanks to Mr. Bright was adopted, and this was followed by a motion affirming the specific points of Reform now demanded.

Mr. BRIGHT, M.P., who was present, referred to the care and labour, which, at the request of a preceding conference, he had bestowed upon the preparation of a Bill upon the subject of reform, which, in its main provisions, appeared to him eminently adapted to meet the wishes of the great body of earnest reformers throughout the kingdom. He believed, as he had stated since more than once, that it was not in the nature of things that a non-official member of the House of Commons should be able to pass through that House a satisfactory and comprehensive measure on a great public question like this, and that it would be necessary that the Bill, to succeed, should be introduced by the united force, and defended by the united force and interest of a Cabinet. The object of his preparing a Bill, with a view to submit to the House was, not so much that he expected to be able to pass it, as to lay before the House and the country something which would indicate to Parliament and to the Government the sort of measure which those who were in favour of reform were looking for at some not very distant period. Lord John Russell had declared before the dissolution what were his views of the measure of reform which he would be prepared to introduce if he were a Minister. The noble lord stated that a £10 franchise for counties, and a £6 rental franchise for boroughs, with the wiping off of some thirty seats from small boroughs, he should be prepared to propose, with the intention of transferring those seats to certain large constituencies thereafter to be decided upon. They were in a very different position now from that which they occupied last year. They had the Bill which he had prepared in compliance with their wishes before them, but with respect to which there were the same difficulties which, as he had stated, existed at that time; and they had also before them the general features of the measure which Lord John Russell had said, if he were a Minister, he would be prepared to submit to Parliament, and from which it was but fair to presume the Government would not in any essential particular depart. He entirely concurred that the Liberal members of the House of Commons should hold themselves free to act as circumstances might dictate. The great crime of the Bill of 1832 was, that it purposely excluded the great body of the

working classes. It admitted a large number of the middle class, but it left the condition of the working classes exactly the same as it was before. The proposition of Lord John Russell, though it fell very much short of what he (Mr. Bright) proposed, was, at any rate, one that avoided the great crime of the Bill of 1832—for, although it would leave out a vast number of householders belonging to the working classes, and some belonging to other classes also, it would certainly not be an intended exclusion, in the nature of an insult, to purposely bar them out, like the Bill of 1832—but, wherever it differed from the Bill of 1832, it would be a Bill of admission to the working classes. No moral man could look at the objections to which the present system was open, the corruption by which it was characterised, and consider the propositions which he and his friends intended to support until they were carried out, without admitting that the result of the change would be infinitely better for the morality and the happiness of the country than that of the present system. By the representative system, as we now had it, the country was divided into two distinct nations,—all those who occupied houses above £10 a-year, being 6,000,000 of people, represented by a proportionate number of adult males; and all those who occupied houses rated below £10, and who should be represented in like manner by their proportion of adult males, but were not. It was obvious, therefore, that by raising up this distinction the population was divided into two nations, separated from each other by a gulf which a very small percentage of the working classes were now able to pass. With regard to the Government, he should be very sorry to say a word that appeared ill-natured or that was calculated to increase their difficulty in dealing with this question. Unquestionably the Government would have difficulties, and very considerable difficulties, to overcome. When Lord John Russell's proposition was made last summer there was a general feeling in the country that it was the sort of offer that would be likely to be received as being a long way from the absurdity of the Reform Bill of Lord Derby's Government, while it also left at a considerable distance the advanced scheme which the Reform Association had laid before the country. And although many wished that it had gone further, yet, looking at the result of the late elections and at the discussions which had taken place in Parliament and out of Parliament, he believed he was justified in saying, that great numbers of all classes of reformers were willing to acquiesce in the fairness of Lord John Russell's proposed measure. At all events such a measure would be an honest one. It might not be the best, but so far as the Government were concerned it would be fairly carrying out that which they offered before they were a Government, and would at all events exonerate them from any charge of treachery or feebleness. Upon these grounds, therefore, he felt that he and those who acted with him would be bound in honour to give to the Government all the support in their power in promoting the enactment of such a law. He should not oppose the Government Bill, because it did not include the ballot if it should so happen that the ballot formed no part of it. Provided it offered a fair suffrage, and that extension of the suffrage which they had a right to expect he would give it his support. If it were a measure introduced in good faith, as in that case it would be, he should feel that he was not doing his duty to the hundreds and thousands who would be included under such a Bill, but who were now excluded, if he placed himself as a difficulty in the way of the Government in their endeavours to pass it. He wished the Government success with all his heart; and he intimated, in conclusion, that should the Government Bill fail, he would introduce the one which he had prepared, and which he said was in so perfect a state that it might be brought in at any moment. If he did not go so far as some of his friends desired, he hoped they would give him credit for seeing difficulties which were not perceived by them, and that they would not imagine that he had withdrawn a hair's breadth from the principles he had ever professed, or that his feelings in favour of a more extended reform were less intent than at any former period.

At the Smithfield Club Dinner, Lord Beaconsfield said they were now establishing volunteer rifle corps throughout the kingdom. He most cordially approved of that movement, not because he believed that illustrious man who presided over the destinies of France had the slightest idea of his own free will ever to invade this country; but he might be placed in a position which, to a certain extent, would render him a creature of circumstances. When, however, it was recollected that the Emperor of the French had a standing army of from 500,000 to 700,000 men, flushed with victory, and that there was a feeling on the part of some of the officers of that army to wipe off that which they had considered as a stain upon them; hence there might be a war forced upon our ally. At the same

time there were large numbers of the French people, connected with agriculture and commerce, who knew that nothing could be so detrimental to the interest of their nation as a war with this country. At all events, it was quite proper that this great country should not be in a position to be dependent upon the will or caprice of any single individual or nation. The rifle corps movement was, therefore, most essential, and he believed the same feeling which animated the breasts of their old volunteers pervaded the feelings of the people of England of the present day. He was quite sure that in that movement the farmers of England would take a prominent part. Although an invasion of this country might produce much mischief, still he knew that the farmers of England had sturdy hearts and strong arms, and that, let the attempt be made they would be sure to repel the invader.

At Reading there may probably be a new election contest, that is to say if the Solicitor-General is created a judge. Sir F. Goldsmid is already named on the Liberal side, and Mr. R. A. Benson on that of the Conservatives.

We may now expect that the corrupt practices at Berwick-upon-Tweed will undergo examination, as a Committee of the Northern Reform Union, believing that Mr. Marjoribanks owes his seat to corrupt practices, and acting upon the advice of counsel, have caused indictments for bribery to be served upon the leading non-professional agents of the hon. gentleman. The case will be tried in London.

THE BROKERS AND THE EMPEROR.

GREAT amusement has been created during the past week at the expense of four merchants or brokers of Liverpool, named Shaw, Mellor, Irving, and Blackwell, who, one day after dining together, thought proper to write to the Emperor of the French, requesting to be favoured with a statement of his intentions with regard to peace or war with Great Britain. A local paper says:—"Nothing serious was dreamt of—the letter was posted, but a reply was never anticipated. So little was the affair thought of, that a copy of the letter to the Emperor was not even kept, and the whole matter was looked upon as a good joke. Judge of the consternation of these four gentlemen, when, on Friday, they received a letter in reply to theirs, written by an official personage, but which not one of the four could read, as it was written in the French language. The conduct of the writers of the letter to the Emperor was met with a hearty denunciation by nearly all the local papers."

The reply was from M. Mocquard, secretary to the Emperor, and was as follows:—"Gentlemen,—You have addressed yourselves direct to the Emperor to know what were his intentions as regards England? Great fear or great confidence alone can explain this step. On the one side, you are possessed with the imaginary trouble which appears to have seized your country with the rapidity of an epidemic; and, on the other, you reckon on the loyalty of him from whom you desire a reply. It was, however, easy for you yourselves to give it, if you had calmly examined the true cause of your apprehensions. That cause you would have found only in all the rumours created among your fellow-countrymen by the obstinate propagation of the most chimerical of alarms, because there has not been, up to the present time, under whatever circumstance, a word or an act of the Emperor which could permit a doubt of his sentiments, and consequently of his intentions, towards your country. His conduct, invariably the same, has not ceased for one moment to show him as a faithful and irreproachable ally. That which he has been he wishes (I declare it to you in his name) to continue to be. Witness again to-day the approaching community of perils to be shared at a far distance by your soldiers and ours. Thus, henceforth, fully reassured, oppose an error which is too prevalent. Great nations should appreciate, not fear each other. Receive, gentlemen, the expression of my distinguished sentiments."

Much curiosity, says the *Times*, has been expressed in the city regarding the commercial standing of the four Liverpoolians who have rendered themselves famous by constituting themselves the organs of communication between England and the Emperor of the French, and who have thought themselves entitled to discard the respectful and recognized custom of making their own Government the medium of any wishes or sentiments they might desire to convey. They do not seem, however, to have been previously so eminent as to render their identification a matter of case out of their own locality.

Another London paper adds:—"Much speculation has been afloat in Liverpool as to the reason why the original letter from the 'four' has not yet seen the light. It was stated in Liverpool that the writers had not kept a copy of the document, but our correspondents were informed that the copy was in existence, but that the reason it had not

been published, either by the writers or by the French Government, was that its terms were so curt and brief, that its publication would have reflected credit on neither party. We understand that, after the usual formalities of address, the contents were merely "We, the undersigned, respectfully request your Majesty to inform us what are your intentions respecting England.—Signed, &c."

The Liverpool Law Society, at their last meeting discussed the subject, and adopted the following resolution:—"That the president be requested to inform her Majesty's Attorney-General, that in case it be the intention of her Majesty's Government to take any proceedings against the four Liverpool merchants who recently made a communication to the Emperor of the French, this committee will be happy to render the Attorney-General every assistance in its power."

THE SMITHFIELD CLUB CATTLE SHOW.

THE annual exhibition of the club has this week been held at its old quarters in Baker-street, and has attracted the usual number of admirers of fat stock. With respect to the merits of the show, the general opinion of the initiated yesterday evening was that it was about an average one, nothing more—perhaps something less. The short-horns are pronounced to be well represented, comely in shape, broad of back, stupendous of quarter, and tranquil in deportment. They are all of superb quality; but the pearl of the short-horns is Colonel Townley's milk-white heifer "Beauteous Butterfly," which came to town with her Birmingham gold medal round her neck, and which has obtained a similar decoration from the Smithfield Club. This unique animal is pronounced to be the finest specimen of the breed to which she belongs that was ever exhibited at the annual show. The judges and visitors were never tired, at the private view, of feeling and pinching her fat sides, and walking round her in wondering admiration. So flat in the back, so silky in the hide, so symmetrical in the form, so high bred in the head, so complete in all the "points" of gentle heiferhood, one enthusiast pronounced her to be perfect, all but a pound of beefsteaks, which it seems should have filled up a little chasm situated just over the tail, and which cruelly cuts the line of beauty. Her delicate waist measures just nine feet one inch in circumference, and her expansive fore-quarter would require the outstretched arms of a man to span it from end to end. One man said she was a "pictur," another, that she was a model; while a third, still more enthusiastic, embodied his praise in the expressive remark that she was "All Beef."

The Herefords are naturally larger and coarser than the short-horns, but they seemed to take their fattening much in the same order, that is to say in table land in the back, and an even swell down the sides and quarters. Mr. Shirley takes off the laurel in this class, but, on the whole, the general description of "average" will satisfy its claims on the critics.

Of the Devons even so much cannot be said. Last year they were the pets of the bazaar; this year nobody stops to admire them. Even the Prince Consort, who used to get gold medals in this class as a matter of course, is this year "no where," and is obliged to throw himself entirely on his pigs for a share in the distinctions of the club. In this class, as amongst the short-horns, the gentler sex carry off the principal triumphs, the £20 prize and silver medal being taken by Mr. Heath's cow, of the mature age of ten years, and who has had five calves. This animal is considered very nearly to approach perfection. The Sussex steers, which are a sort of enlarged Devon, being pretty much of the same shape and colour, are rather more numerous than usual this year, and are pronounced to be of high quality.

In the miscellaneous department will be found some magnificent specimens of the Scotch polled breed. Mr. McCombie has his usual success in this class, his magnificent black steer completely passing all competitors. But, in our judgment, the most attractive animal in this department is a gigantic animal, tawny in colour, tremendous in limb, and with a head which would make the fortune of one of Rosa Bonheur's pictures. But, alas! he had no points—that is to say he had too many points or angularities in his circumference, and so the judges passed this noble animal by with contempt, uniformity and amount of beef being the only standards by which they guide their decisions. The public will, we expect, see much to admire in this tawny monarch of the heather, which he may, perhaps, be spared to see again, in consequence of his inaptitude for adipose accumulations. A Welsh "runt," a prizewinner of 20l. and the silver medal, exhibited by Colonel Pennant, so recently her Majesty's host at Penrhyn Castle, will probably attract nearly as much attention.

The Southdowns are the aristocracy of mutton and wool, and Mr. Rigden is this year the great

aristocrat of Southdowns. So even is the strife between the Duke of Richmond and himself that they take the gold medal year about, and this year it is Mr. Rigden's turn to obtain the much coveted decoration. The Leicesters are also of a high quality, but the most marked advance is observed in the Cotswolds, which this year come out in greater strength than on any previous occasion.

In pigs the Prince Consort carries everything before him, his pen of Yorkshire hogs being everything that could be wished in preparatory bacon. There is also in this department a stupendous Berkshire hog, so fat that he must have a pen entirely to himself, but he is unhappily like a pig, whereas he ought to be like a barrel, and consequently he obtains not the slightest notice from the judges. But for an accident the show would this year have been enriched by an attractive novelty, in the shape of an importation of the diminutive cows and sheep of Basse-Bretagne. The former are not more than 36 inches in height, and the latter weigh not more than 25lbs., so that they would suit admirably for the farms of four and two acres, now so much in fashion amongst ladies of an agricultural turn. In the galleries, the machinery and roots are in about the usual quantity and variety, but, as they do not compete for prizes, they do not call for more detailed description. The Prince Consort visited the show in the course of Monday afternoon, and Lords Camden and Berners were also amongst the visitors.

NAVAL AND MILITARY.

THE mutinous behaviour on board the Princess Royal has been visited with a heavy sentence. 108 men have been sentenced to three months' imprisonment for participating in the disturbance. Some of them have been discharged from Her Majesty's ship Victory, in Portsmouth harbour, and forwarded by train to the gaol at Winchester to undergo their sentence.

The launch of the Duncan, 101, screw two-decked ship, is to take place on Tuesday, the 13th inst., at 11 a.m.

The result of experiments on board Her Majesty's iron paddle-wheel steam vessel Bloodhound, the Par-matta, Tyne, and other ships, with Messrs. Day and Company's patent marine cement for coating the interior of iron vessels, having proved satisfactory, the Lords of the Admiralty have directed the application of the cement over the bilge bottom plates and rivet-heads on the inside of the iron paddle steamer Harpy, lately from the Mediterranean. The process was commenced yesterday at Woolwich, and will be carried out on board other ships in the Royal Navy. The cement consists of an enamel, which resists the influence of moisture and the destructive effect of the chemical action of acids in bilge water, and is produced from salt, sugar, coal-dust, guano, and other materials. It requires about five hours to melt into a hot lava state, is applied after a preparatory coating of patent composition over a clean and dry surface, and is pronounced cheaper and better than paint.

The Admiralty will issue a circular to the navy in a few days, adapting the late regulations of the Horse Guards respecting flogging in the army to the naval service.

The new floating batteries now building, nominally for China, will mount seven rifled 68-pounders each. The guns are now ready to be placed on board. The two transports purchased in England are to carry to China the twenty-four iron-cased gunboats, intended for river operations, and it is thought that a third vessel will be bought for the same service. They are to leave France about the middle of January, and to use all the steam they can, so as to arrive in good time. General Cousin de Montauban, Commander-in-Chief of the troops to be employed in China, has arrived in Paris from Toulon, where he was present at the embarkation of the 101st and 102nd Regiments of Infantry, the 2nd Rifles, and a detachment of Engineers, composing the greater part of the expeditionary force. The frigate Dryade sailed from Toulon on the 1st inst. for China, having on board General Collineau, his staff, and the 102nd Regiment of the Line. General Jamin and Colonel O'Malley embarked at Toulon, on the 3rd, for China, on board the screw transport Garonne.

The *Boston Transcript* has the following:—"Speaking of guns, the Yankees have been doing a very profitable business of late in supplying John Chinaman with iron guns of large size. There have been some shipments from Boston, which have paid very handsomely indeed."

Orders have been given out this week from the French Ministère de la Marine for the immediate construction of four floating batteries on a new model. The papers are ordered to say that they are intended for China.

The *Moniteur de la Flotte* states that the navy is to be reduced by the discharge, on December 31, of

all warrant officers and sailors who may have completed forty months of service in all, whatever may be the length of service since the last levy. This news is to some extent a confirmation of a rumour, that although Lord Cowley had not been the bearer of any proposal for a mutual disarmament, he had been empowered to assure the English Government that France meant to reduce her military establishment.

The arrival of another inventor (says a letter from Paris) has set all the *cafe* and politicians wondering, and proposing, as usual. The new lion is, as usual, on the war path, for no invention of a peaceful nature seems to attract attention. The name of the individual is Hochstaetter. He comes from Darmstadt, and is on his way to England, which circumstance has created the belief that he has been called by the English Government, and that his object is to make experiments of his invention at Woolwich. The invention consists of a substitute for gunpowder, much cheaper, and far more effectual than the material at present employed for the destruction of the human race. The substance is grey in colour, leaves a greasy impression to the touch, and possesses a strong alcoholic smell. It was tried last week with great success on the Place du Tir, at Wiesbaden, and the conviction of the numerous band of military officers gathered to witness the experiment was decidedly in favour of its adoption.

The first battery of Armstrong guns, six 12-pound breech-loading rifles, was yesterday proved at the Royal Arsenal butt, Woolwich, in preparation for transit to China by the overland route. The proof-charges employed on the occasion, as ordered by the War Department, consisted of the largest amount of powder with which it was possible to cram the chambers of each gun, and a couple, or double shot. The terrible shock which the excessive charges produced brought the guns off their position with a perfect leap, and gave a recoil of about twenty-five feet; nevertheless, the thorough temper of the materials and the remarkable character of the guns nobly resisted the shock. They were accordingly pronounced impossible to burst under fair usage, and were immediately packed for transport.

The *Steam Ship Chronicle* remarks upon the new warlike engine, "the steam-ram":—"As to the power of running down a hostile vessel at sea (setting aside the cold-blooded idea that it implies of wholesale assassination, like smoking Arabs in caves, or flinging poisonous compounds), experience will show that there are two sides to the bargain. Theoretically, it is like putting the pinch of salt on the bird's tail, or the recipe for cooking the hare. In the first place, in order to accomplish the scheme successfully, the steam battery must be faster than the vessel she is chasing; but as steam batteries, whatever the power of their engines, must always, from their immense displacement, be slow vessels, there is not much probability of their outsteaming ordinary vessels of war. They might, it is true, catch an old sailing vessel asleep in a calm, and run into her, but the opportunity will not readily be afforded to them, inasmuch as the conversion of sailing vessels to screw vessels is proceeding rapidly in every navy in Europe. And even between running into a vessel and running her down, there is, we humbly suggest, a very wide difference. The ability of one vessel, whatever her power, to run down another, depends upon circumstances over which little control can be exercised. In nineteen out of twenty collisions at sea the result is simply to damage one of the vessels, or both, and it is only when a vessel is struck by another stem on, on her broadside, or in some other vulnerable part, that she is so damaged as to sink. The momentum with which steam batteries would strike an opposing body would, no doubt, be immense, but in many cases this would simply cause the two vessels to become locked, and it would require considerable force to separate them. There is another danger lurking in these "running down" speculations. If a man like Nelson had found himself pursued by one of those batteries, what would his ready genius and daring have suggested? What, but to get ready his boarders, and on the contact of the vessels, in the first moment of collision, to send them swarming over the bulwarks of the foe, to hoist the union-jack on the shrouds of the enemy's ship. In such a case, the commander of a steam battery might find that he had caught a Tartar. We throw out these suggestions, not with the view of detracting from the merit of these vessels of war, but for the purpose of guarding the public against attaching to them an overweening importance."

VOLUNTEER CORPS.

WITHIN the last week an increased impulse has been given to the movement, and in various parts of the kingdom new companies have been formed and volunteers enrolled. The list of places where fresh bodies of artillerymen and riflemen are springing

into existence comprises Hereford, Bridgnorth, Monmouth, Redcar, Castle Howard, Ashburton, West Kilbrick, Bakewell, Tunbridge Wells, Dalkeith, Chatham, Dronfield, Durham, Grimsby, St. Andrew's, Tredegar, and many others.

At Norwich, on Monday night, the members of the companies formed there had a long and animated discussion with reference to the appointment of a commanding officer for the whole corps. Captain Middleton, deputy-mayor, presided, and stated that, as four companies had been organised in Norwich, it was the wish of the Lord-Lieutenant of Norfolk that they should now be formed into a battalion, and that a major-commandant should be appointed. It was then resolved that Major Brett, a retired military officer, should fill the post.

An instance of public spirit at Liverpool is worthy of honour and imitation. The ex-mayor, Mr. Preston, who has taken considerable interest in this movement from the commencement, has given orders for two silver goblets to be prepared, value £100, which he intends to present as prizes next summer to the best shots among the artillery and riflemen. In forming a corps at Newtown, Montgomeryshire, another patriotic gentleman, Mr. J. Pryce Drew, of Milford-house, made the munificent offer of fully equipping 50 volunteers in the most efficient manner at his own charge. In consequence of such offer a public meeting of the inhabitants of Newtown was called on Saturday, which was most numerous and respectfully attended, and was very enthusiastic. The volunteers will in a few days be increased to about 200.

In the metropolis new corps have this week been founded in St. Pancras and the Tower Hamlets, and are going on with spirit. A Whitehall company of the Civil Service Rifle Corps is about to be formed, under the sanction of the Government, to be composed of volunteers from the various public offices in the vicinity of Whitehall.

The enrolled members of this corps amount now to upwards of 400, not less than 100 having been added within the last week. They are divided into five companies, and the drill proceeds daily with great spirit in the open air regardless of weather. The name of Mr. Justice Willes is inscribed on the roll of the fifth company, but whether as a working or merely an ornamental member of the corps, remains to be seen. Mr. Justice Crowder, now no more, had also enrolled himself as a volunteer. Two sons of the Lord Chancellor have given in their adhesion, and now, with the rest, daily turn their backs for a time on the dry study of legal lore to take a turn with the drill-sergeant.

This is all very satisfactory, no doubt, and shows great spirit and patriotism: but it is also very gratifying to observe, that the danger of making these corps too exclusive is at length appreciated, and artisan companies are daily on the increase. The artisans employed at the Woolwich Carriage Department having expressed their anxiety to commence the formation of a rifle corps, to be composed exclusively of Government workmen, an intimation to that effect was given to Colonel Tulloh, who approved the project. About 250 men have given in their names.

The artists and artisans in the Royal Porcelain Works, Worcester, have formed a company among themselves.

About ninety of the students of the Working Men's College, in Great Ormond-street, have formed themselves into a corps, and fresh accessions are made to the number daily. They are drilled on four or five nights of the week, in a commodious piece of ground behind the institution, lighted with gas. Mr. Thomas Hughes, the author of "Tom Brown's Schooldays," has been chiefly instrumental in organising this small force of working-men, which will probably become the nucleus of a large body enrolled from the same class of the population.

Messrs. Truman, Hanbury, Buxton, and Co. have agreed to pay the expenses of a rifle corps formed in their establishment, the number to be at first limited to 100.

