

Frederick Guest London Publisher 352 Strand

The Leader.

A POLITICAL AND LITERARY REVIEW, MERCANTILE JOURNAL,
AND

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

VOL. IX. No. 446.]

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1858.

PRICE { UNSTAMPED...SIXPENCE.
{ Stamped.....Sevenpence.

LONDON and NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.—Tours to the Lakes of Killarney, North Wales, Cork, &c. TICKETS, available for one month, from the principal stations. Fares from Euston station, 130s. first, and 105s. second class.

LONDON and NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.—Tours to the Lakes of Cumberland and Westmoreland.—TICKETS to WINDERMERE, available for 28 days, or to Ulverstone, Furness Abbey, or Conistone. Fares from Euston station, 70s. first, and 50s. second class.

LONDON and NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.—Tours in North Wales. TICKETS, available for 28 days from the principal stations. Fares from the Euston station to Rhyl or Abergele, 65s. first, and 45s. second class; to Conway, 65s. and 45s.; and to Bangor, Carnarvon, or Holyhead, 70s. and 50s.

LONDON and NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.—Sea-side Trips.—TICKETS to the ISLE of MAN, available for 28 days, from the principal stations. Fares from Euston station, 70s. first, and 50s. second class.

LONDON and NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.—Sea-side Trips.—TICKETS to the LANCASHIRE WATERING-PLACES: Lytham, Blackpool, Fleetwood, or Southport, available for 28 days, from the principal stations. Fares from Euston station, 60s. first, and 45s. second class.

LONDON and NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.—Sea-side Trips.—TICKETS to SCARBOROUGH, Whitby, Filey, Bridlington, or Harrogate, available for 28 days, from the principal stations. Fares from Euston station to Scarborough, Whitby, Filey, or Bridlington, 51s. first, and 35s. second class; to Harrogate, 45s. first, and 32s. 6d. second class.

LONDON and NORTH-WESTERN and MIDLAND RAILWAYS.—TRAINS leave the Euston station DAILY for the MIDLAND, and thence to the NORTH-EASTERN DISTRICTS, at 6.15 A.M., 9.30 A.M., 11.45 A.M., 2.45 P.M., 5.15 P.M., and 8.45 P.M. Ordinary first and second class fares by all trains.—For particulars see Time Bills.

By order.
General Manager's office, Euston Station, August 16, 1858.

IMPERIAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY,

1, OLD BROAD STREET, LONDON.

Instituted 1820.

DIRECTORS.

MARTIN TUCKER SMITH, Esq., M.P., Chairman.
GEORGE WILLIAM COTTAM, Esq., Deputy-Chairman.
Thomas George Barclay, Esq.
James O. C. Bell, Esq.
James Brand, Esq.
Charles Cave, Esq.
George Henry Outler, Esq.
Henry Davidson, Esq.
George Field, Esq.
George Hibbert, Esq.
Samuel Hibbert, Esq.
Daniel Mildred, Esq.
Thomas Newman Hunt, Esq.
Frederick Pattison, Esq.
William R. Robinson, Esq.
Newman Smith, Esq.

SECURITY.—The existing liabilities of the Company do not exceed 3,000,000l. The investments are nearly 1,000,000l., in addition to upwards of 600,000l. for which the shareholders are responsible, and the income is about 120,000l. per annum.

PROFITS.—Four-Fifths, or Eighty per cent. of the Profits, are assigned to Policies every fifth year. The next appropriation will be made in 1861, and persons who now effect insurances will participate ratably.

BONUS.—The additions to Policies have been from 1l. 10s. to 63l. 10s. per cent. on the original sums insured.

CLAIMS.—Upwards of 1,250,000l. has been paid to claimants under policies.

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.

MAGNET LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY,

Established 1854.

CHIEF OFFICES—22, Moorgate-street, City.

Prospectuses, proposal forms, and every information for effecting Policies may be obtained by letter, or personal application at the Chief Office, or to any of the Society's Agents throughout the Kingdom.

Influential persons desirous of taking Agencies where appointments are not already made, can apply for terms, &c., to the Manager,

S. POTT.

ATLAS FIRE AND LIFE ASSURANCE OFFICE,

92, CHEAPSIDE, LONDON.

ESTABLISHED 1803,

And Empowered by Act of Parliament of the 54th Geo. III. c. 79.

DIRECTORS.

Chairman—J. Oliver Hanson, Esq.
Deputy-Chairman—Wm. Geo. Prescott, Esq.
Sir William Baynes, Bart.
Arthur Edward Campbell, Esq.
Thomas Chapman, Esq., F.R.S.
Benjamin Buck Greene, Esq.
Joseph Grote, Esq.
John George Maclean, Esq.
Samuel Eustace Magan, Esq.
Capt. Alex. L. Montgomery, R.N.
Joseph Pulley, Esq.
Arthur Augustus Rasch, Esq.

Auditors—John Oliver Hanson, jun., Esq., and Philip Ainslie Walker, Esq.

Actuary—Charles Ansell, Esq., F.R.S.
Solicitor—Thomas Browning, Esq.

Bankers—Messrs. Prescott, Grote, Cave and Cave.

LIFE DEPARTMENT.

The Accumulated Premiums are over 1,600,000l. And the Annual Income exceeds 184,000l. Bonuses have been declared on policies to an amount greater than the sum originally assured.

Premiums have been extinguished, where the parties assured have applied the bonus in reduction of the Annual Premium.

At the last valuation up to Christmas, 1854, there existed a Surplus of 268,891l., which had accrued during the five years ending at that period—the whole of which Surplus belonged to the policy holders.

The next valuation will be made up to Christmas, 1859. Policies on the Participating Scale, in England or Ireland respectively, which may be effected before that date, will, if the parties be then alive, participate in the surplus in proportion to the time they may have been in force.

The sum of 8,330,975l. has been paid during the existence of the Office for claims under Life Policies, of which amount a very considerable part was for Bonuses.

Persons assuring in Great Britain have the option of PARTICIPATING RATES OF PREMIUM, or of NON-PARTICIPATING RATES.

The Directors beg to announce that the rates of Premium have been recently revised and readjusted in accordance with a long experience, and that

The New Scale will be found very advantageous to persons desiring to commence assuring early in life.

The Non-Participating Scale is particularly adapted to parties wishing to assure a fixed sum only, at a fixed rate of Premium, and on low terms.

Premiums may be paid *Annually Half-yearly*, or by a *limited number of Annual Payments*. The last-named mode of Assurance originated with this Office in 1816.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Renewals should be paid within fifteen days after the respective Quarter-days when they become due.

The Company undertakes the assurance of Property in the Manufacturing, Agricultural, and other districts, on favourable terms. Risks of extraordinary hazard on special agreement, upon survey.

An allowance for the Loss of Rent of Buildings rendered untenable by Fire is one of the advantages offered by the Company.

Tables of Rates, forms of proposal, and any information needful to effect Life or Fire Assurances, may be obtained on application to the Office, No. 92, Cheapside, London, or to any of the Company's Agents.

HENRY DESBOROUGH, Secretary.

London, September, 1858.

ESTABLISHED 1838. VICTORIA and LEGAL and COMMERCIAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, No. 18, King William-street, City.

DIRECTORS.

BENJAMIN HAWES, Esq., Chairman.
THOMAS NESBITT, Esq., Deputy-Chairman.
Charles Baldwin, Esq.
George Denny, Esq.
J. C. Dimsdale, Esq.
William Elliott, M.D.
Robert Ellis, Esq.
J. P. Gassiot, Esq., F.R.S.
John Gladstone, Esq.
Aaron Goldamid, Esq.
Sidney Gurney, Esq.
W. K. Jameson, Esq.
John Jones, Esq.
John Nolloth, Esq.
Meaburn Staniland, Esq.
Daniel Sutton, Esq.
Walter Charles Venning, Esq.
O.B. Bellingham Woolsey, Esq.

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

The assets of the Company exceed 265,000l.

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

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

WILLIAM RATRAY, Actuary.

FIDELITY GUARANTEE.

ALBERT LIFE ASSURANCE AND GUARANTEE COMPANY.

Established 1838.

This Company grants policies of guarantee for the integrity of managers, secretaries, agents, commercial travellers, clerks, and others in positions of trust, at moderate rates. Every description of life assurance.

Chief office, 11, Waterloo-place, Pall-mall, S.W.; branch office, 63, Moorgate-street, E.C.

HENRY WILLIAM SMITH, Actuary and Secretary.

ALBERT LIFE ASSURANCE AND GUARANTEE COMPANY.

Established 1838.

Principal Office, 11, Waterloo-place, Pall-mall, London, S.W. City Branch, 63, Moorgate-street, E.C.

DIRECTORS.

Rear-Adm. the Rt. Hon. Lord GEORGE PAULET, C.B.
Capt. Thomas Porter, R.N.
William Peattie, Esq., M.D.
Capt. the Hon. S. T. Carnegie, R.N., C.B.
Lieut.-Col. James Croudace, H.E.I.C.S.
Swinfen Jervis, Esq.
William King, Esq.
George Goldsmith Kirby, Esq.
James Nichols, Esq.
George Raymond, Esq.

Assurances, Annuities, and Endowments granted, and every other mode of provision for Families arranged.

Half the Annual Premiums for the first five years may remain on credit for any period until death, on Payment of Interest at five per cent. per annum.

Parties allowed to go to, or reside in, most parts of the world, without extra Premium.

Naval and Military Lives, not in active service, assured at the ordinary rate.

Policies forfeited by non-payment of Premium, revivable at any time within Six Months, on satisfactory proof of health, and the payment of a trifling Fine.

No charge for Policy Stamps.

Reversionary Interests in every description of real or personal property purchased.

Security to Employers, Guarantee for Fidelity in situations of trust.

Forms of Proposal, with every information, may be obtained at the Office of the Company, or by letter, addressed to

HENRY WILLIAM SMITH, Actuary and Secretary.

THE ROYAL EXCHANGE ASSURANCE.

Incorporated A.D. 1720, by Charter of King George the First and confirmed by Special Acts of Parliament.

Chief Office, Royal Exchange, London; Branch, 29, Pall-mall.

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

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

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

The Reversionary Bonus on British Policies has averaged 48 per cent. upon the Premiums paid, or very nearly 2 per cent. per annum upon the sum assured.

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

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

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

JOHN A. HIGLIAM, Actuary and Secretary.

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.

ALLIANCE BRITISH AND FOREIGN LIFE AND FIRE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

Bartholomew-lane, London.

The Half-yearly Dividends on the Shares will be in course of payment on MONDAY, the 11th inst., and every following day (Saturdays excepted) between the hours of 11 and 3 o'clock.

F. A. ENGELBACH, Actuary and Secretary.

Dated the 7th day of October, 1858.



ST. GEORGE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

118, Pall-Mall, London, S.W.
Capital 100,000*l.*, in Shares of 5*l.* each.
Chairman.—Henry Pownall, Esq.
Deputy Chairman.—Henry Haines, Esq.
The Leading Features of this Office are—
Every description of Life Assurance on the most favourable terms.
The Assurance of Defective Titles, thereby restoring the property to its full value.
Endowments for Husbands, Wives, or Nominees.
Endowments for Children on attaining a certain age.
Annuities of every description granted on terms peculiarly favourable.
Notices of Assignments of Policies Registered.
Medical References paid by the Company.
Age of the Life Assured admitted on all Policies, on reasonable proof being given.
Stamp Duties on Life Policies paid by the Company.
Loans on Real or Personal Security, repayable by monthly or quarterly instalments, from one to five years.
For further particulars, Forms of Proposal and Prospectuses, apply to
F. H. GILBERT, Secretary.

THE LIVERPOOL AND LONDON FIRE & LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.

Offices—No. 1, Dale-street, Liverpool, and 20 and 21, Poultry, London.
Subscribed Capital, 2,000,000*l.*

1856.	1857.	1857.
£222,000...Fire Premiums.....	£289,000.....	Increase...£67,000
72,780...Life.....	110,900.....	Increase... 38,000
17,338...Life Annuities.....	27,000.....	Increase... 9,600
820,000 { Funds accumulated } and invested.....	1,083,000.....	Increase... 263,000

The Income of the Company now exceeds 450,000*l.* a year. The sums paid in settlement of losses exceed One Million sterling.
FIRE INSURANCE, at home and abroad, at rates proportioned to the risk.
LIFE INSURANCE.—Prospectuses may be had on application, and attention is specially invited to the system of Guaranteed Bonuses in the Life Department, by which is secured:—1. Exemption from liability in partnership, under any possible circumstances. 2. Bonuses, which are not contingent on profits, but fixed and guaranteed by the whole resources of the Company.
Fire Policies due Michaelmas-day should be renewed on or before 14th October.
SWINTON BOULT, Secretary.

NORWICH UNION LIFE INSURANCE SOCIETY.

Instituted 1808.
Invested Capital exceeding 2,000,000*l.* Sterling.
This Society is one of the very few purely Mutual Insurance Offices, the whole of the profits being divided among the Policy-holders.
The rates are considerably below those usually charged. Thus at the age of 40 the sum of 32*l.* 19s. 2d., which at the ordinary premium will insure 1000*l.*, with the NORWICH UNION WILL INSURE 1095*l.* 4s., giving an immediate Bonus in addition to subsequent accumulations.
Annuities and Special Risks undertaken on favourable terms.
For Forms of Proposal and Prospectuses apply to the Society's offices, 6, Crescent, New Bridge-street, Blackfriars E.C., and Surrey-street, Norwich.

THE LONDON ASSURANCE, INCORPORATED A.D. 1720. FOR LIFE, FIRE, AND MARINE ASSURANCES.

Head Office—No. 7, Royal Exchange, Cornhill.
GOVERNOR—JOHN ALVES ARBUTHNOT, Esq.
SUB-GOVERNOR—JOHN ALEXANDER HANKEY, Esq.
DEPUTY-GOVERNOR—BONAMY DOBREE, Jun., Esq.

DIRECTORS.
Nathaniel Alexander, Esq.
Richard Baggallay, Esq.
Henry Bonham Barr, Esq.
James Blyth, Esq.
Edward Budd, Esq.
Edward Burmester, Esq.
Charles Crawley, Esq.
John Entwistle, Esq.
Robert Gillespie, Jun., Esq.
Harry George Gordon, Esq.
Edwin Gower, Esq.
Samuel Gregson, Esq., M.P.
G. R. Griffiths, Esq.
David G. Guthrie, Esq.
Edward Harnage, Esq.
Louis Huth, Esq.
William King, Esq.
Charles Lyall, Esq.
John Ord, Esq.
Capt. R. W. Pelly, R.N.
David Powell, Esq.
P. F. Robertson, Esq., M.P.
Alex. Trotter, Esq.
Lestock Peach Wilson, Esq.

West End Office—No. 7, Pall Mall.

COMMITTEE.
Two Members of the Court in rotation, and
Henry Kingscote, Esq., and John Tidd Pratt, Esq.
Superintendent—Philip Scoones, Esq.
Actuary—Peter Hardy, Esq., F.R.S.

LIFE DEPARTMENT.

This Corporation has granted Assurances on Lives for a period exceeding One Hundred and Thirty Years, having issued its first Policy on the 7th June, 1721.
Two-thirds, or 66 per cent. of the entire profits are given to the Assured.
The fees of Medical Referees are paid by the Corporation.

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

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

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

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Thomas B. Bateman, Esq., Manager.
Common Assurances, One Shilling and Sixpence per cent.
Hazardous and Special Assurances at very moderate rates.
JOHN LAURENCE, Secretary.

ACCIDENTS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.
£1000 IN CASE OF DEATH, OR
A FIXED ALLOWANCE OF £6 PER WEEK
IN THE EVENT OF INJURY,
May be secured by an Annual Payment of £3 for a Policy in the

RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE COMPANY.

A special Act provides that persons receiving compensation from this Company are not barred thereby from recovering full damages from the party causing the injury; an advantage no other Company can offer.
It is found that ONE PERSON in every FIFTEEN is more or less injured by Accident yearly. This Company has already paid as compensation for Accidents 27,988*l.*
Forms of Proposal and Prospectuses may be had at the Company's Offices, and at all the principal Railway Stations, where, also, Railway Accidents alone may be insured against by the Journey or year.

NO CHARGE FOR STAMP DUTY.

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

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

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN BANKING COMPANY.

Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1847.

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

WILLIAM PURDY, Manager.

BANK OF DEPOSIT, Established A.D. 1844.
3, Pall-Mall East, London. 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. The Interest is payable in January and July.
PETER MORRISON, Managing Director.

Forms for opening Accounts sent free on application.

LOANS AND INVESTMENTS.

WELLINGTON LOAN AND INVESTMENT ASSOCIATION (Limited), 3, Chatham-place, Blackfriars, London.

Deposits received at 6 per cent. Interest, payable half-yearly.

Loans granted at moderate rates.
Particulars of CHARLES W. ROE, Secretary.
N.B. Agents required in town and country.

DEPOSIT AND DISCOUNT BANK.

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

The Right Hon. the Earl of DEVON, Chairman.
G. H. LAW, Manager.

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

TO INVALIDS, Merchants, and others.—The PATENT ALBERT PORTABLE LOUNGING CHAIR, the most luxurious and cheapest ever manufactured. Self-propelling Bath, Brighton, and every other description of chair for in and out-door use. Mechanical chairs and beds of every description, perambulators, &c. (the largest assortment in the world), always on hand for sale or hire. Agents:—Messrs. Smith, Taylor, and Co., Bombay, Batavia, Singapore, and Samarang; Messrs. F. W. Brown and Co., Calcutta. Sole patentee and manufacturer, J. WARD, 5 and 6, Leicester-square, W.C. Established 99 years.

CAUTION to Household, Bankers, Merchants, and Public Offices. The Patent NATIONAL and DEFENCE LOCKS can be had of F. PUCK-RIDGE, 52, Strand, near Charing-cross. These Locks are important for their security against burglars and thieves, as evidenced in the fraudulent attempt to pick it at the Crystal Palace, in August, 1854, by John Goster, foreman to Messrs. Chubb, for the REWARD of 200 Guineas. See Pamphlet and Description, to be had gratis. Fire and Thief proof Iron Safes, Plate and Jewel Chests, Deed, Cash, and Dispatch Boxes, Embossing Dies, &c. Warranted Street-Door Latches, 17s. 6d. each.

WINE NO LONGER AN EXPENSIVE LUXURY.

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

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

"H. LETHBY, M.D., London Hospital."

A pint sample of either, 12 stamps. Terms, cash or reference. Packages charged and allowed for if returned. Delivered free to any of the London Terminals.

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

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

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, Edwards-street, Portman-square, London.

NATIONAL LINEN COMPANY. Established 16 years, for the SALE of HOUSEHOLD and FAMILY LINEN of the best qualities, every article made especially for their different uses, and warranted for durability and purity of bleach.
City Branch, 105, Fleet-street (E.C.); West End Branch, 130, New Bond-street (W.).

NATIONAL LINEN COMPANY'S LISTS. of PRICES contains full particulars, prices, and widths. Sent free by post.
City Branch, 105, Fleet-street (E.C.), foot of Ludgate-hill. West End Branch, 130, New Bond-street (W.), corner of Grosvenor-street.

NATIONAL LINEN COMPANY. LADIES are INVITED to SEND for PATTERNS for comparison, and free by post.
Address either to the City Branch, 105, Fleet-street (E.C.), or 130, New Bond-street (W.).

NATIONAL LINEN COMPANY. OLD PATTERN BRUSSELS CARPETS, original prices 4s. 9d. per yard, are selling at 3s. 6d. A large stock now on hand of Tapestry Brussels, 2s. 2d. to 2s. 6d. per yard. Velvet Pile and Turkey Carpets, Table Covers, and Curtains of every description. Price lists free. Patterns forwarded in town or country.
Address, 105, Fleet-street (E.C.).

NICOLL'S NEW REGISTERED PALETOT

has all those advantages which secured such general popularity to Messrs. Nicoll's original paletot, that is to say, it avoids giving to the wearer an outre appearance, so that professional men and all others can use it during morning and afternoon, in or out of doors. Secondly, there is an absence of unnecessary seams, well known to secure a more graceful outline, as well as to effect a great saving in wear; the latter advantage is considerably enhanced by the application of a peculiar and neatly stitched binding, the mode of effecting which is patented. Great exertions are being made to supply Messrs. Nicoll's agents throughout the country and the colonies with an assortment of this new garment simultaneously with the display in London, but it is necessary to inform the public that all Messrs. Nicoll's manufactures may be distinguished by a trade mark, consisting of a silk label attached to each specimen, to copy this is fraud, and may be thus detected. If the garment is dark-coloured, the label has a black ground, with the firm's name and address woven by the Jacquard loom in gold-coloured silk; if the garment is light-coloured, the label has a pale drab ground, and red silk letters. Each paletot is marked in plain figures, at a fixed moderate price, and is of the best materials. In London, the NEW REGISTERED PALETOT can also be had of H. J. and D. NICOLL, 114, 116, 118, 120, Regent-street, and 22, Cornhill.

A NEW DEPARTMENT FOR YOUTH, &c.

H. J. and D. NICOLL recommend for an outside Coat the Havelock; and for ordinary use the Cape Suit, such being well adapted for young gentlemen, as exhibiting considerable economy with general excellence. Gentlemen at Eton, Harrow, Winchester, the Military and Naval Schools, waited on by appointment. A great variety of materials adapted for the Kilted or Highland Costume, as worn by the Royal Princes, may be seen at
WARWICK HOUSE, 142 and 144, Regent-street.

FOR LADIES.

NICOLL'S PATENT HIGHLAND CLOAK is a combination of utility, elegance, and comfort. No Lady having seen or used such in travelling, for morning wear, or for covering full dress, would willingly be without one. It somewhat resembles the old Spanish Roquelaire, and has an elastic Capucine Hood. It is not cumbersome or heavy, and measures from 12 to 16 yards round the outer edge, falling in graceful folds from the shoulders; but by a mechanical contrivance (such being a part of the Patent) the wearer can instantly form semi-sleeves, and thus leave the arms at liberty; at the same time the Cloak can be made as quickly to resume its original shape. The materials chiefly used are the soft neutral coloured shower-proof Woolen Cloths manufactured by this firm. The price will be two guineas and a half for each Cloak; but with the Mechanism and a lined Hood a few shillings more is charged. This department is attended to by Cutters, who prepare Mantles of all kinds, with Velvet, Fur, or Cloth Jackets, either for in or out-door use. These at all times—like this Firm's Riding Habit—are in good taste and fit well. Female attendants may also be seen for Pantalons des Dames a Cheval, partially composed of Chamois. As no measure is required, the Patent Highland Cloak can be sent at once to any part of the Country, and is thus well adapted for a gift.
H. J. and D. NICOLL, Warwick House, 142 and 144, Regent-street, London.

SYDENHAM ALPACA OVERCOATS for Summer Wear. Admirably adapted for the Parks, Day Festivals, Race-Courses, Country Rambles, Daily Town Wear, or the Sea-Side, and equally convenient for travelling in hot dry weather from the protection which they afford against dust, without the encumbrance of weight, or the restraint of transpiration. These goods are made with a degree of care hitherto unprecedented. Sydenham Trousers of fine light cloth, 17s. 6d.; Waistcoat to match, 8s. 6d.; Business or Park Coat, 17s. 6d.; Sydenham Summer Overcoats of Melton Cloth, 21s.; Complete Suits for Boys, 24s.; Gentlemen's complete Evening Dress or Opera Suit, 63s. The Sydenham construction as is now well known is effectually directed to secure the most perfect retentive and easy fit in all positions of the body. Made only by the Inventors, SAMUEL BROTHERS, 20, Ludgate-hill.