The persons employed at the King's-cross Station of the Great Northern Railway have evinced such an interest in the volunteer movement, that 800 of them have sent in their names to the Chairman (Mr. E. Denison) as ready to form themselves into corps. The servants of the Eastern Counties Railway have volunteered to the number of 500.

A meeting was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street, this week, at which the Marquis of Donegal presided, for the purpose of organising a London Irish Volunteer Rifle Corps. Several resolutions in favour of the movement were carried unanimously, notwithstanding the interruption of some two or three, no doubt, warm-hearted Hibernians, who opposed the objects of the meeting. The speech of the chairman, it will be seen, was one embracing many points of interest.

IRELAND.

At Waterford there has been a great Sunday demonstration on the part of those who sympathise with the Pope, held in the Cathedral. Speeches were delivered of an exciting character, which quite as much turned upon the defence of the faith as upon the question of upholding Pope Pius in his temporal authority. Eight thousand persons are reported to have been present, who unanimously adopted the resolutions submitted to them. There was also held, at the same time, at the Carmelite Church, Dublin, a crowded meeting of different religious fraternities in support of the same object. This is the continuation of an agitation likely to be extended to every part of Ireland in the course of the present winter. It is to be observed that many Roman Catholic noblemen and gentlemen have declined to take any part in the movement, not from any wish they may have to see the temporal separated from the spiritual power, but simply because they do not think their religion will be served by such demonstrations.

An inquest was held at Athlone on Monday, on the body of Laurence Kelly, who was brutally murdered in his own house on Saturday last. The body presented a frightful appearance; the skull being literally torn open by the slugs. Some witnesses were examined, when a verdict of "Wilful Murder" against some persons unknown was returned by the jury. The deceased had taken a small farm (under ten acres) from which some persons had been dispossessed, and had only lately entered into possession. This was, unfortunately, quite sufficient to make him a marked man in his locality, where the atrocious Ribbon system prevails to a fearful extent. It appears that a male servant was in the house at the time of the murder, as well as the woman who gave the deceased his dinner just before the shot was fired. Neither of these persons looked out or made any exertion to discover the assassin. The constabulary were quickly in attendance, and four persons were in custody yesterday on suspicion, awaiting the inquest. One of those was a brother of the deceased, who was arrested because the police found in his house a gun which had been very lately discharged. There was no evidence, however, to implicate any of these persons, and they were discharged after the inquest had terminated. The deceased was unmarried, and a man in thriving circumstances.

Two murders are also reported from Dunganon, one of which was committed by a constable upon his superior officer, who he fancied had injured him, another in Kerry, and one near Thorley.

Anketell Moutray, Esq., a gentleman of large property in Tyrone, received a Ribbon notice several days ago. He has written to the local journal to say, "Immediately on receipt of the letter it was read by the bailiff to a number of the labourers and tradesmen in my employment, and my brother, with my approval, openly declared that notice to quit should be served on all the Roman Catholic tenants in two townlands, and probably on other parts of my property, if any violence were offered to the bailiff, Richard Curran." The time allowed by the Ribbonmen for the dismissal of Curran having expired, and no violence having been done to him or Mr. Moutray, the inference is that the threat of retaliation, described in the above extract, has had the desired effect. The Ribbon system is as remarkable for cowardice as treachery and ferocity.

LAW, POLICE, AND CASUALTIES.

In regard to the case of Dr. Smethurst, a contemporary says:—"The offence of bigamy, as the law at present stands, amounts to felony, and any person convicted of it immediately loses all claim to any property of which he may be possessed, or be entitled to, in reversion, at the time of his conviction. Miss Bankes, only two days before her death, made a will, at the request of the prisoner, under which Dr. Smethurst was made sole executor, and would have become possessed of the whole of her property. If the pardon had closed the proceedings, and no further steps had been taken in reference to the charge of bigamy, he would, in all probability, have put the will in force; and as it is doubtful whether the relatives of the deceased could, under the circumstances under which the will was executed, apparently with the full knowledge and consent of the deceased lady, have resisted it, Dr. Smethurst would have come into possession of the whole of the property of Miss Bankes, which is said to amount to several thousand pounds. The effect of his conviction, however, precludes him from obtaining a single farthing under the will, and as those upon whom the right devolves to take possession of his property are not likely to interfere, Miss Bankes will probably be considered as dying intestate, and the property will revert to her family.

A correspondent of the *Daily News* draws attention to a flagrant and disgraceful abuse, in the following terms:—"Last Wednesday I went to the Old Bailey, to hear the trial of Dr. Smethurst for bigamy,

and on arriving there I repaired to the gallery entrance to the Old Court, and asked admission. But here I was doomed to disappointment, for he sternly denied me without I paid him his fee of 2s. 6d. This charge I as sternly refused; but finding I could not get in without paying I tried another of these money-making functionaries, and handed him a smaller coin, which he immediately took, and politely gave me admission."

Some important cases have been brought before Sir C. Cresswell's court; among others the suit of Bell v. Bell and the Marquis of Anglesey. It was a case for a dissolution of marriage, by reason of adultery. The petitioner was the son of a merchant and stockbroker, and the lady the daughter of Mr. Barnard, also a stockbroker of eminence in the city. The parties were married in 1851, previous to which certain settlements were made upon the wife, to the extent of £5,000, and it was in consequence of the doubtful state of the law upon that point that Mr. Bell felt it necessary to ask for damages to meet that contingency. The fact of the adultery was clearly proved; and the jury returned a verdict that the adultery had been committed, assessing the co-respondent in £10,000 damages. The Court decreed dissolution of the marriage.

The case of Allen v. Allen and D'Arcy, which was a suit for a dissolution of marriage by reason of adultery of the wife with the co-respondent, and which had occupied the whole of Friday and Saturday, has also been resumed. Mr. Justice Hill summed up the evidence at great length to the jury, explaining the law as to connivance and condonation, and left six questions to the jury, who, after a deliberation of twenty minutes, replied to them as follows:—"That the respondent had committed adultery with Robert D'Arcy, or some other person. That the petitioner, Thomas Allen, had connived at such adultery. The jury were of opinion the adultery was not condoned. That Thomas Allen had committed adultery with Mrs. Claverton. That the petitioner had not committed legal cruelty. That the respondent had condoned the cruelty. Mr. Justice Cresswell said the Court had no difficulty in decreeing judgment, the jury having found that the petitioner had connived at the adultery of the wife; and, having stated the law as to connivance and collusion, dismissed the petition with costs.

In the Divorce Court, judgment has been delivered in the case Yelverton v. Yelverton, which was argued some time ago. This was a petition by the wife for the restitution of conjugal rights, Major Yelverton having left her at Bordeaux, in 1858. But as the marriage had been celebrated first in Scotland and afterwards in Ireland, and as this court had authority only in England, the petition was dismissed on the ground of want of jurisdiction. A decree of judicial separation was also pronounced at the petition of White v. White, the husband against the wife, on the ground that his life was in danger from her violent temper.

A most distressing case has been brought to light this week at the Middlesex Sessions. One Sarah Dyer pleaded guilty to having robbed Messrs. Shoobred, of Tottenham-court-road, of a number of small articles. This trial excited the deepest feelings in all who heard it. The prisoner was a dressmaker, and a widow, with one child, a boy, apprenticed to a tailor. She had worked incessantly morning, noon, and night, for many years, to support herself and son, but, from the extreme distress in which she was plunged by her customers' delay in paying her charges, was induced to commit the offence with which she was charged. The statement of her counsel, Mr. Sleight, was fully made out, and Mr. Bodkin, the assistant judge, said that in this case he should pass no sentence, but order her to be discharged, which was done, on which she thanked the judge on her knees. It was stated that the ladies, whose elegant costumes had been provided by this poor creature's agonising toil, are "highly respectable," residing in such localities as Russell-square and Highbury-place. The barristers in Court subscribed £2 for her.

Robert Davis, a clerk, has been convicted of embezzling several sums of money from his employers and others. He had been ten years in his employer's service, and the reason that was given for the commission of the offence was the extravagance of a woman whom he had married, which, however, the wife denied, and attributed it to gaming, etc. Sentence, eighteen months' hard labour.—Felix Newman pleaded guilty to stealing a cash-box, containing £232, from Thornton Moore. Mrs. Moore saw the prisoner take the box, and tried to detain him, but he struggled with such violence to escape that he broke one of Mrs. Moore's ribs, and eventually he got away. The cash-box and its contents were recovered. The police asked for time to learn something more of the prisoner, and sentence was deferred.—A man named James Hodgson, town traveller, was charged with robbing Mr. Bell of a watch and money. He ran away with prosecutor's wife, who took the property with her; but as it did not

appear in evidence that the prisoner himself had taken the property, the assistant judge said he could not be legally convicted of taking, and the jury acquitted him.

The St. George's-in-the-East weekly rows are beginning to take a complicated shape. In the Consistory Court, on Saturday, Dr. Phillimore applied, on behalf of the Rev. Bryan King, rector of St. George's-in-the-East, to allow the office of judge to be promoted against certain persons for the offence of "brawling" in the church. The judge, observing that a *prima facie* case had been made out, granted the application against a defendant named Rosier. Another application, *v.* Barnard, was refused. This was followed by a man named William Jones applying to the magistrate at Thames Police-court for a summons against the Rev. Mr. Lowder, curate of St. George's-in-the-East, for assaulting him on Sunday last in front of the parish church. Mr. Selfe granted the summons.

A man named Josiah Selwyn Brewer, calling himself a lecturer, was indicted for fraudulently obtaining from Edward Robson a number of books &c., value £55; he was also indicted for defrauding James Rogers of £7. 13s. Evidence having been adduced in support of these indictments, the jury said there could be no doubt of his guilt, and returned a verdict to that effect. Mr. Metcalfe then gave a short sketch of the prisoner's history, from which it appeared that he had been living by swindling for the last 15 years. He was sentenced to three years' penal servitude.

At the Middlesex Sessions, John Price, a powerful man, was charged with assaulting and wounding George Hopkinson, one of Lord Enfield's gamekeepers at South Mimms. Hopkinson detected the prisoner poaching on his lordship's park at Wrotham, and spoke to him about it, when he struck him on the head, and kicked him so that it produced hernia. The charge was clearly proved, and the jury found him guilty on all the counts in the indictment. Mr. Metcalfe stated that the prisoner had been convicted no less than fifteen times of poaching, larceny and other offences. The learned Assistant Judge commented on the conduct of the prisoner in severe terms, and, as a warning to others, sentenced him to three years' hard labour in the House of Correction.

Another instance of the brutality which prevails on board of American ships has come to light in a recent trial at Newcastle. In this instance the result has been the death of a seaman from the fearful usage to which he was subjected by the mate. Several cruel beatings, periodically administered, were brought to a climax by the mate knocking in the skull of the sailor with an iron bolt. He has been found guilty of manslaughter, and sentenced to penal servitude for life.

On the case of the Rev. H. J. Hatch, to which we adverted last week, the *Morning Post* has some judicious remarks, the writer says:—"The vice of which he is alleged to be guilty is inexpiable, because the injury done is irreparable; the seeds implanted are beyond eradication. But, on the other hand, if he is not guilty, was there ever a calamity more dreadful than has befallen this clergyman? Hurled at once from honour to reprobation, from sufficiency to poverty, from progress in his profession to absolute ruin, from the charities of domestic life to the rigours of the gaol, and, far worse than all, from the esteem of the wise and good to the detestation of mankind. Here are all the sufferings of martyrdom with none of its dignity, none of its moral compensations. Every pang, but one, that can rend the moral nature, and break a man down beyond all redemption as to this world, is summed up in his conviction and sentence. Is he, then, guilty, or is he not? If guilty, his crime is beyond the execration of human speech; if innocent, no human compassion can console the unspeakable hardship of this case. Now, we think that none of our readers will deny that, as far as it has transpired, the evidence against Mr. Hatch is very incomplete. We repeat that the case is the most unsatisfactory and inexplicable that we ever heard of; and we submit that the circumstances earnestly demand a review of the trial. The Secretary of State can do this case as in that of Smethurst; and though there are objections to such reviews by a single individual, yet, till the country is provided with a Court of Criminal Appeal that will meet such cases, there is no other resource. The points which require to be satisfied refer to the credibility of the girls, the elder especially. What are their antecedents? Have they been truthful and good? What books have they been accustomed to read? Have they had access to newspapers, and divorce cases, and penny journals? What character have their parents hitherto borne? With what servants or others have they associated? Did they communicate to the servants of Mr. Hatch, or to any schoolfellows or others, what had occurred? If Mr. Hatch's crime were a capital one, would the country consent that he should be hanged upon this testi-

mony? And, if not, ought it to sanction any lesser punishment?"

At a fire in Whitechapel, on Tuesday morning, a fire escape conductor saved ten lives by his coolness and courage with the aid of his escape; the brave man's name is Wood. On the flames bursting out Wood arrived just in time. Ten persons presented themselves at the second floor window, and the most piteous cries for help were heard. Wood told them to remain for a few minutes and he would rescue them. He then placed his machine against the burning building, and first brought down six children. He again ascended, and placed Mrs. Jane Henry, aged seventy years, Mrs. Susan Jacobs, Mr. Lewis Jacobs, and the servant, in the machine. The poor conductor now sank under his great exertions, and if it had not been for the timely arrival of Edward Cooke, the conductor of another fire-escape, he must have fallen a victim to his courage. When Cooke brought his brother conductor down the ladder, Wood was in a state of insensibility, and it was upwards of half an hour before he returned to his senses.

The coroner's jury reassembled, this week, at Long-alley, Finsbury, to investigate the circumstances of the death of Mary Ann Moore, who was so horribly murdered and decapitated on Monday week. Application had been made to the Secretary of State for the attendance of deceased's husband, who is charged with the commission of the crime, and the order was granted. It now appears that the prisoner Moore was discharged from the lunatic asylum in legal form on the 23rd ult. He was found guilty of wilful murder by the coroner's jury, and was afterwards committed for trial, in due course, by the police magistrate.

The coroner's jury have returned a verdict to the following effect, at the close of the inquest on the body of William Eaton, alleged to have been poisoned by eating sausages at Kingsland: "That deceased was seized with illness from eating sausages, and died shortly afterwards, the immediate cause being unknown; and the jury thought that there ought to be an addition to the number of meat inspectors."

An inquest was held on Monday at the City-road, to inquire into the death of a photographic artist, named Edmund Shirley, and a girl, named Rosetta Greenwood, who were found dead in bed at a coffee-house on Thursday last. The evidence showed that death resulted in each case from poison in the form of cyanide of potass, which had been voluntarily taken by both the deceased. Family quarrels on the part of the man account for his commission of the act, and the girl, being his sweetheart, had of her own will shared his wretched fate.

The Peninsular and Oriental steam-ship *Alhambra*, when off Calabria, in a passage from Corfu to Malta, was going at the rate of eleven knots an hour, with single reefed topsails, foresail, and stern topsails, when a cry of "a man overboard" was heard. The captain at once gave orders for the reversal of the engines, and for a life-buoy to be thrown over, and the vessel gradually rounded to. The man overboard reached the life-buoy, but was completely out of sight. Orders were then given for launching the boat, which was manned in charge of the third officer, but her tackle got jammed, and she swung broadside with a terrific crash, tearing her bows almost asunder, and precipitating those who were in her into the sea. Discoll (A. B.) was saved by seizing some of the floating debris of the shattered boat. Eastman (A. B.) was swept to leeward. All attention was then drawn to the perilous position of Mr. Dodd, the officer, who having obtained a footing upon a portion of the boat, threw off his monkey jacket, and was again dashed into the boiling sea, and when told to hold on and he would be pulled up, he said he could not, for his left arm was out of its socket. In the meantime, the second officer made a bowline, but it could not be got properly over him. It was evident that he was powerless to save himself, and Mr. Toll, chief officer, slid down the after fall, and was immediately alongside him, placed the bowline under both his arms, and he was hauled up. Mr. Toll had a most narrow escape himself, but a friendly rope brought him safely to the ship. The lifeboat during this time was being cleared away, and the other poor fellows were speedily saved.

The wreck of the American mail steamship *Indian* was attended with more disastrous consequences than were at first imagined. She struck on a sunken ledge, and parted amidships in half an hour afterwards; one boat was capsized and several persons drowned; another boat was stove alongside the hull, while two boats, containing a portion of the passengers and crew, drifted to sea, and had not been heard of at the latest date. Twenty-four persons were saved by the schooner *Alexander*, and landed at Halifax. The breakers raged with force on all sides of the steamer. The schooner *Lutea* was also wrecked on the breakers, while running close to the wreck of the *Indian*.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.

THE COURT.—On Saturday morning the Queen and the Prince Consort, accompanied by the Prince and Princess Frederick William of Prussia, together with the Prince of Wales and the Princess Alice, left Windsor Castle, and travelled by the Great Western Railway to Paddington, where the Prince and Princess Frederick William took leave, and passed through the metropolis to the Bricklayers Arms station, whence they were conveyed by a special train of the South Eastern Railway to Dover. They reached Calais about noon. The Prince of Wales returned to Oxford the same day. The tempestuous state of the weather prevented the Queen's departure for Osborne on Monday as intended; but the journey to the Isle of Wight was accomplished in safety on Tuesday; and the royal family remain at Osborne, all in good health.

DEATH OF ONE OF THE JUDGES.—Sir Richard B. Crowder, one of the Judges of the Common Pleas, died suddenly in the early part of this week. He was in Court on Saturday last, in, to all appearances, his usual health. The deceased judge was the eldest son of the late Mr. W. H. Crowder, and was in his 70th year. He was educated at Eton, and completed his studies at Trinity College, Cambridge. In the year 1821 he was called to the bar at Lincoln's-inn, and for a long series of years went to the Western Circuit. On the death of Sir Charles Wetherell, he was appointed Recorder of Bristol, which honourable position he held for close on eight years, when, in 1854, he was promoted to be one of the puisne judges of the Court of Common Pleas. The deceased was for a few years in the House of Commons, having represented Liskeard in Parliament from January, 1849, up to his elevation to the bench in 1854, after unsuccessfully contesting Winchester in 1841. Sir Richard was for some years counsel for the Admiralty and Judge-Advocate to the Fleet.

THE GLOUCESTER INQUIRY.—The commission to inquire into the existence of corrupt practices at the Gloucester elections resumed their labours at Flud-der-street, Westminster, this week. Several witnesses were examined, after which Mr. Julian Bernard was called. This witness was required to produce his pass and cash books, but failed to put in an appearance. The proceedings were therefore adjourned, to give Mr. Bernard another opportunity of answering the summons.

HARROW AND DR. VAUGHAN.—On Monday evening nearly 250 gentlemen, Harrow men and "old Harrovians," dined together at the Freemasons' Tavern, to do honour to the Rev. Dr. Vaughan, who has lately resigned the office of head master. The chair was filled by Mr. C. S. Currer, as having been captain of the school in Dr. Vaughan's first year. On returning thanks for his health being drunk, Dr. Vaughan, with much feeling, said:—"In the ordinary course there were but three causes to terminate a head master's connexion with a school—death, failing strength, or ecclesiastical preferment. His ambition had been to exemplify a fourth; he had wished to leave the school which he had served at the very summit of its prosperity. It was a work of great difficulty and anxiety to control five hundred young human wills, subject to every gust of temper and passion, and without experience to keep them steady. In such a life, teaching was a relaxation, and the hours he spent with his sixth form were the lightest, the most delightful, he knew. The prosperity of a school was precarious, and public opinion was not always just. After fifteen years of arduous toil and occasional dangers, he now claimed some repose—not a period of idleness, but of domestic privacy. It had been the fixed intention of his great master, Dr. Arnold, at the close of his fifteenth year at Rugby, to retire to his home in the north, and occupy himself with the charge of private pupils, for which he refused ecclesiastical advancement. Death in the fourteenth year prevented Dr. Arnold from doing what he (Dr. Vaughan) was now permitted to do. He had never meant to wait till he should be made a canon or dean, for no such preferment should tempt a sensible man from such a post as that of head master of Harrow. He vindicated himself from any objection that might be raised to his retirement upon short notice, by remarking that it was not good for the school to undergo a long period of uncertainty." He was very warmly cheered. Later in the evening he proposed the health of his successor, the Rev. H. Montagu Butler, whom he thought the fittest man in all England to take his place as head master.

THE ROYAL CHARTER.—The value of the gold recovered from the wreck on Monday was £100,000, the whole of which has safely arrived at Liverpool. A telegram was received at Lloyd's from Captain Fell, who is superintending the diving operations, stating that the starboard quarter had been lifted, and that twelve boxes, twelve bags, and a number of ingots of gold had been recovered. It is now expected that nearly the whole of the bullion will be recovered.

THE GAS MONOPOLY.—The delegates from the various metropolitan parishes assembled last evening at the St. Martin's Vestry-hall, to consider the further steps to be taken for the protection of consumers against the monopoly of gas companies. Mr. Pettar, churchwarden of St. Martin's parish, occupied the chair. Mr. Beal, the hon. secretary, reported the interview with the President of the Board of Trade, and announced that the gas companies would wait upon the Home Secretary on Friday next. He also stated that he had obtained a great number of signatures, amounting to about a thousand, to the petition which had been drawn up for presentation to Parliament, and urged the delegates personally to solicit signatures. Their bill had been sent to Mr. Buller, the counsel, for revision, in accordance with the decision of the delegates, and the people of Croydon and other towns had sent requests to be allowed to co-operate in the movement. The solicitor (Mr. Dangerfield) stated that he had sent to the companies notices of the intention to introduce a bill. Mr. Hughes then read a report in reference to the contracts of various parishes for the supply of gas, which was received and adopted.

ST. GEORGE-IN-THE-EAST.—On Sunday there was much less unseemly opposition and disturbance at the services in the church of St. George-in-the-East than for some time past, and the day passed over in a manner affording ground for hope that the fierce party spirit of which it has long been the scene has well-nigh exhausted itself. Not that there was no irreverent behaviour on the part of many of the congregation at all the services, always excepting that of the afternoon lecturer; but it was confined to a comparatively few people, and much less remarkable than at any time heretofore since the disturbances first commenced. The services were again, as for several Sundays previously, conducted under the protection of the local divisional police, of whom upwards of forty, under the direction of Mr. Superintendent Howle, were stationed in the pews and aisles of the church.

MORTARA IN ENGLAND.—Signor Momola Mortara, whose child was surreptitiously baptised by a servant maid, and abducted from its parents on this frivolous pretence, is now in London. Having had an interview with the Emperor Napoleon, he has now visited the metropolis of England, to induce the British Government to bring his case before the forthcoming Congress on Italian affairs. M. Mortara is of Hebrew extraction, but evidently has in his veins some of the blood of the old Roman. He seems deeply to feel the loss of his child, who is now eight years old, and is detained by the Jesuits at Rome. Had he remained at Bologna, the authorities there would have complied with the dictates of our common humanity, and would have delivered him to his afflicted parents. M. Mortara has called upon the late Lord Mayor, Sir Culling Eardley (chairman and deputy-chairman), and Messrs. Gurney, M.P., and B. Scott (the official secretaries), for procuring the signatures to the Mortara protest, to assure them of his gratitude, and to express his estimation of the Christianity which has produced in this country results so different from those exhibited in the conduct of the authorities at Rome.

PUBLIC HEALTH.—There was no increase in the mortality of the metropolis last week: the total number of deaths was 1,304, which is a little under the estimated average. The births during the week numbered 1,827. The number of deaths registered in the City was 70, being the exact average for the corresponding period for the last four years.