THE 35s. INVERNESS WRAPPERS, THE 50s. TWEED SUITS, AND THE 10s. TROUSERS.

ARE all made to Order from the New SCOTCH CHEVIOT, all Wool Tweeds, of Winter substances, thoroughly shrunken, by B. BENJAMIN, Merchant and Family Tailor, 74, Regent-street, W. Patterns and Designs with directions for Measurement, sent free. The TWO GUINEA DRESS or FROCK COAT, the GUINEA DRESS TROUSERS, and the HALF GUINEA WAISTCOATS.
N.B.—A perfect fit guaranteed.

GLENFIELD PATENT STARCH USED IN THE ROYAL LAUNDRY, And pronounced by HER MAJESTY'S LAUNDRESS to be THE FINEST STARCH SHE EVER USED.
Sold by all Chandlers, Grocers, &c. &c.

CONTENTS :

REVIEW OF THE WEEK—	PAGE	Brazil	1057	Weedon	1064	MERCANTILE AND COMMERCIAL—
Political Foreshadowings	1052	West Indies	1057	The Russian Imperial Agitator	1065	India
The Education Movement	1053	America	1057	Portraits of the Royal Family	1065	Tea and Coffee in the Himalayas
Lord Canning's Defence	1053	Miscellaneous	1060	of Prussia	1065	Notes on Indian Progress
St. Thomas's Hospital	1053	Postscript	1062	Trifles Light as Air	1066	Taxes on Trade
Naval and Military	1054	ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENCE—				Quantities <i>versus</i> Value
Accidents and Sudden Deaths	1054	France	1058	LITERATURE—		General Trade Report
Ireland	1054	Germany	1059	Mr. Carlyle's Life of Frederick the		Home, Colonial, and Foreign Pro-
Gatherings from Law and Police	1054	India	1059	Great		duce Markets
Courts	1054	China	1059	Notes on Oberbourg	1067	Money Market and Stock Ex-
Criminal Record	1055	PUBLIC AFFAIRS—		The Quarrel	1068	change
Continental Notes	1055	Does France Meditate War with		The Magazines for October	1070	Ordinary Shares and Stocks
India	1056	us?	1062	THE ARTS—		Railway Intelligence
China	1057	The Prussian Regency	1063	Theatres and Public Entertain-		Bank of England
Persia	1057	Lord John Russell and Lord Derby	1063	ments	1071	London Gazette
Cape of Good Hope	1057					Books Received this Week

Review of the Week.

THE country is fast warming on the subject of Reform; the word is becoming a cry, rising louder and louder every day. Reconstruction of electoral districts, extended suffrage, and the ballot, these are the elements of the popular programme, as far as it is at present arranged. How far will Lord Derby's Reform Bill go towards satisfying the demands of the people? Up to this time, Ministers have succeeded in keeping their reformatory intentions entirely to themselves, not without exhibiting a somewhat comical timidity on the subject, as when Mr. Disraeli and Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton—thinking discretion the better part of valour—stayed away from their customary dinners at Aylesbury and at Hertford; the turbot, if not the wine, might have set them talking; it was safer to fly from the risk. But whatever the Government Bill may be, it must be in the main a reasonable approach to that which public opinion is making ready to demand, if Lord Derby and his friends are not bent on flinging away their offices and their political vitality at the same time; for Sir George Cornewall Lewis no doubt saw correctly into the future when he said, at the Radnorshire Agricultural dinner, the other day, "In whatever form a Reform Bill may be introduced into the House of Commons, it will come out of that House a real Reform Bill, increasing the popular character of the Legislature."

In the mean time, and in the absence of the least word of intelligence from Ministers, rumour is as busy as a bee, buzzing about possible and impossible stories of the parts to be played by various great actors in the coming drama. The most prominent of these stories is that which relates how Lord Derby and Lord John Russell have been in consultation on the subject of the great Bill. There appears to be no truth in the story, and its promulgation has not done much as a party move in the way of damaging Lord John Russell with the Liberal section of the country. The animus is strong, however, in that direction, as we see by another move which has been made to give an appearance of friendly understanding between Lord John and the Government. A few days back it was stated in certain circles that Lord Bury was going out to Canada on "a mission of great commercial and political importance," for no less a purpose, in fact, than to obtain for the Colonial-office the opinion of the Canadian Legislature and people on the proposed confederation of the British North American provinces, which Mr. Cartier, and some others of the Canadian Administration, have come over to this country to negotiate. Lord Bury was at one time private secretary to Lord John Russell, and is well known to act in concert with him; the inference intended to be suggested, therefore, was, that in accepting an appointment from the Tory Government Lord Bury was acting as usual with the concurrence of Lord John Russell. The fact on which this *canard* has been founded is that Lord Bury has gone over to Canada with his wife on a

private visit to Sir Alan M'Nab, his father-in-law. He, also, has some affairs on his hand as a Director of the Galway Steam Company—a very different thing, however, from the turn given by some to the original report. As to Lord John, he is as silent as the gentlemen in office as to what he is going to do on the Reform question; nothing is known of his plans; it is, however, supposed that he *has* plans, though he has not explained them.

The two documents received from Lord Canning in answer to the famous Ellenborough despatch are such as a thoroughly honest and earnest man would write under similar circumstances of provocation. Lord Canning's defence is powerful, and will be to his friends and supporters in spite of its length, satisfactory. It does away with Lord Ellenborough's direct and pointed censure, and it throws upon him and upon those who gave effect to it the responsibility of much of the difficulty which at this moment has to be dealt with in Oude. By the letters of Mr. Montgomery and other Commissioners he shows clearly that great advances were being made in bringing the rebellious talookdars to tender their submission under the terms of the censured proclamation; and that, on the other hand, the publication of the Ellenborough despatch not only all but put a stop to the progress making towards pacification, but was taken as an encouragement to continued hostility by many of those who were wavering on the borders of submission. But, like a man who feels that his case is clearly made out in his own favour, Lord Canning states his determination not to desert his post in consequence of any mortification which he may have felt: the great want is British troops to defend those who may submit to the clemency of the British authority, and he says, "When the season shall arrive at which the troops can again move rapidly over the country—when the large police force now being raised by the Chief Commissioner at Lucknow shall have reached its complement and received further organisation, and when it shall be manifest that we have the means of protecting or supporting those who return to their allegiance, I cannot doubt that the spirit in which the proclamation has been accepted in many quarters will declare itself generally throughout the province."

Among the meetings of the week one is specially noteworthy; it took place at Worcester on Wednesday evening, and the occasion was the celebration of the union of fourteen Mechanics' Institutes around Worcester. The scheme of this union, which promises many advantages, was set on foot some months since by Mr. J. S. Pakington, a son of the First Lord of the Admiralty, and the meeting on Wednesday evening was addressed by Sir John Pakington. His views on the subject of popular education are well known, and his speech at Worcester contained nothing remarkably new in the way of argument or illustration; but it was an earnest recognition of the duties of all "as citizens, as philanthropists, and as politicians, to promote education and the general diffusion of knowledge" as a security against the headstrong passions and prejudices of ignorance—the true "root of all evil."

If any of the poor shareholders in the Western Bank of Scotland were hugging themselves with the comfortable belief that they knew the worst of their calamity, they have been unpleasantly undeceived within the last few days; the publication of the report of the liquidators conveys to them the miserable fact that hundreds of them are ruined. Every calculation of the value of the assets has turned out to have been beyond the value realised: the consequence is, that, after paying the call of 25% per 50% share, the unfortunate shareholders are now called upon to pay another 100% per share!—nearly a million pounds of liabilities remaining yet to be liquidated. And the authors of this havoc?—of the corruption which, as the *Times* says, will leave its taint for many years on the mercantile character of the entire city of Glasgow?—they are, "as the world goes," very honest gentlemen, who may get up another Bank at their convenience; "justice," meantime, being done on the legally liable shareholders.

Stern justice, we take it, will be meted out to some other gentlemen who have incurred liabilities of a somewhat different kind. Discoveries made at Birmingham and in London have brought to light the fact of a well-organised conspiracy to defraud the Turkish Government by the manufacture in this country of a large amount of spurious coin. Another case discloses an attempt to manufacture fictitious Russian bank-notes, and in this instance there is reason to believe the work has been successful to an enormous extent. Two Frenchmen and a Greek are in custody for the Turkish fraud, and it is expected that some persons of much greater consequence will be found connected with the transaction.

The decision of the Lord Mayor in the case of the man Johnston, whose brutality drove one of his daughters to attempt self-destruction, has given universal satisfaction. We are all too well aware that there are brutal husbands and fathers enough in the world, but happily we do not often see a case of such peculiar blackness—we do not hear of fathers in Johnston's position in life, not only neglecting his children, but driving them from his house—telling the girls to "go upon the town" for a living, and the boys to steal. The month's imprisonment with hard labour as a rogue and vagabond is but a small punishment with reference to his deserts, but it has a merit from the unflinching way in which the Lord Mayor determined to inflict the severest chastisement which the law allowed him to award. For the poor girl, the heroine of the dark domestic history, public sympathy is finding substantive expression in subscriptions which already reach to between two and three hundred pounds, which are to be applied to her benefit, as the Lord Mayor may think best; probably she will be established in business, and so put beyond the need of seeking or of receiving assistance from her brute father.

In foreign politics the most interesting topic at the present moment is the attitude taken by the Emperor of Russia on the subject of self-emancipation. During a tour which he has lately made through several of the governments of his empire, he has

stated his determination to go through with the work in such a way as to leave no doubt on the minds of the nobility. From these nobles, who draw from serf-labour the enormous revenues which they squander in St. Petersburg or in Paris, the idea of emancipating their born vassals carries with it the idea of poverty and ruin; and it is this notion which is the great obstacle in the Emperor's path of reform. But he has given the reluctant nobles the reason why they must carry out his views—it is, that a reform in the laws regulating servitude is “a reform that must come from above that it may not come from below.” If the feudal-minded nobles of Moscow, who have shown the least inclination even to move in this momentous matter, learn to appreciate the significance of those wise words, well for them.

A complete statistical account of the trade of France in 1857 has just been published by the French Custom-house; it exhibits, on the surface, a satisfactory picture of material progress. An important step has just been taken by the imperial Government in aid of agriculture. The Crédit Foncier is to advance 100 millions of francs for draining purposes; a step that may ultimately carry the farmers of France well on to the road of Free Trade.

UNIFORMITY OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.—At a recent meeting of the Association of the Liverpool Corn Trade a report of the sub-committee of that body, appointed to consider the steps most desirable to be taken towards the introduction of some uniform standard by which corn, flour, and meal may be sold throughout the kingdom, was read and considered. This report states that the committee were of opinion the time had now arrived when a vigorous effort should be made to bring about the adoption of one uniform standard by which all descriptions of corn, flour, and meal should be sold in all the markets of the kingdom. The report points out the obvious inconvenience arising from these varieties of measure and weight, rendering, as they do, the quotations of the different markets almost unintelligible.

A SENSIBLE CONGREGATION.—The Rev. J. Richardson, Incumbent of St. Mary's, in this town, preached last Wednesday at the Circus, a place secured for divine worship by the Rev. J. G. Knapp, Incumbent of St. John's, Portsea, capable of holding 2000 persons or upwards, which was crammed on the occasion. In the midst of the sermon the gas suddenly went out. Unlike some recent occasions, not the slightest disturbance ensued; the congregation waited in perfect stillness till the meter was filled up, and the gas re-lighted, when the rev. gentleman proceeded with his sermon.—*Bury Post.*

THE EMPEROR NAPOLEON AS A FARMER.—On Saturday the Emperor of the French, accompanied by Marshal Canrobert, Generals Ney and Fleury, and several other officers, went to visit the farms of Bouix, Vadenay, Cuperly, Suippes, and Jonchery, which had been formed within the last four months by his orders. He expressed great satisfaction at the rapidity with which all the works had been executed. In addition to the barns and buildings for the accommodation of the persons engaged on these farms, each of the establishments has sheds for 100 cows and 1200 sheep, and stabling for 20 horses; and already 400 cows of the Breton, German, and Swiss breeds, more than 8000 sheep, with a number of English rams, and 30 fine breeding mares have been collected there. Five other similar farms have been planned out, and will be completed in 1859. The establishment of these farms will be of great benefit for the country, by transforming land, which has been hitherto waste, into productive property.

WILLS.—The will of the Hon. and Rev. Charles George Perceval, Rector of Calverton, Bucks, was proved in London by Sir C. E. Trevelyan, K.C.B., the sole acting executor. The personality was sworn under \$5,000. He has devised the freehold to his son, and the personality (saving specific bequests) to his wife for life, and afterwards to his son and daughter; and, should his gallery of pictures be sold, that from the produce 1000*l.* be given to his widow, and 1000*l.* to the Rev. — Chase; and from the remainder one-third to go to the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, and the rest divided between his children.—The will of the Rev. James Bunting, D.D., of Myddelton-square, was proved in Doctors' Commons the 22nd September, by his sons, who are the executors. The will bequeaths to his wife, in addition to the settlement on marriage, the sum of 1000*l.*, which was her own previous to marriage, with all additions, and the property left to her under the will of her uncle, Robert Ashman; also leaves her all the furniture, pictures, books, &c., which had been hers on marriage; and to her and to each son and daughter he leaves a specific pecuniary bequest, and the residue to be divided among his children generally. The effects were sworn under 1500*l.*

POLITICAL FORESHADOWINGS.

MR. DISRAELI.—The Central Bucks Agricultural Meeting took place on Wednesday, but the public were again disappointed in any expectation that might have been formed of learning the Chancellor of the Exchequer's views as to the Reform question. The right hon. gentleman, in a letter to the secretary, stated that he had hoped to have been present, but was prevented by a summons to town.

SIR GEORGE C. LEWIS, M.P., AND SIR JOHN WALSH, M.P.—At the Radnorshire Agricultural dinner at Knighton, last week, Sir George said:—“It has been virtually announced by some of her Majesty's ministers that they contemplate proposing next session a measure of Parliamentary Reform. That must be taken as an indication that Parliamentary Reform is no longer a party question, as in former times they were connected with a party opposed to Parliamentary Reform. Those who propose a measure of Reform at the present moment must propose it with a view of remedying some defined political evil. I would ask those who propose at present to bring forward a systematic plan of Reform to state distinctly what is the evil to be remedied. Those who proposed the Reform Bill of 1832 had, I believe, in their minds a distinct conception of the evils which they proposed to remedy, and the country had a clear notion of those evils. At that time there were large towns such as Leeds, Birmingham, and Manchester, which had no representatives. Some of the largest, most populous, wealthy, and important towns in the kingdom were unrepresented. On the other hand, there were certain individuals who, by the power of nomination in small boroughs having scarcely any electors, were able to return to the House of Commons a considerable number of members. We found that House of Commons did not accurately and faithfully represent the general opinion of the country. The change was made, and I think it may now be fairly said that on all important subjects the House of Commons fairly represents the general opinion of the country. It is said that the circumstances of the times demand a systematic plan of Reform. Any Government which proposes to bring forward a plan of parliamentary reform is bound to state distinctly what is the evil they profess to remedy, and what are the defects which they intend to remove. Those persons who think it is possible by some process of ingenuity to propose a Reform Bill which shall increase the power of a particular party, which shall throw an increase of influence into the hands of a particular class of the community, are entirely mistaken in their supposition that any measure, any contrivance, any device of that kind, will impose on the general intelligence of the country. I trust those who propose the coming Reform Bill will form a distinct idea of what it is they seek to accomplish. I trust, also, they will make an honest and sincere proposal, and that they will not attempt to accomplish one thing under the mask of another. If they do, they will have the certainty of detection before their eyes.” Sir J. Walsh said:—“With reference to this great question, I am inclined to arrive at similar conclusions with Sir G. C. Lewis. Opposed as I always have been to those innovations which I thought dangerous, without promising to the country an adequate amount of benefit, my own opinion is that once launched on that career it will be found extremely difficult to stop. I think that those who have once entered upon the path of what may be called, if you will, ‘progress,’ and what at any rate is change, you will find it extremely difficult to arrest their advance. Any Government which, in the present state of affairs, attempts altogether to stop it will undoubtedly succumb. It seems that some change in our present system of parliamentary representation is almost an indispensable necessity. In the present condition of politics in this country it is impossible for any Government or party to take an active part in the administration of affairs without entertaining this important question.”

COLONEL SYKES, M.P.—The electors of Aberdeen met Colonel Sykes, the city representative, on Friday afternoon. The Colonel said:—“In the present condition of the House of Commons what is called government by party is almost impracticable. The Conservative Government exists only by the dissension of the Liberals, and by alternately availing itself of the aid of some one of its sections. Is this or is it not a healthy or even a safe state of things? Party has been rendered imperative by the growth of a body of men amongst the Liberals, who have resolved to exercise their own judgments upon all political questions irrespective of party cries or party leaders. That body, it is said, now amounts to about one hundred and twenty members in the House; and if they were to throw their whole weight into one scale or the other, the side they aid would preponderate. But they are without organisation, and the salutary or beneficial effects of their independence is only shown by the results. Judging by their votes during the past session, the majority of them have zealously tried to retrench expenditure, to prevent centralisation, to extend the franchise, and generally to promote popular rights.” Upon the Cherboung excitement the gallant officer remarked:—“If gentlemen who talk so confidently about invasion had ever embarked with an army, or marched

with one, they would have known that neither troops nor stores can be moved but with difficulty and delay, and certainly not in secrecy. The mere preparations must expose the undertaking months beforehand; surely in that time we would be prepared to meet them. Not, however, I would say, by the means which many people talk of—namely, fortifying our coasts and spending millions of money, but by our fleet being always in a state of readiness and efficiency.”

MESSRS. COLLIER, M.P., AND WHITE, M.P.—Messrs. Collier and White, members for Plymouth, addressed their constituents at the Mechanics' Institute in that town on Tuesday evening. Mr. Collier expressed his belief that had Lord Palmerston adhered to the Liberal principles he professed he would still have been in power; but he had not shown himself prepared to advocate those measures of Reform which the country demanded. He felt no hesitation in expressing his opinion that a Reform Bill to be efficient must give the franchise to the intelligent working classes. Every man above twenty-one who occupied either part or whole of a house as a residence, and who had not been convicted of any crime, was entitled to a vote and ought to have it. (Cheers). The hon. member, after elaborately defending his vote on the Conspiracy Bill, proceeded to review the business of the past session. He rejoiced at the abolition of the property qualification for members, but regretted that this beneficial measure had been in some degree neutralised by the adoption of the Corrupt Practices Bill, and he pledged himself, if no other member did so, to introduce a motion for the repeal of that bill. It was not his intention to give any factious opposition to the administration of Lord Derby. Provided he found the present Government adopting liberal and progressive measures, those measures would have his support. He should suspend his judgment with respect to the acts of the Derby Administration; and when the contemplated Reform Bill was brought forward he would give it his best attention, and, if satisfied with it, it should receive his support. Mr. White then spoke at great length. He alluded to the reckless expenditure of public money in grants for unnecessary purposes, and expressed his belief that we should not obtain any economy of expenditure until we had a reformed Parliament. A permanent financial committee should be appointed, to whom should be referred all questions of expenditure, and no money should be voted unless certified to be necessary for the public service.

MR. W. A. WILKINSON.—This gentleman, formerly one of the members for Lambeth, who now is a candidate for Reigate, has addressed the electors of that borough, and declared himself, on the Reform question, for an extension of the franchise to every man who is sufficiently honest, intelligent, and independent to use it. He is also in favour of the ballot, and against church-rates.

BANBURY.—The formation of a Reform Society is likely to have no other result than the support of some pure Whig to represent this borough; and we hear that the advanced Liberals there are so opposed to the representation falling into such hands that they will stand by and permit a Conservative to gain the day rather than that it should be so. “If,” say they, “the Whigs will leave their Whiggery and go with the Radicals—well; but, if not, Banbury will certainly return a Tory at the next election.”

REFORM AGITATION IN LONDON.—A meeting of the Political Reform League was held in Anderton's Hotel on Wednesday. It was more of a private than of a public character, being called to give a welcome to Mr. Joseph Cowen, of Newcastle, who represents the Reform League of the North, and who made a very judicious speech, exhorting Reformers to union, repudiating all personal dislikes, and urging a steady adherence to recognised principles. The Reform League, which has made Anderton's Hotel its head-quarters, appears to be prepared for any amount of agitation if funds are placed at its disposal.

CHARTISM.—A revival of Chartism is taking place in Lancashire. Staleybridge, Ashton, and Manchester have taken the lead. On Saturday evening, in the Town-hall, Staleybridge, eight hundred sat down to tea. Mr. Hill presided, and Mr. E. Jones and Mr. W. P. Roberts addressed the meeting. Mr. Jones has addressed a numerous assemblage in the Temperance-hall, Ashton-under-Lyne. Mr. Richard Pilling presided, and denounced, in strong and indignant terms, the conduct of those who have recently been trying to undermine Chartism, and declaring confidence in its executive. A crowded Chartist meeting was held at Hyde on Tuesday evening.

REFORM AND CHARTISM.—At Manchester, on Monday night, a very numerous meeting of working men was held. The first resolution proposed affirmed the People's Charter to be the only political programme demanding the support of the working classes; and that anything short of that would be imperfect, unjust, and impolitic. This was supported by various arguments, one being that the interests of the middle and those of the working classes are antagonistic. An amendment was offered, expressive of the opinion that any measure of Reform which will give every honest man a vote, protected by the ballot, deserves the support of all Reformers. This was carried by a large majority. All the speakers belonged to the Chartist body.

THE EDUCATION MOVEMENT.

SIR JOHN PAKINGTON.—The first Lord of the Admiralty has attended a dinner held to celebrate the establishment of the Worcestershire Union of Mechanics' Institutes, and took the opportunity of expressing his concurrence in the objects of these unions, by which he said they arrived at uniformity of action, and they also afforded a stimulus to emulation. Fourteen mechanics' and literary institutes around Worcester had joined the Worcestershire union, the objects of which, as expressed by the rules, were as follows:—1. Mutual intercourse and improvement. 2. Concentrated information as to the progress and requirements of each institute. 3. Encouragement and increase of evening classes by examination and prizes, or other means. 4. The engagement of lecturers, gratuitous and professional. 5. The promotion of a good system for circulating books, or otherwise improving local libraries. 6. The acquirement and diffusion of information upon matters relating to mechanics' institutes in general, the particularly approved of rule, 3, having for its object the encouragement of evening classes. He regarded these institutes for the working classes much in the same light as he considered the universities in higher life, viz., as a means of carrying the knowledge already possessed by the students further than it had reached, and preparing them for undertaking higher and more honourable, as well as more useful positions in the particular condition of life for which they are destined.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE POOR-LAW BOARD AND THE BISHOP OF SALISBURY.—The annual meeting of the Hants and Wilts Adult Education Society, and the Conference of Institutions in union with it, was held at Salisbury on Wednesday; the Right Hon. T. H. S. Estcourt, M.P., in the chair. Mr. Estcourt said: The course of education generally had not been so beneficial during the last fifty years as they could have wished; for at the period when the intellect was ripening into something like appreciating and understanding what it had been taught at school, it was, in the great majority of cases, entirely neglected. For establishing schools at this moment nearly a million of money was annually paid out of the public purse, and yet they could blink the result, viz., that at the time when ideas were beginning to take the place of mere sounds, and the mind was beginning to carry away something like substance, they found that almost the whole body of scholars were taken off to work. He was persuaded that anything like an attempt to catch hold of the youth of both sexes after they had left school in an artificial manner, by holding inducements of pecuniary profit or interest to them other than those their own minds would induce them to take on the subject of education, would end in failure. What, however, they ought to do was, to establish the means of giving both sexes instruction, after the usual period of their attending school, without interfering with their ordinary occupations. The only enduring mode by which they might hope to effect the continuance of the education of boys and girls, after they left school, would be by producing in their minds a desire for it, either because it would promote their interests, or to give them pleasure; and he saw no other mode of doing it than by the establishment of evening schools, where, for a slight emolument, working men, of some little education, would be willing to attend and instruct those requiring it. A man, when advanced in life, became aware of his deficiencies, and he was desirous of improving himself, but did not like to go to school, from not being able to stand the gibes of youngsters. Now, if such a man had the opportunity of catching an hour's instruction, morning or evening, to bring him up to the standard of others, he would not then be ashamed to go to school, and mix with those for further improvement.—The Bishop of Salisbury fully approved of night schools for the labouring population, and he had taken every opportunity of informing his clergy that he thought so, for as their health and means would permit it, they could not be more usefully employed in the winter months than in superintending such schools. To make them attractive to the adult population, they must not view them simply as schools, but as a place where they might obtain interesting information. By that means they might induce them to accept that training and information which they probably would refuse if they put the school too much forward.

MIDDLE-CLASS EXAMINATIONS.—A meeting was held at Norwich, on Tuesday afternoon, to take steps for bringing Norfolk and the neighbourhood within the scope of the middle-class examinations instituted by the University of Cambridge. Sir J. Boileau presided. The chairman having opened the business in a speech in which he clearly shadowed forth the advantages of the middle-class examination scheme, Sir Willoughby Jones moved the first resolution, which was to the effect that it was highly desirable that the advantages offered by the University of Cambridge in its regulations concerning the examinations of students, not members of the University, should be brought within the reach of schools in Norfolk; and, from the important position Norwich holds in the eastern counties, it should be made a centre for the proposed annual examination. An influential local committee was appointed to make the necessary arrangements, and a subscription was commenced

to defray the expenses incident to an examination at Norwich, which are estimated at 30*l*. or 40*l*. per annum.

MR. C. B. ADDERLEY, M.P., ON EDUCATION.—At a meeting at Stoke-upon-Trent this gentleman said that the general feeling of the people of this country was by no means in favour of a national system of secular education only. This was now taken as a settled fact by Parliament, and was always considered one of the solved problems of education. If there was one thing which more than another had upon all occasions been definitely laid down by Parliament it was this—that the principle to be adopted in the distribution of the educational grant was that of rendering assistance to the voluntary efforts of all recognised religious denominations. He did not at all wish to compel parents to keep their children at school. It was sometimes contended that the Legislature ought to use such compulsion, but he thought such a course ought to be guarded against; and he did not believe it would ever succeed in England. It would be inefficient, and would be sure to be evaded. He was not for keeping the children of labourers from the labour which was their real school for life; at the same time, he thought a prize scheme was doing a good work, by preventing reckless parents and employers from prematurely bemfiting by the strength of those who ought to be at school.

LORD CANNING'S DEFENCE.

Two letters from the pen of Lord Canning have been published, containing his lordship's defence and justification of the confiscating proclamation which he sent to the people of Oude. The first letter is an answer to the celebrated despatch of Lord Ellenborough that condemned what the Governor-General had done, and the second is a reply to the vote of confidence that was sent to Lord Canning by the Directors of the East India Company. In both of these communications the Governor-General states the motives by which he was actuated in proclaiming that the landed property of Oude had become the inheritance of the Government of India, to be afterwards disposed of in the way deemed to be most advisable.

Lord Canning begins by complaining that the Ellenborough despatch was made public in England three weeks before he received it, and by contending that it would increase the difficulties of the local Government. Speaking from a personal point of view, he declares that he will not be led away from his duty by sneers or taunts, and that he will not give up his charge at a time of so much difficulty and danger. He proceeds to contend that the passages in the despatch which affirm that our right to rule in Oude is disputable would only encourage rebellion. They would make that rebellion national which he thinks has not hitherto been of a national character.

Lord Canning acknowledges that the proclamation was sweeping and uncompromising. He had gone to Allahabad to reside, in order that he might judge of the feelings and temper of the Oude population, and he came to the conclusion that while the ordinary punishments of death, transportation, and imprisonment should be dispensed with, it was necessary to proclaim as a fact, and not as a mere threat, that the landed estates of Oude now belonged to the Government, and he says it would have been impolitic to have specified the conditions of relaxation, because the talookdars who held land were usurpers, because the old and legitimate proprietors of the soil had become rebels, and because it was necessary the Government should assume the position of being able to punish severely at the same time that it was ready to extend great mercy. A reference is made to the opposition of General Outram when the proclamation was sent to him for publication, and Lord Canning quotes from an antecedent memorandum of the General to show that a large measure of confiscation was recommended by Sir J. Outram himself. Lord Canning is further of opinion that the spirit in which the proclamation was written has been understood in Oude, and he refers to reports forwarded through Mr. Montgomery, the present Chief Commissioner, to show that if there were sufficient troops in the province, the proclamation would lead to its intended results.

ST. THOMAS'S HOSPITAL.

On the evening of Friday, October the 1st, the opening of the Medical Session at St. Thomas's was celebrated by a conversation held in the grand hall of the Hospital. The inaugural address on the occasion was delivered by Dr. Bristowe, one of the physicians of the institution, before a crowded audience, comprising many ladies and men of eminence in the profession, and presided over by the president, Sir John Musgrove.

After a few introductory remarks, the lecturer addressed himself to those who were about to enter on their hospital career. He recommended them, ere they plunged into the new life that was before them, to pause a little and consider what they had gained in that which they had already passed through. He reminded them that they had acquired a considerable amount of elementary knowledge, they had made some progress in literature and science, and above all had been well-

grounded in the principles of morality and religion. He urged them to preserve all those lessons of knowledge, and of good, to the acquisition of which their previous life had been devoted, and not to throw them aside as useless lumber, for they would find them useful. He then passed on to the consideration of the future.

He proceeded next to explain that medical knowledge was to be acquired by three separate, yet mutually illustrative means—by lectures, reading, and attendance in the wards and other practical departments of the hospital. He observed that it was a common remark, that students were over-lectured, to which remark he gave a qualified assent. He considered that students were really required to attend too many lectures, yet that the lectures were by no means out of proportion to the subjects which had to be learnt, but that the subjects themselves were too numerous and too extensive for the limited time allotted to their acquisition. He advised them strongly, however, to be constant and attentive at lectures, and to store up everything there explained; for, regarding every different branch of knowledge as an unknown wilderness to those who were entering on it for the first time—he characterised lectures as guides which conduct you safely through, pointing out the objects of interest, and leaving you masters of a route, whence future investigations might safely diverge. He then dwelt on the importance of reading, not desultorily, but with a definite object, as a means of acquiring knowledge. He proceeded to point out, that lectures and reading were after all merely accessory to the practical knowledge which was to be acquired in the laboratory, the dissecting-room, the dead-house, and the wards; and he insisted on the importance of students availing themselves of all the opportunities which were offered them. He warned them, however, not to embark, while in a state of pupillage, on original investigations; for they would find the acquisition of the knowledge already accumulated ample occupation for the present time, and the best apprenticeship for original inquiries hereafter.

He then urged them to recollect that they were students, advised them to learn all they could, and not, from fear of showing their ignorance, to hesitate to ask questions.

He went on to point out the necessity of acquiring experience, but warned them against misunderstanding the meaning of the word. He characterised experience, as the constant prop of false theories and facts; and explained that it is so in daily life because it is generally founded on facts imperfectly observed, imperfectly remembered, and imperfectly compared by minds already prejudiced. He pointed out that true experience, that which he wished them to strive after, was obtained, not by length of years, but by close, accurate, continued, and recorded observations: he recommended them, therefore, not to observe much, but rather to work thoroughly, exhaustively, at a few things. Again, he urged them to become practical men; but pointed out that the truly practical man was not, as was too often supposed, he that neglected to refresh his mind by reading, and refuse to avail himself of all the light that science threw on his mysterious art; but he that had acquired a thorough mastery over the details and principles of his profession, and the power of applying his knowledge and skill to the benefit of his fellow-creatures.

He then observed, that in their intercourse with their teachers, they were likely to be influenced to a great extent by them; but, while recommending them to learn all they could from them, and to copy as far as possible their good qualities, he warned them against mistaking their peculiarities and faults for excellences.

He then advised them to cultivate modesty of demeanour, which he considered to be not only becoming, but, in those who were students, essential. At the same time he pointed out that humility thus engendered need not render them mean-spirited or deprive them of that relative self-respect which enabled them to retain their position among their neighbours, for that, compared with perfection, others were equally insignificant with themselves.

He proceeded then to urge them to contend for the prizes that were offered by the authorities of the medical school. He argued that the prize-system was a good one, though liable to abuse.

He lastly addressed himself to the students who were about to leave the Hospital, and chiefly to those who had contended for the prizes. He said:—"Some of you have laboured in the sweat of your brow for prizes which you have failed to attain. Probably you feel disappointed and depressed at the result; but do not let so slight a rebuff dishearten you, or how will you make head against those more serious disappointments which await you in your future career? You wish now, perhaps, that you had not entered the lists. But, gentlemen, I congratulate you that in doing as you have done you have obtained the victory over that idleness, that want of courage, that contemptuous indifference, which have prevented others becoming candidates. You regret, perhaps, that you have no medals to adorn you, no praises to intoxicate you. But, gentlemen, in the efforts you have made you have obtained knowledge in comparison of which medals are dross; you have gained the approval of your own conscience, which is far better than all the praises the most eloquent tongue can lavish on you. Possibly you chafe under a newly-awakened

sense of your own inferiority! But need you admit the truth of that unwelcome suspicion? He who has obtained the prize has undoubtedly manifested superior excellence in certain qualities of mind; he has shown that he has the power of acquiring and arranging knowledge, of recalling it readily, and of expressing it clearly and rapidly. But surely it does not necessarily follow that he is the most learned man, the deepest thinker, the most energetic actor, or that he is endowed in any degree with any of those transcendent gifts which confer distinction and fame in literature and art. Again, some of you have won the laurels for which you have wrestled—I doubt not, gentlemen, you have deserved your rewards, and I offer you my sincere congratulations. But how are you affected by your success? Are you gratified with the result, but already weary of the effort it has cost you, and satisfied with your present victory, determined to lapse into indifference and idleness? If this be the effect, I am sorry for you; yet take your prizes and keep them, nay, deem them hereafter, as now, honourable distinctions, but they will become instead a standing reproof to you for time and opportunities lost, for talents neglected and abused. Has your first success ministered to your vanity, and given you an exalted estimate of your own importance? You have mistaken the prizes for what they only represent, you have worshipped the image instead of the god; you have complacently listened to your praises and believed them—have esteemed that absolute which was only conditional—that true which was in effect exaggerated! Pause, gentlemen, ere you make your vanity a barrier to your success, ere you render yourselves objects of pity, of ridicule, of contempt! But if you regard the prizes you are this day to receive as objects of secondary importance, and value them only as the external indications of positive advance in knowledge and worth; if your conscience tells you the praises heaped upon you are disproportionate to your merits, and you believe your conscience; if you look on your medals as incentives to renewed exertions, and credit your excess of praise to the account of future deserts; if your successes, instead of rendering you vain, have made you humble; depend upon it you deserve the rewards you have striven for, they have done you good; you are in the right path, go on in it and prosper.” The lecturer concluded his address with a few words of welcome to the new students, congratulation to the prizemen, and thanks to his audience.

At the conclusion of his address, the lecturer was loudly cheered. The prizes were then distributed by Sir John Musgrove among the successful pupils of the preceding year, with which interesting ceremony the proceedings closed.

NAVAL AND MILITARY.

THE ROYAL MARINES.—Several additional recruiting parties are out in the metropolis and suburbs to raise recruits, the Lords of the Admiralty having resolved to increase the strength of this corps by 5000 men, and to form a fifth division of Royal Marines at Pembroke Dockyard, Wales.

THE PRUSSIAN ADMIRAL.—H.R.H. Prince Albert of Prussia, High Admiral of the Prussian navy, left his yacht, the Grille, in Hamoaze, on Monday morning, and with his flag-captain, Bothwell, was received at the Devonport Dockyard by Mr. James Brown, Master-Attendant, and the principal officers, who conducted the royal visitor round the Arsenal, and through the tunnel to Keyham steam-yard.

FOREIGN PRINCES AT DEVONPORT.—The Count de Paris with the Duke of Wurtemberg and suite arrived at Devonport on Wednesday morning, and, being attended by Captain Stewart and Lieutenant Preston, drove to Keyham-yard, where they were received by the Master Attendant, who escorted the party through the factory and the other branches of the establishment. The great size of the new steam-frigate Orlando appeared to excite special attention. After visiting the Himalaya, now preparing to convey troops to India, his Royal Highness and suite went through the tunnel to Devonport Dockyard, over which they were conducted.

DEFENCES OF THE WELSH COAST.—The authorities have had their attention drawn to the defenceless condition of the whole of the south coast of Wales, where not a single gun is mounted for the safety of Newport, Cardiff, Swansea, Llanelly, &c. A battery of heavy guns is to be immediately erected on the high ground at Penarth Head for the protection of the shipping frequenting the roads. It is said that Swansea is to be better protected. Caldy Island has been named as another point for a battery.

ACCIDENTS AND SUDDEN DEATHS.

A DREADFUL fire occurred on Sunday afternoon near the West India Docks, whereby an immense amount of property was consumed. The premises belonged to Messrs. Westropp, and Messrs. Bell and Wright, ship-riggers, and the building contained almost every article necessary to that business. The fire obtained a great head before means could be procured to check it; but by ten o'clock the firemen were enabled through great exertions to

check the flames. The traffic on the Blackwall Railway was stopped by the fire.

The fearful occurrence at the Page Bank Colliery has turned out to be less disastrous than was at first anticipated. Out of eighty-six men and boys in the various workings at the time the fire broke out, seventy-six have been rescued alive, most of whom are doing well. The corpses of the remainder have been brought to the surface. The pitmen who were in the mine at the time of the accident were variously affected by it. We are told that some were congregated in groups and engaged in prayer, while others were singing and joking and telling tales, in order to cheer their companions. One of them says he laid down at nine o'clock and quietly slept the time away.

A shocking death from chloroform has taken place at the London Ophthalmic Institution. A little boy eight years of age went to the hospital to undergo an operation in his eyes. Chloroform was administered, but death very speedily ensued. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death, but coupled with it a suggestion which will doubtless be attended to in the proper quarter. The recurrence of death from this cause will, no doubt, make people hesitate in accepting the means that promises to alleviate the natural pangs of the body under surgical operations.

Just after the opening of the doors at the Surrey Theatre, on Monday night, a man, whose name is at present unknown, who had got a front seat in the gallery, and was leaning over the rail, overbalanced himself and fell headforemost into the pit, driving in his skull. The unfortunate sufferer was carried to St. Thomas's Hospital, where he expired in a few hours.

The inquest which has been held in connexion with the late fatal collision on the Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton Railway has resulted in a verdict of manslaughter against Cook, the guard, who was committed for trial. It is not impossible that the verdict of the jury may be set aside. The gentleman who stands in the coroner's precept as foreman of the jury is charged by the Chairman of the Committee with acting under hostile feeling, he having had two lawsuits with the company. Five of the jurymen declared, besides, that they did not concur in the latter portion of the verdict, which imputed great blame to all the officers of the company.

We have to record an awful tragedy on the great deep. The Austria steamship, while pursuing her passage from Southampton to New York, was totally destroyed by fire. As there were six hundred persons on board, it is feared that a large portion of them may have perished. It is known that sixty-eight persons from the ill-fated ship had been picked up by a French barque, but the others on board, stated to be upwards of 500, remain unaccounted for.

IRELAND.

THE ORANGEMEN.—The *Downshire Protestant*, the official Gazette of the Irish Orange Society, has just put forth an article which destroys any expectation that might be entertained as to the probability of the Confederation dissolving. There is no chance whatever of such a consummation.

REPRESENTATIVE PEERS.—The following are the spiritual Representative Peers for the next session of Parliament:—The Lord Primate, closing fast upon his 87th year; the Bishop of Down, the Bishop of Ossory, and the Bishop of Cork. As regards politics, the four are pretty much of one mind, but the Bishops of Down and Cork are considered to be favourable to the national system of education.

GALWAY AND AMERICA.—At a meeting of the Galway Harbour Commissioners, a communication from the Viceregal Lodge was read by the chairman, Father Peter Daly. In this letter Mr. Plunkett Dunne says he has communicated the telegram and Mr. Daly's note to the Lord-Lieutenant, who was much gratified by the successful voyage of the last steamer from St. John's to Galway, which decides the advantages of the Irish passage over that from Liverpool, so as to make it plain even to English understandings. Lord Eglintoun has succeeded in having the Commissioners sent to Galway, and all are sanguine that their report will be favourable and the line of packets from thence firmly established. At the meeting, Captain Thatcher, of the Propeller, recently arrived from America, presented Father Daly with an American hickory stick, the gift of a Transatlantic admirer. After a brief speech, the gallant seaman placed the stick in the worthy father's hands, amid enthusiastic cheering. The following statement appears in the *Limerick Chronicle* of yesterday. The Southerners, it would seem have abandoned all idea of the establishment of the transatlantic packet station at their side of the kingdom:—“We have been informed that at the assembling of Parliament Government will recommend giving to Galway a grant of 50,000*l.*, as the first instalment of the sum needed to construct the breakwater, if the commissioners now inspecting Galway should report favourably of it as a harbour of refuge. The total required for the purpose will be 150,000*l.* Owing to the energy and enterprise of the Galwegians themselves, the entire amount will be advanced out of the Imperial exchequer, and that, too, not as a loan, but as a grant, free and for ever. Lord Derby is determined

on helping those who seem disposed to help themselves. The people of Limerick deserved no help from any one, because there was no disposition on their part to aid themselves. That the packets from Galway will prove a paying speculation the following facts are good omens:—The amount of passage money paid in the last steamer, the Pacific, was over 3000*l.*, and in one of the second-class packets, which arrived at Galway a short time ago, nearly 2000*l.* was produced by the passenger traffic alone, being, as in the other case, exclusive of the freights for conveyance of merchandise. The receipts of the Midland Railway have been vastly increased by the arrival and departure of American packets at Galway. The company is in a most flourishing condition, and they propose to continue their line of railway down to the dock. The *Galway Vindicator* announces the arrival there of Captain Washington, R.N., one of the Commissioners appointed to inquire into the subject of harbours of refuge. Captain Washington informed Mr. Lynch, the Rev. Mr. Darcy, Mr. P. A. Fynn, and one or two other gentlemen who waited on him, that he would be most happy to meet some gentlemen connected with the Harbour Board who could give him information on the subject of his inquiry at the Railway Hotel this day. There will be no public court of inquiry held, but we have reason to believe that Captain Washington is disposed to enter on his inquiry with a degree of earnestness which will leave nothing undeveloped in relation to the natural resources and immense capabilities of the harbour of Galway.

GATHERINGS FROM LAW AND POLICE COURTS.

THE tedious charge of fraud in picture-dealing against the Barneses has been brought to a close by being dismissed. The medical attendant of Mr. Peter, the prosecutor, was examined as to the condition of his patient, and pronounced him to be in such a state of mental imbecility as to render his appearance at the Guildhall dangerous to himself. Alderman Wire expressed his conviction that a compromise had been effected, but as the evidence was defective he could not send the case for trial.

Those who made themselves acquainted with the case of Miss Frances Johnson, a young woman only eighteen years old, charged with attempting to commit suicide, will rejoice to hear that the Lord Mayor has sentenced her father to one month's imprisonment as a rogue and vagabond. The pity is, that the law could not punish him more severely. The young lady made the effort to destroy herself rather than accept the parent's advice to maintain herself by a career of iniquity. Mr. Johnson, the rogue and vagabond, is described as a “respectable grey-headed looking man,” but it is impossible to imagine parental feelings more brutally depraved than his appear to be. The case has excited the public sympathy to a great extent. 194 members of the Stock Exchange have contributed the sum of 172*l.* 11*s.* 6*d.* for the benefit of Frances Johnson and her sister. They have placed the money in the hands of the Lord Mayor, to be employed at his discretion. Numerous smaller sums have also been received.

Edward Thurgood, surgeon, of Camden-town, and John Riley, an agent, have been brought up at Guildhall, for further examination relative to a charge of conspiring to defraud Mr. Charles Christie, distiller, Liverpool, out of whisky to the value of more than 300*l.* The publication in the papers of the facts elicited at the former inquiry has had the effect of bringing out a flood of information regarding the two prisoners, which may prove useful in securing the ends of justice. On the case being again remanded, the accused were, in default of bail, sent to prison.

At the Middlesex Sessions, Theodore Richards, traveller, pleaded guilty to having embezzled several sums of money, which he had received on account of his master. It was proved that the prisoner had been previously convicted, and had been sentenced to seven years' transportation, and the Court now sentenced him to undergo penal servitude for ten years.—James Kendale was indicted for having inflicted grievous bodily harm upon Mary Kendale, his wife. The medical testimony was to the effect that the prisoner was insane. The jury found the prisoner not guilty on the ground of insanity.

At the Middlesex Sessions the court sat on Thursday to hear applications for the renewal of licenses for music and dancing and for new licenses. There were 268 applications for the renewal of licenses for music only, 55 for music and dancing, 43 new applications for the license for music only, and 11 for the double license. An application by Robert Bignell, for the Argyll Rooms, which was refused last year, and one by Mr. E. T. Smith, for the Alhambra Palace, were fixed for hearing on Friday morning, both applications being opposed. With a few exceptions the old licenses were renewed.

A widely different version of the story told by Wareham, the man who charged his wife with making two several attempts to murder him while asleep, has been given by a witness to the magistrate at Westminster. It appears that the assaults had been reciprocal, and that the husband was quite as much to blame as his wife; they were therefore both bound in sureties of 10*l.* to keep the peace towards each other for twelve months.

At the Court of Bankruptcy, Messrs. Schlesinger, Schlesinger, and Parfitt, drysalters, of Basinghall-street, passed their last examination upon accounts showing debts 7769*l.*, and assets between 2000*l.* and 3000*l.* Judgment was reserved upon the question of certificate in the case of Messrs. Hooper and Wass, picture dealers, of New Burlington-street.