NEW PEER.—The *Gazette* announces that Lord Ebrington is called to the House of Lords under the style and title of Baron Fortescue. There are also appointments of less importance which are at the same time mentioned. A supplement to the *Gazette* is occupied with a long Privy Council document, stating new regulations under the Public Health Act, which are of universal application.

THE NORWICH SCANDAL.—A special meeting of the Town Council of Norwich was held on Tuesday, with the view of getting a motion passed that "the peace and welfare of the city will be best promoted by the cessation of political strife, and that, with a view to the attainment of this object, the resolution of the Council, with reference to the charge of bribery made by Mr. Fox, be cancelled, and all further legal proceedings for conspiracy be stayed." The Council decided to stop the inquiry into the alleged bribery practises here, by twenty-eight votes to nineteen. The Liberals will, however, it is understood, take further proceedings in the matter. They have determined to continue the inquiry by means of a private subscription. The city is greatly excited on the subject, and it will be difficult to calm the troubled waters. On Thursday the Norwich magistrates were engaged for nearly four hours in further hearing the charge preferred against Mr. Albert J. Collins, of conspiring with Mr. Henry Croxford and others to bribe Mr. Joel Fox, by offering him £500 to vote for eight Tory aldermen on the 9th of November. Mr. Power, Q.C., again appeared to

conduct the case on the part of the prosecution, and Mr. Serjeant Ballantine and Mr. Haworth Hall for the defendant. It was decided by a majority of 15 to 6 not to commit the defendant, but, at the same time, it was determined by 12 to 10 to call upon him to enter into two recognizances of £250 each and himself in £500, to answer any future charge. Mr. Serjeant Ballantine said he should advise his client to decline entering into the proposed recognizances, except under protest, and until he had been taken into custody by force. This "force" having been theoretically exhibited by one of the officers of the court laying his hand on Mr. Collins, the recognizances were entered into, and the proceedings in the case terminated, at any rate for the present. Mr. Serjeant Ballantine announced that it was not his intention to offer any evidence to support the charge of bribery at the general election, preferred against Sir W. Foster and the Messrs. Wilde. Mr. Askew, solicitor, also withdrew, amid slight laughter, the counter-charges preferred by the Liberals against Sir Samuel Bignold, Captain Ives, and other Conservatives.

MR. ROEBUCK'S CHARGE AGAINST THE PRINCE DE JOINVILLE.—In a speech which he made last week, Mr. Roebuck intimated that, no matter what dynasty ruled over France, there was a settled intention to attack England, and to prove this he ventured upon a revelation—namely, that a certain nobleman, now dead, told him that the Prince had, even after being driven to England by misfortune, made plans of our shores, and pointed out where we could best be attacked, and sent his plans to the Ministry of France. The Prince de Joinville writes to say that he never drew up any plan of the coast of England, that he never devised any project of attack against this country, and that he could not, therefore, have communicated anything to the French Ministry. The Prince adds, that he should be the last person to desire the principles which now rule in France should be extended to England.

CITY MATTERS.—On Thursday the Court of Common Council met for the consideration of several matters of importance; the Lord Mayor presided. The questions submitted to the Court related to the proposed railway station at the Bank, the accommodation to be given to the Court of Admiralty, the management of the markets, the conservancy of the Thames, cattle shows, the gaol of Newgate, regarding which a report was presented; the Central Gas Company, the proposed new dead meat market, the finances of the City, with a long report; Blackfriars Bridge, corporation reform and coal dues, and the last business of the day was the adoption of a resolution that £500 should be given by the Court in aid of the fund arising from the gifts of persons on their admission to the freedom of the City, annually distributed by the Chamberlain to the poor widows of freemen on St. Thomas's-day.

Foreign News.

THE CONGRESS.

THE *Pays* announces that not only England, but Austria, Prussia, and Sardinia have sent in adhesion to the Congress. Contrary to an assertion of the *Morning Post*, sent by telegraph from London this morning, the *Pays* says that Count de Rechberg, the Austrian Minister of Foreign Affairs, will be the first Austrian plenipotentiary; M. de Schleinitz will represent Prussia. The *Pays* states that Russia and Portugal have also given in their adhesion to the Congress. The adhesion of Spain to the Congress has been received, and M. Mon will be her second plenipotentiary. The *Gazette del Popolo* says that it now appears to be certain that Count Cavour will represent Sardinia in the ensuing Congress at Paris. According to this journal, it may not be impossible for this illustrious Piedmontese statesman to return soon to the ministry.

According to correspondence from Berlin, published in the *Debats*, the States of Central Italy will not appear in the Congress upon the same footing as the great Powers, but will be invited in the form established by the precedent of the Congress of Aix-la-Chapelle. The same letters aver that the English and French Governments are consulting together upon an arrangement of the Italian question which will not probably satisfy Austria, but which will encounter no serious objection at Berlin or St. Petersburg.

CENTRAL ITALY.

A TURIN correspondent of a contemporary says:—"It is, however, pretty clear that the expectation of Central Italy being made a part of Sardinia is not at all strong—the statement that England and France having arrived at a compromise with the view of forming that part of the Peninsula into an independent sovereignty being accepted with considerable willingness. Here, however, would arise, supposing, as I do not, that such a compromise has

been made, another very difficult question. If Central Italy is to be a kingdom, and not under Victor Emmanuel, who is to be the sovereign? Is a French Prince of the house of Bonaparte to be put forward, or is one of the late dukes to be proposed as the King of the three provinces, to leave out the vexed question of the Legations, when he could not rule one of them without making every free-minded person in it his bitter enemy? And if so, who is to be the man? Surely, the Duke of Modena is out of the question. Is it, then, to be the Austrian Archduke, or the heir of the Bourbons? Would either be accepted by the Italians without a struggle, and could either be placed upon the throne without a most flagrant violation of justice to the other; and, what is of far greater importance, without falsifying the motives which led to the late war, and committing a most gross act of tyranny towards the people of the Duchies."

On Friday last, in a Council held at Turin, the two Tuscan delegates who had been invited to take part in it had been brought over to recognise the wisdom of the existing state of things, and of accepting Buoncompagni's appointment; but it seems that since then, Baron Ricasoli has once more protested against it. Another project is said to be now entertained to divide the administration of the Central Italian states into, first, a Cis-Appennine province, embracing Parma, Modena, and the Legations; and second, a Trans-Appennine one, consisting of Tuscany alone, with Massa and Carrara added to it.

Farini has published a decree, organising a single government for Parma, Modena, and Romagna, and assigning as a reason, the wish to facilitate the movement by which they shall hereafter form an integral portion of King Victor Emmanuel's constitutional State.

MAZZINI.—A Turin letter of December 4, in the *Presse*, says that Mazzini has published a letter, severely criticising General Fanti. M. Mazzini says, that in 1848 he was greatly deceived about this officer, who had just then returned from Spain with a military reputation not borne out by facts; that Fanti stands quite apart from the revolution, and is merely the "king's general," and that Central Italy cannot reckon upon his being staunch. Mazzini has also published at Lugano a pamphlet, addressed to the youth of Italy, in which he in 60 pages explains what he considers the false direction the movement in Italy has taken, and in which he appeals to the Italian youth, who have enlisted as volunteers, to rally round Garibaldi and to fight the Holy war. The pamphlet is dated November 14,—that is, before the dismissal of Garibaldi, in consequence of which an appendix is added, dated November 20. In the pamphlet itself the name of Garibaldi does not occur, but the appendix contains a direct appeal to him to take matters into his own hands.

CRISIS IN TURKEY.

A MINISTERIAL crisis has been brought about by the dissensions between Fuad Pasha and Riza Pasha. Fuad had tendered his resignation, which was refused by the Sultan, but a permanent agreement between the two Ministers appeared impossible. Fuad Pasha was the only Minister who continued to oppose the Suez Canal. M. de Thouvenel and Baron Prokesch, the Ambassadors of France and Austria, had made joint representations in favour of M. de Lesseps, and the adhesion of the other Continental Powers to his scheme was expected, as the language of their ambassadors was extremely favourable. The Grand Vizier was endeavouring to work out reforms, but the combination to reduce the paper currency was prevented by the insufficiency of the means at the disposal of the Treasury. The retention of from 20 to 30 per cent. of the salaries of the *employés* in the superior public establishments and the taxation of licences had been ordered.

ROME.—The session of the Council of State has been opened by the President Cardinal di Pietro. The Financial Consulta was received by the Pope, and Cardinal Savelli (its president) frankly explained the wishes of the Assembly. His Holiness replied that he will consider what steps are necessary to give satisfaction.

AMERICAN AFFAIRS.

A WASHINGTON telegram of November 25, says:—"The Secretary of War to-day received the following despatch from Lieut.-General Scott, dated Straits of Fuca, and sent by way of Leavenworth:—"Two days ago I dispatched from Fort Townsend a communication to Governor Douglas, proposing a temporary adjustment of the existing difficulties on the basis suggested by the President to me. There has been no answer yet, but there is no doubt the

proposition will be accepted. Everything is tranquil in the island."

General Scott reached Portland on the 21st. General Harney left Portland soon after the arrival of General Scott at that place, but on what business is not stated. Report says that he was offended at being superseded in his command. General Scott was about to establish his headquarters on board the United States Steamer Massachusetts: he had not decided upon any plan of action.

The excitement at Charleston, Virginia, growing out of rumours of a revival of the Harper's Ferry movement, had subsided, and the troops were being sent home. The Court of Appeals had refused to award a writ of error in the case of John Brown, being of opinion that the judgment of the Circuit Court was correct. Reports had been current of armed men from Ohio having crossed into Virginia to assist the abolition movement, but they were not authentic.

Original Correspondence.

GERMANY.

Hanover, Dec. 5th 1859.

THE amusing counter-proposal, made by the agent, a would-be modern Franklin, of the United States at the Congress of 1856, has been taken *au sérieux* by the shipowners of the Hansetown, Bremen. I reported in my last letter that a meeting had been called in this city to consider the best means of protecting private property at sea during war. The meeting was held on Friday, and the conclusion arrived at was, that the best way of preventing robbery by capture, was to prohibit it, and those nations that maintained war fleets would have the goodness to uphold the prohibition for the benefit of shipowners in particular, and trade and civilisation in general. The meeting appears to have been a closed one, for there was not one voice raised against the folly. Nobody put the question why war fleets exist? Nobody inquired what was the moral difference between taking a ship and taking a town, or seizing upon the waggon and horses of a peasant. If the capture of merchant vessels can be prohibited, and the prohibition maintained, why cannot the taking of towns or the laying them under contribution be likewise rendered contrary to the laws of nations? When the Americans, in 1856, expressed their determination not to give up privateering unless the capture of merchant vessels by national ships of war was likewise abolished, the French laughed at them, and asked whether they imagined that 1859 was 1812? France has now the same good reasons for retaining the right of privateering, that the United States had formerly. The tables are turned—America is all flesh and fat, and France all tooth and claw, and the assumption therefore that America ought to be feared on account of her privateering capabilities, is the sheerest absurdity. The counter-proposal was not a bad joke, and its piquancy is further heightened by the very honest greediness with which the Hansetown shipowners have snapped it up, as a *bona fide* boon. The meeting concluded that the custom of capturing private vessels at sea during war was an injustice opposed to trade and civilisation, and they pray the Senate to exert its influence with the other Governments, that the subject may be brought under the notice of the approaching Congress, and the evil put an end to. During the discussion, one speaker observed that although the proposal made by the United States at the last Congress had failed, owing to the opposition of the great naval powers, yet, this time, England might be found more willing to lend an ear to the demand, because France had so greatly increased her naval power, and it was consequently as much in the interest of England, as of other nations, to proclaim the inviolability of private property (belonging to belligerents as well as to neutrals) during war.

Apropos of Bremen, the steamer *Weser*, appertaining hitherto to the North German Lloyd, has been purchased by the French Government for the sum of £35,000. She is now lying in the Tyne, to be strengthened and equipped as a war steamer or transport.

I had barely written my last when the news arrived of the termination of the Conference of Warzburg—why so suddenly is not yet explained. I said the whole affair would probably prove to be moonshine; it has turned out even less—a mere will-o'-the-wisp—a snare, but I cannot say, a deception, for the Germans are too knowing now, from long and dear-bought experience, to be caught by these Barnum-like hoaxes on the part of their princes. Of

the results of this Conference, it is only known at present that a resolution has been adopted to address to all those Federal Governments which have held aloof, a note stating the reasons for the Conference and the conclusions arrived at. Bavaria and Saxony are to draw up this statement in the name of the Conference; but it will be brought under the notice of the other Governments by a note emanating from Bavaria alone.

Nothing worthy of attention has transpired in the Federal Diet. The Hanoverian Chambers are summoned by royal proclamation to meet on the 3rd January. But for the war alarm, which absorbs all our attention, a very animated session might be expected. The Liberals are strong and well commanded, full of hope in the future; the Court party doubtful of the future, and fully aware that they are utterly detested by the great mass of the people. The authorities seem to have given ear to sound advice, and have ceased from the persecution they had commenced against those who had signed the Programme of Eisenach. The fear of the approaching war is producing the direst consequences. Complaints are loud from all quarters of the declining condition of trade and manufacture. This state of things was endurable during the war, as every one hoped, and believed that the cessation of hostilities would restore confidence and instil new life into trade; but the peace, far from mending matters, has only rendered them worse. The general opinion is that, even if the Congress should meet and adopt a settlement, the war will be put off merely for a year or two; and if this opinion is shared by the Governments, we cannot anticipate any reduction of these tremendous armaments which are devouring the vitals of all the great nations of Europe. Every social reform, every political requirement, is thrust into the background to make way for improvements in cannon, in rifles, in equipments. The fighting tactics of a Zouave or a Turco are of more interest to the reading public than the finest dissertations of the most patriotic political economist. Unity, Federal reform, poetry, music—all are forgotten in this war panic. All the talent of the nations appears to be exerted solely in the production of implements of destruction, instead of in works of social utility. People are inquiring of each other, with blank dismay in their faces, how long this armed peace is going to last, and the desire to procure relief from the evil they fear, by challenging the evil itself, is becoming daily more general and decided. War or peace is the cry, but not a longer continuance in this condition of doubt and dread, which is destroying individuals, and will soon lead to the destruction of nations. A war could not cause much greater hardships than those which already exist. We are now only in the beginning of winter, and already labourers are everywhere begging for employment—manufacturers are complaining of short orders—the stores are all full, nobody can afford to buy—capitalists are in doubt where to invest their money—and the peasants bury now, more than ever, their gains in the earth. The journals either do not like, or are not permitted, to make known the universal misery and discontent. Individuals, of course, endeavour to hide their indigence, but every one is aware that his neighbour is curtailing his expenses, and they are all beginning to perceive that what is general is no disgrace, and do not mind declaring their poverty, which all attribute to the circumstances of the time, not to personal demerit, folly, or neglect.

The Austrian newspaper press may be considered as annihilated. A new press law, or rather four new supplementary clauses to the old press law of 1852, have been published, by which any newspaper may be condemned and suppressed at the pleasure of the official who is appointed to watch the journals. By the 4th clause of this supplement, it is prohibited to any journal to publish false news, whether invented, or exaggerated, or in any way deviating from the truth; it is likewise forbidden, under pain of suppression, to ridicule any official, or publish anything that may bring the Government or any person connected with it, into contempt. If this edict be strictly carried out, all discussion of home affairs is rendered impossible, and the very smallest space in the Austrian journals will, in future, be devoted to their own country.

Adolf Glassbrenner, a well known writer, and Editor of the weekly journal "*Berlin*," having asserted in his paper that the disturbance which occurred at the Schiller celebration in Berlin was caused by a set of vagabonds who had been incited to it by another set of vagabonds, has been summoned to appear before the authorities at the instance of the *Kreuz Zeitung's* connexion, who regarded this as directed against them. Glassbrenner, in explanation, stated that his remarks were not directed at any person in particular, but he was morally convinced that the disturbance on the 10th ult. had been incited by a party that was opposed to the celebration.

INDIA, AND INDIAN PROGRESS.

A NATIVE PARLIAMENT.

WE were the other day conversing with a Bengalee Baboo of some pretensions, who spoke English and talked politics, and altogether answered to the modern idea of an intelligent native gentleman. Of course we talked of the mutiny. Said our intelligent friend, who is an *esprit fort* in politics:—"If the mutiny had come off some ten or twelve years later it would not have mattered to us." It would have found us still more unprepared, observed we. "Very probably," quoth the Bengalee coolly, "but by that time we should have been able to take up the government ourselves in Bengal." He then went on to enlarge on the progress made by Young Bengal in literature, arts, and sciences, and explained that at this rate, they, the Bengalees, should be enabled to realise political equality and liberty within a very short space of time.

Now this gentleman's views are probably by no means extreme in comparison with the average of educated Bengalees. He, no doubt, when at home, takes in the *Indian Patriot* and *Hindoo Field*, besides a few racy native periodicals, and is a member of the British Indian Association in Calcutta, corresponding and co-operating probably with the Ungomuni Islamee or Mussulman Association for promoting the prosperity of all natives generally, and Mahomedans particularly, for which *vide* prospectus. He belongs to a class which is peculiarly fostered and encouraged by a certain section of the British community, and which is fast learning the important arts of political combination and agitation. What is more, the supreme Government in Bengal looks upon their rapid progress with a complacent eye, and shows every disposition to put this party in opposition to its somewhat unmanageable European population. The *Indian Field*, no contemptible paper as regards style and power of composition, hounds on the Baboo to attack the Britisher, and acts as bottle-holder to its native friends, the *Hindoo Patriot* invariably repeating and applauding any peculiarly vicious article which may issue from the latter. We have no doubt but that Lord Canning and all the Calcutta members of Government take in the *Hindoo Patriot*, and are pleased with themselves for thus showing a liberal and tolerant spirit worthy of this enlightened age. Thus patted on the back, encouraged, and pushed forward, the native Liberal party is advancing at gigantic strides, and we feel sure that our intelligent friend, whose remarks concerning the mutiny were quoted at the commencement of this article, is a very mild exponent of the ideas and anticipations of his countrymen.

"Now, we are aware that we, up here in the North West, are somewhat behind the age and comparatively benighted, that our style of Government is patriarchal, and that our notions regarding the native population are simply barbarous; therefore we do not shrink from owning that our respectable Bengalee's cool remark, to the effect that they, the Bengalees, could have got on without us if the mutiny had been postponed for some dozen years, gave us an unpleasant start, and when our friend had gone, led us into a very queer train of meditation. We will not dwell upon the characteristically pitiless ingratitude displayed in the observation, suggesting a bird's-eye view of the educated Baboo calmly turning his educators and teachers into a pit, after having allowed the sepoys to cut all their throats, and proceeding unconcernedly to "get on without them." We wish to consider whether all this is tending in Calcutta, and whether those who encourage the Calcutta natives to demand their political rights are exactly aware of what they are doing; also whether the *Indian Field*, whose independence and disinterestedness, supposing its articles to be written by Europeans, deserve at least some commendation, is acting wisely in fostering and stimulating a fierce spirit of political antagonism between the white and black races in Bengal. Sir C. Jackson was right after all—there can never be equality of races. And what is more, there never has been, in any age or in any country, an equality of two perfect distinctly races forming one nation. Wherever two distinct races have met in any part of the world there has been a struggle, and one has gone under. The two races may have subsequently coalesced and united by intermixture, so as to have become, in course of time, one race to all intents and purposes, but two separate races have never existed, and never will exist, in accord. Take the example of Ireland. It cost us a bloody struggle, which lasted four hundred years, to fairly conquer Ireland, because up to this

day the Saxon and the Celt are distinct, and the Celt hates the Saxon, who has, nevertheless, attempted to conciliate him with every sort of political concessions. Yet, after all, there is but a very slight difference of race between Celt and Saxon—nothing, less than nothing, as compared with the difference between Saxon and Hindoo; and yet these Calcutta politicians proclaim that a legal and political equality of races is the most reasonable thing in the world to ask, and the easiest to grant. "Abolish all political privileges, remove all such antiquated barriers from between the Englishman and the native, and there you have a free and independent people, differing only in colour and customs." "A native has as much right to the high offices of state as an European—rather more so, as he is in his own country." "He has a right to be represented in council." "Why do you blow hot and cold with the same breath?" say the ardent advocates of political progress among the natives. "Why do you refuse to apply to the Hindoos those principles of liberty and equality which you so universally upheld among yourselves?" And this specious cry carries away the superficial and unreflecting among the Europeans, who like to enjoy the complacent feeling that they are superior to the prejudices of race, and are disinterestedly advancing the cause of civilisation and humanity among the awakened heathen.

It is really dreadful to think that our lives and fortunes are at the mercy of such superficial, yet horribly dangerous politicians, who seem, by the late measures, to muster strong round the Viceroy, and to have made some impression even on Lord Stanley. Good Heavens! is it not clear that where we are as one to ten thousand, political equality must bring on political superiority on the part of the natives? Where are we to stop, and who is to put on the drag when the natives have once got hold of the reins? We suppose that a majority in the Representative Assembly will hold the executive powers, and that its mandates will control the army. How can it be otherwise? They who hold the purse will hold the sword, and a native representative is not likely to be moderate in his encroachments.

Fancy Bhowanee Pershad Dutt, the honourable member for Cossitollah, moving in the Parliament of Calcutta that the rule which retains all artillery in the army, and all treasures in the Civil Service, within the hands of Europeans alone, is a disgraceful slur upon the character of the native gentlemen in each of the professions; and fancy it being carried by a large majority of Baboos that the said rules be immediately abolished. What would be the consequence of such a peculiar political crisis, which no one can declare to be improbable, if the preliminary steps be once granted? The honourable member for Cossitollah would be perfectly correct and consistent in his views. It is and would be a disgraceful piece of inconsistency to allow a Hindoo every sort of political equality, and to deny him a commission in the artillery.

On what principle could you possibly refuse? If he is to be trusted to make laws and manage the executive, he may surely be trusted with a nine-pounder. Also, "What do you mean by disarming our loyal fellow-subjects?" and "Why, have we, the Hindoos, not the best right to be allowed to protect our own country?" Why, indeed! Yet what would be the upshot of it all any one can see. The Anglo-Saxon would begin to perceive that although theoretically equal with the patriotic Hindoo, he was practically becoming inferior. The Saxon has a great many faults, and one of them is a diabolical amount of stubborn pride, especially national pride. He has never yet "gone under" to any other nation or race upon the broad earth, and, all things considered, he is not likely to begin by knocking under to the Bengalee. The upshot would be a short but savage struggle, another exhibition of that cool Teutonic ferocity which the mutiny showed to be latent in the blood of so many Englishmen, and which is to native fury as red-hot iron to blazing straw. The native house of representatives would vanish into thin air, and the educated Bengalee would learn too late under the grinding despotism of a justly-enraged dominant race, that every one must hold his own in this wicked world, that political privileges are a snare and a delusion, without physical power to uphold them, and that they cannot expect merely by mounting on our shoulders, to reach, in fifty years, that glorious freedom and independence which has taken our forefathers and ourselves five hundred years in England to accomplish. —*Mafussillite.*

LATEST INDIAN INTELLIGENCE.