On Monday, at Birmingham, the Greek merchant, Antonio Calvocoressi, was brought up on remand, charged with having caused to be made in Birmingham a large quantity of Turkish piastres for circulation in Alexandria, Syria, and Turkey. Upon the testimony of the Turkish Consul for Birmingham and the detectives, the prisoner was committed for trial, the offence being considered a misdemeanour and not a felony. Bail was accepted for the prisoner.

A short time ago the Sultan issued a decree calling in a great portion of the old Turkish coins at a premium. In consequence of that decree, an extensive scheme appears to have been got up in this country for defrauding the Turkish Government. At the Southwark police-court, on Tuesday, a young Frenchman named Hugon was examined on a charge of being concerned in the manufacture of a coining-press and sixteen dies, designed for making false Turkish coin. This case is, doubtless, connected with the one at Birmingham. In the latter instance, the order had been given to Mr. Davies, die-press maker, of Blackfriars-road, who, suspecting something wrong, informed the police of the matter. The prisoner was remanded; and just before the magistrate was leaving the bench, another man was brought into the court in custody, said to be Hugon's father, who is charged with complicity in the transaction.

Close on the discovery of the Turkish piastre business comes the capture, on Monday evening, at Walworth-common, of three men, Richard and John Webster, brothers, and Moses Burnet, for having in their possession two plates of ten-rouble notes of the Bank of the Russian Empire. They were apprehended in consequence of information given by the Russian consul in London, and after being examined at Lambeth police-court on Wednesday, were remanded.

A serious charge has been preferred against a policeman named Donovan. It was alleged that, under pretence of requiring money to effect the arrest of a ticket-of-leave man at Birmingham, Donovan obtained a sum of 13*l.* from the authorities at Scotland-yard. Suspicion was excited by the inspector, who gave him the order for the money, discovering that he was in London at the time he was supposed to be in Birmingham. It was then ascertained that he had received no authority to go to Birmingham, and his arrest ensued. As there was a probability of a similar charge being preferred against him, he was remanded.

The shoemaker, named James Owens, who was taken into custody some days ago for administering to his daughter, or advising her to take, poison, has been committed for trial by Mr. Arnold, on a charge of counselling his daughter to commit suicide. The woman, who is about twenty-five years of age, has now quite recovered from the effects of the poison.

Francis John Beckford, manager in Messrs. Smith, Payne, and Smith's banking establishment, was apprehended a few days ago on a charge of embezzling. When the case came on for further investigation at the Mansion House, the solicitor for the prosecution stated that the prisoner, since his former appearance, had become insane, and was now in that condition in the infirmary of Newgate.

The penalty attached to being famous assumes various forms. In the case of the Mayor of Melbourne, at present staying in London, it manifests itself by a succession of claimants to relationship with that colonial dignitary. One set of these would-be kindred—who, by the way, are all very poor—are very indignant at being repudiated, and have made complaint on the subject to Mr. Selfe, at the Thames police-court. Mr. Smith has written to the magistrate showing the claim to be totally unfounded.

Sarah and Ellen Newson, charged last week at Greenwich, the one with stealing a case of jewels from her master's house at New Cross, and the other with receiving a portion of the property, underwent a second examination, when confirmatory evidence was adduced, and both prisoners were committed to Newgate for trial.

Ebenezer Whitehead was brought before the Lord Mayor charged with forging and uttering three cheques, two for the purpose of defrauding Messrs. Prescott and Co., and the other for a like purpose against the London and County Bank. The cheques had been handed to tradesmen in payment of purchases made from them. Evidence having been adduced in support of the charge, the prisoner, who was undefended, satisfied himself with a simple denial of the statements, and was committed for trial at the Central Criminal Court.

Lewis Lewis, formerly a draper of Clerkenwell, and lately arrested as an absconding bankrupt, and remanded on the charge at Guildhall, has been committed for trial, and had a further charge preferred against him of fraudulently secreting his books from his creditors, which is adjourned for additional evidence.

The female fortune-teller, Ann Williams, has been brought up on remand, at Worship-street, when two

more dupes belonging to the servant-girl class appeared to prefer charges against her. As in the case previously reported, the swarthy charmer had got large quantities of wearing apparel from the aspirants after rich husbands and large families, which articles were to be covered with churchyard mould, and read and prayed over, to secure the coveted blessings. Although the prisoner reiterated her innocence, the magistrate declared his intention of sending her to the sessions for trial.

The ticket-porter of the Borough-market, named William Hill, who is accused of causing the death of his mother by striking her on the head with his fist, has been committed for trial on the charge of manslaughter, according to the verdict returned by the coroner's jury.

At Greenwich, on Saturday, the case of Mr. Roper passed through another stage. He was examined before the magistrate of the town on a charge of attempting to defraud the Kent County Fire Company. On Wednesday, after some additional evidence had been heard, the proceedings were again adjourned—this time to enable Mr. Roper to procure the attendance of the man who wrote from Bedford to say that he was the person who had been in treaty with Mr. Roper for his business, and had paid him 2*l.* as a deposit. The presence of this witness is of the utmost importance to Mr. Roper.

An extraordinary case of defalcation and malversation, illustrating the inefficiency of administration of the Inland Revenue has come to light this week. On Thursday, at a meeting of the Ward of Bassishaw in the City, the chairman, Mr. Hyde Clarke stated that the defaulter Fox, had been at the same time assessor and collector, the Inland Revenue had taken two securities for 1500*l.*, which had realised 150*l.*, and the default for which the reassessment in the Ward was made, was supposed to be about 7000*l.* Fox had, while assessor, and before receiving his yearly warrant as collector, received sums from various parties, including upwards of 2000*l.* from the Corporation of London, for which he had given the usual receipt, which he was allowed to print, and Government now claimed the amount again. The defalcation arose mainly from the irregular mode in which Government conducts its business, and the want of efficient audit. The Ward are memorialising the Treasury, and propose to apply for a Committee of the House of Commons to inquire into the local administration of these taxes.

CRIMINAL RECORD.

MEDICAL PRACTICE AT MANCHESTER.—At Manchester, two German doctors named Wilhelm and Stadtmüller, have been charged, under revolting circumstances, with having caused the death of a young unmarried woman, by endeavouring to procure abortion. They were committed for trial on a charge of wilful murder.

ATTEMPTED MURDER.—A deliberate crime was perpetrated near Worksop on Thursday week. Sarah Hare, in the service of a farmer, was visited by a young man named John Whitwood, who was paying his addresses to her. He prevailed upon her to accompany him a short distance on his way home, when he charged her with going with other young men, and, on her denying this, he attempted to make her take poison with him, saying they would both die together. She refused, and he then declared he would kill her. He threw her on the ground, drew a knife from his pocket and cut her throat. She struggled to escape, but he inflicted another gash on her throat and several on her hands and arms, and stamped on her head. Notwithstanding these fearful injuries, the girl contrived to break from her brutal assailant by throwing him on his back, and succeeded in reaching her master's house, but it is not expected she will survive. Whitwood made his escape, but was apprehended on the following day at Worksop, when he was found to have a large wound in his throat, which he is supposed to have inflicted with the object of destroying himself.

JEALOUSY AND ATTEMPTED MURDER.—At Birmingham, a young man named William Smith, an iron-worker, became violently attached to a widow, Mrs. Owen. His visits to her house were frequent; they were in the habit of walking out together, and were apparently on the best possible terms. Up to yesterday week matters remained in this state; but on that day it is said Mrs. Owen rejected his addresses, and declined to continue the intimacy. Smith was violently enraged, but afterwards appeared to have become reconciled. On Monday, after being all day in her company, he passed the night at her house. The next morning, after breakfast, Mrs. Owen went to her own room to dress, to go out, when Smith rushed up-stairs after her. Immediately a girl named Hummins, who was in the house, heard a fearful shriek. She went into the bedroom, and saw Mrs. Owen stretched on the floor in a pool of blood, and Smith standing over her cutting her throat with a razor. Hummins sprang upon the murderer, and succeeded in wresting the weapon from his grasp, at the same time screaming. Smith then drew a knife, and made a second attack upon his victim. Mrs. Owen had sufficient strength to break from him, and had reached the stairs in her flight, when she was met by a police-constable. Smith was arrested in the house. He said that it was jealousy which had led him to the commission of the crime; that he had seen Mrs. Owen walking

with a man on the preceding afternoon, and he burst into tears as he spoke. He was remanded till Saturday. The woman, it is hoped, will recover.

ATTEMPTED MURDER.—On Wednesday, a determined attempt was made to murder Mr. Budd, senior inspector of police at Woolwich Dockyard. After obtaining a large quantity of gold in change, at the Ship Hotel, opposite the Dockyard, Mr. Budd crossed the road to return to his office, and when near the Dockyard wall he was gently touched on his shoulder by some person from behind; whilst in the act of turning his head, a pistol was fired, which inflicted a wound on his cheek. The miscreant was immediately secured, and recognised as a workman who was discharged from the establishment in 1854, in which year he was convicted of stealing a quantity of metal from the steam factory department, and sentenced to four months' imprisonment. The prisoner is a man upwards of sixty years of age, named Edward Council; a second pistol, fully loaded, was found in his possession.

SUICIDE.—An inquest has been held to inquire into the circumstances attending the death of Mr. Skinner, a surgeon at Camden-town, who committed self-destruction by swallowing a large dose of prussic acid. The deceased had run through a large fortune left him by his father, formerly in practice at Brixton, and had become so immersed in pecuniary difficulties, that a bill of sale was either on the premises, or threatened to be enforced at the period of his committing suicide. There could be no doubt but that these difficulties preyed very much on a mind naturally highly excitable, and in a momentary fit of madness he drank off a draught sufficient to kill half a dozen people. The most distressing part of the case was, that the deceased's wife entered the apartment just as he drank the poison and fell dead to the floor. Verdict, Insanity.

MURDER AND SUICIDE.—On Wednesday, a young man named Robert Bond, living at Forton, near Garstang, shot dead Mary Hannah Wainman, a young lady whom he had been courting for some time, and afterwards blew out his brains. The murderer had been paying his addresses to his victim, and some difference having arisen between them, his mind was lashed into such a state of frenzy, that he perpetrated this diabolical murder in broad daylight. He then deliberately walked home, and, entering the drawing-room in his father's house, loaded his gun and placed the muzzle in his mouth. The next moment he pulled back the trigger, and blew off the top part of his head. Bond was twenty-five years of age, and the girl only nineteen years old.

AFFRAY WITH POACHERS.—At Daresbury, near Warrington, five men, all notorious poachers, and natives of Warrington, were charged with unlawfully wounding some keepers in the employ of Mr. Lyon, of Appleton Hall. The head keeper stated that he was watching on Friday night with assistants, and saw a body of poachers pass. After giving them time to set their nets, the keepers sprang out of the cover. A desperate conflict ensued. The poachers retreated in a body, and some were captured. At this time another body of poachers came into the field, and, seeing how matters were going with their companions, in their turn ran after the keepers, and coming up with those who had their captives on the ground, seriously maltreated them. The cries of their comrades brought the keepers to their rescue, and the result was a general flight of the poachers, leaving two of their number in the keepers' hands. The magistrates committed the prisoners.

CONTINENTAL NOTES.

FRANCE.

THE *Moniteur* of Saturday contains a decree prolonging the period (which expired on Friday) for the free admission of corn, or, in other words, prolonging the suspension of the sliding-scale.

The Italian papers state that the garrison of Rome is to be powerfully reinforced, but the French aver that no more troops will be sent to the capital of the Papal States than are necessary to fill up the gaps caused by illness, and by the draughting of men to Civita Vecchia to assist in the construction of the fortifications which are being made there.

The Emperor arrived at the camp of Châlons on Saturday, and was received by Marshal Canrobert and staff, amid loud acclamations.

An Egyptian admiral, charged with the organisation of the Naval School to be created at Alexandria, has arrived in Paris. The object of his mission is to make himself thoroughly acquainted with the system as conducted in France. It is stated that a Frenchman who holds the rank of General of Division in the Persian army has been appointed by the Shah Minister of War.

The *Moniteur* publishes a convention entered into between the French Minister of Commerce and Agriculture and the Crédit Foncier of France for carrying out the provisions of certain laws relative to drainage operations, which laws authorised loans to be made to different landowners to the amount altogether of 100,000,000 francs.

Prince Napoleon arrived in Paris on Monday night from Warsaw and Dresden, and at eight o'clock next morning he left for the camp at Châlons. After re-

maining some hours with the Emperor, the Prince returned to Paris. General Codrington, of the English army, and Colonel Blanc, arrived at the camp this morning, and were invited by the Emperor to spend some days at the imperial head-quarters.

It is stated that at the meeting of the Plenipotentiaries, which took place on Saturday, to exchange the ratifications of the Danubian Principalities Convention, an inquiry was ordered to be set on foot to ascertain in what way the *Indépendance Belge* procured a copy of that document.

A "warning" has been given to the *Gironde*, a journal of Bordeaux, for having, in an article on the state of the provincial press, "violently attacked the law on the press, and represented it as an instrument of oppression and tyranny."

The Emperor is to remain at the camp of Châlons until the 10th. The marriage of the Duke of Malakoff with Mlle. de la Paniega will be celebrated on the 12th inst. at St. Cloud, in the presence of the Emperor and Empress.

The affair of the seizure of a French ship in the Indian ocean, carrying negroes—free labourers—on board, by the Portuguese, of which mention was made formerly, takes a bad turn. The Portuguese Government refuses to annul the verdict of the Court at Goa, and two French men-of-war, the *Donanwoerth* and the *Austerlitz*, have, in consequence, been ordered to the Tagus.

Colonel Faidherbe, Governor of Senegal, has obtained leave to visit Paris to confer with the Emperor on the plans now under consideration for the improvement of the colony.

It is said that apartments have been engaged at the Hôtel de Louvre for Jung Bahadoor, the Nepaules Prince, who is expected in Paris on his way to London.

RUSSIA.

It is stated as certain that the Emperor of Russia has been invited by Prince Napoleon to visit France, and has accepted the invitation, and that both London and Paris will be honoured with his presence next spring.

The Russian Steam Navigation Company is making several more arrangements of the Villafranca sort. In addition to a depôt in Algeria, others in Egypt and Barbary are mentioned, besides one in Greece.

The Emperor Alexander on his journey to Warsaw had to pass through the governments of Tver, Kostroma, Jaroslav, Nijni-Novgorod, Vladimir, and Moscow. In most of these his Majesty addressed the representatives of the nobility, speaking chiefly of the topic of the day, the situation of the peasant class, and thanking them for the zeal which they had displayed in carrying into effect the reform which he had so greatly at heart—namely, the emancipation of the serfs.

BAVARIA.

On the first day of the legislative session of the Bavarian Chambers, the King, finding the opposition in a majority, dissolved them. New elections will take place directly.

On the 27th of September there was a festival at Munich, in commemoration of the 700th anniversary of the day on which the city was founded. Nothing could be more magnificent and imposing than the procession, which was composed of 3000 persons and 500 horses, and contained *tableaux* of the principal events which have occurred in Bavaria during the last seven centuries, and the portraits of many of the more remarkable personages who have figured in South German history during that period. In order to form a correct idea of the festival, it is necessary to state that the Munich artists so conscientiously performed their duties that each separate person was dressed after a drawing taken from some original costume. There were no anachronisms to find fault with, and the taste displayed by the honest drinkers of beer was wonderful. There was no frippery, no tinsel-work.

SPAIN.

The rumour of Queen Christina's return to Madrid, which was circulated within the last few days, is contradicted by the journals in a position to be well informed.

The permission which the Government granted to the Progresista party to hold an electoral meeting in Madrid, has not been extended to the Democratic party. The reason is, that this party has of late been given to threatening language against the Court, and to praises of physical force as the best means to redress the grievances of the people.

The *Madrid Gazette* contains a royal decree, which enacts that the municipal elections throughout Spain and the adjacent islands shall take place on Sunday, the 7th of November. The *Gazette* also contains a series of decrees authorising the nomination of a board of administration in the Philippine Islands, which is to apply the surplus funds of those islands to their local necessities without the control of the Home Government.

The *Madrid Gazette* publishes a Royal ordinance authorising Government to receive tenders for the concession for a line of packets from the Peninsula to the West Indies.

Several Progresista electoral committees are preparing manifestoes, in which support is promised to the Ministry.

On the 1st instant, after paying the dues of the month, about a million of dollars was left in the Treasury, which is mentioned as a proof of the prudential measures of the Finance Minister. Party spirit runs very high in Madrid just now. Four Moderado journals have publicly announced that with one organ of the press, the *Diario Espanol*, they will hold no intercourse, nor take any notice of it except in a court of justice. A personal conflict took place on the 1st between the editors of the *Iberia* and *Diario*. The former struck the latter in the face, and in two hours after was on his way to Valladolid, on urgent private affairs.

TURKEY.

On the 22nd ult. Lord Stratford de Redcliffe received a deputation of the British residents at Constantinople. In thanking them for the compliment paid him, he said that his stay at Constantinople would be but of short duration, and went on to speak in praise of his successor.

The *Journal de Constantinople*, in its account of Lord Stratford de Redcliffe's official reception by the Grand Vizier, on September 22, speaks of the persons "attached to his lordship's special mission," from which it is to be inferred that the late ambassador's journey to Constantinople had some political object. The *Times* correspondent asserts that his lordship is bearer of an autograph letter from her Majesty, in which she informs her brother and ally the Sultan, that Lord Stratford, her faithful Ambassador for many years at the Sultan's Court, has come out to take leave of his Majesty, and that she requests the Sultan to receive favourably whatever so tried a friend of Turkey may have to say about the execution of the Hatti Humayoun of 1856.

The news from Candia, received at Constantinople, is not satisfactory. Sami Pasha, who passes for a determined enemy of the Christians, has not succeeded in conciliating the inhabitants of the island. They are resolved, it is said, not to lay down their arms until they find the Hatti Humayoun acted upon in every particular.

It is said that Lord Stratford de Redcliffe has been instructed to express the regret of the English Government for the bombardment of Jeddah, and that England intends to indemnify the sufferers. It is further reported that England will ask to rent the Isle of Perim for one hundred years.

NAPLES.

A correspondent of the *Times* says that the King lives in perpetual fear of assassination. He attended a religious ceremony some time since at the church of Ischia. The musicians were not permitted to carry their instruments into the church in cases, lest they should contain an infernal machine or an incendiary ball. During the entire service the King fixed his eyes anxiously on the musicians. Such is the miserable existence which he leads.

ITALY.

More street fights have taken place between the Papal soldiers, especially the dragoons, and the French garrison at Rome. It seems that the guilt lies with the French, who are described as having become addicted to drinking.

The *Indépendente* of Turin declares the visit of Prince Napoleon to Warsaw to be an event of great political importance, and the prelude of an alliance between France, Russia, and Piedmont, hostile to Austria. The intention manifested by the Emperor Alexander II. to visit Paris, the facilities accorded by Sardinia to a Russian company, and the augmentation of the French garrison at Rome, are considered proofs of such an alliance. Advices from Nice of the 2nd instant state that Austria will this year concentrate at the camp of Somma, near Lake Maggiore, a much larger number of troops than usual. Count Giulay will command in chief.

THE PRINCIPALITIES.

A letter from Bucharest describes the impression which the text of the Rouman Constitution has made on the people in the Principalities as by no means a favourable one. The Roumans think their old rights rather curtailed by it than otherwise, their Governments having been deprived of the right of peace or war, and of negotiating with foreign States, which they pretend to have possessed before.

PRUSSIA.

It appears that the non-settlement of the Prussian Regency question has been productive of inconvenience to the public service. There are five diplomatic posts vacant, and the choice of the gentlemen who will fill them depends not only on the settlement of the Regency, but on the modifications which may be effected in the Ministry afterwards.

Accounts from Berlin of the 2nd state that the King had become paralysed, and was wheeled about from room to room in an arm-chair. Dr. Frerichs, the celebrated physician in lunacy cases, has again been summoned to Berlin. Great difficulty has hitherto been experienced in finding medical men willing to give a certificate that there is no hope of the King's ever recovering his faculties again, without which the Prince of Prussia was naturally disinclined to take the initiative and claim the Regency.

The Prince of Prussia was expected to return to Berlin on the 4th.

DENMARK.

The Danish Chambers were opened on the 3rd by M. Unsgaard, the Minister of the Interior, in the name of the King, who is now labouring under indisposition. The first Chamber has elected M. Bruun as President, and the Second Chamber M. Rottwitt.

According to a letter from Copenhagen of the 30th ult., the Society of the "Friends of the Peasants" in Denmark had petitioned the King for the abolition of the common constitution and the re-establishment of the Danish constitution of 1846, and the Scandinavian union, as the sole means of safety to the State.

BELGIUM.

The King went from Brussels to Antwerp on Saturday to visit the Belgian Exhibition of Fine Arts.

AUSTRIA.

The *Cologne Gazette* says that the Austrian Lloyd's Company of Trieste are preparing to resist the competition of the Russian steamboats with all their strength. The company, it is said, intend to reduce their prices, and to make other large concessions to trade. It is thought that they must be backed by the promise of a state subvention. It appears, however, that the directors of the Austrian Lloyd's are by no means at one on the subject, and that several of them propose to sell the sixty steamers which the company possesses to the Russians.

A letter from Vienna says that the reduction of the Austrian army, which has been talked of for some time past, has been commenced. Some reductions have been made, and others are to be successively adopted. The *Vienna Gazette* of Thursday publishes a new law concerning the military conscription. The term of service remains at eight years, as formerly. The nobility will not be exempt.

SERVIA.

The official *Belgrade Gazette* announces that the Prince has resolved, in conformity with the unanimous resolution of the Senate, to convoke the National Assembly without delay.

GREECE.

King Otho is expected at Trieste, on his return to Greece.

SWITZERLAND.

The Federal Council has decided to send MM. Dubs and Bischof to Geneva as Commissioners for the execution of the Federal decree concerning the political refugees.

SARDINIA.

The rumour current in Paris of a projected marriage between Prince Napoleon and the Princess Clotilde of Sardinia is discredited at Turin, at the same time it is not thought improbable that the Prince may pay a visit to the Court of Piedmont.

INDIA.

By the arrival of the Bombay and Calcutta mails we have news from Bombay to the 9th ult., and from Calcutta, the 22nd August. The state of affairs in India may be summed up in the word—expectation. It is felt there, that the ensuing winter will see the war at an end. In no quarter does there seem to be any real fighting. The campaigning has degenerated into hunting the rebel bands by little detachments not a fourth part of their strength.

"By the 25th of October," says the Calcutta correspondent of the *Times*, "an army of 25,000 Europeans and 10,000 natives, chiefly cavalry, will be collected at Cawnpore. Then will commence the final campaign, not for vanquishing the rebels, but for surrounding, catching, and finally destroying them. We may expect, therefore, that the disturbed districts, which are now little more than a part of Oude and Rohilcund, will be brought fully under the civil authority, the power of the independent, fort-holding chieftains broken, and the collection of the revenue recommenced."

"The rebellion," says the *Bombay Times*, "is virtually at an end; for although numerous small bodies of insurgents are scattered about the country, there are but two or three quarters in which an enemy can be said to be in the field."

In Rajpootana, General Roberts has been tracking the remnant of the Gwallor fugitives with relentless footsteps, and as most of these men are found to be heavily laden with gold, the pursuers needed no incentive to keep up the chase, in which a part of the New-much brigade, under Colonel Parke, recently joined. The rebels are reduced in number to between 3000 and 4000 men, nearly all horse, and after making many doublings, they have managed to escape into the Kotah territory, placing the Chumbal between them and their pursuers.