We have received, by overland mail, advices from Bombay to Nov. 11. The news is unimportant. Dwarka was evacuated by the Waghers on Oct. 30, and the expedition is at an end. The *Bombay Gazette* says—"On the evening of Sunday, the 30th ult., the Waghers made a sortie on the sailors' bat-

tery, and were repulsed with severe loss. Early on the Tuesday morning they evacuated the fort, cutting their way through the pickets of the 28th Regiment, severely wounding one officer and three men of the regiment. They passed close to the 28th camp, but that corps could not do anything towards intercepting them, owing to the darkness. On Wednesday, a corps of Europeans proceeded to the fort of Wasser, which had previously been occupied by the Waghers, but arriving there they found that fort also deserted. The enemy either carried away or buried all their treasure, as no loot of any consequence has been found. Measures were taken to prevent a repetition of the occurrences at Beyt; but there was no necessity for resorting to them. On Monday evening the enemy were observed burying their dead that lay scattered over the ground in considerable numbers. The navy and the transports rendered every possible assistance to the troops by the very heavy fire they kept up from the steamers, as well as from the sailors' batteries ashore, both at Beyt and Dwarka. The European troops were making preparations to return, and will probably arrive in a day or two. It is believed that the 6th regiment will join Colonel Scobie's force in pursuit of the Waghers. The volunteers from the crews of the transports, particularly of the Ramillies, were exposed for a considerable time to a very heavy fire of musketry, in which one of them was wounded.

In Central India a campaign is about to open from Neemuch against a body of rebels, said to be 5,000 strong, encamped in a mud fortress, upon the banks of the Chumbul. In Bundelkund, in the fastnesses of whose hills and jungle Feroze Shah and a body of rebels are still hiding, the campaign has been already opened. The *Bombay Times* says:—"From the south and south-west three columns are marching upon the rebels, commanded separately by Colonel Primrose, of the 43rd Light Infantry; Colonel Oakes, of the 12th Royal Lancers; and Colonel Nott, of the 19th Madras Native Infantry. Colonel Ross, with his camel corps, attacks them from the Saugor side; and Colonel Turner, of the 97th, advances from Banda. Captain Wright, with 200 of the Sikhs and 40 men of the 43rd, is posted at Gere; and the Brigadier has removed to Poorania, a position between his head-quarters column and Alexander's Horse, which guards the road from Ghysabad to Huttali."

The agitation against the Licensing Bill still continued.

From Nepal it is rumoured that the Nana is dead, but considerable suspicion, of course, hangs over a story which it is so much the interest of the miscreant and his friend, our ally, Jung Bahadoor, to get believed.

THE GOVERNOR GENERAL AND THE OUDEAN TALOOKDARS.

A correspondent of the *Times* writes that on the 22nd of October the Governor-General made his triumphal entry into Lucknow, and received and decorated all the Princes and higher noblesse of Oude. Two days after a grand Durbar was held attended by the majority of the Talookdars of Oude. After the usual formal greetings, the Governor-General rose and addressed the assembled landholders thus:—

"Talookdars of Oude,—I am glad to find myself in your country and among you, and to have this opportunity of speaking to you in the name of the Queen, your Sovereign. A year, has not passed away since this province was the seat of anarchy and war. The conduct of its people had been such that the Government was compelled to lay a heavy hand upon it. But peace and order are now restored to every corner of Oude, and I am come to speak to you not of the past, but of the future. You have, all of you who are here present, received yesterday the grants of these estates which the Government has restored to you. You will have seen by the terms of those grants that the ancient Talookdar system of Oude is revived and perpetuated. Be assured that so long as each one of you is a loyal and faithful subject, and a just master, his rights and dignity as a Talookdar will be upheld by me and by every representative of our Queen, and that no man shall disturb them. You will also have seen by those grants that the same rights are secured, on the same conditions, to your heirs for ever. Let this security be an encouragement to you to spend your care, and time, and money upon the improvement of your possessions." The Talookdars were recommended to take care of their dependents; and the Governor-General continued, "I trust that there are none among you who are so infatuated as to believe that the Government has had designs against your religion. Even if there be any such, I will not condescend to repeat the assurances which they have already received on this head. I leave it to time, and experience, and their own senses to dispel their perverse suspicions. But for their own sakes, I warn them not to be led

into acts of opposition or distrust towards the Government, by the false tales of designing men.

"The Talookdars," says a local reporter, "looked satisfied," and well they might. If one could imagine the Duke of Sutherland, say, suddenly assuring his tenantry that their farms were their own for ever in fee simple, one would expect some slight marks of complacency to be manifested. That and nothing less is the effect of the Viceregal speech. The Oude proclamation, the despatches to Lord Stanley, our entire policy since the annexation, are flung to the winds together. The aristocracy are restored to their estates *en masse*, and granted a perpetual settlement; in other words, the rate of taxation is fixed for ever, and all the increase of rental sure to follow our rule will go, as in Bengal, to enrich them, instead of the State.

THE ALLEGED LOOTING AT BEYT.

On this subject, the *Bombay Gazette* says:—"Some of the natives here have been very industriously circulating reports, to the effect that our soldiers stripped the temples and idols at Beyt of their valuable ornaments and decorations, and carried them away. It now turns out that, although the fort defences at Beyt could not have been destroyed without injury to the temples, prompt measures were taken for the preservation of the idols and their gold and silver ornaments. The idols are safe; their decorations and jewels, and all that the people care to value in connexion with them, have either been left untouched or replaced in the temples whence they were taken."

FOREIGN INCIDENTS.

SCHOOLBOYS AND SMOKING.—The Mayor of Douai, in a circular to the communal schoolmasters, expresses his determination to put down the preposterous habit of smoking, which he learns, by the reports of the police, prevails to a deplorable extent among the boys of that city. He therefore desires the schoolmasters not only to mark down for punishment all children whom they may see smoking in the streets, but to search the pockets and portfolios of the scholars from time to time, and to take away all cigars, cigarettes, pipes, and tobacco which may be found. He authorises the most severe punishments, and will sanction any measure which the schoolmasters may devise to check the growing evil.

THE FRENCH COASTING TRADE.—There is a great falling off in the coasting trade of France, or rather in the number and tonnage of French vessels employed therein, and probably there are collateral ways of accounting for the fact. The railways and canals are, of course, the only competitors, and the 5 or 7 per cent. increase on the receipts of the former does not in any way help to solve the question. The probability is also that a large portion of that increase has grown out of passenger traffic; and it is not very likely that the canals have gained all that the coasters have lost. The *Debats* takes up the subject, and dwells with some emphasis upon the very serious effect that a diminution of the coasting trade must have upon the Imperial navy, as well as the merchant marine. The writer draws the conclusion that the railways are gradually undermining that trade, an inference which cannot possibly be admitted, as the official returns show no increase in the receipts of the former at all approaching in amount the diminution in the latter. The canals are not very likely to have absorbed all the amount—in fact, a very small portion of it indeed; and, therefore, the cause must be sought elsewhere, and is most likely to be attributed to two things—the large drafts made upon the supply of seamen for the navy, and the serious competition of other nations, whose Governments do not weaken the efforts of merchants and shipowners by too much protection. It is scarcely possible to visit Boulogne or Havre without being struck with the immense disproportion between the flags of France and other nations. At the former port English and Belgian ships seem to reign almost exclusively, and at the latter the English and American flags greatly predominate.

THE LADIES IN TURKEY.—The *Journal de Constantinople* publishes the text of an imperial edict, regulating the costumes of the ladies in Turkey in conformity with Mussulman tradition:—"All women must take the greatest care to refrain from everything contrary to good conduct, and must watch most attentively over the honour of their family. According to the Mahometan law, the first obligation for women consists in the use of the veil; consequently, for a Turkish woman to depart from the observance of that custom is a breach of not only a social duty but of a precept of faith. Nevertheless, for some time past, a certain number of women, contrary to the laws of propriety, make use of very thin veils, and of dresses made of materials which have never before been used for such purposes, and walk about with their features and person too much seen. They, moreover, affect indelicate man-

ners, and in the public promenades mix with men. Henceforth, all women, whoever they may be, on leaving their houses, must wear thick veils which completely cover their features, and be clad in dresses of cloth or other suitable material without embroidery, trimmings, or external ornaments of any kind. They must not show themselves out of doors simply in stockings and slippers, but must wear halfboots in yellow morocco leather or some other suitable and decent covering for the feet. When they go out to make purchases they are strictly prohibited from entering shops, but must stop on the outside to be served, and must not remain longer than is absolutely necessary. When they are on the public promenades they must confine themselves to the part reserved for females. Any woman who shall be guilty of acts against the law will be severely punished.

ITALIAN STUDENTS.—At Pavia the last University term began with a storm of the most violent kind. Professor Nova praising the German philosophers, Kant and Hegel, was met by a perfect hurricane of groans and hisses, and he was compelled to quit his chair, glad to escape with an undisturbed wig to the upper storey of the college. His sarcastic retort upon his assailants excited the ire of the students to so great a degree that he was compelled to leave the town during the night. The Professor on leaving the hall had exclaimed—"I thought the allied armies had entered Lombardy to drive out Gyalai and Benedek, and not Kant and Hegel." The exasperation was so great in the city of Pavia that the whole of the students went to the theatre expressly to betray by discordant groans and terrific maledictions their disapprobation of Lamartine, who has dared to criticise much of the poetry of Dante, and to pronounce that poet amongst the overrated geniuses whose reputation will not stand the test of examination. Amongst the cries heard on the occasion, "Viva il re e viva Pio Nono!" was very general, which shows the tendency of the University. The Congress and its decisions seem to be regarded as of little importance there.

Postscript.

"THE LEADER" OFFICE, Friday Evening, Dec. 9th.

THE BANK OF FRANCE.

The *Moniteur* of this (Friday) morning publishes the usual monthly return of the Bank of France, which shows the following results as compared with the previous return:—

INCREASED.	
Cash.....	6 1-5th millions.
Treasury balance	39 "
DECREASED.	
Bills discounted not yet due	15 3-5th "
Bank notes	27 1/2 "
Current account	24 3-5th "
Advances	1 1/2 "

The decrease of £600,000 in the bills discounted forms an unfavourable feature. There is, at the same time, a decrease of about a million sterling in the private deposits and notes in circulation, but an increase of 1 1/2 million sterling in the treasury balance. The bullion has increased a quarter of a million.

AFFAIRS OF ITALY.

A Paris correspondent of the *Independence* of Brussels, states that all the letters from Turin agree in declaring that Count Cavour is to attend the Congress as the Plenipotentiary of King Victor Emmanuel.

The *Piedmontese Gazette* of the 5th publishes a royal decree, enacting that the young men who have emigrated from Venice and the Italian Tyrol, and who would be desirous of continuing their studies in the Sardinian Universities, shall, if unable to support the expense, be admitted gratuitously to those establishments, and to pass their examinations.

The *Monitore*, of Bologna, publishes a decree, signed "Farini," ordering an official collection to be made of the laws and decrees of the late Government of Romagna from the 12th of June last to the 8th inst. Copies of this collection are to be sent to all the intendances, tribunals, and communes of the territory.

The *Corriere Mercantile* publishes an account of

the state of the public debt of Sardinia, from which it appears that in 1848 the debt amounted to 102,354,668 fr.; that from that period to the present one there have been added 790,037,138 fr.; and that in consequence of the stipulations of Zurich there have been incurred further liabilities to the amount of 310,000,000 fr., which makes a sum total of 1,202,391,806 fr. It must not be forgotten, however, that this sum comprises 90,000,000 raised in 1851, for the completion of railways belonging to the State; also 10,000,000 for the redemption of feudal property in the island of Sardinia; 4,000,000 more for the construction of roads in that island.

THE CONGRESS.

The Swiss Confederation, according to the *Constitutionnel*, has asked admission to the forthcoming Congress, on the ground of the old established relations between Switzerland and Savoy. The Federal Council believes that in the proposed re-organisation of the States of Central Italy the provinces of Chablais and Faucigny must be the object of a new consideration.

NAPLES.

A LETTER from Naples of the 3rd says:—"Prince de Petrulla has returned to his post at Vienna. It is certain that he came here to give to the Neapolitan Government, on the part of the Emperor of Austria, the advice to be moderate, and to make reforms; but what answer he carries back is not known. The Marquis Antonini, who is expected from Paris, will also bring counsels from the Emperor Napoleon to the Neapolitan Court not to struggle against the stream, and thereby run the risk of being, like the Princes of Central Italy, lost on the breakers. The invitation to attend the Congress has arrived, but no answer has yet been given, because it has not been possible to come to an understanding on the choice of a plenipotentiary. The Marquis Antonini can hardly be chosen, as he is very deaf."

MENDELSSOHN.

MISS ARABELLA GODDARD and Herr Becker at the MONDAY POPULAR CONCERTS, St. James's Hall, on Monday evening next, December 12th, on which occasion the instrumental portion of the programme will be selected from the works of Mendelssohn.

CAMPBELL'S MINSTRELS.

ST. JAMES'S HALL.

Every Evening at Eight.—Extra MORNING PERFORMANCES on Wednesday and Saturday at Three. Stalls, 3s.; Area, 2s.; Gallery, 1s.—Stalls may be secured at the Ticket Office, 28, Piccadilly; and at Messrs. Chappell and Co.'s, 50, New Bond-street.

THEATRE ROYAL HAYMARKET.

(Under the Management of Mr. Buckstone.)

Last week but one of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Mathews. "The Contested Election" every evening.

On Monday, December 12th, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, to commence at 7, with A CURE FOR THE HEARTACHE. Young Rapid, Mr. C. Mathews; Old Rapid, Mr. Chippendale; Vortex, Mr. Rogers; Bronze, Mr. Clark; Frank Outland, Mr. Buckstone; Ellen Vortex, Miss M. Ternan; Miss Vortex, Mrs. B. White; Jessy Outland, Miss Eliza Weekes.

After which THE CONTESTED ELECTION. Mr. Dodgson (an attorney), Mr. Charles Mathews; Mr. Wapshot (a barrister), Mr. W. Farren; Mr. Honeybun (a retired wholesale grocer), Mr. Compton; Peckover (President of the Blue Lambs), Mr. Buckstone; Topper (Chairman of the Green Lions), Mr. Rogers; Mr. Gathercole (of the Flam-borough Beacon), Mr. Clark; Mr. Spitelcock (of the Flam-borough Patriot), Mr. Braid; Mrs. Honeybun (Mr. Honeybun's second wife), Mrs. Charles Mathews; Clara (her step-daughter), Miss Eliza Weekes.

Concluding with A KISS IN THE DARK. On Saturday, December 17th (by desire), A GAME OF SPECULATION. Mr. Affable Hawk (his original character), Mr. Charles Mathews. With THE CONTESTED ELECTION. And SHOCKING EVENTS.

Stage-manager, Mr. Chippendale.

[ADVERTISEMENT.]

EXTRAORDINARY INVENTION IN DENTAL SURGERY.—To Mr. Ephraim Moseley, of 9, Grosvenor-street, London, and of 14, Gay-street, Bath, may be attributed one of the most remarkable and useful discoveries of the day, that of a substance for the construction of artificial teeth, gums, and palates, so thoroughly adhesive as to fix securely, without the use of those troublesome adjuncts, spiral springs. It is, in fact, the most perfect substitute for the natural teeth that can possibly be desired, and may be said truly to attain the *no plus ultra* of art—"ars est celare artem." The substance, for which a patent has been obtained, is chemically purified white India-rubber, which can be moulded to every irregularity of the gums and teeth in the most perfect manner, forming, as it were, an artificial perlosteum to the teeth, ceasing them from becoming painful in the wasting away of the gum, and enabling the patient to use any force in masticating or striking the teeth together, without the percussion or rattling that attends the action in general cases.—*Court Journal*.

ROYAL ENGLISH OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

Under the Management of Miss LOUISA PYNE and Mr. W. HARRISON.

Last two weeks before Christmas.

On Monday, December 12th, and Saturday 17th, positively the last two nights of SATANELLA. Messrs. Santley, H. Corri, G. Honey, St. Albyn, and W. Harrison; Misses F. Cruise, Pilling, and Miss Louisa Pyne.

Tuesday, 13th, and Thursday, 15th, the last representations this season of DINORAH. Messrs. Santley, H. Corri, St. Albyn, and W. Harrison; Miss Pilling, Thirlwall, and Miss Louisa Pyne.

Wednesday, 14th, CROWN DIAMONDS. Messrs. G. Honey, H. Corri, St. Albyn, and W. Harrison; Miss Thirlwall, and Miss Louisa Pyne.

Friday, 16th, THE ROSE OF CASTILLE. Messrs. Santley, G. Honey, St. Albyn, and W. Harrison; Miss Thirlwall, and Miss Louisa Pyne.

Conductor, Alfred Mellon.

To conclude, each evening, with LA FIANCEE. Mdlle. Lequene, Pasquale, Pierron, Clara Morgan; Messrs. W. H. Payne, H. Payne, E. Payne, and Mons. Vandriss.

Stage Manager, Mr. Edward Stirling. Acting Manager, Mr. Edward Murray.

Prices of Admission.—Stalls, 7s.; Private Boxes, £4 4s.; £3 3s.; £2 12s. 6d.; £1 5s.; £1 1s.; Dress Circles, 5s.; Amphitheatre Stalls, 3s.; Pit, 2s. 6d.; Amphitheatre, 1s.

Will be produced, Monday next, December 19th, A new Opera, entitled, VICTORINE; music by Alfred Mellon; supported by Messrs. Santley, Henry Haigh, H. Corri, G. Honey, Walworth, Bartleman, Terrott, Miss Thirlwall, and Miss Parepa.

In preparation for Christmas—A Comic Pantomime, on a popular Fairy Subject.

No charge for Booking. Commence at 8.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S THEATRE.

Lessee, Mr. A. HARRIS.

Monday and during the week, the Drama of HOME TRUTHS.

After which, Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, THE WONDERFUL WOMAN.

Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, GOSSIP.

To be followed every evening with a grand Divertissement, in which Monsieur Espinosa, of the principal Continental Theatres, will dance the grand Pas de Dervish, from FAUST, supported by Madlle. Maraquita.

To conclude with NURSEY CHICK WEED.

In preparation, a Grand Comic Christmas Pantomime, by H. T. Byron, Esq., entitled JACK THE GIANT KILLER; OR, HARLEQUIN KING ARTHUR AND THE KNIGHTS OF THE ROUND TABLE. Jack, Miss Louise Keeley; and Madlle. Manetta Rosetti, principal Danseuse of La Scala, Milan, will make her first appearance.

THEATRE ROYAL LYCEUM.

Sole Lessee and Directress, Madame Celeste.

On Monday, and during the week, a new Vaudeville Comedietta, entitled the KEY UNDER THE DOOR-MAT. Principal characters, Messrs. James Vining, John Rouse, &c.; Mesdames A. H. Hatton, and Julia St. George.

After which PARIS AND PLEASURE. Principal characters by Messrs. Walter Lacy, J. Vining, F. Villiers, J. Johnstone, Forester, &c.; Misses Julia St. George, Kate Saville, Neville, Hudspeth, and Madame Celeste.

To conclude with ST. MARY'S EYE. Madlle. (her original character), Madame Celeste; Tom Baggs, Mr. John Rouse.

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By order of the Committee of Council on Education.

CRYSTAL PALACE.
ARRANGEMENTS FOR WEEK ENDING SATURDAY,
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MONDAY—Open at Nine.
TUESDAY to FRIDAY—Open at Ten. Admission, One
Shilling; Children under 12, Sixpence.
SATURDAY—Open at Ten. Promenade Concert. Ad-
mission, Half-a-Crown; Children, One Shilling. Season-
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Performances daily on the Great Organ, and by the
Orchestral Band. The Picture Gallery remains open.
SUNDAY—Open at 1.30 to Shareholders gratuitously by
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CRYSTAL PALACE.
ACTIVE PREPARATIONS IN PROGRESS FOR THE
CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES.

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Saturday, December 10, Mr. Mann's Benefit Concert. Herr
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The Great Polish Violinist, will take his farewell of the
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OF

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In compliance with this remarkable necessity,

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and the character of a newspaper will so far be
abandoned that nothing will be admitted but

A SPECIALLY WRITTEN ANALYSIS
AND RECORD

OF ALL THE

POLITICAL, LITERARY, SCIENTIFIC, AND
ARTISTIC EVENTS OF THE WEEK.

The features of a Newspaper will, however, be thus
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tant EVENTS will be afforded, and occasionally
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important and remarkable events, a narrative style
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has not undergone such revision as to entitle it to
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NATIONAL PROGRESS, in its largest, widest, and
most exalted sense, is the only cause to be justly advo-
cated; and although, happily, the days of revolution
and violence in England are gone for ever, there are
many vital questions connected with our social
relations still to be inquired into, discussed, and
resolved. Calm, fearless, and conscientious considera-
tion of these is absolutely necessary for all parties
and for the welfare of the nation; and

THE LEADER

AND

SATURDAY ANALYST

will amply and fully treat of all such with a deep
sense of the responsibility that rests on their expo-
sition, and will take care to bring the knowledge,
as well as the judgment, necessary for their satis-
factory discussion. At the same time entertain-
ment will not be banished from its columns, and
its writers will rather elucidate their various sub-
jects with the genius of worldly observation and
practical knowledge than with the pedantry of mere
scholastic erudition.

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Subscribers, or its new readers; for, being news-
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together

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OF THE WEEK.

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A WEEKLY REVIEW AND RECORD

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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 re-
ceive. Their insertion is often delayed, owing to a press
of matter; and when omitted, it is frequently from rea-
sons quite independent of the merits of the communica-
tion.

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

OFFICE,

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

The
Leader.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10, 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.

THE PERILS OF THE CONGRESS.

ONE of the most mischievous effects upon public
opinion, by which the Manchester school has,
in no small degree, counterbalanced the services
which it rendered by popularising the free trade
principles of Bentham, Huskisson and Villiers, has
been its success in lowering the tone of thought
upon international obligations, and its introduction
of a morality founded upon the old interrogation,
"Am I my brother's keeper?" Its purely passive
doctrine of non-intervention makes it a matter of
indifference whether a modern Cain kills an Abel,
or an Abel, in self-defence, kills a Cain, and regards
the objection to killing, rather as represented by
the expense of the weapon employed, and the loss
of a customer for calico and tape. In the words
of Mr. John Stuart Mill, it has reduced the utter-
ance of our public men to the "eternal repetition
of the shabby refrain—We did not interfere because
no English interest was involved—We ought not to
interfere when no English interest is concerned." By
thus putting English interest in opposition to
human interest, a moral barrier is set up between
ourselves and other countries which no mere inter-
change of goods can overleap. That such doc-
trines should have obtained so much currency
that few venture to speak boldly against them,
is one of the most curious facts of public
psychology, and only to be accounted for by
considering the precise circumstances of the
time.

The mass of the people, finding themselves
excluded from political power, and suffering
under a debt of £800,000,000, have grown
apathetic, or tired of manifesting opinion which
no beneficial action was to follow. In 1700,
the National Debt was only £15,000,000;
by 1800 it had reached £450,000,000, and by
1812, £670,000,000; from whence it rapidly rose
to its present amount. The greater part of the
expenditure represented by these prodigious
figures was incurred for a policy that culminated
in the Treaty of Vienna—a document based upon
the unrighteous claims of potentates, to divide
nations among them as if they were nothing
better than the booty captured by a gang of
thieves. The people of this country sympathised
with Poland, but no good came of it; even
French aid, said to have been offered by Louis
Philippe at the beginning of his reign, was re-
fused. They sympathised with Hungary, and
found the liberal Lord Palmerston—conveniently
oblivious of the Treaty of Szathenar—making the
untruthful declaration that England only knew
Hungary as part of the Austrian Empire, and
subsequently offering congratulations on the suc-
cess of that great crime, the intervention of

Russia. After this came the political, as well as the military misdirection of the Russian war, and with all these disappointments it is no wonder that national enthusiasm declined. The process was hastened by the important fact that not a single independent member of Parliament, of any conspicuous talent, paid enough attention to foreign affairs to be looked upon as any authority upon the multifarious subjects that continually deserved attention.