In Oude the hunt after rebels has been equally vigorous. Sir Hope Grant having relieved Fyzabad on the 6th of August, marched to Sultanpore, where lay 18,000 of the enemy under Banees Madoh and other chiefs. He subsequently crossed the Goomtee, driving the main body of rebels up the country to the north-east, whilst some descended the stream, and threatened to cross into Shahabad and Behar. Several steamers, however, have been sent from Dinapore to stop the passage of the Ganges.

Tantia Topie's family of twelve persons has been captured and sent into Gwalior. In the Shahabad district one day forty rebels, another day ten, another one hundred or more, are wounded, taken, or killed.

In Behar there is constant skirmishing with rebels without much variation in the results; the enemy are always defeated.

The Governor of Bombay, Lord Elphinstone, and all the high dignitaries are at Poona, where an opera, the first in India, has been played with the utmost success.

Lord Harris, the Governor of Madras, is very ill. He has had a paralytic stroke, and his physicians recommend his immediate departure. It is understood that Sir John Lawrence will be requested to accept the vacant appointment, but it is doubtful whether he will be induced to consent. His health has also suffered.

The Naval Brigade of the Shannon arrived in Calcutta on the 14th of August, and were received by the President in Council, and all the officers of Government; 20,000 natives and Europeans turned out to see the reception. The brigade is reduced to 370 men, the majority of whom are lads of twenty.

OUR SIKH ALLIES.

The special correspondent of the *Times* writes:—"The affair at Dera Ismail Khan, which has been exaggerated by some, as it has been undervalued by others, has given rise to much uneasiness. The principal significance and danger of the conspiracy were to be found in the fact that they are Sikhs—even though they are Malwa—who have been conspiring against us. A Sikh rebellion now would be all but fatal to our empire. It is but nine years since they were our most deadly foes, as they have just been our best allies. Our danger arises from their inactivity. The army trained by Runjeet Singh's lieutenants could not rest till they had crossed the Sutlej and invited defeat, simply because they had nothing else to do. The army raised by Sir John Lawrence to save India may be equally restless, and there is reason, indeed, to believe that Prometheus is afraid of his own creation—not afraid in a cowardly sense, but alive to the dangers which may arise from an undesirable exercise of his giant strength. They are well mixed up with our own regiments, and they are without artillery, but still they muster 75,000 horse and foot. Now they are gorged with plunder, and so far are contented. But every step must be watched, and it must not be forgotten that Sikhs were often the foremost and bloodiest, as being the most daring and resolute, in the late mutinies."

THE NANA SAHIB.

The position of this adventurer is thus described by the correspondent of a morning contemporary:—"The Nana Sahib is separated from his harem and the female relatives of the Peishwa whom he protected, and has retired to the jungles in despair. He has apparently abandoned all active share in the councils of the enemy, and now only seeks his own safety. If he have a conscience, a memory, or remorse, as no doubt he has coward fears, the Furies are already avenging Cawnpore, and his life must be one long torture. The Mussulmans view him with horror, for he has murdered women and children, and Prince Ferozshah has not hesitated in his public proclamation to assign those massacres as chief among the causes why Heaven has inflicted defeat after defeat upon the armies of the Faithful. The Nana has still a considerable following, estimated at 2000 men, of whom the greater part are cavalry, stationed all round his hiding-place, and at present there is little chance of our securing him. He is accompanied in his dreary seclusion by that Minister of all evil, Azimoola Khan, once the pet of some London drawing-rooms and of some English ladies, and by many others of his immediate dependents."

THE TELEGRAPH IN INDIA.

Mr. Russell writes to the *Times*:—"The Indian electric telegraph system is in a most imperfect and unsatisfactory state. For the purposes of Government and for the transmission of despatches it is, perhaps, adequate enough, but even for those purposes it sometimes failed. Posts hastily erected fell or were blown down, and interruptions occurred, which were, however, rapidly remedied by the activity of the European officers of the department. It must, however, be fairly stated that as far as the public are concerned, the electric telegraph in India is conducted with such utter indifference to good faith that it is practically a swindle, and nothing else or less. They take your money, receive your message, and there is an end of the transaction. The gentlemen connected with the department, having no public opinion nor official censure to dread, are supremely indifferent to the abuses which exist in it, and their indifference permeates the ignorant half-castes, who, in default of those whom higher wages would secure, are employed as clerks, and who succeed in mangling beyond recognition such messages as they are pleased to transmit. There is some extraordinary want of insulation in the official wires of the establishment. As I said, you go to the office, deliver your message, pay the money, which it is a fraud to take if the message is not sent, and then you depart, at first with confidence, which fast diminishes with each message, till at

last utter distrust takes its place. What becomes of your message? Who knows? It escapes on the way—it is diluted into nothing—it flies into the ground, or the air, or down the posts, or is lost in a battery, or becomes a joke for a dull clerk at a repeating station. About a month ago I sent a message from Umballah to Calcutta. As I received no reply I wrote to the gentleman respecting its subject matter, and he, in his answer a fortnight after, said—"I have received no telegraph message from you. It is, no doubt, on the road, and will turn up some time or another."

CHINA.

ADVICES from Hong-Kong are to the 12th of August:—The Viceroy of the province of Canton, had received news of the conclusion of a treaty of peace, and had immediately announced it to the Cantonese. The immediate effect was a cessation of the rocket and gun firing at night, so that the garrison at Canton was able once more to sleep in peace. It was hoped that these first fruits of the treaty would be permanent, and that the kidnapping and similar dastardly modes of warfare practised by the braves would cease.

The Russian envoy remained at Tien-tsin. A large number of Russian ships and steamers were in the vicinity of, or on their way to, the Pei-ho. The allied fleet had dispersed from the Pei-ho.

Lord Elgin and Sir Michael Seymour have proceeded from Shanghai to Japan. The presence of the latter is much required at Canton, where the state of things does not improve. Sir Michael Seymour, after visiting Japan, was expected to arrive at Canton about the middle of September.

Lord Elgin was to return from Japan to Shanghai to meet the Commissioners that are to be sent down from Peking.

The British Consulate has again retired from Canton, and only one or two foreigners are at present up there.

In consequence of the great inconvenience felt at Hong-Kong by foreigners, as well as Chinese, from the edicts of the mandarins ordering the people and servants away, an address was presented to Sir John Bowring, requesting him to take the matter into consideration, and with the assistance of the senior naval officer to adopt some measure that would counteract the orders of the mandarins. A proclamation was issued by Sir John announcing the conclusion of peace; and stating that if the edicts in question were not immediately withdrawn, and the people allowed to return to their business, the persons to whom the hostile acts should be traced would be liable to signal punishment as enemies of Great Britain, and rebels against the authority of the Emperor. Some copies of this proclamation were posted up in the suburbs of Namtow; but an attempt to distribute others from the gunboat *Starling* was met by an attack upon the crew by hundreds of Chinese sailors, notwithstanding the boat carried a flag of truce. One English sailor was shot. General Straubenzee and a large force from Canton, with several gunboats from Hong-Kong, had proceeded to Namtow to inflict punishment on the authorities of that place for firing upon one of our boats with a flag of truce.

MR. CHISHOLM ANSTREY.—The *China Mail* of August 10 mentions the suspension, from the office of Attorney-General, of Mr. Chisholm Anstrey, "who," it says, "has acted towards the Governor and other officials in a manner which necessitated the step. Mr. Anstrey's character and failings are so well known in England that his suspension will not cause any surprise, however the necessity of it may be regretted there, as it certainly is here, by all who have observed his honesty of purpose and his skill in dealing with Chinese witnesses. Mr. Day, the senior counsel in the colony after Dr. Bridges, who still acts as Colonial Secretary, will take his place in the interim as Attorney-General."

PERSIA.

SOME explanatory communications on the ministerial crisis at Teheran, which has resulted in the abolition of the Vizierate, have been received. They still leave the matter somewhat mysterious. The Shah, it is said, has discovered the real cause of the late war with England, and therefore has dismissed the Vizier. This seems to mean that he has discovered the Vizier to have been bribed by Russia to advise those steps which brought on the war. There is now to be a regular Persian ministry, without a Vizier, consisting of five, among whom are a French officer, who holds the grade of general of division in the Persian army, and Ferruck Khan, well known by his recent missions to Europe, the former as Minister of War and the latter as Minister of Foreign Affairs.

Ferruck Khan, who is at Constantinople, prepares, now his great enemy, the Sadr Azam, has fallen, to return to Teheran, having succeeded in arranging the frontier difficulties with Turkey in a satisfactory manner.

In an interview which the British Minister at Teheran had with the Shah, after the catastrophe of the Sadr, the Shah explained how all the dissensions and the war

with England had been the work of the disgraced man and how all such things will be in future avoided now that he has taken the government into his own hands.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

THE Athens arrived at Plymouth on Monday, bringing intelligence to the 24th of August. The Governor was en route for the free state to adjudicate between the Boers and Moshesh, but had not crossed the frontier boundary. Union with the Cape colony has become a very favourite idea with the people of the free state of the Basutos. The preparations for the elections were going on briskly in the colony. Candidates are numerous, but differ but little in the political measures they advocate.

The general election commenced in September.

The missionary party, consisting of Mr. Moffatt and wife, Mr. Moffatt, jun., and wife, and the wife of Dr. Livingstone, were to leave shortly for the interior. The missionaries for the Makololos and Matabelos will not accompany them, but leave a month afterwards.

Colonel von Haken, of the British Legion, a Waterloo hero, who fought under Blucher, died recently in Caffria.

It is expected that the second battalion of the 60th Rifles and the 26th Regiment will leave the Cape shortly for India. The steamship *Megara* and an East India Company's war steamer were embarking horses in Simon's Bay.

BRAZIL.

THE Tamar has brought news from Rio to the 8th September. There is no political news. The Bank of Brazil, apprehensive of a run on the gold in the bank coffers, raised the rate of discount on the 25th August to 11 per cent.

At Bahia the weather had been unusually stormy and tempestuous, which prevented supplies and shipments, and in a great measure put a stop to business. On the 7th September a partial eclipse of the sun took place; about one-third covered at its height. A heavy south gale set in with a tremendous sea, which lasted four days. Many accidents occurred in the bay and on shore. The port is healthy, and prospects of crop good.

The weather at Pernambuco had also been very stormy, and operations for the coming crop of sugar were entirely suspended from bad weather. Some temporary interruption in the traffic of the railway had been caused by the washing away of a portion of the embankment.

WEST INDIES.

THE Parana has arrived at Southampton with the West India mail. The West India Islands are healthy, and full average crops have been gathered. The weather throughout the whole of these colonies has been dry. There is no news of any interest.

AMERICA.

WE have dates from New York to the 22nd ult. There is little political news. Two more steamers for the expedition to Paraguay were ready, and expected to sail immediately. General William Walker and Colonel Natzmer sailed from New York, on the 20th ult., for Aspinwall, it is said on a filibustering expedition to Nicaragua.

An attempt of some coloured residents to burn the city of Belize had been frustrated and the incendiaries apprehended. The frigate *Niagara* had sailed with the captured negroes taken from the *Echo*, for Africa.

The young English girl taken from the Mormons has been sent to the States, where she will be placed under British authorities.

A duel was fought at New Orleans on the 18th ultimo between Mr. Wood, of the *True Delta*, and Mr. Brabazon. The weapons used were rifles, of which three rounds were fired, neither party being hurt.

A new screw-propeller called the *Grand Admiral* has been built at a New York ship-yard for the Russian navy. She is pronounced to be one of the finest specimens of naval architecture ever launched in the port of New York.

Yellow fever continued to prevail with great virulence at New Orleans. The deaths during thirty hours on the 20th numbered 107. The Mayor of Charleston, South Carolina, had appointed a day of humiliation and prayer.

There is a report afloat here that the United States Minister at Granada has demanded the sum of six millions of dollars as indemnity for the destruction of property of American citizens in Nicaragua, and the murder of innocent Americans, during the late filibuster war.

Letters from Greytown announce that the transit has not commenced across the Isthmus, though the New York papers say it certainly will be reopened during October.

The following is from Halifax, dated September 28rd:—"We learn by telegraph from Newfoundland that satisfactory signals have been received at Trinity Bay during the past three days."

ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENCE.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday, 6½ P.M.

THE opinion expressed in my last letter that, in spite of the pretended official inspirations of the *Constitutionnel* and its positive affirmations to the contrary, there was every probability of the decree authorising the free importation of corn, which expired on the 30th of last month, being extended, has been fully justified and proved to be correct. Last Saturday's *Moniteur* contained a copy of a decree, signed on this day week at St. Cloud, which stated: "Art. 1. The delay fixed by the decree of the 22nd September, 1857, relative to different measures applicable to alimentary substances, is prolonged, in so far as regards importation, until the 30th September, 1859." The delicate and subtle beauties of the sliding-scale are not to charm the Protectionists for the next twelve months, nor yet to tax the food of the population. M. J. Burat, of the *Constitutionnel*, to whose disagreeable duties in reference to that well-informed and *soi-disant* authoritative journal, reference has previously been made, after positively asserting that, by this time, the prices of corn would be sliding up and down a Governmental scale, affirmed his belief that if at any future period the law, which, he fancied, would now regulate the movement of grain, should be modified, it would be by means of a new act, and he hoped that the last would not touch the principle of the sliding-scale, but only its mode of application. Whatever may be this gentleman's hopes, they are evidently as untrustworthy as his positive assertions. It is out of all probability that, after the sliding-scale has been suspended successively for two years, and free trade established in corn during that period, the Government would set it up in force again. Were the Government ten times stronger than it is, it would hesitate before resorting to so desperate a measure. Consequently, so far from sharing the belief and hopes of M. J. Burat, I believe the Emperor will never re-establish the sliding-scale; and if hereafter another ruler should do it, it will be the fault of the people themselves. I trust your readers sympathise with M. J. Burat's unfortunate position. True, he may have merited it, but that does not render it the less painful and ridiculous. To make a great flourish about being in the confidence of the Government, and then for it to be shown that such was not the case, must be very mortifying indeed, especially after the self-abasement that has been performed to be permitted to gather up the crumbs of news—often old and stale—that fall from ministerial tables. Few can understand how contradictions of this nature can occur, but the explanation lies in the fact that the Emperor governs, and that his Ministers are really the ministers to his will, and not his counsellors or advisers. Indeed, they are not competent to such an office. Most of them were briefless barristers, destitute of political and economical knowledge, and owe their positions to pliancy and the absence of fixed opinions upon every subject except that which they share in common with the Vicar of Bray. They are doubtless very docile, very obedient, capital copying clerks, and more or less ornamental to the Court, but they are not statesmen. One thing more they are—which might be expected in gentlemen of such narrow experience and limited knowledge in political economy—they are rank Protectionists. It is therefore just probable they may have inspired M. J. Burat, and communicated to him these forecastings in which the wish was father to the thought. But the Emperor having a will of his own, and on this occasion choosing to exert it, determined to give the people another year's free trade in bread. According to rumours, he met with considerable opposition among the Council held to discuss the question. That is exceedingly improbable, and one would be curious to learn the name of the Minister who opposed.

It is to be regretted that the public cannot be informed of the history of these proceedings, as they would place the character and motives of the Emperor in a much more favourable light before the world than they now occupy. The great penalty which is imposed upon arbitrary power is the constant liability to misrepresentation. His Majesty is now engaged in a great struggle in which no dynastic or personal interests are concerned. He is literally and truly fighting the battle of the people against the tyranny of monopoly, and there can be no servility in wishing him a safe deliverance. His position may be greatly strengthened by the conduct of the English people. I do not mean by any demonstration of sympathy and approval, for to take such steps would be to arouse the ridiculous susceptibility of the nation, and represent the Emperor as the instrument of British commercial aggression. The Protectionists would not fail to take advantage of an error of this kind on your part. But Englishmen may greatly help the free trade cause in France by proving that they advocate, and are prepared to practise to the full, commercial liberty in all things; and a reduction in the wine duties would be the best proof of their sin-

cerity, as it would also be of their disinterestedness. This measure would enlist a large agricultural population in the army of free trade; it would give employment and well-being to whole provinces, and would not reflect any very great injury upon the English revenue.

As might be expected, the appearance of the decree last Saturday caused wailings and gnashing of teeth among the Protectionists. On the preceding Thursday, the very day the decree was signed, their organ shouted victory and sang the beauties of the sliding-scale as "being the best mode of protecting agricultural interest, and, at the same time, maintaining the price of corn within limits that would not be onerous to the working classes." This journal having found out that people did not live cheaply where articles of consumption were cheap, likewise discovered that the relapse to the sliding-scale, which has not yet taken place, was a precursor to another relapse; namely, the non-extension of the decree which, expiring the 17th instant, authorises the free entry of iron for ship-building purposes, and the Francisation of foreign-built vessels on payment of ten per cent. duty. It is to be hoped that the perspicacious organ of the monopolists will be as successful in this instance as in the former one—that is to say, its prognostications in both cases may be proved to be entirely false.

Your readers have all heard of "His Excellency M. Troplong, President of the Senate, Member of the Privy Council, and First President of the Court of Cassation." This gentleman has the reputation of being the Talleyrand of the Second Empire, and, what is more positive, enjoys a very unfortunate cognomen, which precludes him from accepting, either a countship, barony, or dukedom, except at the risk of incurring the universal ridicule of France. Baron Troplong, or Duc de Troplong, would raise a laugh even in the shadow of the throne, and the aristocratic particle would be voted *de trop* in every circle of society; while, if he changed his name for the title of an estate, the smallest wit that haunts the Boulevard would ring the changes on Troplong being Tropcourt. Should he have the misfortune to take a title from his department, and sign Troplong d'Eure, people would laugh all the more at Troplong d'Eure, however hardened he might be; and matters would not be mended if in official announcements it should be set forth M. le Président du Sénat Troplong d'Eure. This fortunate politician, with an unfortunate name, has been following the example of M. Dupin, and giving the agriculturists of his department (Eure) the benefit of his opinion of things in general, and on his own merits in particular. The reader would not care to follow M. Troplong in his fulsome adulation of power and his servility to the priesthood; nevertheless, it may be instructive to note that the President of the Senate gravely stated to his neighbours at Cormeilles, that "the population (of that district) had marched to the ballot of the 10th of December (when the empire was voted) with an *ensemble* and resolution that nothing could shake, and there were then seen many electors mark with the sign of the cross the vote given to the Prince who was to save France." If the sign of the cross was made upon the voting-tickets, I fancy it arose from the belief that signatures are requisite. Now, Jacques Bonhomme, not having the gift of writing, signed his name with a cross, just as Giles makes his mark across the channel when too nervous to make letters. If this be not the explanation of the presence of what mathematicians call the most perfect geometrical figure upon the voting-tickets, then we shall be compelled to adopt M. Troplong's inference that the signs of the cross elected the Emperor and saved France. But the portion of his speech which is likely to interest your readers is that which contained the defence of the system at present existing, which leads to the almost infinitesimal division of property, and to the desertion of the country for the town. M. Troplong said, after a silly boast about England being tributary for the superfluity of Normandy's eggs and fruits, that, "in the midst of this increasing prosperity there is a phenomenon worthy of attention. Since nearly half a century our rural *communes* have lost some portion of their population. Every census proves deficiencies and emigrations, which, although slight at first, have ended, after a lapse of time, in a total which is not without importance. This fact, which has occurred in other departments, has given rise to painful suppositions and to strange comparisons. People appear to fear for the feeding of France, the recruiting of her armies, and the upholding of her greatness. Some, however, predicted for us the fate of the Lower Empire, exhausted by the desertion of the country before it crumbled away under the invasion of the barbarians. We do not see, however, what the Lower Empire can have to do with our civilisation, unless it be that there were sophists at Byzantium, and that the race possibly may not be entirely extinct. In fact, all this cannot be, at least in the district in which we are, a subject of fear. I only desire to speak of what I know, and I have not the pretension to contradict opinions based on facts not verified by me. But if I may judge by what we have before us, we can silence vain alarms. Without doubt the country has seen country-men leave who loved it little, and who have done well, so far as the services they could render were concerned, to follow their vocation. We are not a country of civil liberty without equal' to rest im-

movably in the castes of peasant and citizen. The country has also lost arms for which the plough was tiresome, and we cannot blame them for having left work for which they were unfitted, for work to which they were better suited. Lastly, the country has got rid of a burden of useless or dangerous elements, which at their risk and peril have gone to hide in cities their misery, their idleness, and their vices. Frankly, are these desertions to grieve over? On the other hand, the country has kept among its children all those who are captivated by the powerful attractions of the soil, who are attached to it by the bonds of small holdings, and who devote to the furrow (in most cases not much more) their time, their sweat, their economy; all those landowners for which the possession of land is a passion; all those robust labourers that are retained by the natal cradle and the habits of a simple life. These are the solid and faithful supporters of the country. With this army, powerful by its courage and always immense by its numbers, whatever may be said, whatever may be feared, our agriculture may defy sinister predictions, and rely upon a brilliant future.

"Do you know the motive of this predilection, of this ardour of country people for the land? It is the division of property as made by the Code Napoleon; it is the possibility open to the most humble to acquire bits of land with the fruits of labour and economy. Take away, if possible, the Code Napoleon, create obstacles to a peasant fixing himself by purchase in the land with which he has made a compact (literally planting himself in the soil), and the country will lose its prestige in his eyes. It is then that, disgusted with his fate, he will seek in cities that fortune which he asked of the land of his affection, and which that stepmother without bowels refused. It is then that the prophets of evil will triumph, and that the situation of the country will be lamentable.

"People, however, slander sometimes this division of property, and affect to fear that, drawn onwards by a perpetual movement of fractioning, it does not fatally end in a grain of sand and an atom. But they do not pay attention that beside the action which divides there is the reaction which reconstitutes, and that an inheritance shared by succession is remade by labour, economy, and marriages. To be convinced of this truth we have only to consult the registers.

"Let us bless, then, instead of blaming, our civil law which has made for us a rural class, and rooted it in the soil to the sweet bonds of property. I avow that to-day there are fewer large domains than formerly, but there are also a much larger number of landowners, and it is the small proprietors that are found unshakable in the days of revolution to oppose anarchy. I avow, also, there is a little smaller country population than formerly, but, on the other hand, there are more ease and well-being. Would it by hazard be preferred to have, as at one time in Ireland, an excess of population with an excess of misery? In short, I do not deny that work has often to wait for the carpenter, mason, tiler, &c. Is it because these artisans have left the country? No; they are more numerous than twenty years ago, but work has increased fivefold by the desire of every one to augment his enjoyments."

I give this extract as literally as possible in order that the reader might form a correct estimate of the mental powers and accurate information of one who passes for the master-mind of the present Government. There is not a statement, except the one relative to the decrease of population, which cannot be refuted, and there is not a proposition which is not in contradiction with what either precedes or follows. M. Troplong says that rural populations have diminished, but not the number of peasant proprietors nor of rural artisans. We have, consequently, a diminished total resulting from increase in the two component parts. A manifest absurdity. He also stated that the sub-division of property had not increased, and, a few lines previously, that the number of small landowners had increased. Can a man, then, be a landowner and owning no land? A friend saw sold the other day a landed inheritance for 18 francs and a bottle of wine. So far from rural districts retaining the most stalwart and laborious of their sons, the very reverse is the fact. The conscription carries off the best men to city barracks, where they contract a distaste for hard work, and an equally strong passion for the *dolce far niente* and the excitement of the *cabaret*. Those who survive the five or seven years' military servitude rarely return to field labour. They become waiters, bedmakers in hotels, and form the do-nothing or dangerous population of French cities. They are always the pest behind the barricade, and the last to bring up a family respectably. French agriculture is languishing for lack of labour, and unless some means be devised to supply arms to till the soil it must gradually perish. These are not the personal opinions of your correspondent, but of the few large landed proprietors that exist in France. They have been expressed at numerous meetings in the presence of individuals delegated by the Government, and have passed without contradiction—without even being called in question. Nay, more, I heard it proposed in a public meeting, in the presence of a *Conseiller d'Etat*, sent there by the Minister of Commerce to report what passed, to petition the State to refuse country labourers permission to go into cities for the purpose of settling there unless they

could previously prove that they had situations waiting for them. Something of the same kind is done with respect to Paris; and yet M. Troplong said France was the country of unequalled civil liberty!

To complete the picture of the attitude and language held by official personages and official journals under the present power, I quote from a description in to-day's *Moniteur*, of the review at Châlons, under the orders of the Emperor:—"His Majesty, in tracing by turn each of those grand traits of which is composed that complex and living figure that is called a manœuvre, maintained that unalterable calm without which the efforts of even the most intelligent of men, called on to move masses, may turn to confusion and disorder. The ideas of the Emperor, communicated with a perfect clearness to the chiefs placed under his orders, were marvellously comprehended. . . . The manœuvre was intercepted for rest, during which the Emperor, as customary, remained constantly in the midst of the troops. The scenes which we recently recounted were reproduced with fresh enthusiasm. The soldiers were attracted by that august face, which allowed them to come near with a calm and smiling sweetness. They felt themselves, when near the Emperor, to be in another atmosphere, where they could move at ease." The remainder of the article would be too heavy a tax upon the patience of the reader to give entire.

GERMANY.

(From our own Correspondent.)

October 6.

THE Prussian Court party—not party in the English sense of the word, but the aiders and abettors of the Queen—are beginning to evince signs of wavering, and are expected to succumb altogether in a very short time. The opinion of the outer world is too strong for them. The flying rumours as to the proclamation which installs the Prince of Prussia as Regent having been signed by the King have not proved true. It is now said by the Government papers, and well understood by the people, that the state of his Majesty's health is such as to render it unadvisable to subject him to the excitement that would undoubtedly be caused by such an act. The *Berlin Review* has repeatedly regretted that nothing authentic is published respecting the health of the King. It is merely presumed from the statements sent forth in the official papers that his Majesty's stay at Lake Tegern Castle has not been productive of any improvement. The King is now, it appears, unable to take pedestrian exercise, and a wheel-chair has been made for him, in which he can likewise sleep. It is said that his Majesty is very obstinate, and demands the most patient care. Notwithstanding that all the world believes the King totally irresponsible for his slightest actions, the Ministerial organs persist in the pretence that he is in full possession of his faculties, and that there is nothing to hinder him from carrying on the Government but bodily weakness; one of them informs its readers that it is presumed that the King will sign the proclamation of the Regency before his departure for Meran, that is, if his Majesty continues in his present debilitated state.

I think the Regency question may be considered as decided. After the return of the Premier Minister from Warsaw, a council was held, at which the opponents of the Constitutional Regency perceived clearly that their game was lost. Their savage efforts to silence the press resulted in calling the attention of the world to them. The Prussian press itself, too, showed a singularly bold front, and there was a prospect that a manly resistance would have been offered, for the press was really unanimous, and seemed resolved to entice the Government to its destruction by forcing the confiscation of every journal in the country. To perceive the change in the situation of parties, it is but necessary to compare the writings in the journals that were published before and after the 30th of September. Prior to this date, every article bore the impress of doubt and timidity, but now they are attacking the *Kreutz Zeitung* and its supporters with an audacity positively delightful to every lover of civil liberty. All insist that the time has arrived to carry out Art. 56 of the Constitution, and that the most simple and desirable way to do this is to procure the signature of the King, which means, of course, the consent of the Queen. The most convincing evidence of the defeat of the *Kreutz* party is the fact that the Ministerial organ, *Zeit*, has adopted this view of the question, for we may suppose that this paper would not have expressed such an opinion if the Queen had not been induced to submit to the Regency of the Prince of Prussia. A bitter pill for this haughty woman, for, as rumour goes, she entertains an implacable hatred towards the Princess of Prussia, which is even extended to her daughter-in-law; such is the report, but I should be sorry to say I could confirm it. The *Kreutz Zeitung* is beginning to "sing small," and only hopes now, that as the Prince must become absolute Regent, the King will at once take the initiative and put an end to the agitation. This paper notices the articles which lately appeared in the *Times*, *Herald*, and *Daily News*, upon Prussia, thus:—"Prussia has no need of British advice

as to the alliances which she ought to form, more especially we would recommend the *Times* and others to study Prussian affairs before they venture to pass their opinion upon them; it is evident that the writers in the English journals are entirely ignorant of the facts connected with the Regency question. The *Herald*, for instance, after erroneously announcing that the proclamation installing the Prince of Prussia as Regent had been signed by the King at Sans-Souci on the 24th of September, speaks of the consequences attendant upon this concession on the part of his Majesty as if the King's abdication had been a subject of discussion in Prussia, desired by the nation, and only defeated by the selfishness of courtiers. But every one who reads the journals knows very well that the idea of such an anti-monarchical step has never entered the brain of any man. The *Herald*, in conclusion, speaks in the usual silly manner of British journals, as if we Prussians could not breathe freely, for it is so ridiculous as to assert that the Prussians are grievously oppressed by the unlimited power of the police, &c. &c. The *Times*, too," continues the *Kreutz Zeitung*, "contains an article from an occasional correspondent which, if it affected us alone, we should give to our readers in *extenso*; they would see by it how little the great London journal really knows of the state of affairs here, respecting which it so off-handedly decides. But the *Times* speaks of the members of the august Royal Family in such a manner, that independent of the Press laws, we must decline repeating its abusive language. Finally, the *Daily News* is depraved enough to hint that mercenary views are at the bottom of the present political agitation in Prussia. Such infamy (*Niedertracht*) needs but to be registered." The *Kreutz Zeitung* takes very good care not to give a single extract from the *Times* or *Daily News*. The flimsy casuistry of this notice is, of course, sufficiently evident. The notion of the Prussian journals discussing the prospect of the King's abdication is rather rich, when we all know that they dare not discuss his illness or his appearance, much less his abdication. It is very true, therefore, that no man who reads the papers would imagine that the idea of an abdication had ever entered any Prussian's head; but any man who mixes with the people, and judges by what he hears, would say, that instead of an abdication according to law, they would heartily rejoice at an abdication according to nature. If the English journals are wrong in their description of Prussian affairs, why does not the *Kreutz Zeitung* give better information? What does the *Kreutz Zeitung* teach the people? But the *Kreutz Zeitung* is well aware that more is taught by the Occasional Correspondent's two letters respecting the mainsprings of the Regency question than by all the journals of Europe put together. The former letter of this correspondent was so garbled in the extracts translated and served up to the German public by the German press as to leave the impression that it was an attack upon the Prince of Prussia's adherents instead of upon the Court party. The *Kreutz Zeitung* is well aware that if the facts given by the Occasional Correspondent is not known to be true, they are felt to be true, and it knows just as well that the author of that article is a man closely connected with the Prince of Prussia, that he is a German well versed in Prussian and English politics, that he does not represent the Liberal party in Prussia, but merely the Prince's party, who are for ever-present slavery and constitutional government "looming in the future," like the "good time coming, boys." It knows that the author is quite correct in his views of the Court, and quite wrong in his opinions as to the people. The people did not "turn away from the vain lure of democratic phantoms," but they trusted in the honour, the religion of their faithless Prince, who, retaining the command of an enormous standing army of soldiers and police when the people laid aside their weapons with their enthusiasm, and returned to their usual occupations, laughed at their easy credulity, and defied them. The great Liberal party, comprising the mass speaking the German language, are animated by a root-and-branch spirit, and they have their gaze fixed upon the "Democratic phantom still." That phantom holds a corporeal banner upon which are inscribed the rallying cries of United Germany: one chief—freedom of the press—one system of laws—one coinage—no passports—no Aufenthalts Karten—no corporations—a regular Parliament—vote by ballot—and free trade. Is the Prince of Prussia, with his Bethmann Holwegs, his Auerwalds, and Bunsens, prepared to follow this banner? No, not to follow it, but to smile upon it.

The following truths uttered by the *Reform* upon the Danish question will show the boldness with which the journals are beginning to speak: "We by no means consider the connexion of the German duchies, Schleswig and Holstein, with Denmark as a misfortune for the inhabitants of those duchies, and chiefly because under present circumstances nothing could be more miserable than to be interwoven with the wretchedness of Germany politically so called. We would ask those who hold a contrary opinion whether they retain any recollection of the past? If they do they must know that the present connexion between Denmark and the Duchies is the work of the great powers of Germany. Who disarmed the Schleswig-Holstein army? Who marched in troops to pacify the country and, under the

mask of friendship, took possession of all the fortified places? The men who did this were the so-called German brethren of the people of Schleswig and Holstein. If anybody wants to know where German rights are encroached upon, we will tell him that in no country in the world are the rights of Germany so scandalously and ruthlessly trampled under foot as in Germany itself. *Exempla sunt odiosa*, and we have no desire to be pounced upon by the police. Those who will not believe what we have said, let them read the first unconfiscated newspaper that comes by chance in their way."

In Austria the stamp-tax upon articles of commerce which has been repeatedly and for many years past petitioned against, has just been abolished by an imperial ukase. This stamp-tax upon goods was introduced in the year 1696, and first applied only to leather, but it was shortly afterwards extended to all imported articles under the plea of moderating the injurious hankering of the people after the productions of foreign lands.

The authorities of Mecklenburg-Strelitz have closed their frontiers against Uckermark and Pomerania on account of a dreadful pulmonary disease which has broken out in the village of Sarnow. Cattle of all kinds, either alive or slaughtered, are strictly forbidden under a penalty of from five to fifty dollars.

The Bavarian Diet has been dissolved after a session of six days. The journals make merry over it, and say, if English history can show its Long Parliament, Bavarian history can show its short one. The causes which led to the dissolution are unknown. I mentioned in a former letter that some new clauses to the laws against the press would be introduced this session. Possibly the state of affairs in Prussia may have modified the opinions of the majority upon the prudence of enslaving the press.

INDIA.

REAL POSITION OF THE MUTINY.

We extract the following important information from a private letter from an influential quarter:—

"Madras, Aug. 25, 1858.

"It is expected that the new India Bill will be received by the next mail. Of course we must prepare for carrying on affairs on the new system, and for conducting business in the name of her Majesty. I do not think that the change here will be very great, in fact, I consider it will only be nominal. I do not think that the change will be understood by the natives. Not one in a hundred will comprehend its meaning or its necessity. Upon the whole, I should say that affairs are brightening. The Gwalior rebels have been well thrashed and dispersed—they have lost all their guns and ammunition. As far as the Oude mutiny is concerned the principal landholders are sending in their adhesion daily, and the area of the rebellion is certainly narrowing rapidly. We expect soon to have quelled all our enemies, except a few mutinous Sepoys and their leaders. These, however, will be difficult to subdue completely. They will give our troops trouble enough all the next winter, or cold weather, and even longer, unless some enlightened plan is put into operation of discriminating between positive and compelled guilt, and some conditions of amnesty offered to those who have not shed European blood. It is generally believed now that Arrah will give us most trouble. The Commander-in-Chief at last seemingly thinks so, as he has ordered Brigadier Douglas to make an attack, and to expel them, no matter at what risk and cost. But this is easier said than done. I think Brigadier Douglas requires many more troops, and the belief is that little will be done until the end of next month. Everybody feels the scandal of seeing one of the finest of our Indian districts in the hands of the rebels, who have superseded our power, and have of themselves appointed a commission, judge, collector, and magistrate, and who have the audacity to offer rewards for the heads of European officers."

CHINA.

STATE OF AFFAIRS AT CANTON.

The following extract will be found of much interest. Curiosity-collectors who are looking to China for the means of adding to their stores, may take a seasonable hint from the writer's reply to an application from a friend to purchase a few Chinese rarities and send them home. Further, the extract which we give (the letter was not intended for publication) throws a very strong light upon the condition of affairs, and especially on the value and estimation of certain official personages, whose names are for obvious reasons suppressed:—

"Canton, August, 1858.

"As to curiosities, you made your friend and myself laugh at your notion of the ease of getting them. I refer you to Wardour-street. Why, I'm thinking even of having my tea from England. I haven't been into a Chinese shop three times since I have been here. One gets anything here through one's servants. It's a great deal too much trouble to do anything one isn't obliged to do, and no one, except the very idle and the very

strong, go roving about at all. As to my doing it, why I haven't been into the shop region for six months, and haven't walked for three months. But, in fact, there is hardly anything to be got, and the little there is, is dearer and worse than in Wardour-street. As for really curious or pretty things, the Chinese will give more for them than we do. Why, if you were to send me 1500*l.*, telling me to spend 1000*l.* in curiosities and keep 500*l.* for my trouble, I should immediately give one of my interpreters 10*l.* to take the commission, profit and all, off my hands. Ah! you don't know this place. This place is socially a hell. *** is a cowardly old idiot; ***, as you know, is a madman. Perhaps one or two of us are a little corrupt. The consequence is, that everybody accuses everybody of all sorts of crimes, and we are all sitting on commissions of inquiry. During the last ten weeks *** has sat on the average six hours a day for forty days on commissions, committees, or councils, which have blasted the reputation of two or three people. All this with plenty of counting-house work, the weather hot, my wife poorly, and my little girl and self ill, I wish I was elsewhere. The war with China is over, but whether the war with Canton is over is quite another matter. I am of the blood-shedding party, and desire a massacre of the braves, a set of mere idling thieves and ruffians whom the quiet citizens and the mandarins also will really like to see extirpated."

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE COURT.—The Queen and her family continue to enjoy the fine autumn weather at Balmoral. Her Majesty drives out daily. The Prince Consort and Prince Alfred go out daily shooting or deer-stalking, in which they are accompanied by the Count of Flanders, who has arrived at Balmoral on a visit to her Majesty. On Sunday last the royal party attended the parish church of Aathil. The Queen and the Prince Consort visited their romantic hut at Alt na Gusach on Thursday, and passed the night there. This lodge is situated among the hills, and commands most beautiful views of the surrounding scenery. Its accommodations are very limited, and her Majesty is on these occasions attended by the smallest possible suite.

THE PREMIER.—The illness of the Earl of Derby deserves mention in our record of events. His lordship has been assailed by his old enemy, the gout, and in such a way, we believe, as to render him unfit for superintending the business of the nation.

THE PRECATOR OF CARLISLE CATHEDRAL.—The Bishop of Carlisle delivered his judgment in the case of the Rev. T. G. Livingston v. the Dean and Chapter, in the Chapter-house, Carlisle, on Friday last. His lordship said his opinion was that the provisions of the Carlisle statutes assigned to the dean a superintending power on all matters touching the celebration of Divine service, subject to the general ecclesiastical law, and that as the statutes were silent respecting the preparation of any list of music to be used in the cathedral church, the dean was entitled to inhibit the precator from preparing any such list; but he could not concur with the Dean and Chapter in the view which they had taken of the formal complaints preferred by the petitioner, which raised a question as the proper interpretation of the statutes regarding the precator's duties. He should, therefore, restore Mr. Livingston to the offices of precator and minor canon within the cathedral, from which he had, in his lordship's opinion, been without just cause removed.

THE BISHOP OF NORWICH.—The reports made from Tunbridge Wells in reference to the health of the Bishop are of a favourable character; he is still, however, advised to abstain from any active exertion.

THE GUARDS' MEMORIAL.—It has been arranged that the memorial in the hands of Mr. John Bell, the sculptor, is to be erected in Waterloo-place, on the north side of Pall-mall, but with a south aspect, so as to look along the area between the Athenæum and the Senior United Service Clubs, near where the Bude light used to be. The monument will consist of four large figures, to be cast out of Russian guns taken at Sebastopol, and the pedestal is to be of granite. The large models are all ready for casting.—*The Builder.*

MISS FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE.—It is said that this lady will shortly visit Liverpool, and take part in the proceedings of the National Association for the Promotion of Social Science, to be held there on the 11th inst.

THE BOYNE HILL AFFAIR.—The Bishop of Oxford has addressed an important letter to the Commissioners in the late Boyne Hill confession case. While he rejoices at the decision at which they have arrived, and maintains the propriety of a voluntary confession of sin, he yet raises an earnest protest against the introduction into the Church of a system of habitual and enforced confession.

THE HORSE-TAMER.—The partnership between Messrs. Rarey and Goodenough has been severed; "and while the latter," says the *Illustrated London News*, "has returned to Canada, laden with a cool ten thousand as his moiety, after deducting expenses, the master spirit has taken a journey to Sweden, and purposes seeing Lapland before he returns. It is surprising how the system takes everywhere."

CAPTAIN M'CLINTOCK.—A letter has been received by Sir John Barrow, from Captain M'Clintock, R.N.,

commanding Lady Franklin's yacht, conveying the gratifying intelligence that he has safely crossed the middle ice of Baffin Sea, and is in a fair way of successfully accomplishing the object of his enterprise.

NEW CAMEL CORPS.—The corps is thus described by the *Delhi Gazette*:—"Last evening the Governor-General, Commander-in-Chief and suite, were out on the *maidan* reviewing the Camel Corps, about 400 of these ungainly beasts, going through military evolutions. It was curious to see these animals performing almost all the movements of cavalry. Besides the native driver (armed) there is on every camel a Briton who occupies the back seat, in a position to use his rifle. The camels are well trained. On a touch of the guiding-string down would they drop on their knees, the riflemen would be off in a second, and go into skirmishing order till the recel was issued, when they would remount, and almost simultaneously, like a brown mass growing out of the ground, would the camels regain their feet."

A BOLD SKIPPER.—A small yacht called the Christopher Columbus has just arrived at Southampton from New York. She is only forty-five tons burden, and is scarcely bigger than an Isle of Wight wherry. She has been brought across the Atlantic by a man and two boys. She was wind bound for seven days on the banks of Newfoundland, and has been forty-five days reaching here from New York. She is beautifully shaped, and was built by Mr. Webb, a working shipwright, who brought her over. The voyage of the Christopher Columbus is the most adventurous one on record. Mr. Webb intended to take her to St. Petersburg, but the season is now too late. He brought over the Charter Oak, a small yacht, last year, and sold her at Liverpool.

PROTECTION OF LIFE FROM FIRE.—Four additional fire-escape stations were last week placed in the following localities:—High-street, Kensington; Notting-hill, by the gate; New Brompton, opposite the Consumption Hospital; and Tower-hill. In the past eighteen months seventy-four lives have been rescued from death through the instrumentality of the society, and since its re-establishment in 1843 (when there were only six stations) as many as four hundred and sixty-eight lives have been saved.

LORD GODERICH ON PARLIAMENT AND THE PRESS.—At an entertainment at Ripon on Friday, Lord Goderich said:—"The duties of a member of Parliament in these days appeared to him to be peculiarly responsible. It was a happy circumstance that they were able in these days to congratulate themselves that the bitterness of party spirit had passed away from private and social life. It was passing rapidly away also, he trusted, from public life: but if the ties of party were to some extent loosened, that only, as it appeared to him, threw greater responsibility upon individual members of Parliament. He believed that in the House of Commons in the present day, there was a widely-spread and earnest desire among the members faithfully to do their duty. There was one subject upon which they always united, whatever their party differences or divisions—viz. when they were called upon to defend the honour and independence of their country. This he knew, that if any nation in the world should be so rash as to think that she could attack England with impunity, they should be able to show her mistake. He could assure them that they would not find him the least inclined to enjoin parsimony in respect to our national defences. With regard to the press, the noble Lord said:—"Free discussion was the breath of liberty, and although they might very often see articles which they might disapprove or dislike, nevertheless he was quite certain that no man who loved the institutions of his country would desire to fetter the freedom of the press. He believed truth was stronger than error, and that they gained, instead of being the losers, by the influence of the press."

THE TELEGRAPH TO ALGERIA.—Mr. Brett, *gérant* of the Mediterranean Submarine Telegraph Company, represented on Saturday to the President of the Civil Tribunal, sitting in chambers, that the cable between France and Algeria, *via* Sardinia, which had been laid down by the company, and supplied by Messrs. Newall and Co., did not work well—some of the signals arriving incorrectly, or not at all—and that, in consequence, the French Government had declined to accord the guarantee of interest which it had promised for the establishment of a telegraph to Algeria. He therefore prayed that practical men should examine the cable, and report on its defects, and that the contractors should be made to effect all necessary repairs. Messrs. Newall and Co. contended that the application ought not to be granted, inasmuch as they had delivered the cable within a given time, and it had been laid down and worked well, which was all they had contracted to do. The court declined to interfere.—*Galignani.*

THE HEALTH OF LONDON.—Though the Registrar-General's return shows the deaths for the last week to have exceeded those of the previous week, the rate is much below the average. Scarletina is still on the increase; the deaths from that disease last week amounted to 184. The total number of deaths was 1021, and of births 1726. Dr. Letheby reports very favourably of the health of the City for the last quarter, the number of deaths being 28 per cent. below the average.

A BRAVE GIRL.—As the pupils of a ladies' school at

Richmond were walking in Richmond-park, a ruffian having thrown down one of the young ladies, attempted to steal her watch and chain; she, however, held it fast. Whilst the other girls, with the governess, ran screaming for assistance, one of them, a Miss Jesse, flying to her schoolfellow's rescue, attacked the man with such determination that he left the field without his booty. From the description given of him by the ladies he was afterwards captured by the police and committed for trial.

LEOMINSTER ELECTION.—The only candidate now actually in the field for Leominster is the Hon. Captain Hanbury, of the 2nd Life Guards, who sat in the last Parliament for Hertfordshire on the Conservative interest. Mr. James Wyld has issued an address announcing his intention of reserving his claims until a general election.

THE EGYPTIAN HEIR-APPARENT.—The fine steamship *Faid Gihaad*, built for the Pasha of Egypt, being ready for sea, a state visit was paid to her at Southampton by Toussoun Pasha, the only son of his Highness Said Pasha, the present Viceroy of Egypt. He was accompanied by Galloway Bey (the Pasha's agent in England), Mrs. Williams (his governess), a French medical officer, and other gentlemen. The crew welcomed the young Prince with a shout in their own language, resembling English cheers. On embarking in the *Faid Gihaad* the captain and officers of the ship received him as a guard of honour. The young Prince, who is five years of age, is a very handsome boy, thoroughly English in appearance, of fair complexion, with a little colour, and dark brown hair. His mother is a Circassian. He was dressed in Turkish costume, with silver epaulettes, band, and two stars, which, together with the hilt of a small sword he carried, were profusely decorated with diamonds. He speaks French and English like a native, with very little Turkish, and exhibited much intelligence by the observations he made in going over the vessel. A *déjeuner* was served in the grand saloon, which was presided over by the youthful Pasha. The health of the Viceroy and his son was drunk, which the latter acknowledged, by exclaiming in good English, "Gentlemen, I thank you." The young Prince remains in England another month, and then proceeds to Egypt.