The selfish, passive, non-intervention doctrine, on the whole, suited the Whigs—semi-rational as thinkers, and proverbially feeble in action. They could evade it when it suited their purpose, and it served the object of checking the demand for a great national policy, founded upon a morality too large to suit the sinister interests of a few aristocratic families. The Tories have always seen that the Whig-Manchester management of foreign affairs tended to lower our position in Europe; but they preferred its feebleness and fatuity to a bold action in opposition to their own reactionary views. Lord Palmerston possessed energy enough for a successful Minister of the last generation; but his undisguised antagonism to Parliamentary Reform left no doubt that he would, if possible, avoid any appeal to the nations of Europe, and the fundamental principles of human right. To these various circumstances must be added the action of the commercial spirit in promoting a hand-to-mouth policy, and regarding a small present evil as far more important than any much larger prospective damage.

Born in 1784, Lord Palmerston has long passed the period in which men's minds grow with the times, and he presides over a Cabinet selected upon the principle of taking in a variety of persons whom it would have been dangerous to leave out, and who were never remarkable for representing the same principles or advocating the same views. With such a condition of the public mind, and of the Cabinet, the approaching Congress cannot be viewed without alarm, and that sentiment is increased by the statement that our country is to be represented by Lord Cowley, a third-rate diplomatist, and a complete nonentity in the stirring world of European thought and action, to which he never contributed an idea or gave a serviceable direction.

How seriously Russia looks at the Congress may be seen by an article in the *Invalide Russe*, which says, "above all, the Congress will have to enter upon the question of right. The Congress of Zurich decided that the rights of the Grand dukes are reserved. England, on the contrary, maintains that the people have a right to choose their sovereign and their form of government. That power reminds the others, and that with some reason, that France, Sweden, and herself have already applied that principle. . . . This will be the first danger for the Congress, because Austria, France, and the Pope, and with them Spain, Portugal, and Naples, will not fail to maintain that the rights of the dispossessed dynasties are sacred and immutable." The *Invalide*, after declaring that France and Austria would not be entitled to restore the Dukes by force, without the consent of Europe, adds, that the matter must be referred to the Congress. "But the Congress, while confirming the dynastic right, will find itself involved in great difficulties, if it wishes to restore the Grand Dukes by force of arms, the influence of one power will carry with it the others. War will break out again, and we declare that it will then become a war impossible to neutralise or circumscribe." The same paper adds, by way of throwing fuel on the fire, that the Turkish question, and the Treaty of Paris ought to be considered in Congress as well as the affairs of Italy.

With these elements of difficulty and mischief at work—which the French Government evinces its appreciation of by vigorously pushing its warlike preparations—British safety depends upon the unquestionable morality of its policy, even more than upon any accumulation of the apparatus of war. To support the absolutist theories of Austria, Rome, and Naples would be suicidal, and happily impossible; and to play one despot off against another, without espousing any valid principle, would be even more ignominious, and scarcely less perilous. If we proclaim the right of the Italians to change their rulers if they please, and can, we ought to do no less for the Hungarians, whom Francis Joseph seems deter-

mined to goad into rebellion; nor for the Poles, whom the Emperor of Russia refuses to conciliate, and who might not be kept quiet if a war of liberty broke out.

Lord John Russell's declaration about Italy ought to be something better than a mere ebullition of temporary excitement; but do the people suppose that the Court, with its German dynastic predilections, or Lord Palmerston's Cabinet, is prepared to tell the absolutist monarchs that if they force England, against her will, into a war, it shall be a war of principle, in which her alliances shall be with nations, and her efforts directed to the establishment of a public law, capable of supporting the weak against the strong, and of securing the indefeasible right of every people to assume, if they can, the management of their own affairs?

It is our duty to go to the Congress—we could scarcely avoid it with safety; but if the people are apathetic, it is likely to prove a dangerous snare. We shall be most safe, as well as most dignified, by becoming the bold and unflinching exponents of public justice. We should determine to have peace, if possible, but be quite prepared, if necessary, to offer the alternative of the only sort of war in which we should deserve victory, and which would offer the best prospects of success.

FINANCIAL REFORM.

MR. BRIGHT has disposed, very satisfactorily, of the fallacies of the *Times*, *Saturday Review*, *Spectator*, and *Economist*. He has shown conclusively that the statement of the Board of Inland Revenue, on which two of those journals built so much, has no good foundation, and supplied facts to justify the conclusion, that the increased consumption of sugar, tea, and tobacco, which is more than double what it was in 1838, has taken place almost wholly amongst the working classes, and that they actually pay the large proportion, he stated, of our indirect taxation. He did not touch the great principle of political economy,—that labour is the source of all wealth, and, consequently, pays all taxation; and ultimately, therefore, pays all that is deducted by the State from the annual income of the owners of property. He stated, on the authority of Mr. Newmarsh, one of our most renowned statisticians, that 75 per. cent. of all the families of England and Wales live in houses below the value of £10, and of these 15 per. cent. only live in houses above the value of £6. Mr. Bright assumes, and with apparent reason, that were the comparison extended to the whole empire, 80 per. cent. of the people would be found to be living in houses below the value of £10. At this hour, accordingly, taking the proportions roughly, twenty-four millions of people live in houses below the value of £10, and six million people live in houses above the value of £10. If not an exact transcript of the actual fact, this represents it tolerably correctly; and his conclusion is, that these twenty-four millions consume much more of the heavily-taxed articles referred to than the six millions who pay, according to the journals of the aristocracy—as they undoubtedly receive—the bulk of the taxation. We believe, however, that it will never again be said by any man in his senses, and tolerably well acquainted with the condition of the people of England, that the higher classes pay the chief portion of the taxes, and that taxation is only a deduction from their incomes.

It has been asserted, indeed, by a great economist, Mr. Ricardo (not by Adam Smith), that the "natural price (wages) of labour is that price which is necessary to enable the labourers, one with another, to subsist and perpetuate their race, without either increase or diminution." The same authority also asserted that rent is only the difference between the produce of capital least productively employed on land, and necessarily employed to subsist society, and the capital most productively employed on land. Whence it follows, that all the produce of industry, except the amount of this difference, whatever it may be, which is rent, and except the subsistence of the labourer, naturally belongs to the capitalist. On this doctrine, as long as the labourer receives enough to subsist on and continue his race, without increasing in number, and as long as the landowner receives the above-stated difference, all the wealth of the world is the property of the capitalist—and, as the *Times* has stated, he pays all

taxation. The labourer, according to the definition, can pay none and live. Such definitions and deductions describe, not unfairly, the actual distribution in this country of the annual produce of labour, and in obedience to it the upper classes and their writers make their extraordinary deductions. All wealth, except a mere subsistence for the labourers, is the property of the upper classes; but of the annual produce of labour, whatever, may be its total value, the State, i.e. the Parliament of the gentry, as we have shown, annually seizes and distributes a very large sum; and by the continued action of the State, year after year, through taxation, that distribution is made, taking from the poor and giving to the rich, which Mr. Ricardo called natural, and journalists now assume to be just.

This effect is very clearly demonstrated by Mr. Bright, though we cannot say that he had the demonstration in view. He showed that since the alteration was made in our fiscal system by Sir Robert Peel—that since the Corn Laws were repealed, and indirect taxation reduced—the condition of the working classes has been much improved. They get more wages, and their wages go further. Before that period, therefore, the system of taxation, of which the Corn Laws were a part, continually appropriated and distributed a still greater proportion of the annual produce of industry amongst the rich than since that period. But much improved as their condition now is, in consequence of less injustice being perpetrated on them, it is still, as we all know, much more to be deplored than commended. By dint of inordinate taxation wages are continually kept down to what Mr. Ricardo and his disciples describe to be the natural rate; and the present condition of the multitude, though it has been much improved by repealing taxation, which should encourage the upper classes, and encourage statesmen to do them justice, is thus described by Mr. Bright. The extract is long, but the description is accurate, and worthy of close consideration:—

Look at the condition of the labourer as compared with the condition of what is called the upper classes, or even of the middle classes. I live close to, in fact within the bounds of a large manufacturing town. At this moment everybody who can work is well employed, and wages, I am happy to say, are such as, looking back to past years, are considered highly satisfactory; the condition of the people is much better than it has almost been known before during my lifetime; yet, under all these favourable circumstances, look at the condition of the labouring man and his family? Look at the almost inevitable precariousness of his employment, and look at the fact that the moment his health fails him his income ceases; or if he falls ill for a day or two, instead of going to his doctor, or to his bed, and resting quietly at home till the little illness passes away, he struggles on. His family depends upon his every day's earnings for his every day's subsistence, and in hundreds, nay thousands of cases in which we all of us who are here recover from any slight indisposition, a man thus tied—hammered as it were to the gallows oar of life—he cannot lay by for a day. His constitution has deeper and deeper inroads made upon it; he becomes permanently enfeebled and disabled, and multitudes of them, as you know by the returns of mortality, do not live more than about one-half the years that persons no stronger or more robust in constitution do live who are in happier circumstances with regard to their social and pecuniary position. Let me beg of you to consider the incidents to which the labouring classes in every country are subjected—the dangers which they meet continually in almost all their employments—the incessant struggle which they have to maintain and keep themselves from that which most of them greatly dread—the workhouse—(Hear, hear). Consider all this, and then ask yourselves, ye of the middle classes, whether it is not fitting that we should combine together to say to the rulers of our country, that we, all who have property, are willing to contribute to the necessary expenses of the State; but that henceforth we will never consent to any law that will interpose between the exchange of the industry of every man in England for the industry of every man out of England—which shall permit the hand of the tax-gatherer to lessen the little comforts which a man's labour can barely bring to supply his necessities—(Loud and prolonged cheering).

Such is now—after statesmen have toiled and philanthropists have wept for ages—the condition of the labouring multitude. It is plainly the result of our fiscal system. It is not the consequence of any doom or natural laws from which the multitude cannot escape. Nature has not inseparably connected industry with destitution.

She gives at all times all wealth to labour; and the labouring multitude are only poor because an ever-increasing sum—now upwards of £70,000,000 a-year—is constantly taken from them by a system which, at the same time, places innumerable restrictions on their industry. We go cordially, therefore, with Mr. Bright and with the Financial Reform Association, in condemning the State, on account of the enormous sum which it annually takes from the multitude, and the manner of taking it.

We cannot give the same support to Mr. Bright's plan for increasing direct taxation. He estimates the property of the country at £6,700,000,000, and he proposes to levy a tax of 8s. for every £100 of this property, excluding from the tax every one whose property is not of the value of £100. The produce of such a tax he estimates at £27,000,000 a-year, and collecting it he would give up the present income tax; all the customs duties on small articles, amounting to £750,000; and all the duties on sugar, tea and coffee, on corn, currants raisins, pepper, provisions, paper, books, the assessed taxes, taxes on insurance, and he would reduce the duties on wine to 1s. per gallon. He would retain the duties on spirits and tobacco. This would be an immense change; it would be a great advantage to trade, but, desirous as we are of getting rid of Custom-house and Excise duties, it does not command our approbation.

Bad as any fiscal system may be, society gets accustomed to it, and to it all the relations of property adapt themselves. Accordingly, it has long been and is now universally acknowledged, that changes, even in a bad system, should not be lightly made. Repeated and continual changes are worse than the worst established system. Mr. Bright's plan is clearly not a fiscal reform. It does not imply any reduction of taxation—nor any diminution of expenditure, and we ought to look for a reduction in the amount of taxation as well as a change in its form. Without an addition of direct taxation it is impossible to keep up anything like the present expenditure and relieve trade from Custom-house restrictions. But it would probably be better to continue and extend the present income tax, or the present assessed taxes, objectionable as all of them are, than to add another form of taxation to the complicated jumble which already exists.

The practice of the United States is according to the principle of Mr. Bright's plan. It is the practice in every parish in England, all the rates being levied on property, but they, as the rule, both in the States and in parishes, are levied on all kinds of property, and do not stop at any fixed sum. Mr. Bright stops at £100, and exempts all property below it. His project is really a class tax, an imitation of the class taxation he condemns. It will rouse against it much hostility, when it ought to unite the tax-paying classes of all descriptions against taxation. In all its phases, direct and indirect taxation is essentially mischievous. In truth, it is a violation of the right of property, which the State is established to protect, and should be kept at a minimum. Mr. Bright agrees with us in desiring to extend the franchise; when he proposes, therefore, to levy this tax, and to give the franchise to those who are exempt from it, he would enable them to dispose of other people's property.

How many of the twenty-four millions who live in houses below £10 value would be subjected to this 8s. on £100 tax Mr. Bright did not state. We presume, however, that only a very small proportion would have to pay it. The more destitute and degraded are the multitude, according to his statement, the greater would be the injustice of a tax which was not to fall on them. To exonerate them from their fair share of the national burdens is a presumption akin to that of excluding them from the franchise. It gives charity where justice should be done.

The great principle of fiscal and political reform is to connect contribution with appropriation; to make every man a contributor, and give every one an equal voice over the appropriation of the contributions. Mr. Bright's plan departs from this essential principle of reform, and is, at the same time, an unnecessarily great change. A reduction of expenditure, cutting down the civil and miscellaneous estimates, and abolishing indirect taxation to the extent of the amount reduced—with, if necessary, an extension of the

house tax to all dwellings, and an increase in its amount—would be, we think, a wiser, safer, and more practicable course than that recommended by Mr. Bright.

The least acquaintance with the subject must convince every man that the true art of making each one contribute justly to the public service in proportion to his means, as society expands, as industry spreads into innumerable ramifications, as credit promotes production and assists distribution, and as the classes multiply who collect the debts, distribute the credit, and keep the accounts of all the other classes, is yet most imperfectly known. Were the principle adopted by Mr. Bright made the basis of all taxation, and carried into effect as rates are now levied, by local or municipal bodies, it might lead to some improvement. We conclude that, till the art be better known, and till means be found to collect from every man his just contribution at the time most convenient to him to pay it, and in the manner the least injurious to the nation, it is wiser to insist on reduction of taxation than propose extensive changes.

THE CHOICE OF PLENIPOTENTIARIES.

THE approaching Congress continues to be the subject of discussion, as it no doubt will remain, until its inauguration, and to its close. The choice of plenipotentiaries by each state affords ground for endless speculation and interminable siftings of character political, personal, and diplomatic. Though much was urged in favour of sending Lord Palmerston to represent England, and though, in many respects, so fit a representative cannot be found, yet on the whole, we think he is better at a distance from the scene of action. His private views are in favour of Italian independence, and these he will have the opportunity of pressing upon the English agent during the course of the sittings of Congress; while, if he were present, he would be liable to be acted upon by passing circumstances and events; perhaps be induced, by motives of expediency, to yield on points in themselves apparently of but little importance, yet involving questions of principle, and, in short, be less useful to the cause of constitutional freedom, progress, and enlightenment, than when inhaling the liberty-inspiring air of England, and animated by the independent and outspoken sentiments of the British nation. That Lord Palmerston is one of the most, if not, emphatically, the most, remarkable men of modern England, is undeniable. None of our statesmen can surpass him in grandeur of combination, quickness of perception, boldness of execution, and, above all, in his knowledge of men, whom he can, with magnificent adroitness, bring to concur in the accomplishment of his designs. His great strength resides in himself alone, and not in a party, since he represents none, is the leader of no political body, and owns no army enrolled under his parliamentary banner. More than any other man he may be considered as the representative of the British public at large. And yet, in spite of this, we find his political exertions, at various epochs of his diplomatic career, intimately connected with the most retrogressive and repressive measures, as well at home as abroad. The massacre at Peterloo, the approval of the slaughter of the Manchester Radicals, the enactment of the Six Acts, are so many charges brought against his liberal and progressive policy by his political opponents. The acts of the Vienna Congress, when the populations of Europe were disposed of as if they had been so many flocks of cattle bred for slaughter; the restoration of the Bourbons in France, Spain, and Italy; the reconstruction of Denmark and Germany; the cession of Belgium to Holland, of Finland to Russia, of Venice and Lombardy to Austria, and the repartition of Poland, have all met with the co-operation of Lord Palmerston. It will not be forgotten that the haste with which he manifested his adhesion to the government following the *coup d'état* of December 2, 1851, brought about a ministerial crisis in England. Nor is his veracity less open to attack; though we are by no means prepared to deny that he and his friends are fully at liberty to shelter themselves behind the pleas of political expediency and misinterpreted expressions, under which meaner men are permitted to seek safety and impunity. During the debate on the answer to the Queen's opening speech of the 3rd February, 1857, Mr. Disraeli alluded to a secret treaty concluded between

France and Austria, which contained a formal guarantee to Austria of her Italian possessions. The existence of such a document was at first contradicted by Lord Palmerston, "I am bound," he said, "to say that this is the first time I have ever heard of it." His lordship's peremptory and unconditional denial gave the impression that the assertions of Mr. Disraeli were totally unfounded, and that no treaty of such a nature as described by him could be in existence. A week afterwards, however, in consequence of a renewal of the subject, we find Lord Palmerston admitting the existence of such a document, though only as a scheme or draft:—"I am inclined to think that the information we received yesterday is correct, and that that treaty—that convention—for it was only a temporary convention, to have force only during the period of the continuance of the war—never was signed." But three days later the noble lord fully and freely acknowledged its existence to the House. He attempted to gloss over its object, nature, and intended duration, and said that it was for "the mutual regulation of the French and Austrian troops which might be in Italy, in the contingency of Austria declaring war against Russia:—and Austria never having declared war against Russia, that convention, although signed, became a dead letter, and never had any application or effect whatever." In the rejoinder of Mr. Disraeli the following words occur:—"I state again that there is a treaty—a secret treaty—between France and Austria, the object of which is to guarantee the security of the Italian possessions of Austria—that it has been extensively acted upon—that, to the best of my belief, it contains on its surface no limitation of the period of its operation, and that the character given of it by the noble lord the other night is entirely incorrect."

On various grounds, then, we feel that it is matter of rejoicing that England should not send the Premier to the approaching Congress. It is better that a diplomatist should be employed who, while of undoubtedly inferior abilities and standing, will not be liable to be betrayed into taking the part of the strong against the weak, and whose subordinate position will offer some advantages, as giving England the opportunity of expressing her opinion in a more decided way than she could do if the statesman, who nominally represents it, were sent to Paris empowered to act on his own responsibility, and according to his own unsupported judgment.

If mere repetition and reiteration would suffice to inspire confidence in the declarations of the French Emperor, we might consider it as a settled fact that the late rulers will not be restored. He says they shall not be replaced by force, and all the world knows that their former subjects will never receive them back voluntarily. But the great fear is, that the imperial language, declaring that foreign intervention shall not be employed to force the dukes upon the Italians against their will, will be found to be susceptible of political and imperial quibble and jugglery. The annals of diplomacy tell of two different species of intervention. The first has in view the maintenance of the equilibrium of the great powers, so that one state may not be rendered powerful to the prejudice of another. This species of intervention arose in the 15th century and was largely applied in the 16th, serving as the basis of the religious wars of that period, and ultimately occasioning the Wars of Succession. The second species of intervention relates to the changes which occur in the internal government of states. It originated in 1772 with the first division of Poland, served as a pretext to Prussia, in 1788, to re-establish the House of Orange in Holland, and occasioned the first wars against the French Revolution, undertaken to prevent France from governing herself according to her own will. Finally, the Holy Alliance made it a European law and a perpetual system, in order to prevent any change in the internal form of government of the respective states, when such change might appear to threaten the existence of the reigning dynasties and monarchies as re-established by the Government of Vienna. Intervention of the first kind may be justified on principles of right, and is undoubtedly practically beneficial. Intervention of the latter kind is totally destructive of the right appertaining to every people to govern itself, and consequently is a direct violation of international law as at present established. If the Emperor Napoleon III.

owned for his rule of conduct the laws which govern most other men, we should be sanguine that, having annihilated the Holy Alliance by the proclamation of the second Empire and by the Crimean war, he would not invoke the unjust principles of that Alliance in the case of Italy. But, under actual circumstances, we can only hope for the best, and wait the issue of the Congress. Should the war in Italy be suffered to bear its natural fruit, and give to the peninsula that freedom of action which is an indefeasible right of every assemblage of thinking and reasoning beings, leaving it amenable only to the beneficial laws of international justice and political equipoise of power, the great monarch who undertook that war would assuredly have earned a right to the imperishable gratitude of posterity. The princes of Central Italy have lost their thrones because they had neither personal worth nor public opinion to support their authority. They fell, not in consequence of foreign violence, but by the national will. The bonds between them and their people were broken; their bad government had separated their thrones from the popular regard and affection as if by a deep trench. Of what avail, then, would it be for foreign rulers to try to force them back upon their reluctant subjects? No intrigue can undo the past, or prevent a repetition of the uneasiness which has disturbed Europe, if a return to the former system is unwarrantably obtruded upon the Italian peninsula. In 1849, by force of arms, Austria replaced the three foreign dynasties of Parma, Modena, and Tuscany upon their thrones. She would not suffer it to be said that even the House of Lorraine could stand without her support. Ten years afterwards, all three dynasties were compelled to abandon the thrones which they occupied as Austrian proconsuls and not as Italian princes. Such are the teachings of history, which can never safely be disregarded or ignored. It is devoutly to be hoped that the arrangements effected between the European powers, who are to meet together in January next, will be of such a nature that peace and prosperity may be guaranteed for a long time to come.

MR. BRIGHT'S LEADERSHIP.

SOME years ago Mr. Bright attended a conference held by the National Parliamentary Reform Association at Crosby Hall, and strongly advised the advocates of an extension of the suffrage not to make their task more difficult by holding out to the privileged classes the prospect of a variety of changes detrimental to their interests, and alarming to their prejudices. To some extent, at least, the advice was sound, and its giver would have been a more valuable friend to political progress if he had acted upon it himself. Last year Mr. Bright made a few speeches, which his admirers thought wonderful efforts of human genius, but which had the effect of alarming the aristocracy and wealthy middle class, without bringing the democracy into the field. Half-a-dozen orations of questionable merit did not succeed in effecting a revolution in our defective political system, nor did they raise from the entire people a shout—"There is one Reform, and John Bright is its Prophet." If the member for Birmingham really cared for Parliamentary reform, this should not have discouraged him: he should have urged his friends to hold meeting after meeting, and follow the counsel so often given by Mr. Cobden, of sticking to one subject until it is completely worked out. Somehow, or another the flames kindled by Mr. Bright's eloquence died away like firework coruscations. In no town did any organisation that originated with him manifest energy or activity, and the London Committee, of which he was the hero and apparent chief, might have been supposed defunct, up to its recent rapid meeting, had it not kindly informed the country, through the advertising columns of the newspapers, that it "sat daily" while the elections were going on.

At length Mr. Bright has reappeared upon the scene, and his penultimate speech is a favourable specimen of his manner and style. With much of it any friend of the people must agree, nor will many regret the hard knocks he has bestowed upon certain journalists who have perverted the truth to serve class interests or party purposes; but there remains the question of *cui bono*? And if we apply the test of utility to Mr. Bright's oratorical labours, we shall discern the usual want of judgment and statesmanship, quali-

ties which are essential to a great popular leader, in a country that has happily passed through the period when mere declamation could carry much weight in the affairs of men. We sympathise strongly with Mr. Bright's visions of custom houses turned into factories, and the last coast guardsman and the last exciseman taking their places in the archaeological department of the British Museum; but before these questions can belong to the practical business of the day, we must create a legislature that reflects the national will, and is capable of desiring that elevation of the masses and that emancipation of industry, to accomplish which the financial changes are proposed. If Mr. Bright's example were to be followed, Parliamentary reform would be subordinated to fiscal changes, and instead of being demanded in order that the people should decide for themselves how the taxation should be levied, it would be sought for the sake of carrying out a scheme which, whatever its merits, is surrounded with difficulties, and is remarkably distasteful to those who have, to a very large extent, the power of refusing to accede to electoral improvements.