NATIONAL SUNDAY LEAGUE.—On Tuesday, the annual meeting was held at St. Martin's-hall. The report stated, that during the year five public meetings had been held, and resolutions approving the objects of the association carried, with one exception. Petitions had been presented by Sir J. Trelawney, Bart., M.P.; Sir J. V. Shelley, M.P.; Sir J. Walmsley, M.P.; Mr. Schofield, M.P.; Mr. Cox, M.P.; Mr. Divett, M.P.; Mr. Ayrton, M.P., &c., from various parts, containing 4672 signatures; one of them, presented by Lord Stanley, from 571 gentlemen connected with literature, science, fine arts, professors of universities, &c., showing that the intellect of the age was in favour of opening museums, &c., on Sundays. A memorial would soon be presented to the Queen. The report then detailed the various steps in endeavouring to open the British Museum, the South Kensington, and other museums. The opening to shareholders of the Crystal Palace on Sundays was a matter of congratulation, and a discussion would soon take place on the question of the opposition got up by the bishops and clergy.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE PROMOTION OF SOCIAL SCIENCE.—The second annual Congress, to be held in St. George's-hall, Liverpool, next week, will be inaugurated on Monday evening by an address by Lord J. Russell; in the other proceedings Lord Brougham, the Earl of Shaftesbury, and others will take part. Tuesday will be devoted to addresses from the Presidents of the five sections (namely; the Lord Chancellor of Ireland, the Right Hon. W. F. Cowper, M.P., the Right Hon. the Earl of Carlisle, the Right Hon. the Earl of Shaftesbury, and the Right Hon. Sir James Stephen, K.C.B.); to a visit to the Akbar reformatory-ship, and to a *soirée* to the members and associates in the Town-hall. On Wednesday the Jurisprudence Department will be occupied with a discussion on Bankruptcy Law Amendment; and on Friday the Social Economy Department is to be occupied with a discussion on Coinage, Weights, and Measures. A public meeting will be held on Thursday, which will be addressed by Lord J. Russell and Lord Shaftesbury. On Friday, at a grand public dinner in St. George's-hall, Lord Brougham will occupy the chair. Among the subjects for discussion, papers are expected from Mr. Ruskin, Miss Florence Nightingale, Rev. C. Kingsley, and Mr. Slaney, M.P.

THE CONFESSIONAL.—A meeting has been held by the inhabitants of Greenwich to give expression to their opinion regarding the present attempt to introduce the practice of auricular confession into the Church of England. Resolutions were passed urging the necessity for the interference of the laity, that the Protestant character of the Church might be sustained.

THE COLLIERIES' STRIKE IN YORKSHIRE.—The strike at the Oaks Colliery, near Barnsley, which has lasted upwards of eighteen weeks, was brought to a conclusion on Saturday last, the terms being such as to satisfy both masters and men, without any giving way on either side. The strike has caused an enormous expenditure by the masters, and has also cost the Miners' Association upwards of 2000*l.*

A LAND REFORMATORY.—The committee of the Juvenile Reformatory Association, believing that market-gardening is the most profitable employment to which juvenile offenders can be put, have advertised for a market-garden, land, and a good farm-house and farm-buildings, within fifteen miles from Liverpool. This step, we hope, will not fail through the difficulty of obtaining a suitable site.—*Liverpool Albion*.

CONFEDERATION OF BRITISH AMERICA.—An important announcement is made in connexion with the proposed confederation of British North America. An evening paper states that Lord and Lady Bury, accompanied by his Lordship's private secretary, will leave Galway on Thursday next for British North America. His Lordship has been instructed by the Colonial-office to obtain the opinion of the Legislature and people of Canada, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick, on the proposed confederation.

ROEHAMPTON-PARK.—The magnificent mansion built by Chambers, the seat of the Earl of Besborough, and so long the residence of the late W. Roberts, Esq., the banker, together with the park, pleasure-grounds, &c., upwards of 110 acres in extent, have passed into the hands of the Conservative Land Society. This fine property, which has for boundaries Richmond-park, Putney, and Wimbledon-common, in the county of Surrey, with a frontage also on the Putney road to Richmond, was offered for sale by Messrs. Norton, Hoggart and Trist, in August last, who have now effected a sale for the noble earl to the Conservative Land Society for the entire freehold estate as it stands. Roehampton adjoins Putney, both localities having historical associations: the former as the place where Hobbes the metaphysician died, and the latter as the birthplace of Gibbon the historian. William Pitt died at the Bowling-green house.

VACANT APPOINTMENT.—The Chief Registrarship of the Court of Bankruptcy has become vacant by the death of Mr. John Campbell. The appointment is worth upwards of 2000*l.* a year.

THE WEEDON INQUIRY.—This investigation was proceeded with on Saturday; Mr. Aspinwall Turner taking the chair. Mr. Munro, assistant military storekeeper, on being called for examination, put in a lengthened statement relative to the manner in which the books had been kept and business generally transacted at the stores. He also gave it as his opinion that all the accountants in the world would not be able to unravel the tangled web of accounts, and that the Commissioners were sitting in vain. On Wednesday, the Commissioners went to the establishment of Government-packers in Mark-lane, and they examined with their own eyes the way in which books are kept and clothing is packed up for exportation. This done, they returned to the committee-room of the House of Commons and took further evidence. The inquiry was resumed on Thursday, Mr. Selfe presiding. The first witness was Mr. F. G. Hayter, army-contractor, of Mark-lane. He said his firm had acted under instructions of the Weedon storekeeper, until last year, when the whole of the clothing was inspected at Weedon. They charged what they did to the Government. He mentioned the different parts to which the firm had sent military clothing. They had received a notice that their services would be discontinued, but that notice had been reconsidered. Mr. Bishop, army clothier, was then examined. His evidence turned upon a statement that he was said to have made before, charging the officials with direct bribery. This he denied. He had had statements made to him, but he was not allowed to repeat them, as they had been made in confidence. The Commissioners thought the disclosure ought to be made, if there was any truth in such rumours. The chairman considered that the statement was false and frivolous. Mr. Ramsay, of the War Office, then gave testimony, in which he entered into all the details of the mode in which the business was done with regard to contracts. The Commissioners then adjourned the sitting.

THE ATLANTIC CABLE.—A report on the state of the Atlantic cable has been prepared by Mr. Henley, the electrical engineer. He states that the results of his experiments lead him to the conclusion that the cable has been seriously injured about three hundred miles from Valentia. He expresses an opinion that the fault existed in the cable before it was submerged, and that it should have been tested in water during its manufacture. He has put his large magnetic machine in operation, with a view to transmit messages to Newfoundland, but he will not know whether they have been received until intelligence comes from the colony by the ordinary route. He does not believe that the defect will be found near the shore, but he recommends that fifteen miles of the cable should be taken up and tested. Any attempt to raise the cable in the deep soundings would, in his judgment, cause its destruction. Finally, Mr. Henley does not despair of making the cable workable, provided that it does not get worse. Altogether the report may be regarded as encouraging rather than otherwise. By the North American, which reached Liverpool on Thursday, we have some later intelligence about the Atlantic cable, which is announced to be again in working order. We suppose this means that the signals sent by the powerful instruments of Mr. Henley have gone through the cable, and been intelligibly received in Trinity Bay.

COURT OF COMMON COUNCIL.—On Thursday the following motions were carried unanimously:—"That the freedom of this City, with a sword of the value of one hundred guineas, be presented to the Lord Clyde, commander-in-chief of her Majesty's forces in the East Indies, in testimony of his distinguished services"—"That the freedom of this City, with a sword of the value of one hundred guineas, be presented to Lieutenant-General Sir James Outram, K.C.B., in testimony of the signal services rendered by him, and in admiration of his high personal and public character." A petition was presented from Stephen Parker, formerly chapel clerk and schoolmaster of the gaol of Newgate, praying for payment of extra costs amounting to 18*l.* 18*s.* 6*d.*, incurred in an action brought by him against the corporation for compensation in consequence of his dismissal from the situation. It was moved that the petition be referred to the Coal and Corn and Finance Committee, but after some discussion and several divisions the motion was negatived. Another petition from the committee of Snow's-fields Sunday Schools, praying for pecuniary aid, was referred to the above-mentioned committee.

WELLINGTON COLLEGE.—This important national undertaking is being rapidly finished. It is proposed to have everything in readiness for receiving the scholars on the 1st of January next. It has been determined to light and ventilate the building by the gas light.

NEW FRENCH ARM.—Some experiments of a very important nature are stated to be making at Vincennes, with regard to a new kind of breech-loading rifled gun; these guns are to be made of steel, and they will permit of any number of rounds being fired without requiring the piece to be rebouched or revented.

GREAT SKIFF RACE.—The great skiff race between Clasper and Campbell has been pulled on Lochlomond. The distance was upwards of four miles. Clasper came in the winner by forty yards. The match was 100*l.* aside and the championship of Scotland.—*Scotsman*.

THE SHIP AUSTRIA.—Some more intelligence of the ill-fated steamship has been received at Lloyd's. Two vessels, which arrived yesterday, saw what was left of her at sea, and one of them perceived a number of dead bodies in the immediate vicinity of the ship.

FRIGHTFUL ACCIDENT.—This morning, George Main, a painter, was at work on a ladder at Newington-crescent, when it suddenly snapped in two, and he fell upon the spikes below with much violence, the points penetrating his body. He was extricated as soon as possible, when he was conveyed to Guy's Hospital, where he remains in a dangerous state.

SUICIDE.—This morning Mrs. Elizabeth Maxwell, aged thirty-eight years, of John-street, Wilmingtong-square, went to a neighbouring chemist and purchased some bichromate of potash, returned home, and swallowed it. On her husband's return home, the deceased said, "I have taken poison—I have done it." He conveyed her to the hospital, where she gradually sank and expired. No cause is at present assigned for the act.

THE CASINO LICENSED.—The Middlesex magistrates have been engaged all this morning in hearing the application of the proprietor of the Argyll Rooms, in Grea Windmill-street, for a license. Many police officers who were examined gave the place a good character, when it was opened in 1855 and 1856. The magistrates ultimately, by a majority of 25 to 14, granted the license.

THE NEW MEDICAL REFORM ACT.—On Saturday the new Medical Reform Act came into operation. The object of the Act is to enable "persons requiring medical aid to distinguish qualified from unqualified practitioners." There are fifty-five provisions in the new law. The medical council, to be styled "The Central General Council of Medical Education and Registration of the United Kingdom," is to be established. The several medical bodies are to elect one member, and her Majesty in Council to nominate six. The first meeting of the General Council is to be within three months of the Act coming into force. The Home Secretary is to appoint the place of meeting. Registrars are to be appointed, and branches of the council named to carry out the Act. All qualified medical men are to be registered. The register is to be complete, and non-registration is to prevent a medical man from recovering his charges, with costs. The Act provides that several medical boards may have new charters, and also provides for the education of persons for the medical profession. This Act may be regarded as the first step towards a reform in the medical profession, and to protect the public from unqualified practitioners.

LIVERPOOL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.—At the monthly meeting of this body on Monday, a letter was read from the East India and China Association, requesting the co-operation of the Chamber in support of the movement now being made to induce her Majesty's Government to resume the protectorate of that portion of Borneo which has been ceded to Sir James Brooke. The letter was referred to a special committee for consideration and report. A letter was also read soliciting the council of the chamber again to memorialise the Post-office authorities in favour of the appointment of Liverpool as the station of departure and arrival for the packets carrying the African mails. Referred to the postal committee.

COLONISATION AND SETTLEMENT IN INDIA.—On

Thursday there was issued a report of the evidence taken before the Select Committee appointed to inquire into the best means to be adopted for the promotion of European colonisation and settlement in India, especially in the hill districts and healthier climates of that country, as well as for the extension of our commerce with Central Asia. The evidence supplies some interesting information respecting the climate and capabilities of India.

IRISH ENCUMBERED ESTATES.—It appears that the entire number of English and Scotch capitalists who have been purchasers under the Irish Encumbered Estates Act of 1849, is 324; the Irish purchasers number 8258. The amount of purchase money of the former was 3,160,224*l.*, while of native capital something over 20,000,000*l.* has been invested.

NORTH COUNTRY STEAM COAL FOR THE ROYAL NAVY.—The officers appointed by the Admiralty to inquire into the relative merits of the Welsh and north country coals for the steam-ships of the Royal navy, have made their report. We may, we believe, state that their decision is in favour of the north country coal, which they pronounce not only equal, but superior to the Welsh. It can, they say, be readily burned without smoke, and with less detriment to the boiler, tubes, &c., than results from the use of the Welsh coal.—*Mechanics' Magazine*.

COTTON SUPPLY ASSOCIATION.—A meeting was held on Monday, in Glasgow, Mr. Robert Dalglish, M.P., in the chair. Mr. Morris, of Manchester, delivered an address on the supply of cotton. He stated that he had met with considerable encouragement in Glasgow, and that Scotland was expected to contribute 1000*l.*

SAILORS' WAGES IN NORTH-EAST PORTS.—A few crews of ships have left their vessels at Shields and Sunderland, in consequence of the refusal of owners to give the seamen the 10*s.* per voyage increase in wages claimed by them for the winter season. But there seems to be no probability of any serious interruption in the trade of the ports from this cause, for nine vessels had sailed on Saturday whose crews were paid the advanced rate, and on Monday and Tuesday seventeen crews signed articles for the same wages. The majority of owners, therefore, have conceded the men's demands. In the small ports no difficulty whatever on the wages question has arisen.—*Shipping Gazette*.

LIABILITY OF SHIP AGENTS.—HONG-KONG, JULY 28. —At a sittings in Nisi Prius, the court, with a special jury, resumed the trial of "Boch v. Pustau." In this case, which was adjourned about a month ago, the plaintiff sought to recover 10,000 dollars as for damages arising out of the alleged negligence of the defendant in chartering the Dutch ship Juno to Angier and Co., of Shanghai—said firm, before the charter was completed, becoming insolvent. For the defence it was shown that at the date of the charter, April, 1856, Angier and Co. were in good repute, but by the loss of the steamer Unicorn had become heavily involved. An immense amount of correspondence was submitted to the jury, and eventually a verdict returned for the plaintiff for 4250 dollars. The weightiest evidence for the plaintiff appeared to be that of the Hon. J. Dent, M.L.C., who said that if a ship were placed in the hands of his firm, and they procured a charter for her, they would consider themselves responsible for all losses should the charterer turn out insolvent—and this though at the time of making the charter they had no reason for anticipating the insolvency of the charterer. In this the court disagreed, and so, we think, will the public at large.—*Overland Mail*.

THE WESTERN BANK OF SCOTLAND.—The position of the shareholders is a most unenviable one. Not only is all the capital they invested in the shares of the bank gone, but they have already paid a call of 25*l.* a share to clear off the debts of the concern. And not only so; the liquidators have just made another investigation, and they find that after the payment of the 25*l.* call, there still remains a debt due by the bank of 920,000*l.*, nearly 1,000,000*l.* sterling. They therefore have made a second call, this time of 100*l.* a share. On the whole, this specimen of Scotch joint-stock banking has entailed a loss of 3,000,000*l.* on its victims.

FRENCH COASTING TRADE.—The *Siècle* having stated some time ago that the coasting trade of France was declining, this statement was contradicted by several semi-official journals. The *Siècle*, however, returns to the charge, and produces figures from the Customs tables in support of its assertion, and if these figures are correct the *Siècle* has certainly proved its case.

NAMUR AND LIEGE AND MONS AND MANAGE RAILWAYS.—A general meeting of the proprietors was held on Thursday. Major S. Parry, the chairman, congratulated the proprietors upon the satisfactory conclusion of negotiations which have kept every person connected with this company in suspense for so lengthened a period. He said the position of this company may be summed up as follows:—The encumbrance of having to make a new line of twenty-seven miles through a difficult country will be got rid of, ample provision will be made to pay the interest, and finally to redeem the whole of your debentures, and the dividends of 1*l.* 8*s.* 4*d.* on the preference, and of 10*s.* 7*d.* on the original shares clear of all expenses, will be secured by the guarantee of the Belgian Government. The motion for the adoption of the report was then agreed to.

Postscript.

LEADER OFFICE, Friday Night, October 8th.
FRANCE.

THE question in dispute between the French and Portuguese Governments, as to the seizure of the French barque the Charles and Georges, there is reason to hope will be settled without serious consequences. The French Government appears to be in the wrong. The Charles and Georges was seized by the Portuguese authorities in the Mozambique waters on the ground of her being caught in an interdicted port, and the French Government demands that she shall be restored, and satisfaction given for the outrage. The French Government deny that the ship was engaged in the slave traffic, but that she was merely engaged to convey free labourers to the Isle La Réunion.

In the matter concerning the Sisters of Charity the Portuguese Government is admitted to be in the wrong, and is not unwilling to make reparation.

Admiral Penaud, commander of the French squadron in the Gulf of Mexico, who has just quitted Paris to take possession of his command, received orders previous to his departure to protect energetically French subjects in Mexico.

Accounts of a great commercial catastrophe at Lille have been received in Paris. A warrant has, moreover, been granted by M. Artand, a magistrate at Lille, for the arrest of the principal in the house in question, who was an eminent manufacturer residing at Lille.

The Minister of Marine has given orders to prepare the steam corvette Reine Hortense for sea, to convey Prince Napoleon to Algeria.

RUSSIA.

At Warsaw it was related that Prince Napoleon was a suitor for the hand of Maria Romanoffski, Princess of Leuchtenberg, who was born in October, 1841. It is said that his Imperial Highness declined to stay to see a review which was to have been held in his honour.

PRUSSIA.

Advices from Berlin of the 5th instant state that the health of the King, which has been getting worse ever since his return from Tegernsee, now gives cause for serious alarm. The Prince of Prussia returned to Berlin from Baden on the 4th instant. He was received at the railway station by Prince Frederick-William.

The Regency question is definitively settled, and in a way which must please all parties, excepting the small one that has so long been all-powerful at Court. His Majesty the King will transfer (*übertragen*) the reins of government to the Prince of Prussia, and at the same time desire him to act in accordance with Article 56 of the Constitution. It is understood that their Majesties will leave Sans-Souci for Meran shortly.

SPAIN.

The Madrid journals of the 3rd publish a letter written by the chiefs of the Progressist party, who have separated from the Electoral Committee, presided over by M. Olozaga, stating that their separation is not owing to any difference of opinion on principle, but that it is caused by their not thinking it convenient for the Progressist party to oppose the O'Donnell Cabinet.

From Madrid, under date the 2nd, we learn that M. Turgot, the late French Ambassador, had nearly completed the settlement of his affairs which obliged him to return to that capital. He was to leave on the 12th. Rumours of changes in the Ministry were still rife, supposed to be inventions of the Moderados, whose rancour still pursues O'Donnell. The Queen continues to express herself very warmly as to her resolution to support constitutional government, and to keep within constitutional limits.

AUSTRIA.

The Trieste Observer announces that the Emperor of Austria has pardoned forty-five prisoners detained at Capo d'Istria, and one in the prison of Gradisca.

A Vienna letter states that despatches containing instructions for Count de Ludolf, Councillor of Legation, who replaces M. de Prokesch, had been forwarded to Constantinople on the 29th ult., relative to the deliberations of Montenegro.

THE PRINCIPALITIES.

A letter from Jassy of the 29th of September informs us that the population in the Danubian Principalities are highly excited at the present moment. The Greeks openly express their views on the subject of the reconstruction of the Greek Empire. They declare loudly that they expect to reign at Constantinople in place of the Turks, and at no remote period. The Bulgarians, likewise, expect that the day of their emancipation is approaching, but they are more calm than the Greeks, and will not risk an insurrection. They detest the Greeks as much as they hate the Turks. It is said, further, that Russian influence is not so great among them as is believed in France and Germany.

THEATRE ROYAL, DRURY LANE.

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

On Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, will be represented (first time in English), Flotow's celebrated opera, *MARTHA*. Characters by Miss Louisa Pyne, Miss Susan Pyne, Mr. George Honey, Mr. J. G. Patey (his first appearance on the English stage), Mr. T. Grattan Kelly (his first appearance on the English stage), Mr. Kirby, and Mr. W. Harrison.

On Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday (102nd, 103rd, and 104th times), Balfe's highly successful opera, the *ROSE OF CASTILLE*. Characters by Miss Louisa Pyne, Miss Susan Pyne, Miss M. Prescott, Mr. F. Glover, Mr. A. St. Albyn, Mr. George Honey, Mr. Bartleman, and Mr. W. Harrison.

Conductor—Mr. Alfred Mellon.
To conclude with, each evening, a new ballet-divertissement, by M. Petit, the music by Mr. Alfred Mellon, entitled *LA FLEUR D'AMOUR*, supported by Mesdames Zelia Michelet, Morlacchi, and Pasquale.
Doors open at 7; commence at half-past. Acting managers, Mr. William Brough and Mr. Edward Murray. Stage manager, Mr. Edward Stirling.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S THEATRE.

(Under the Management of Mr. CHARLES KEAN.)

LAST SIX NIGHTS OF THE MERCHANT OF VENICE, in consequence of the production of King John on Monday, the 18th inst.

Monday, and during the week, will be presented THE MERCHANT OF VENICE.
Shylock, by Mr. C. Kean; Portia, by Mrs. C. Kean.
Preceded by the farce of DYING FOR LOVE.

ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.

M. JULLIEN'S CONCERTS.

M. Jullien's Twentieth and LAST ANNUAL SERIES OF CONCERTS will commence on the FIRST of NOVEMBER, continue for One Month, and will be given as

M. JULLIEN'S FAREWELL

AND

"CONCERTS D'ADIEU."

Before his departure for his

"UNIVERSAL MUSICAL TOUR"

Through every city and capital of Europe, America, Australia, the Colonies, and civilised towns of Asia and Africa, accompanied by the *élite* of his orchestra and other artists "*savants, hommes de lettres*," being the nucleus of a society already formed under the title of

"SOCIÉTÉ DE L'HARMONIE UNIVERSELLE," Instituted not only to popularise the divine and civilising art of Music, but to promote, through Harmony's powerful eloquence, a noble and philanthropic cause.

The full Prospectus will shortly be published.
All communications to be addressed to Mons. Jullien, 214, Regent-street, W.

THE ROYAL GRECIAN THEATRE, CITY-ROAD.

Licensed as such by the Lord Chamberlain.

Lessee, Mr. B. O. Conquest. Acting Manager, Mr. C. Montgomery.

On Monday, and during the week, a new and powerful Drama of thrilling interest, which has been in preparation for several weeks, with new and splendid scenery, costly dresses, and brilliant decorations, written expressly for this Theatre by W. Suter, Esq., entitled

A LIFE'S REVENGE.

Characters by Messrs. T. Mead, Lingham, Grant, Manning, Power, Gillet; Misses J. Coveney, H. Coveney, and Rivers.

The favourite Divertissement, CATALANIAN REVELS, produced by Mrs. Conquest, introducing her pupils.