Mr. Bright cannot be said to have propounded a system that would work. In accordance with his usual custom, he stops short at the point where the statesman should supplement the labours of the platform orator, and contributes precisely nothing to the elucidation of the host of minor questions that must be solved before an entirely new system of finance can be established in an old country, full of interests and prejudices that cannot hastily be swept away. It would be easy to tax the realised property which can be seen in the shape of land and houses, or traced in share registers or similar documents, but by what precise method is the capital of the merchant or the millowner to be made to contribute its share? The present income tax is shamefully evaded by these classes, and every one conversant with London society or any great manufacturing towns, is convinced that within a few streets are to be found more persons of large income than are returned for the entire kingdom. To pounce down upon the £100 of the comparatively poor man who has invested it in a manner convenient for the tax gatherer, and to let the £100,000 escape which is floating in the transactions of the merchant, would violate all sense of justice; and before the non-trading classes can be fairly asked to consent to a tax of 8s. out of every £3 or £4 which they derive from a £100 investment, it will be necessary to show them that the trading class, receiving, perhaps, 15 to 30 per cent. upon their capital, and often much more, will be made to contribute to a similar extent. These difficulties are by no means insuperable; but we doubt the possibility of dealing with them until the people are fairly represented in Parliament, and public opinion has been changed and enlightened by the discussions that would then take place.

Next year will not be a time for establishing a new financial system, but it will be the time for settling representation upon a new basis, and upon the decision arrived at, the policy of this country will depend for many years. Under these circumstances we invite the friends of progress to consider the bearing of Mr. Bright's proposed agitation, upon the chances of the new Reform Bill.

As we have before stated we appreciate the services rendered by the Liverpool Financial Reformers, and believe their expositions of the waste, extravagance, and pressure of the existing taxation system might be made a valuable auxiliary to the demand for electoral reform; but, if Mr. Bright were to be taken as the leader in the popular agitation, it is clear that his present plan for subordinating the extension of the suffrage to financial schemes would operate as a diversion from the main object, and increase the facilities that the aristocracy at present possess for thwarting and delaying the satisfaction of popular demands. The Northern Reform Union by steadily pursuing its one object—manhood suffrage—has built up an important power, and almost every day the local papers bear witness to the utility of its exertions, and the enthusiasm with which they are received. When Mr. Joseph Cowen began his campaign he was laughed at for his pains, and it required all the advantage of his personal character, and the high position of his firm, to win anything like recognition, by the

wealthy classes, of the existence of his movement. He did not, however, content himself with one or two set orations, but laboured with devotion, quite remarkable in a man who at the same time diligently discharged the functions of a large and successful employer of labour. The result has been an annual increase of power, and the political education of a large district, extending from Newcastle to York, and from Carlisle to Berwick, to an extent which is, unfortunately, not equalled anywhere else. Not even in London can large audiences be assembled, who know so much about social and political subjects as those which throng the Lecture-room or the Town-hall of Newcastle, when the Northern Reform Union issues its summonses, and invites its adherents to the discussion of public affairs. Now what Mr. Cowen and his friends have done in one place can be done in others, by the same expenditure of patriotism, money, and time, and their movement has the advantage of being national, not sectional. If Mr. Bright really does care for popular rights, he may find in Newcastle an example that he might follow with advantage; but whatever applause may attend his orations, he may rest assured he will neither be a great statesman nor a great popular leader until he is more national and less local, and can make up his mind to labour consistently and steadily for a wide extension of the suffrage, although the result may not be favourable to the crotchets of his particularly narrow school. It was an exhibition of shortsightedness, when he failed to perceive the natural connexion between popular education in military matters and the abolition of Court and aristocratic jobbing in our War Department, and it was a needless and silly insult to the common sense and sound feeling of the nation to describe the volunteer movement as one of which in a few years the people "would be heartily ashamed."

It is much more likely that they will be ashamed of a leader who, now as on former occasions, seems inclined to divert attention from the simple question of Parliamentary reform, and who has done more than any other man to make the Liberal party a rope of sand. Mr. Bright should also learn to appreciate the labours of others who do not belong to his sect. The succession tax may be far too small, but it was a great thing to introduce it at all, and he ought not to speak of it without giving due honour to Mr. Gladstone, for a brilliant and difficult achievement, which will, hereafter, bear important fruits.

RELIGION IN TUSCANY.—A letter from Florence contains the following information:—"I some time ago alluded to what is called 'evangelical Christianity' in Tuscany. I said but little about it, for both the instinctive prudence and caution of the new sectarians themselves, and the extreme wariness and timidity of the Government, combine to hide as much as possible the candle of these new lights under a bushel. The movement, however, seems daily to assume more significant dimensions. Two, three, five hundred, and even nearly one thousand people meet of a Sunday evening in this town, in and about the small room doing duty for a chapel. It is difficult to calculate the results of this affluence of people to such a place, and of the free distribution of Bibles and religious tracts among persons of all classes. Nor is the movement by any means limited to this capital. Everywhere throughout Tuscany, and still more in the Romagna, are the books spread, and people induced to join in the perusal of them. These new congregations have as yet no definite symbols, no established clergy, no appointed teachers; they profess to ground their faith on the Gospel and on freedom of inquiry. They have as yet no notion of transcendent ability, of striking eloquence, or of conspicuous character among them. Their most gifted preacher is Muzzavella, a Neapolitan, once connected with the Waldenses of Piedmont, then a seceder from them, and the founder of an opposition sect, called Evangelical Society, in Turin and Genoa. The man of the highest rank in the flock is Count Pietro Guicciardini, of Florence, the same who years ago suffered imprisonment and banishment as guilty of the crime of reading the Bible privately with two or three friends in his own house. Some of his congregation think the Count rather lukewarm and timid in the cause. The great obstacle to the revival is the state of perfect apathy, of religious death, in which most Italians, whether professed believers or ardent infidels, are content to live. Religion, as I had occasion to say before, has too long been the priests' business in Italy. One priest, I am told, has already forsaken the established church and joined the innovators in Florence."

LITERATURE.

LITERARY NOTES OF THE WEEK.

THE eminently useful individual who goes about "calling people's attention" has brought under the notice of Mr. T. C. Newby the statement of "George Eliot," and the remarks of the Press upon that lady or gentleman's letter. Mr. Newby says, in a letter to a contemporary, "That I have advertised a book, entitled 'Adam Bede, Junior, a sequel,' is true; that I have endeavoured to delude the public into a belief that the work was written by Miss Evans or George Eliot, is false."

Lord Brougham is about to issue his Mathematical Works in one volume, dedicated to the University of Edinburgh. The announcement is thus made: "In the press, and speedily will be published, in one vol., 8vo, dedicated to the University of Edinburgh. 'Tracts, Mathematical and Physical.' By Henry Lord Brougham, LL.D., F.R.S., Member of the National Institute of France, and Chancellor of the University of Edinburgh." The tracts or essays are in number eleven.

Mr. John Veitch, M.A., author of the "Memoir of Dugald Stewart," in the new edition of his works, and joint editor with Professor Mansel of "Sir William Hamilton's Lectures," is a candidate for the chair of Logic in the University of St. Andrew, vacant by the death of Professor Spalding.

The Council of University College, London, at their session on Saturday last, appointed Syed Abdoolah Professor of Hindustani in the College. The chair had been held, in conjunction with that of Tamil, by the Baron Von Streng, who, however, on learning that Syed Abdoolah was willing to undertake to instruct the class, and after bearing testimony to his high qualifications for the office, offered to make way for him for the reasons urged on another occasion by Sir Henry Rawlinson, that although the dead languages are best taught by European professors skilled in the science of grammar, and with some knowledge of comparative philology, a native should be preferred for all the living dialects of India.

Messrs. Hogg announce that their magazine, *Titan*, will not be published after the present number, with which number it concludes its twenty-ninth volume.

The Academy of Inscriptions and Belles Lettres has just announced the subjects for the prizes to be given in 1860 and 1861. The Bordin gold medal, of the value of 3,000fr., is to be conferred, next year, on an essay on the knowledge of the ancients respecting that part of Africa situated within the tropics, and particularly Nigretia and the region of the Upper Nile, from the time of Herodotus to that of Pliny and Ptolemy. In 1861, it is to be given to the best history of the language and literature of the Ethiopians, with a list of the original works and translations, an account of the various epochs of the literature of Abyssinia, and of the characteristics that mark the dates of questionable writings. The Louis Fould prize, which consists of the interest on 20,000fr. for three years, will be given, next year, to the author of the best history of the arts of design, their origin, progress, and transmission; to be written in French or Latin, and open to the competition of all the world.

It is reported that M. Empis, the ex-manager of the Theatre Français, has been appointed Inspector-General of Public Libraries. The post, which was originally created for M. Rémieu, as a consolation for the loss of the direction of the Beaux Arts, has not hitherto been filled up since his death.

The second edition of "The Life of Sir Charles Bell," by Amédée Pichot, is just announced for publication—the first having been eagerly caught up by the great man's admirers on the Continent. "At the present moment" (says a Paris letter) "a vast spirit of inquiry has arisen in France concerning the right assumed by science in England to claim an equal share of the world's gratitude with that of France, and the publication of this 'History of Sir Charles Bell' has done a great deal to dissipate the ignorant opposition with which such claim has sometimes been met. Society, the only rightful judge of medical skill, and whose judgment, being founded on self-interest, is seldom in fault, has chosen in France to adopt the renown of many a British physician with as much good will as that accorded to those belonging to the French school. Buchan and James in the last generation—Simpson and Clerk in our own—are as well known and frequently quoted as the most popular professors of the Académie de Médecine."

HEATHEN AND HOLY LANDS: OR, SUNNY DAYS ON THE SALWEEN, NILE, AND JORDAN. By Captain J. P. Briggs.—Smith, Elder and Co.

It is seldom that we meet with a book of travels so original as this. It commences, not with England, but with the antipodean provinces of Tavoy—a beautiful section of our Indian Empire. We thus start at once in the East, on the banks of the Tenasserim, amongst Buddhists and Burmese, a picturesque group, but strange. Captain Briggs is minute in his description of the place and manners, having acted there in a judicial capacity. Christian missions have been more successful among these people than elsewhere in the East. Were proper assistance sent out to them, Captain Briggs is of opinion, that they would meet with unprecedented encouragement. There is a marked difference in prosperity and comfort between the Christian and heathen villages and districts. A great check, too, is put to crimes of violence by Christian teachings. He calculates the number of Christians in the Tenasserim provinces at 75,000 souls. "As a Magistrate," he adds, "of upwards of eight years' experience on this coast, I can vouch for the great improvement in morality among the Christian Karens, and can affirm that ten Christian villages give less work to a police officer than one heathen Karen village."

The reader will resort with considerable confidence to such a record as this, proceeding from an authority so competent. He proceeds to state that polygamy is allowed among the people; but most have only one wife, and few more than two.

"The first, or head wife," the Captain continues, "is usually the choice of the husband in his youth; and when she ceases to have children she often assists in the choice of a young wife, who is bound to obey her; for here, at least, children are still an assistance, not a burden to their parents. Marriage is simply a civil contract, which either party may dissolve on certain grounds, such as proved incompatibility of temper, or barrenness; the penalty, on the other hand, being that the dissatisfied party usually gives a dowry, or forfeits all personal effects to the other. The woman has equal civil rights with the man, and even a casual observer must remark fewer disputes and quarrels between man and wife than in any other community."

"I have already passed a remark on the morality and influence of the Buddhist priests, but they are also the ordinary schoolmasters of the country. They employ their leisure in teaching, gratuitously, the boys of the village, or division of the town, in the vicinity of their monastery, to read and write their native language; while women who have taken ascetic vows, or sometimes old widows, give similar instruction to the girls. The simple rudiments of arithmetic are also taught in these schools, but beyond this the education of the laity seldom goes; a young man, however, who wishes to acquire the abstruse tenets of the Buddhist creed, is boarded and lodged in the monastery for any time he may desire to prosecute his studies."

The people are prone to suicide also, on slight occasions; children corrected by their parents, or thwarted in their affections, resort to it at once as a refuge from oppression. Yet they are disposed to gaiety. National festivals are frequent—races, banquets, games, wrestling-matches, and buffalo-fighting.

The author has divided his book into two parts, the first being devoted to the above particulars. He commences the second part with some account of Cairo; the Nile, the pyramids of Egypt, and Thebes. He spent a whole day at Esneh, and examined the temple. Another day also he spent on "beautiful, unearthly Philoe, and then away on into the burning lands of Ethiopia, past Derr, its capital, and Abou-Symbal, on till he reached Wadec Halfeh, just below the second cataract, on the thirty-second day from Cairo." We find him soon, after the example of Belzoni, exploring the passages and chambers of the Tombs at Thebes, and, in all respects, performing the part of an earnest, energetic, and courageous traveller. We have next his visit to Denderah, and his examination of the temple of Athor; nor was he inattentive to the antiquities of Memphis, and the pyramids of Saharah. The city in which Moses was educated by a princess could not fail to interest him; nor is he unmindful that here was kept the famous bull "Apis." The tombs of these sacred bulls have been found lately by a Frenchman, M. Manyat, "who is busy despoiling them of their most valuable antiquities." Why has not England its paid savans, commissioned to make and register

all such discoveries, for the benefit of science and philosophy? But we do nothing for "an idea." We abandon all such influences to the Gaul. In our traveller's estimation, the Egyptians, both men and women, are generally very plain. Alexandria, a mixture of the Oriental and European, is in the worst taste; yet, from its situation, may be the capital of the world, and is the stepping-stone between Europe and India.

We must speed rapidly through the remaining chapters of the book. Smyrna, the villages of Iona, Rhodes, and Cyprus are now-a-days familiar names; so likewise is Palestine and its suburbs. But here our traveller manifests enthusiasm, and expects his reader to sympathise with him. He had chosen the spring-time for his visit, and found Palestine in all its glory. He passed through to the hill-country of Judea, and entered a country where the rose of Sharon no longer blooms—in fact, a wilderness and robber-haunt. But at length he saw, from the heights, Jerusalem, and shortly afterwards was within the sacred walls. Here we leave him; merely adding, that the last chapter shows him on board-ship, "steaming down the Red Sea, bound for the far—far East."

AT HOME AND ABROAD. By Bayard Taylor.—Sampson Low, Son, and Co.

As a traveller Mr. Bayard Taylor has won public confidence as much as in his capacity of bookmaker. His *penchant* for travel appears to have been as decided as that of the celebrated Ida Pfeiffer, whom we see Mr. Taylor claims as his friend. His wish, however, took the form of an elevated position, and thus the command of a wider horizon. His instinct, accordingly, was to climb a mountain, and he was able at length to gratify his ardent desire in the neighbourhood of the Hudson, among the Catskills. This trip he made during an apprenticeship holiday. It served also for his apprenticeship to a traveller's life. It was his first start in the world. We next find him on the Susquehanna River, at Baltimore and in Washington; undergoing, meanwhile, the weariness and the perils of a night walk of many miles—nearly fifty—in order to gain his destination.

Some people think that the great difficulty of travelling is an ignorance of foreign tongues. Mr. Taylor assures his readers, on the authority of Ida Pfeiffer and his own, that the assumed difficulty is no difficulty at all. Difficulties, like dangers, he tells us, appear formidable at a distance, but when encountered face to face they vanish. It is his opinion that if all mankind were suddenly deprived of the power of speech, though the embarrassment and confusion would be very great for a few days, yet, ere the lapse of a fortnight, government, business, and society would move on in their accustomed courses. On entering a foreign country the traveller naturally resorts to signs and gestures, and soon aids them with tone and expression. That unused power of interpretation which develops itself so marvellously in the deaf and dumb is at once called into action; and answers the purpose much better than an imperfect knowledge of the language. The facilities of modern travel are, however, now so greatly multiplied that "the veriest Cockney may travel from London to Vienna and find his own language spoken in every hotel he enters. Railroads have not only brought about the abolition of all the real annoyances of the passport system, but they have increased travel to such an extent as to make it, in some countries, the chief source of revenue to the people—who are thus obliged to accommodate themselves in every possible way to the wants of their customers."

In these narratives Mr. Taylor has recorded some minor incidents which would not readily find a place in his larger and more important books of travels. Amongst these memorabilia he records some visionary visitations which will occur to the tired traveller when, from sheer weariness, the will as well as the body becomes passive, and imagination, prompted by some unknown stimulus, revels in a world of her own making. These tales of the supernatural are exceedingly well told, and there are those who will not so readily accept the natural solution as the author himself.

We must, in justice to the author and the subject, which now-a-days has acquired such extraordinary importance, present an example or two of these special experiences.

"Of course, such experiences are very rare; and as they generally occur at the most unexpected moments, it is next to impossible to go back, and ascertain how the impression first makes itself felt. Once, only, have I been conscious of the operation of the faculty. This took place in Racine, Wisconsin, on the morning of the 1st of March, 1855. My bedroom at the hotel was an inner chamber, lighted only by a door opening into a private parlor. Consequently, when I awoke in the morning, it was difficult to tell, from the imperfect light received through the outer room, whether the hour was early or late. A lecturer, especially after his hundredth performance, is not inclined to get up at daylight; and yet, if you sleep too long, in many of the western towns, you run the risk of losing your breakfast. I was lying upon my back, with closed eyes, lazily trying to solve the question, when, all at once, my vision seemed to be reversed—or rather, a clearer spiritual vision awoke, independent of the physical sense. My head, the pillow on which it rested, and the hunting-case of my watch, became transparent as air; and I saw, distinctly, the hands on the dial pointing to eleven minutes before six. I can only compare the sensation to a flash of lightning on a dark night, which, for the thousandth part of a second, shows you a landscape as bright as day. I sprang up instantly, jerked forth my watch, opened it; and there were the hands, pointing to eleven minutes before six—lacking only the few seconds which had elapsed between the vision and its proof.

"Is this, after all, any more singular than the fact that a man can awaken at any hour that he chooses? What is the spiritual alarm-clock which calls us at four, though we usually sleep until six? How is it that the web of dreams is broken, the helpless slumber of the senses overcome, at the desired moment, by the simple passage of a thought through the mind hours before? I was once, of necessity, obliged to cultivate this power, and brought it, finally, to such perfection, that the profoundest sleep ceased as suddenly, at the appointed minute, as if I had been struck on the head with a mallet. Let any one tell me, clearly and satisfactorily, how this is done, before asking me to account for the other marvel.

"But in certain conditions, the mind also foresees. This may either take place in dreams, or in those more vague and uncertain impressions which are termed presentiments. I will only relate a single instance, since it is useless to adduce anything which is not beyond the range of accident or coincidence. I spent the winter of 1844-5 at Frankfort-on-the-Main, living with Mr. Richard Storrs Willis, in the family of a German merchant there. At that time there was only a mail once a month between Europe and America, and if we failed to receive letters by one steamer, we were obliged to wait four weeks for the next chance. One day the letters came as usual for Mr. Willis, but none for me. I gave up all hope for that month, and went to bed in a state of great disappointment and dejection; but in the night I dreamed that it was morning, and I was dressing myself, when Mr. Willis burst into the room saying: 'The postman is below—perhaps he has letters for you. Come up into the dining-room, and you can see him from the window.' We thereupon went up to the dining-room on the third story, looked down into the street, and there stood the postman—who, as soon as he saw us, held up a letter at arm's length, holding it by the lower right-hand corner. Though he was in the street, and I in the third story, I read my name upon it.

"I arose in the morning with my head full of the dream. When I was about half dressed, Mr. Willis came into my room, repeating the very words I had heard in my sleep. We went into the dining-room together, looked down, and there stood the postman, holding up a letter by the lower right-hand corner! Of course I could not read the address at that distance; but my name was upon it. In this case, the circumstances were altogether beyond my control; and the literal manner in which the dream was fulfilled, in every minute particular, is its most astonishing feature. Nothing was added or omitted: the reality was a daguerreotype of the vision. Never before had my friend entered my room at so early an hour—never before had the postman held up a letter in that manner. If a coincidence only, the occurrence is therefore all the more marvellous."

It is not often that we have such clear testimony to events of this kind. We must believe Mr. Taylor, who thus witnesses to his own case. The facts cannot be doubted; but the philosophy calculated to explain them has not yet received such development as to satisfy sceptical minds.

LIFE IN SPAIN. By Walter Thornbury. Two vols. —Smith, Elder, and Co.

The reader is probably acquainted with many of these series of essays, the bulk of them having, the

author confesses, already appeared in *Household Words*. He hints, also, that we are to accredit him with care in drawing and correctness in detail. He has, if we understand him rightly, photographed "Spanish Life," with an intention to be as literally accurate as possible. We believe that to a great extent he has succeeded; but Mr. Thornbury is too much of an artist in his work to exclude the ideal altogether from his painting.

Sometimes Mr. Thornbury condescends to matters of mere daily life. There is a lively article of this kind on sherry. In it we are told, that English sherry is a chemical compound made, like a French side-dish, of many ingredients, and of various ages and qualities of wine. The facts are these:—

"In Xeres there were five hundred thousand arrobas of wine—thirty of which went to a bota (butt)—made annually. This made thirty-four thousand butts, nine thousand of which were of first quality. Sherry is too strong and too dear for Spaniards, and too feverish for the climate. The best is, in Xeres, a dollar a bottle. The best in the bodega is worth from fifty to eighty guineas a butt; and, after insurance, freight, and sale charges, it stands the importer in from one hundred to one hundred and thirty guineas, before it reaches his cellar (say) in Belgrave-square.

"How many gallons to the butt, Don Sanchez?" "About one hundred and twelve. This will bottle into about fifty-two dozen, and the duty is five shillings and sixpence the gallon. So you may form your own opinion about cheap London sherries, which are, generally, very 'curious' indeed—mere doctors' draughts, in fact, made up according to certain swindling prescriptions."

"Here was a blow for my old friend Binns, who opens a bottle of forty-eight shilling sherry with the air of an antiquarian unswathing a mummy Pharaoh. Thought I, the next time the deluded man points to the oily stickiness of his glass, I will leap up, seize him by the white cravat, and say in a hollow voice:

"Binns! you are the victim of a life-long delusion; that stuff you drink, you think is the juice of Spanish grapes, plucked by men playing guitars, and smoking cigars: you call it, in poetical moments, bottled sunlight, sunfire, and so on—bah! (after the manner of Napoleon) it is only a chemical compound made of drugs and infusions, like Daffy's elixir or James's powder. It is cooked up with boiled, treachery wine, and brandy. It is a compound mixed from a dozen barrels, and made to order for a particular market. If the vines of Xeres grew till they got black in the face, Binns, they could not yield wine like your forty-eight shilling sherry."

"The Don laughed, and said that certainly the sherry wine district was very small; not more than twelve miles square. Therefore, it could not yield honest wine enough even for half London. The sherry grape grew only on certain low chalky hills, where, the earth being light-coloured, is not so much burnt—did not chap and split so much by the sun, as darker and heavier soils do. A mile beyond these hills, the grapes deteriorate. The older the plants the better, but the fewer the grapes."

Perhaps, most of our readers knew these facts already. Probably, they have been told something like this; but not with the requisite particularity. It can at any rate do no harm to have the matter set down exactly as it is. The use to be made of the truth is quite another thing. People none the less, we dare say, will drink 48s. sherry, if they can get nothing better.

The literature of Spain is not neglected any more than the wines. In proof, we need only refer to a chapter on Spanish ballads, in which, in the verse of Don Fullano—a Spanish balladist, for our knowledge of whom we are indebted to Mr. Thornbury—the Cid flourishes not only alive but dead. There is another similar essay, discriminating between the Spain of Cervantes and the Spain of Gil Blas, which is also good. In this there is a reflective mournfulness, in which the pensive reader will readily join.

"It might," says Mr. Thornbury, "make the thoughtful man weep to take now the map of Spain, and look at its choked-up harbours and forsaken sea; its ruined cities; its sluggish people, eager only for vice and folly, slow to work, and swift to stab. To see its plains of Paradise mouldering away into deserts, its pastures cankered into barrenness, its mines unheeded, its ports unused; the very limbs of this great country festering from the trunk; the land that could produce all the treasures of east and west, the wheat of Europe, the rice of Asia, the sugar-cane of South America, the palm-tree of Africa, now lying the dustheap of the nations; the beggared, despised, neglected, sightless country, ready, like a sick sheep, to be torn in pieces by the

first eagle that pounces on it from the peak of the Pyrenees."

Two volumes of more entertaining and instructive matter are not discoverable in the literature of the day. They unite the charms of travel and romance.

AUSTRALIAN FACTS AND PROSPECTS: to which is prefixed the Author's Australian Biography. By R. H. Horne.—Smith, Elder, and Co.

In 1852, Mr. Horne, the author of "Orion," in a fit of mental despondency, left England and literature for the gold diggings. Besides, a change of occupation had become almost necessary to him; he had been, to use his own words, sickened of hope, as a dramatist and a poet, and accordingly it was natural that he should be overtaken by "the London fever of that day," and form "a determination to sail for Australia." Since that time a few stray notices of him, as a gold escort commander, in the colonial journals have reached us;—but nothing particular had arrived in England until the present publication, and this, it must be acknowledged, contains matter of considerable interest and importance.

It may seem precipitating results, but we prefer to begin the subject of our review with its moral;—premiering, also, that Mr. Horne himself commences his report with it. It is contained in these few words:—"If you are doing at all well at home, rest assured it would be risking everything in a foreign lottery to come out here at the present period. To the great majority it must be certain disappointment, and to some utter ruin."

Mr. Horne's autobiographical sketch is a piece of graphic writing, which may challenge comparison with our best descriptive authorship, and must excite regret in the reader that so much talent should have missed its reward in England. Poetry, and the drama, in its higher forms no longer command their fitting recompense in this country. The more the merit, the less the success;—the more ambitious the aim, the less possible its realisation. It is time the public should know this;—and Mr. Horne's example may speak out "trumpet-tongued" the disgraceful truth. Have the reading, the theatrical, public of the time no taste? Is the popular mind entirely vitiated? And will the "deaf adder" not listen to the sweet singer, "charm he never so wisely?" Let our leaders look to this;—for it is a state of things that "is not, and it cannot come to good." When genius can no longer find its place in a country, "it is not long after" that virtue will also be found an emigrant, and, like justice from the earth, retires to some refuge more congenial to its principles and aspirations, from whence it is not likely to return.

Mr. Horne's Australian Facts are of the roughest. Literature has no standing in Melbourne—no chair in its University. Politics alone are the lever by which an educated man can make his thousand a-year—politics, and a robust constitution, with pedestrian energy—not art, nor refined speculations on mind, nor elegant productions, whether critical or poetic. The barrister, with a strong political head and body, has a chance. "Special energies, applied to the talents which are desiderated," will avail, sooner or later, in any case. But of classes of men, "small capitalists and small farmers, together with the hewers of wood and drawers of water (meaning experienced navvies), stonemasons, bricklayers, and some other mechanics," have the best prospects. The statements in Mr. Frank Fowler's "Southern Lights and Shadows" are not at all to be depended on.

Mr. Horne, certainly, does not look on the rosy side of things. Here is an illustration:—

"The sums of money publicly announced to have been gained by, or given to theatrical stars in Sydney and Melbourne, must be regarded as mere managerial and professional puffs. We know, in reality, nothing about the matter, except in cases of failure; and then, it seems, on the contrary, they have made nothing, and paid everything away. I set down, therefore, the £10,000 said to have been promised to Mr. G. V. Brooke, and the other £10,000 offered to the conjurer Anderson, as sums of money the real amount of which, privately agreed upon, has been, or will be, duly paid; but what such amounts may actually be, we have no means of knowing. The sum of £10,000, just now, seems to be a favourite munificence; and as we hear it has been offered to Mr. Spurgeon to deliver a series of sermons in America, we should not be surprised at

the rumour that an engagement had been proposed to that gentleman to come to Australia on the same terms, with an additional £1,000 for travelling expenses."

We are glad to learn, upon Mr. Horne's authority, that education thrives in Australia, and that there is no difficulty in the proper instruction of a family; though at present the youth of the colony, while precocious, are exceedingly ignorant. Mr. Horne enters at large into the land-question, and the gold-question, and the other relations of colonial property; and, in all, delivers himself with clearness. Notwithstanding the discouragement to which literature is subject in a new home, we cannot fail to discover that Mr. Horne owes something to his literary character. It served to introduce him to Major Chisholm, and get him at once appointed to the command of the gold-escort in 1852. He has since held the office of Commissioner of Crown Lands for the Gold Fields—(1853-4). In 1855 he was a Territorial Magistrate, and he is at this time Commissioner of the Yan Yean Water Supply. The results of his literary knowledge and self-education (for every literary workman is in a measure a self-educator), have aided him in acquiring and maintaining these different positions; and there can be no doubt, that he has got such hold of the governmental influences that urge on the progress of the colony, in which he has gained so fair a footing, that he will reap the benefit of its social improvement, and be found, at no distant future, among the leading men of Australia. To that result, the present book is likely, in no slight degree, to contribute.

STORIES OF INVENTORS AND DISCOVERERS IN SCIENCE AND THE USEFUL ARTS. A Book for Old and Young. By John Timbs, F.S.A. — Kent and Co.

HERE is indeed a rare Christmas book! We may see upon our table many a rich quarto or octavo islet of type floating on a sea of vellum paper, decorated with all the fancy of the binder, and called a "Christmas Book;" but few, we fancy, will be such a boy's own book—aye, and such a man's own book too—as this "Stories of Inventors and Discoverers." In a struggling age, when myriads of our young folks are being daily taught the necessity of living by their wit—not in the dishonest sense—if they would live well, and succeed early in life, we can hardly imagine a work with a more captivating title than that before us, or a book that, when purchased, will prove of a more stimulating character. The "Stories of Inventors and Discoverers" are a number of rapid sketches, written or compiled from the best sources by the accomplished author, of the lives and triumphs of the most renowned men, who by chemical and mechanical genius have advanced the world.

From the screw of Archimedes, invented 287 years before Christ (such a one as may be seen toiling away in its primitive form at the New Westminster Works), to the elegant stereoscope of Wheatstone, brought to perfection within the last year or two, Mr. Timbs leads us smoothly and pleasantly. He stops at such interesting stations as Printing Machinery, Watches, the Marquis of Worcester, Leonardo da Vinci, Prince Rupert, the Automaton Chess-player (a mystery solved since we were boys), Babbage's machines, Newton, Watt, Compton, Rennie, the Thames Tunnel, Herschel, Brunel, Palissy the potter, the Stephensons, photography and its applications, gutta serena, the Great Eastern, and many more. These fertile themes are, of course, not abstrusely, but very interestingly treated, and the above list of them will give a better idea of what we think a charming book than all the laboured criticism in the world. In his preface the author touches lightly on the fate of "martyrs to science," which must excuse our suggesting that a chapter so entitled would have been a fitting complement to such a stimulating mental feast. Mr. Timbs' young readers—and by tens of thousands will his modest little book be read—should have presented to them, side by side with its fascinating page, that the glacies of the Walhalla these heroes have escaled is strewn thickly with the corpses of their unsuccessful fellows, who have suffered and died as wretchedly as can suffer and die only those who have been cursed by nature with a gift more fatal to the majority of its possessors than that of beauty—namely, the faculty of invention.

TALES FROM BENTLEY. Vol. 2.—Richard Bentley.

THIS second volume of the tales reprinted from "Bentley's Magazine," contains fourteen stories, many of which we recognise as old favorites of former times. Each of them are well suited to beguile away the time while travelling between London and Putney.

TWO BOYS' BOOKS.

THE WORLD OF ICE; OR, ADVENTURES IN THE POLAR REGIONS. By R. M. Ballantyne, Author of "Hudson's Bay," &c., &c.—T. Nelson and Sons.

OUT AND ABOUT: A BOY'S ADVENTURES. Written for Boys. By Haine Friswell.—Groombridge and Sons.

THIS Christmas has produced more boys' books than any season that we remember. The Arctic regions is likely to prove a fertile theme for this class of writers; and already we see there are three boys' books written on the subject. Mr. Ballantyne is the writer of, at least, a dozen instructive books for youth, and his present one will, we are sure, become a great favourite. The hero of "The World of Ice" is a Frederick Ellice, who went out in the Dolphin, in search of the crew of the Pole-Star, who were missing for a long time while searching for Sir John Franklin. Of course young Fred. goes through all the hardships consequent to a long stay in those regions, which gives Mr. Ballantyne an opportunity of winding into his narrative all the facts that are known of the Polar Seas. From Dr. Kane and Captain Osborne he has drawn pretty freely; and the readers of their travels will find little new in his work; but to those who have not read the accounts of their voyages, Mr. Ballantyne's book will be found very interesting and instructive. The work is well illustrated.

"Out and About" is a work of very much the same character, though more pretentious it would seem, as it is addressed to "men and boy readers." It purports to be the faithful history of Edward Paget, who, losing his parents when young, had to fight his own way in the world. After having been some little time at a school, "Ned" goes to London, where he stays long enough for the writer to initiate him into the ways of London life. From thence he is transposed to the Arctic regions, where he endures great hardships, but gathers some knowledge of the Arctic Seas and the Esquimaux. From the Arctic regions he goes to America, from there to the Prairies, then to the Feejee Islands; from there to Persia, and back again to England, where, in the end, he marries a pretty little girl called Lucy. From this slight sketch of the work our juvenile readers will get a very fair idea of the contents of "Out and About." It is readable and instructive.

SERIALS.

KINGSTON'S MAGAZINE FOR BOYS. (No. X.) Concludes the first volume, and is accompanied with an index.

DUBLIN UNIVERSITY. (No. CCCXXIV.) Contains an excellent article on Joseph de Maistre, a sketch of whose life is given with impartiality and talent, by the Rev. William Alexander, A.M. "The Season Ticket" is continued, and abounds with philosophy and humour. The political article is of the usual alarmist kind, and of slender merit.

RECREATIVE SCIENCE. (No. V.) Contains a good paper on Microscopic Geology, which will be read with much interest by the intelligent. The number is furnished with philosophical and scientific information of the utmost utility.

COMPREHENSIVE HISTORY OF ENGLAND. (Parts XXV. and XXVI.) Conduct us to 1784, and the last commences a chapter on our civil and military history in the reign of George III.

POETICAL WORKS OF THOMAS MOORE. (Part IX.) Moore's National Airs, (No. VII.) Moore's Life of Byron, (Parts I. and II.) Equally do credit to the Messrs. Longmans, and Mr. Murray, by whom they are respectively issued.

ENGLISHWOMAN'S JOURNAL. (No. XXII.) Here are ten articles of some interest, either in their topic or treatment.

ONE OF THEM. By Charles Lever. (No. I.) This is a new illustrated tale by a celebrated author, and begins with an apology for the title. Italian life furnishes the matter of the story, which begins characteristically, and promises well.

The Black Danes.

ANOTHER of the church-illustrative tales, published by John H. and James Parker, and executed with the usual talent.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

ST. JAMES'S HALL.—MONDAY POPULAR CONCERTS. —The directors seem bent on carrying out the idea they so shrewdly struck out, and have hitherto so loyally worked at. Their plan of mixing the popular in esse of Mr. Sims Reeves' singing, with the popular in posse of the chamber music of Haydn, Mozart, Mendelssohn, not to speak of popularities more remote, the symphonies of Spohr, Schubert, and the abstruse school is, in no small degree, likely to forward their view. On Monday last, the course of what we call training—the lesson, in fact, in high musical taste—comprehended Hadyn's Quartet in E flat, No. 80; Beethoven's Quartet in A major (being No. 5 of the set called Lobkowitz), a trio in C minor, by Mendelssohn, played on the pianoforte, violin, and violoncello, by Miss Arabella Goddard, Herr Becker, and Monsieur Pague, and a pianoforte sonata, called "Ne Plus Ultra," by Woelfl, in which the above-named lady, as usual, charmed alike the critics and the uninitiated. The quartets were well played by Herren Becker and Ries, Mr. Doyle, and M. Pague. The former gentleman, who made his first appearance on Monday, has not a half of the fire of Wieniawski, with whom in St. James's Hall he must be compared, though, if we may judge from a single hearing, he is a high class executant. The Woelfl sonata, which was played for the first time at these concerts, is a work but little known, and by a comparatively unknown composer, on whom it may remain for Miss Arabella Goddard to bestow a posthumous fame, by repeated performance and, perhaps, popularization of his works. The clever editor of the Monday Popular Concert Handbook gives us a very amusing account of this wayward musician, from which we may find room to extract the story of this the *Ne plus Ultra* sonata. Woelfl, who was a highly scientific musician, being highly disgusted at the neglect of his string quartets, instrumental trios, symphonies, &c., and at the preference shown in the first years of the present century for the trashy pianoforte *airs variés* of inferior composers, endeavoured strenuously, but vainly, for a while to stem the tide, and correct the public taste. It was not given him to triumph thus, while Mozart, Clementi, and Dussek, of the then time, were neglected, and Bach and Handel, of the past, almost ignored. So he hit at last upon the following expedient:—

"Inwardly conscious that he could write display-pieces with a great deal more facility than any of the pretenders, who were fast destroying the taste for pure and healthy music, and perform them with an equal superiority, he resolved to give the fashionable world a test of his ability. His fame was European, and he enjoyed the most distinguished position as a teacher. Thus his influence was considerable, and he had only to feign adherence to the prevalent style to swamp all his competitors. The *Ne Plus Ultra* was the fruit of his new resolve. Unable, however, to yield so gracefully to the breeze as his suppler contemporary, Daniel Steibelt, our more vigorous and unbending musician began his new work with a stately *adagio*, followed by an *allegro*, solidly built on those principles which are the foundation of art, and with which art itself must perish. Having thus proved that he was still Joseph Woelfl, he immediately set about the rest, which was at once to propitiate the false idol of the period, and arrest the triumphs of its worshippers. A short *andante*, the air "Life let us cherish," and the variations constructed upon it, constituted the remainder of the sonata.

Well—the publisher of Woelfl's music, a bit of a dilettante himself, was terrified when he glanced at the manuscript. He might have exclaimed "Awast!"—and so have foreshadowed a conceit of Dickens, as Woelfl has foreshadowed the entire creation of Herz. Not so lucky, however, as to immortalise himself by an interjection. All the publisher said was—"Why, who the deuce can play it?" "I will it play!"—replied Woelfl, in Mandelstam English. "Yes—but you won't buy the copies. No one but yourself, or Dussek, can play the *allegro*—and I doubt if either of you can master the variations," Woelfl sat down to the instrument (a cracked old harpsichord) and convinced the worthy publisher of his error. Not only was the publisher convinced, but enchanted. "What shall we call it?" he inquired. "Call it *Ne Plus Ultra*," said Woelfl, rubbing his hands with innate satisfaction. "Now shall we see if Herr Von Esch will more play, or Herr Bombombo make de variation." And *Ne Plus Ultra* was consigned to the hands of the engraver.

The effect produced by the new sonata, and especially by the variations, which (as Woelfl had suspected) were soon separated from the *allegro*, and published alone, was extraordinary. The work was eagerly bought, and, to the confusion of several professors of high repute, whose incompetency had previously escaped detection, was placed before them by their pupils with a very urgent

request to hear it played. All sorts of shifts and evasions were resorted to in order to avoid going through such an ordeal. Woelfl performed the *Ve Plus Ultra* at a concert, and with such brilliant success, that it became the fashionable piece from that moment. Not only did he by these means obtain what he had contemplated, in the discomfiture of those shallow practitioners who had endeavoured to depreciate his worth, but what he had not contemplated—the transfer of their pupils. True to his art, however, he would never consent to give lessons on the variations until the *allegro* had been studied. "Dat is good"—he would say—"It will help to digest de variation." To which may be annexed—*Si non e vero e ben trovato.*

Some of our readers may perhaps feel curious to know more of this wondrous sonata, that our grandmothers went mad about, and that so flustered the London Musical world in 1805. We may inform them that it has been edited by Mr. Davison and forms number one of "Boosey's Pianoforte Studio."

The "reliefs" on Monday last, were all from Mozart. Miss Fanny Rowland and Mdlle. Behrens sang the duo from "*Così fan tutte*," "Ah! guarda sarella;" the latter lady gave "L'addio" (to hear which is enough happiness for one evening), with all the purity it demands; and the former, the less interesting, "Or, che il Cielo." The lion *par excellence*, of the concert, was Mr. Sims Reeves, who was as charming as ever in "Dallasua Pace," from "*Don Giovanni*," and "Deh! per Questo," from the "*Cle-menza di Tito*." Like the rest of the audience, we were glad to see the matchless tenor in seeming health and force, but, unlike too many of them, we did not insist on the *encores*, which it seems customary to demand from Mr. Reeves, and about which, he has already had several "difficulties" with the British vulgar. He sang "Deh! per Questo" twice, in obedience to the summons of the unfeeling minority, but declined to repeat the other air. Should the system, however, of *encoring* Mr. Reeves be carried out in this winter as before, we have only to hope that he will, at all events, when inclined to comply for his own sake, really repeat the passage or air that may have evoked the public enthusiasm. By substituting, on such occasions one air for another—thus, in fact, singing two for one—Mr. Reeves created the demon that now worries him. He will scotch, if not kill it, by repeating occasionally a good long recitative. By his "Pretty Jane," &c., &c., he will but fatten it.

THE LONDON ORCHESTRAL ASSOCIATION.—The preliminary meeting of this Association was held yesterday at the Freemasons' Tavern, and was very numerously attended. Mr. Benedict was prevented from attending on account of professional engagements, and in his absence the chair was taken by his colleague, Dr. James Peck. Various resolutions were passed, and a provisional committee elected. A vote of thanks was passed to the chairman and secretary, and the meeting stands adjourned until Thursday evening next.

THE CAMPBELL MINSTRELSY that has been able, as we last week reported, to fill the smaller St. James's Hall, bids fair, with the help of Mr. Mackney, to gather admirers enough to crowd, in time, the upper one. We, of course, attended the invitation to spend a quarter of an hour with the "inimitable" Mackney, and found him, as before, as unlike all but himself, as M. Espinosa, who now astonishes the world at the Princess's Theatre. The "Sally come up," with which capital dancing is combined, is truly laughter-compelling; so is the "Farm-yard Imitation," and the parody upon the popular song "Good-bye, sweetheart, good-bye." In our last notice of this very pleasing entertainment, we omitted, most unfairly, to draw attention to the wonderful "jig" by Master Ritter. This young man carries the art of the rustic dance to a pitch that, though only curious in London, would create a *furor* in the north of England, far exceeding any that could be got up by banjo or chorus.

POLYGRAPHIC HALL, KING WILLIAM STREET, CHANCERY CROSS.—The prince of sleight-of-hand conjurers "Professor Wiljalba Frikell," is again amongst us, and while Mr. Woodin, lessee of this snug little exhibition room, prepares a new entertainment, gives Christmas magic *soirees* of the usual interesting nature. To unquestioned, and really astounding, manual dexterity—for the Professor, though, of course, he employs apparatus, is not one of the merely mechanical school of conjurers—he unites, we must say, a very agreeable presence and a pleasant manner, which add an additional comfort to evenings spent at his exhibition. To the tricks we need not allude in detail. As far as we are informed, they are repetitions or variations of former wonders, but for all we can recollect they are new, and certainly no less astonishing than ever. The multiplication of fish in a glass globe; the endless shower of flowers, cups, bon-bons, flags, &c., all from one ordinary hat; and, lastly, the

demolition and re-construction of that useful piece of cabinet work are among the ever fresh and still amusing feats of the Polish sorcerer.

MADAME TUSSAUD.—An addition of considerable interest has been made to the historical groups of the great personages who have filled the thrones of England since the Conquest, and one that was much wanted to render the series perfect. It is a group of two figures, modelled from the authentic portraits still existing in a good state of preservation in the Bayeux tapestry, of William the Conqueror and his wife Ariotta. These portraits are contemporary with the original; Ariotta herself is said to have traced the resemblance of herself and husband in the embroidery, and if so, was an artist of no mean pretensions in her craft. The group in the gallery in Baker-street is remarkably well modelled, and those who have the tiring of the figures have perfectly understood their profession.

COMMERCIAL.

CORN, GOLD, AND POLITICS.

COMMERCE is so exceedingly flourishing that there is nothing peculiar to say about it. That many individuals formerly or still connected with it may complain, is very probable. In the very flourishing period which began after 1851, large fortunes were suddenly made in trade, and many persons rushed wildly into business of which they understood very little. The number of merchants was prodigiously increased, various new methods were started, particularly by rashly extending the credit system, and speculation was much promoted. Now business is conducted much more soberly and safely. The excess of the credit system has, by a natural reaction, brought about restrictions which now keep it within much narrower bounds, and a great many adventurers hang, disappointed, about the skirts of trade. In every branch of business some of these may be found, and they constitute the exception to the general rule. Thus, we have it in evidence, while shipowners in London, Sunderland, and other places are complaining, that more goods have been carried in the ten months of this year, and more tonnage employed in trade, than in any previous ten months; and that, in consequence, the bulk of the shipowners of Liverpool and other places are perfectly well satisfied. On the whole, the shipping interests, if not the shipowners, after all that has of late been said, are not badly off. The consequence of the general well-being of commerce is, that City articles contain only long lists of multitudinous prices, repeated day after day with very little variation, with observations on the conduct of the Governments of Mexico, the United States, and Buenos Ayres. The stream flows so swiftly and smoothly that, except the disturbance occasioned by politics, no breakers or dangers call for the notice of the watching critics, who rather fill the office of the Board of Trade than of pilots. They condemn those who make shipwreck, and do not help them to get into a safe haven.

We have to notice, that the continued extension of trade, the large supplies brought forward in the corn market last week not having been kept up this week, the corn market has been quiet, and prices have not further receded. Conjoined with this, as a novelty, is the fact that the supplies of gold from Australia are diminishing, as they have before diminished from California, while the gold obtained in both countries is now the produce of an increasing quantity of labour, and therefore costs much more than when the gold was first discovered lying almost on the surface of the earth. According to the Melbourne papers just received, there was a considerable deficiency in the escort returns for the four weeks ending October 8th, 1859, as compared with the returns for the corresponding period in 1858. In 1858, 173,014 ozs.; in 1859, 199,439 ozs.; a decrease in the four weeks of 1859 of 26,425 ozs.; or since 1856 the yield of gold has been gradually and steadily diminishing, whilst the number of miners employed in procuring it has very largely increased. For the first three quarters in each of the last four years, or from the 1st of January to the 3rd of October, the total amounts received were:—1856, 1,980,530 ozs.; 1857, 1,931,036 ozs.; 1858, 1,800,345 ozs.; 1859, 1,693,910 ozs. In round numbers the yield has fallen off at the rate of 100,000 ounces in the first three quarters of each year since 1856. The alluvial auriferous deposits, say the journals, are

gradually becoming less abundant, and unless some fresh fields are speedily opened up, which will afford employment to the individual digger, the scope for alluvial mining will become exceedingly limited. The production of gold in California has diminished in a somewhat greater proportion, and the diminution in both regions may tend to lessen (while the increase in commerce has the same tendency) the alarm of those, who fear that the value of all realised property will be annihilated by the abundance and cheapness of gold.

As it ceases, however, to be easy to procure gold, the attention of the people in both places is directed to cultivating the soil, to growing wool and cotton, and to providing abundantly means for their own subsistence, and to export in exchange for European manufactures. In Victoria, the population amounted, on June 30th, to 517,366. California is becoming a prosperous member of the United States; and both countries, though they produce less gold, will continue to increase in population, and surely help to enlarge the general trade and the general demand for gold. The people there, as they increase will require more of the precious metals for their own use, and we must not therefore expect such a large supply of them from these two quarters as we hitherto have received.

Apart from these gold discoveries, which are amongst the remarkable events of the age, and will hereafter be considered a memorable epoch in the natural progress of the human race, the present quietness and prosperity of commerce is, by common consent, admitted to be the result—to use the language of the *Times*—of the labours of the Parliament in "transferring, during the last seventeen years, the burden of taxation from the great mass of the people to the class to which the Parliament belongs." In other words, free trade, and a small approximation to justice in levying the public taxes, have given the nation unexampled prosperity, wealth, and contentment. Why are we now, therefore, to stop in this course, or why go backward? Why have we gone backward? Those statesmen will have much to answer for who have stopped this course—who have kept up or increased taxation, and have kept on and much increased the restraints on industry. Those journalists, too, will have much to answer for, who now labour continuously and zealously to prevent further progress in the same direction. Their attempts to throw odium on those who require more freedom, and a further transfer of burdens from the productive multitude to the unproductive few, will only bring damage on themselves. They are deceived by fancying that foreign trade embraces the whole; and they continually labour, and have been successful, we regret to say, in their labours, to keep restrictions on many branches of industry which are quite as important to society as foreign trade. Perhaps we are all led astray by substituting the phrase free trade for free industry. By setting industry partially free, Sir R. Peel was eminently successful, and he contributed to bring about the quiet and the prosperity which now make commerce more advantageous than interesting. By departing from this course, and imposing restrictions on industry, instead of setting it entirely free, his successors have brought on the agitation and disquiet, out of the limits of commerce, which every one recognises to be growing, and many very seriously dread. Those who are most forward in praising Peel's measures, however much they may heretofore have opposed them, are hardly sensible how much they are indebted to our great commercial prosperity for the safety and security they enjoy, which they sometimes abuse, to heap injuries on their industrious brethren.

MONEY MARKET & STOCK EXCHANGE.

FRIDAY EVENING.—Money is in good demand, but the supply is also good. As our trade has latterly been very great, and profits probably large, it is probable that saving has been considerable. There has been no speculation to exhaust it. Capital, therefore, has increased at least quite as fast as enterprise has extended, and the demand and supply of money have kept tolerably equal. A quiet, steady market, at the Bank rates, is the short and accurate description of the present condition of the Money Market. That enterprise is not active is more to be attributed to a want of confidence, and a want of feasible schemes, than a want of capital. The Stock and Share Market generally has felt

the influence of an easy money market and quiet politics this week, and risen rapidly and considerably. Every kind of security is better, and the gentlemen of the Stock Exchange look more cheerfully on things than they have done since the great Russian hoax, which ended in so much bankruptcy, in the early part of the year. East India Stock, Turkish loans, and Foreign railway shares have all felt the favourable influence, and have become more valuable.

At the close of the market to-day some heaviness was experienced, the natural beginning, probably, of a reaction, the consequence of the considerable rise. Consols were done at 95½ ex. dividend, equivalent to 97½ with the dividends. The Three per Cent. Rentes come from Paris 70f. 50c., also ex. dividend, which shows a continued rise. Falling in with this course the returns of the Bank of France for the month show a considerable increase of bullion and of treasury deposits, and a decrease of bills discounted. The Bank of England continues its course without much alteration, and below we subjoin the returns.

We are glad to see the subsidies given for packet services again occupying public attention. Since the practice was originated, in 1834, or thereabouts, it has been a fruitful source of favouritism and extravagance. Now, the sum expended in this unnecessary manner amounts to nearly a million, or nearly equivalent to the revenue obtained from paper, and is becoming quite a scandal to the Administration. For the public, the errors and extravagance of individuals are of trifling interest, though they excite much curiosity, but the errors and extravagance of the Government are gross injuries to the people.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

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

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.	
Notes issued.....	£30,743,815
Government Debt £11,015,100	
Other Securities .. 3,459,900	
Gold Coin & Bullion 16,268,815	
Silver Bullion	£30,743,815
BANKING DEPARTMENT.	
Proprietors' Capital.....	£14,553,000
Reserve.....	3,139,380
Public Deposits (including Exchequer Savings Banks, Commissioners of National Debt, and Dividend Accounts).....	8,608,215
Other Deposits.....	13,444,361
Seven Day and other Bills.....	792,422
	£40,537,378

M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.

Dated December 8, 1859.

GENERAL TRADE REPORT.

FRIDAY EVENING.—All our market reports continue favourable. In all the great seats of our manufacturing industry the people are well employed and tolerably well paid.

In Mark-lane to-day the corn market was firm. The Mining-lane markets are all tolerably steady. Tea is dull; sugar is more active. Some little speculation is beginning in this article. Everywhere, as far as we can learn, the producers of cotton, wool, sugar, coffee, tobacco, &c., &c., are striving eagerly to produce more of their several commodities for our use, as we are striving to produce for theirs. The crop of cotton in the United States is said to be very large. The cultivation of wool is extending in South Africa and South America, as well as in Australia; and, so far as production and exchange goes, everything promises well, if only the several Governments of the world will allow the industrious classes, to pursue their work uninterruptedly.

JOINT STOCK COMPANIES.

THE LAW UNION FIRE AND LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY has held its fifth annual meeting, and seems, by its report, to deserve the support it receives. Indeed, any well-conducted office cannot fail to succeed, for the very rapid increase of the population, and of building, would alone secure it custom and support. The Law Union has declared a bonus of £5,000, which will raise their dividend to six per cent., a prudent mode of applying the surplus. But the following extract from the report will best show the state and prospects of the Company:—"The Consulting Actuary's valuation of the assets and liabilities shows, that, in the Life Department, the total assets amount to £218,919 1s.; and the liabilities (including the present value of sums insured, and all outstanding claims, &c.,) amount to £184,487 17s. 9d., leaving a surplus of £34,431 4s.; of this sum of

£34,431 4s., the Consulting Actuary reports that £9,560 8s. 4d. are available for division amongst the shareholders and policy-holders. The remainder—namely, £24,870 15s. 8d., the Consulting Actuary advises should be held in reserve. The proportion thereof to be appropriated to the shareholders, according to the terms of the deed of settlement, amounts to £2,729 19s., being 5 per cent. upon the gross amount of premiums received during the five years. In the Fire Department, the total assets amount to £46,097 18s. 11d.; and the total liabilities amount to £41,383 16s. 2d., leaving a balance in favour of the Company of £4,714 2s. 9d. Of this sum it is proposed to reserve £2,444 1s. 9d. for unexpired risks, &c., the remaining portion—namely, £2,270 1s. is available for distribution amongst the shareholders, in accordance with the provisions of the deed of settlement. There is, therefore, a sum of £2,729 19s. from the life business, and a sum of £2,270 1s. from the fire business, making a total of £5,000, to be appropriated to the shareholders by way of bonus. The Directors have fully considered the Consulting Actuary's report and valuation, and they concur in his recommendation that such sum of £5,000 be paid to the shareholders in equal proportions during the next five years, commencing with the present half-year, which, with the current annual interest of 4 per cent. on the paid-up capital, will raise the dividend to 6 per cent. per annum for the succeeding five years, irrespective of any profits to be realised during that period. The remaining portion of the available surplus in the life department will be appropriated to those policy-holders who are entitled to participate in the profits of the Company, either as a reversionary bonus, or in reduction of their premiums, or in cash, as they may elect; a notice of the amount allotted on each of such policies will, in due course, be sent to the policy-holders. The total number of life policies in force on the 30th of September last, exclusive of annuity policies, was 1,008, insuring the sum of £502,223. The income of the Company from all sources (exclusive of duty and of the sums received for annuity policies) for the year ending the 30th September last, amounted to £24,220. The Directors congratulate the shareholders on the highly prosperous and progressive state of the Company's affairs, as shown by the balance-sheet and Consulting Actuary's report and valuation, and, as those documents speak for themselves, the Directors refrain from saying more than that they believe the results achieved during the five years of the Company's existence are most satisfactory and promising, and such as few companies of the like standing have exhibited."

At the general meeting of proprietors of the BANK OF BRITISH NORTH AMERICA, the operations during the six months were described as favourable. The directors' report also refers to the opening for business, in May last, of the branch at Victoria, Vancouver's Island. The proposed dividend for the half-year was at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum, and was agreed to.

The directors of the WESTERN AFRICA MALACHITE COPPER MINING COMPANY have issued a report showing the progress of the undertaking, and speaking favourably of its future prospects. The great drawback has been the ill effects of the climate upon the constitution of the Europeans sent out to develop the property, a large number of the skilled labourers having died. The few remaining are becoming injured to the locality, and with proper attention to lodgings, clothing, &c., appear likely to remain in the employment of the company. The existence and production of malachite in considerable quantities has been placed beyond doubt, and the last advices from the mines are the most favourable that have been received.

A meeting has been held at the London Tavern, for the purpose of placing the Polytechnic Institution upon a firm basis, a basis of £20,000 capital, in 200 shares of £10 each.

A meeting took place of the shareholders interested in BERNARD'S PATENT BOOT AND SHOE MAKING COMPANY, and the discussion was of the most personal and recriminatory character. At the close of the proceedings a committee of six was appointed to investigate fully the management, which is alleged to have been of the most disastrous character.

The directors of the GREAT SHIP COMPANY, finding themselves unable to make their statement to the shareholders on the 15th inst., have determined to postpone the meeting for a month. Meanwhile, the proprietors will be somewhat startled to learn that, with a view to provide means for meeting the company's pressing liabilities, the board have arranged to raise money upon the security of the vessel—in other words, to mortgage her.

The prospectus has been issued of the CARDIFF AND CAERPHILLY IRON COMPANY, with a capital of £100,000. The undertaking is formed for the manufacture of pig iron, and for this purpose it is proposed to erect three blast furnaces close to the

junction, near Taff's Well, of the Taff Vale and Rhymney Railways, only 6½ miles from the port of Cardiff, and consequently offering advantages in the small cost of carriage to the shipping port, which must materially conduce to the success of the enterprise.

THE PATENT DERRICK COMPANY (Limited) propose to issue 3,500 bonds of £5 each, or £17,500, being the balance of the original £60,000, the capital of the undertaking. The funds are required to relieve the large floating derrick from the hands of creditors, and to prepare it for those marine salvage operations of almost daily occurrence. Many of the present shareholders have subscribed for these bonds to the extent of 20 per cent. upon the amounts of the £50 shares respectively held by them. As an inducement to secure the co-operation of the public it is proposed that the bonds shall bear interest, payable out of the first earnings of the derricks, at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum from the 1st of January 1860, and will be redeemable at par in two years or convertible within that period, at the option of the holders, into the ordinary £50 shares (limited) of the company. If the derricks had been in operation during November, when the wrecks recorded exceeded 300 in number, the result in a pecuniary point of view would, there is reason to believe, have been satisfactory.

A numerous body of friends of Mr. Clark, the manager of the late WESTERN BANK OF LONDON, including the governor, deputy-governor, and other directors of that institution, have presented to that gentleman a magnificent silver inkstand, writing table, and a purse, together with an appropriate address engrossed on vellum, expressive of their esteem and confidence, and their high sense of the ability, integrity, and courtesy with which he has discharged his duties on all occasions.

RAILWAY INTELLIGENCE.

THE LONDON AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY traffic return shows this week an increase of £9,150; the Great Northern an increase of £2,319; the Great Western an increase of £2,004; and the London and South-Western an increase of £685.

As a result of a lengthened conference held between the deputations from the boards of the SOUTH-EASTERN and LONDON, CHATHAM, and DOVER RAILWAY COMPANIES, certain proposals, tending to an amicable arrangement of the points in dispute, were to go before the latter company's board yesterday. It is feared, however, that the immediate prospects of the negotiation are not brilliant. It is said that the views of the London, Chatham, and Dover Company point merely to an alliance, whilst the South-Eastern wish for a complete fusion of the rival undertaking into their own.

On the 24th of November the great Victoria Tubular Bridge, the most stupendous work of the kind in the world, and the connecting link between two important sections of the Grand Trunk Railway of Canada, was opened. The first train consisted of an engine and single car, containing about fifty persons. The time occupied in passing was about 12½ minutes. Among the gentlemen in the car were the Hon. Mr. Cartier, Premier; Mr. A. M. Ross, chief engineer of the bridge; Mr. Blackwell, managing director, and several directors of the Grand Trunk road. Two of the tubes are not quite finished, but the bridge is expected to be fully completed and thrown open to traffic about the 15th inst. This will be exceedingly opportune for the trade of Canada, which is expected to derive a renewed impulse, as the water navigation has ceased. The traffic over the line is steadily increasing. The receipts for the week preceding the opening to Detroit, which took place on the 21st ult., amounted to 60,560 dols., being 10,000 above the receipts of the corresponding period of last year. The prospects of through Western freight are very good.

THE IRON TRADE.—There has been little business transacted during the week in the Wolverhampton iron trade, and at some of the mills and forges orders are short; but the leading members of the trade still adhere to the list prices. We do not pretend to give quotations at which other persons make sales, for depending as these do upon circumstances and necessities, they afford little indication as to the state of the trade. Pig iron may be sold, but cannot be produced to realise a profit, below the present prices of the trade. It is gratifying to know that the appliances of iron are daily being extended to fresh objects, which fact occasionally gives a considerable impulse to our home trade. At the same time, it must be admitted that this vast iron-producing district is in a great measure dependent upon the demand from abroad, and we must not lose sight of the fact that the States and our continental neighbours now possess great facilities for the manufacture of the same article, and

they are ever ready to supplant the English manufacturer whenever an opportunity presents itself to do so; hence arises the necessity of prudence in the regulation of prices, as high rates generally close foreign markets against us.

PRICES OF THE PRINCIPAL STOCKS AND SHARES AT THE CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

	Last Week	This Week
STOCKS.		
3 per cent. Consols—Money	96½	96
Ditto Reduced	95½	95½
Ditto New	95½	96
Bank Stock	228	228
India	226½	Shut
Exchequer Bills	29	30
Canada Government 6 per cent.	116	117
New Brunswick Government 6 per cent.	112½	112½
New South Wales Government 5 per cent.	102	102½
South Australia Government 6 per cent.	113½	114
Victoria Government 6 per cent.	110½	110½
Austrian Bonds, 5 per cent.	102½	103
Brazilian Bonds, 5 per cent.	102½	103
French Rentes, 3 per cent.	81½	81½
Mexican Bonds, 3 per cent.	81½	81½
Peruvian Bonds, 4½ per cent.	81½	81½
Spanish Bonds, 3 per cent.	81½	81½
Turkish Scrip, 6 per cent.	78½	78½
RAILWAYS.		
Bristol and Exeter	101	102
Caledonian	92	93
Eastern Counties	56½	57½
East Lancashire	105½	107
Great Northern	66½	67½
Western	99	100
Lancashire and Yorkshire	67	67
London and Blackwall	113½	114
London, Brighton, and South Coast	97½	98½
London and North-Western	96½	98
London and South-Western	107½	108½
Midland	60½	61½
North British	134	134
North Staffordshire	30½	31
Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton	81½	81½
South-Eastern	73	74
South Wales	97½	98½
Bombay, Baroda and Central India	4½	4½
Calcutta and South Eastern	102½	103½
Eastern Bengal	99½	100½
East Indian	89	91
Great Indian Peninsula	20	20
Madras	54½	54½
Scinde	38	39½
Buffalo and Lake Huron	13½	13½
Grand Trunk of Canada	4½	4½
Great Western of Canada	26	27
Antwerp and Rotterdam	74	74
Dutch Rhenish	12	12
Eastern of France	38½	37½
Great Luxembourg	36	37
Lombardo-Venetian	56	58
Northern of France	21½	22
Paris, Lyons, and Mediterranean	23	24
Paris and Orleans		
Southern of France		
Western and North-Western of France		

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, December 6.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

William Ireland, Plaistow, licensed victualler.

BANKRUPTS.

George, George Edwin, Charles Frederick, and Douglas Alfred Tucker, John-street, Bedford-row, makers of advertising show boards.

Robert George Webb, Brighton, silk mercer.

Samuel Jay, Haddleigh, Suffolk, miller.

Henry Watts, Northampton, draper.

James Heather, East Moulsey, builder.

James Allen, Felham-terrace, omnibus proprietor.

John Biggs, Wolverhampton, coal dealer.

Thomas Underwood, jun., Cardiff, ironmonger.

Joseph Hickson, Sheffield, ironmonger.

Friday, December 9.

BANKRUPTS.

William Henry Hendry, Milton-next-Gravesend, coal merchant.

Edward Harris, Folkestone, tailor.

Charles Morey, Southsea, Southampton, builder.

James Crocker, Nottingham, hostler.

James Richard William John Pollard Woodward, Oundle, Northamptonshire, dealer in poultry.

William Knight, Portobello-terrace, Kensington-park, cowkeeper.

Tristram Powning, Truro, grocer.

William and Samuel Dickins and Co., Liverpool, wool-
len drapers.

Maximilian Gutkind, Noble-street, City, merchant.

Frederick William Thomas, Water lane, City, com-
mission agent.

SCOTCH BANKRUPTS.

Moses Nelson, Dunoon, slator.

James Shaw Lang, Glasgow, publisher.

Thomas Hall, Perth, grocer.

George Clegg, late of Oldham, now of Glasgow,
attorney.

William Hume, Glasgow, wine merchant.

Thomas Lee, Edinburgh, shipowner.

John Gray, Broxburn, Stewartfield.

John Riddell, Glasgow, victualler.

MAPPIN'S ELECTRO-SILVER PLATE AND TABLE CUTLERY.

MAPPIN BROTHERS, Manufacturers by Special Appointment to the Queen, are the only Sheffield Makers who supply the consumer in London. Their London Show Rooms, 67 and 68, King William-street, London-bridge, contain by far the largest STOCK of ELECTRO-SILVER PLATE and TABLE CUTLERY in the World, which is transmitted direct from their Manufactory, Queen's Cutlery Works, Sheffield.

	Fiddle Pattern.	Double Thread.	King's Lily Pattern.
12 Table Forks, best quality	1 10 0	2 14 0	3 0 0
12 Table Spoons do.	1 16 0	2 14 0	3 0 0
12 Dessert Forks do.	1 7 0	2 0 0	2 4 0
12 Dessert Spoons do.	1 7 0	2 0 0	2 4 0
12 Tea Spoons do.	0 16 0	1 4 0	1 7 0
2 Sauce Ladles do.	0 8 0	0 10 0	0 11 0
1 Gravy Spoon do.	0 7 0	0 10 0	0 11 0
4 Salt Spoons (gilt bowls) do.	0 6 8	0 10 0	0 12 0
1 Mustard Spoon do.	0 1 8	0 2 6	0 3 0
1 Pair Sugar Tongs do.	0 3 6	0 5 6	0 6 0
1 Pair Fish Carvers do.	1 0 0	1 10 0	1 14 0
1 Butter Knife do.	0 3 0	0 5 0	0 6 0
1 Soup Ladle do.	0 12 0	0 16 0	0 17 6
6 Egg Spoons (gilt) do.	0 10 0	0 15 0	0 18 0

Complete Service.....£10 13 10 15 16 6 17 13 6 21 4 6

Any article can be had separately at the same prices

One Set of Four Corner Dishes (forming 8 Dishes), 8½ 18s.; One Set of 4 Dish Covers—viz., one 20 inch, one 18 inch, and two 14 inch—10½ 10s.; Cruet Frame, 4 Glass, 2s.; Full-Size Tea and Coffee Service, 9½ 10s. A Costly Book of Engravings, with prices attached, sent per post on receipt of 12 stamps.

	Ordinary Quality.	Medium Quality.	Best Quality.
Two Dozen Full-Size Table Knives	2 4 0	3 6 0	4 12 0
1½ Doz. Full-Size Cheese ditto	1 4 0	1 14 6	2 11 0
One Pair Regular Meat Carvers	0 7 6	0 11 0	0 15 6
One Pair Extra-Sized ditto	0 8 6	0 12 0	0 16 6
One Pair Poultry Carvers	0 7 6	0 11 0	0 15 6
One Steel for Sharpening	9 0 0	0 4 0	0 6 0

Complete Service.....£4 16 0 18 6 9 16 6

Messrs. Mappin's Table Knives still maintain their unrivalled superiority; all their blades, being their own Sheffield manufacture, are of the very first quality, with secure Ivory Handles, which do not come loose in hot water; and the difference in price is occasioned solely by the superior quality and thickness of the Ivory Handles.

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

ELECTRICAL INFLUENCE IN HEALTH AND DISEASE.

Just published, price 1s., free by post for 13 stamps.

SECOND LIFE;

Or Electrical Nervous Force: A Medical Work intended for the special perusal of all who are suffering from the various modes of nervous and physical debility, and the distressing ulterior consequences to which they lead; with practical observations on the great curative power of electro-galvanism in the treatment of these disorders, by infusing tone and vigour in constitutions relaxed or debilitated from various enervating causes. Illustrated with cases compiled from the Note-book of a Registered Medical Practitioner of twenty years' standing.

Unlike many vaunted restoratives, electricity is one which commands itself, to the medical man as being accordant with the soundest teachings of physiology. By the most obvious indication it admits of being shown that the electrical and nervous energies are identical; hence, that when the latter falls, the former can take its place, and that when, from irregularities of any kind, the nervous system has become debilitated, paralysed, or exhausted, and the patient brought to a condition little short of total prostration, then, by the action of electricity, imparting certainty and efficacy to medical treatment, he can be re-invigorated, and his health re-established to a degree almost warranting the designation of Second Life.

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

Price of a single truss, 10s., 21s., 20s. 6d., and 31s. 6d.—Postage 1s.

Double Truss, 31s. 6d., 42s., and 52s. 6d.—Postage 1s. 8d.

Umbilical Truss, 42s. and 52s. 6d.—Postage 1s. 10d.

Post-office orders to be made payable to JOHN WHITE, Post-office, Piccadilly.

ELASTIC STOCKINGS, KNEE-CAPS, &c., for VARICOSE VEINS, and all cases of WEAKNESS and SWELLING of the LEGS, SPRAINS, &c. They are porous, light in texture, and inexpensive, and are drawn on like an ordinary stocking.

Price from 7s. 6d. to 10s. each.—Postage 6d.

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To avoid disappointment from the substitution of counterfeits, be careful to ask for the Genuine Bond's Permanent Marking Ink; and further to distinguish it, observe that no SIXPENNY SIZE is, or has at any time, been prepared by him, the Inventor and Proprietor.

N.B.—The genuine and ORIGINAL BOND'S PERMANENT MARKING INK bears the address on the label, 28, LONG-LANE, WEST SMITHFIELD, CITY.

FENDERS, STOVES, FIRE-IRONS, and

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