Concluding with the much admired drama of THE PHYSICIAN'S WIFE.

Dancing on the Monstre Platform at 9 o'clock, weather permitting. Mr. T. Berry's celebrated band.

CRYSTAL PALACE. — GREAT FOUNTAINS, CASCADES, and WATERFALLS, MONDAY, October 11. Last month this Season of the whole of the magnificent series of Waterworks, including the nine basins of the upper series, the water temples and cascades, the dancing fountains, and the numerous groups of the great lower basins, in all 11,788 jets, discharging upwards of 120,000 gallons of water per minute, the centre jets attaining the height of 234 feet. Doors open at 9. Fountains at 4. Admission 1s.

LAST WEEK BUT TWO.

PROFESSOR WILJALBA FRIKELL. — NEW TRICKS THIS AFTERNOON. — POLYGRAPHIC HALL, King William-street, Charing-cross. TWO HOURS OF ILLUSIONS—previous to Professor Frikel's departure on a Provincial Tour. Every Evening at Eight. Saturday Afternoons at Three. Private Boxes, One Guinea; Box Stalls, 5s.; Orchestra Stalls, 3s.; Area, 2s.; Amphitheatre, 1s. Places may be secured at the Polygraphic Hall, and at Mr. Mitchell's Royal Library, 33, Old Bond-street.

EGYPTIAN HALL.

MR. AND MRS. HOWARD PAUL'S Comic and Musical PATCHWORK, every night (Saturdays included) at 8. In addition to the usual programme, Mrs. Howard Paul will give this week her astonishing imitation of Mr. Sims Reeves, in Balfe's "Come into the garden, Maud," which in voice, action, manner, and appearance, is a marvellous piece of mimicry. Mr. Howard Paul will also enact Miss Tabitha Fry, an "old young lady." This entertainment is beyond all doubt the merriest in London. It is crowded every evening. Stalls, 3s.; Area, 2s.; Gallery, 1s. A Morning Performance on Saturdays at 3.

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

SOUTH KENSINGTON MUSEUM. — A

Course of Twelve Lectures on the Human Body will be delivered by John Marshall, Esq., F.R.S., F.R.C.S., Assistant-Surgeon to University College Hospital, on the 22nd and 29th of October, 5th, 12th, 19th, and 26th of November, 3rd, 10th, and 17th of December, 7th, 14th, and 21st of January, 1859. This Course will be delivered on Friday evenings at eight o'clock. Tickets, 6s. for the course of twelve lectures, or 1s. each lecture, to be obtained at the catalogue sale stall, or from Messrs. Chapman and Hall, 193, Piccadilly. A Summer Course is given, to which Female Students are admissible.

By order of the Committee of Council on Education.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

The Leader.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1858.

Public Affairs.

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

DOES FRANCE MEDITATE WAR WITH US?

WITH a section—and no inconsiderable section—in France and in this country, Cherbourg does not mean *C'est la paix*, but *C'est la guerre*. We have already declared our belief, and have shown—although alarm may be unfelt—that the wise part for the nation to play is to be fully prepared for contingencies. It is as well to collect opinions from all quarters, and to ascertain what is thought on the subject at home and abroad. A little pamphlet is before us, entitled, *Will there be a War between France and England?* By "A Prussian." The writer has taken some pains to probe the question, though not very deeply, and the conclusion to which he arrives is that war is near and probable. To some of his statements and arguments we demur, but still there is enough in the brochure to call for serious attention. The writer asks,

Does Cherbourg, or the extraordinary activity in the naval department of France, the building of so many ships of war, the erection of so many new naval stations, the strengthening of so many old ones, mean nothing but the cautious doctrine—*si vis pacem, para bellum?*

and then goes on justly to say that no force exists in the argument that "Cherbourg is only a counterpoise to Plymouth and Portsmouth." The writer states a recognised truth when he asserts that the real strength of France lies in her military, of England in her naval forces.

What object, then (asks the writer), can Louis-Napoleon have in view in his attempt to rival the naval power of England? The sea will be the great battle-field of the coming age, and fleets the principal instruments, by force of which the great questions of dispute will have to be determined. An army of half a million will avail the great military states of Europe nothing in claiming the first rank among the rulers of the world, if they cannot support their authority by those weapons which henceforth will decide the combats of great nations. If we weigh the importance of a country according to her material power, the great military countries without a navy will fall to the second rank. This process is already going on. The great council of the world is changing members. Austria, with her six hundred thousand men has no means to impress China or Japan with an idea of her greatness and power. Louis-Napoleon must know this; he must see that one man-of-war is of greater weight in the intercourse with Asia or America than an army of half a million. Russia, Austria, and Prussia too feel this, and exert themselves not to remain too much behind in the race for naval power.

All this is undoubtedly true. Every continental state of note is swelling either its mercantile or naval marine. Should general war, which is "looming," take place, a combination of small

leets and powers may become as formidable as a large power. The writer goes on to state:—

There are sinister indications which manifest the existence of other designs in the mind of the French ruler, and *Cherbourg is one of these.*

And then he refers to an article in the *Revue des Deux Mondes*, in which the writer says that "in case France does not possess herself of the dominion of the sea"—this is significant—"it would be imprudent for her to concentrate her principal naval resources at Cherbourg—her squadrons would only be in safety at Toulon or Brest." Commenting on his article, "A Prussian" declares:—

The lessons of 1813 and 1815 have been lost on the artisans of Napoleonism. Not only the military spirit of France, so dangerous to the peace of Europe, is, in spite of all its final failures, and in spite of the general eaceable and commercial character of the age, again awake, and springs forth in the petitions, addresses, and other warlike manifestations of the soldiery; but even the old revolutionary idea of bringing deliverance to the nations makes again its appearance, and tries to catch the vain and credulous multitude.

This is indisputable. The author of the pamphlet ridicules in no measured terms the pretence which France will most probably put forth for declaring war—that France comes to other nations, and England especially, "not as a conqueror, but as deliverer," who is to "free the masses from the oppressive English aristocracy, who lead a wretched life in the midst of general misery, and a population wanting bread, clothing, and shelter."

"A Prussian" thus strips the veil from this hollow pretence:—

If anything, the government of Louis Napoleon has entirely extinguished, in the nations of the Continent, the hope that any assistance to freedom will come to them from France. Though many institutions of England are strange and unnatural to continental life, yet the Continent beholds in the principles on which English political life rests, the true road to freedom and prosperity. Would Louis Napoleon dare to attack England, he may be sure that the democrats of Europe will not be blinded by his cry of universal suffrage, and that all that is liberal and patriotic on the Continent, Constitutional Republican, will rally against him.

Referring to the number of pamphlets recently issued from the French press, under the eye of our faithful ally, "all urging war with England, the following sensible remarks are made:—

Is it not one of the many signs that there are still alive in one portion of the French people the old feeling of jealousy and hatred, and that the Government of France, whilst professing friendship and good-will towards England, far from suppressing those feelings, allows them to be fostered and to grow. Almost every day brings fresh complaints from English correspondents, at the most hostile writings against this country are allowed to be spread through the provinces. In vain the organs of commercial France try to assure England that these opinions are but the utterances of individual pamphleteers. In vain they may protest against any admitted breach of friendship with the English people. The wondrous instinct of the people of England, as well as France, forebodes the coming storm. The French pamphleteer is right. All the people of Europe believe only that "Napoleon III. is meditating one of those great deeds with which he has before this astonished the world."

We recommend these remarks to the notice of the ex-Chancellor of the Exchequer. After showing that in both countries there exists a war party—we do not concur in the assertion that in this country any considerable body of individuals desire war, but we are firmly convinced, from personal observation and knowledge, that a large party exists in France with whom war with England would be welcome and popular—the writer says:—

There is another point of contest between the two nations—their national pride, we may say their national vanity. Each boasts of being the mightiest and greatest nation in the world, each prides herself of being at the head of civilisation; each looks down upon the other nations as upon inferior races, which are destined to follow her track. The unequalled glory of the "Anglo-Saxon race" haunts the English as much as that of "la grande nation" the French. In vain other nations pretend that the present age is not like the history of antiquity, where only one nation was the leader and lord of the world. In vain they assert that the present civilisation is divided amongst several nations, which share an equal portion, though a different share in promoting the progress of mankind. In vain they may claim that one nation excels in one, the other in another branch of civilisation. No, either the French or the Anglo-Saxon must be on the top; each is the mightiest, the wisest, the cleverest, the bravest, the most civilised nation on earth.

We do not entirely agree in the exactitude of these reflections. We deny there is this amount of national vanity to be found among Englishmen.

We believe, on the other hand, a little more practical vanity would be of advantage. We know of no race who will take, and does take, open abuse of themselves or their institutions so readily as Englishmen. The Anglo-Saxons are the only people who yield to others that superiority which they themselves may justly claim. Let any one enter a public meeting or a discussion society, and they will find that the most popular orators are those who abuse England and Englishmen the most, and who glorify other nations at her expense.

THE PRUSSIAN REGENCY.

THE Crown Prince of Prussia still hesitates to assume the sceptre. Loud and vehement discussions as to his right to do so are week after week prolonged—the sober-minded indulging in no end of logical argumentation on the point, and the more energetic giving way to fierce taunts and bitter personalities. No better proof of the truly anarchic state of things which the present interregnum has begotten can perhaps be found than in the unwonted licence tacitly accorded to the press. For years past the censorship has been exercised inexorably over all political journals in Prussia, and were the King in his senses, or were his brother actually on the throne, no such latitude as that now enjoyed by political writers of all descriptions would be suffered to exist for a day. In the all but total suspension, however, of royal authority, things are allowed to take their course, and the currents of opinion are permitted to ebb and flow as though there had never been a system of control based on right divine to order their wayward motions. The strangest part of it all is that the entire machinery of administrative absolutism remains standing and perfect, just as it was when the kingly pendulum stopped. It seems to need but a touch to set it going again; but the touch has not yet been given, and the German metaphysicians cannot make up their minds about the point of spontaneous action. In other words, Prince William Henry demurs to the step of proclaiming himself Regent, and Baron Manteuffel and his colleagues demur to enacting the farce of advising the maniac monarch to appoint his brother Regent or to commit the fraud of ministerially counter-signing a decree which their old master is incompetent to understand.

Lord Thurloe and Mr. Pitt were troubled with no such qualms in 1789. The circumstances were in many respects identical. George III. was as jealous of his heir as Frederick William; and the English Queen was as obstinate and unmanageable as her Prussian Majesty. How long the interregnum might have lasted here, Heaven only knows. The ordinary business of Government going on as usual, and every now and then the Keeper of the Great Seal coolly forging the royal sanction to great acts of State—for the public good or for the benefit of his party—had it not been for the existence of that Parliamentary element in our system of rule, which Mr. Carlyle is thankful the Prussian monarchy during its uprise has never been troubled with, and which, no doubt, would have been a serious hindrance to the robber heroism of Frederick the Great and his progenitors. After keeping the King secluded for some months, Mr. Pitt came down to Parliament with a Regency Bill, and with certain reservations proposed to vest the prerogatives of the Crown in the heir apparent. Why, it may be asked, does not Mr. Manteuffel take a similar course and convoke the Prussian Chambers, such as they are, for the purpose? The answer is plain and obvious. Whatever his own opinions on right divine or the theory of monarchic succession may be, we may be quite sure that his opinion regarding the future administration of Prussia is that he should continue Minister; but of this he knows there is no chance unless in the present crisis he bends to the humour of him who "shall be King hereafter." If the Crown Prince desired to govern by a parliamentary title he would throw no obstacle in the way of such a convocation, unless, indeed, from the exclusive and oligarchic composition of the Chambers, we fear that an attempt might successfully be made to make him only co-Regent with the Queen—an offer which it would be folly to expect him to accept. For years he has consistently held aloof from the councils of his brother, because in foreign policy they were overborne by the influence of Russia; and of that influence the consort of Frederick William was the indefatigable instrument and agent. It is therefore

quite conceivable that the Upper House, whose predominant sympathies have hitherto been considered Russian, and that possibly a majority of the Lower Chamber likewise, elected as it has been by a narrow constituency and under direct official interference, might refuse to create a Regency such as he would or ought to undertake; and if this be so, it explains what to us may seem at first sight so unaccountable at the present juncture.

There are not wanting those, however, who assert, we fear with too much reason, that the Prince is at heart averse to the idea of resting his future authority on any constitutional sanction. He has long been accustomed to look forward to the succession to the crown by hereditary right. If he should not outlive his brother, he has habitually learned to feel secure that his son would succeed to the throne by the same undebatable title. Now that he has unexpectedly been called on to ascend its steps in the physical lifetime of his mentally defunct brother, he finds it hard to ask leave of those whom he believes that he was born to govern. And this apparently is why he does not terminate all doubt and controversy by proclaiming himself Regent under the fifty-sixth section of the constitution, which declares that, in case the king, for the time being, shall be a minor, or otherwise incapable, the nearest *agnate* of the royal blood shall be Regent of his kingdom. Prince William Henry, as is well known, has steadily refused on all occasions to conceal his disapproval of the constitution. Passively, he has indeed been forced to acknowledge it; and it can hardly be supposed that he contemplates any *coup d'état* for its peremptory suppression. Perhaps, like another Royal Highness, he would condescendingly affect to say that "representative institutions are upon their trial." But while for peace or policy sake he may be induced to tolerate the experiment a little longer, he cannot brook the notion of assuming the sceptre of his ancestors by virtue of parliamentary law. Proud and inflexible, candid and wrong-headed, unambitious, but unyielding, he has been content to spend his life in loyal and frugal retirement rather than trouble the councils of his country by thrusting his advice or service upon them. And now, when those councils are paralysed and there is need of his presence and aid, he is as ready to take the most responsible place, only it must be on his own terms. It is difficult not to feel a certain sentiment of respect for the consistency and simplicity of character which marks the man, and it is impossible to deny that in a private station he is just the sort of person whom his fellows would speak well of as a straightforward, independent, honourable member of society. But unfortunately these are not the only qualities requisite in a sovereign, nay, they are quite consistent with the existence of others calculated to make his path one of peril, and his reign one of woe. The incapacity to comprehend the situation in which he is politically placed, and the refusal to accept it, are faults more fatal in a king than a thousand meannesses and foibles. James II. was unquestionably a far more conscientious man than his corrupt and profligate brother; yet Charles II. reigned merrily over England for three-and-twenty years, and to the day of his death could ramble about the parks with no other attendants than his favourites and his spaniels, while in little more than four years James contrived to enlist against him the Church and the army, the nobles and the mob, and found it no easy matter to escape out of the kingdom with his life; so true it is that a man to be thoroughly mischievous in a political station must be thoroughly honest. We do not wish to utter auguries of ill regarding the future ruler of Prussia, but we own that we regard his present equivocal conduct, and the motives which are believed to govern it, with grave misgivings.

LORD JOHN RUSSELL AND LORD DERBY.

SOME of our contemporaries have lately occupied themselves in discussing the question, whether Lord Derby and Lord John Russell have been putting their heads together in the concoction of a new Reform Bill. On the one hand, it is made the subject of bitter reproach to Lord John that he should have been inquired of on such a subject by the head of the present Government; and still more so that he should have responded in a frank and friendly tone to such a communication. He ought to have, like a staunch Whig, refused peremptorily to give any aid or help to a Tory Minister; for, by doing so, he lessens the dif-

faculty of that Minister in retaining power, and in a corresponding degree diminishes the chance of a Whig restoration. On the other hand, certain partisans of the noble member for London, with more zeal than discretion, disclaim in every mood and tense the charge thus made against his lordship's Whiggery. Never, they exclaim, has anybody dared to tamper with their favourite chief; and never has he told the head of his hereditary enemies what he would do about Reform. Imputations of calumny and slander are bandied about with vehemence; and there seems on both sides to be a strange forgetfulness that the allegation is capable of being proved in a sense which would deprive it of all colour of imputation or unworthiness.

We can easily conceive a man in Lord Derby's position desiring to know what so distinguished a politician as Lord John Russell is disposed to do in case a given proposition were made respecting the elective franchise. Four years ago Lord John brought forward a measure embodying a 6*l*. franchise for towns, and since then he has voted for a 10*l*. franchise in counties. Lord Derby cannot want to know whether he would go thus far, because he has already taken these steps, and in electoral concession everybody feels that there are *nulla vestigia retrorsum*. But what we apprehend the Premier might very naturally seek to learn would be, whether Lord John would agree to a somewhat lower suffrage for both town and county; and we can imagine nothing more legitimate than his expression of such a wish in honourable confidence to a great rival for the post he holds. He might truly say, this is no common question of parliamentary dodges and party biddings; it is one whose decision may affect for good or ill the future fortunes of that aristocratic order whose just influence in the State we both so highly prize, and the well-being of the glorious country with which our individual fame is indelibly associated; can we not find some common ground of agreement that shall be safe and lasting? and when we have determined a broad basis of representation for the sake of the realm at large, there will still remain ample room and verge enough for party battles and trials of strength in Parliament. We can readily imagine, likewise, the feelings with which a statesman like Lord John Russell would receive a communication of the kind. He would see at once that by giving a specific answer he would relieve his competitor for office from all doubt as to one important question; but he would ask himself whether he ought, on that ground, to refuse to answer him, and he would probably decide that honesty in this, like most other matters, was the wisest as well as the worthiest policy. What, after all, could he gain by refusal? If the present Government chose to play a cautious game, and substantially do no more than reproduce the 10*l*. county franchise and the 6*l*. borough franchise, already endorsed by Lord John Russell himself, any more liberal amendment moved by that noble personage would be infallibly defeated, in the present House of Commons, by the junction of the Conservative Whigs, under Lord Palmerston and Sir Charles Wood, with the Ministerial phalanx. And if, on the other hand, the present Government should, as we fervently hope they will, make up their minds, when they are about it, to do something more comprehensive and better than the Coalition Cabinet proposed in 1854, then Lord John would have no choice but to support in the main, or abandon all hope of retaining his lead of the Liberal party.

It so happens, moreover, that peculiar facilities exist for such an interchange of views in a patriotic spirit, and at the same time without political form or ceremony. Lord Stanley, as is well known, has long been on terms of personal intimacy at Pembroke Lodge. His visits there were frequent before he entered office, and they have not been discontinued since. Of the two, it is probable his sentiments agree more nearly with those of Lord John than with those of his own father; and there are many who have good opportunities of forming an opinion on the subject who look forward with confidence to the day when the ex-Prime Minister and the present Minister for India will be found sitting in the same Cabinet. There are several members of the existing Administration who would undoubtedly prefer forming part of such a combination to remaining in their present perplexed and equivocal position; and the country in general is, we are convinced, too thoroughly sick and tired of the worn-out shams and shibboleths of mere party to care a rush how soon the last shreds of the old

distinctions are given to the winds. Lord John Russell must have a bitter recollection of the manner in which he was flung overboard by the selfish and scheming bulk of the party in defence of whose short-comings, and to prolong whose exclusive grasp of power, he had so often sacrificed his own personal reputation; and he is not the man we take him for if he would not like to try, some day or other, to show the shabby dogs who joined in the cry against him in 1855, that he could dispense with their returning loyalty and their fifth-rate abilities. Be this as it may, we are sure that he is very unlikely to refuse in private to tell Lord Stanley his opinions about Reform, and as a Cabinet Minister Lord Stanley would not be at liberty to withhold from his colleagues information so important. The Cabinet indeed has not been sitting during the last six weeks, and as Lord Derby is still suffering at his seat in Lancashire from one of the sharp attacks of gout to which he is subject, it is possible that their reassemblage may be delayed till the latter end of the month. Meanwhile it were preposterous to suppose that Lord Stanley was not in communication with his father on the greatest of the impending topics that will engross their early attention.

Here then we have unravelled this pretty little bit of mock mystery, and shown that there is about it nothing necessarily mysterious at all.

WEEDON.

THE inquiry into the Weedon iniquities continues, and our daily contemporaries, in opposition to the expressed wish of the Commissioners, supply us with reports of the proceedings. We cannot believe that their desire for secrecy was spontaneous. It could only operate, as events have shown, to their disadvantage. In the course of the investigation one witness gave evidence that was displeasing to the authorities of the Horse Guards, or supposed by them not to be correct. Instantly these authorities by telegraph interfered with the examination, and passed a severe censure on the witness. As he was one of their subordinates, such a proceeding was well calculated to intimidate other witnesses and lead to the suppression of the truth. It tended to defeat the very object for which the Commission was appointed, and which General Peel professed to have at heart. Accordingly the Commissioners justly expressed considerable indignation at the proceedings of the Horse Guards, and their indignation finding an echo in the public voice, seems effectually to have put a stop to further similar improper interference. If their inquiries had not been reported in spite of themselves, they would not have received public support day by day, and most likely would have been snubbed continually by the Horse Guards, perhaps degraded into instruments for screening the malversation they were appointed to inquire into. The *Times*, which has not only reported these proceedings, but vindicated its conduct, and the other journals, deserve public thanks for the patriotic course they have adopted.

The more the inquiry is pursued the more striking becomes the picture of inefficiency, jobbery, and corruption; though it pleased Mr. Selfe to say on Thursday, that, as far as the Commissioners had inquired, the rumours of corruption vanished at the touch of investigation. At Weedon one man was inspector of articles, storekeeper, and issuer. He was under no control whatever, and if he did not give false vouchers and share the profits of the contractors, or make away with the stores, it was due to the extreme honesty of the individual and not to the care of his superiors, or the system they acted on. All the arrangements at Weedon, the reader must remember, are entirely of modern origin, dating only from the period when an end was put to the system of allowing the colonels to clothe the regiments. The inefficiency, therefore, was not due to old routine, or a reverence for bygone usages. As a clothing establishment, Weedon was entirely a new thing, and had to be regulated by the best intelligence of the Horse Guards, enlightened and kept in check by the public press. All the faults, therefore, and all the errors of the officers (if there be, as the Commissioners say, "not a tittle of evidence to prove corruption"), are due to the authorities of the Horse Guards, and Parliament will neglect its

duty if it do not insist on some of the gentlemen there being dismissed and severely punished.

Against such a monopoly of place and power as that mentioned, there are numerous regulations extant. Since the period of the Delancy and Melville cases, numerous inquiries have been instituted by committees of the House of Commons and by commissions into the best modes of keeping the public accounts, and of carrying on the civil business of the army, the navy, and the ordnance. As a result of these inquiries numerous checks of office on office and man on man were devised, and a great deal of complication and delay in carrying on public business was submitted to in order to ensure the honesty of public men. All these inquiries, with the regulations they resulted in, were all neglected or set aside by the authorities when they appointed Mr. Elliott to be chief storekeeper at Weedon, and allowed him to arrange the business as he liked, having officers who united in themselves such incongruous functions as inspector and storekeeper. The spirit of all the regulations for the civil service, which proceed on the principle that individuals are not to be trusted, was boldly and openly set at defiance at Weedon; and the jobbery and fraud which the public believes to have existed were the necessary consequences of neglect at headquarters. They justify the spirit of the regulations, and are a severe condemnation of the authorities which disregarded them. The value of the testimony, however, of the Commissioners is much diminished by the fact that they have no power either to compel the attendance of a single witness, or administer an oath. One volunteer witness could accordingly say that he had seen papers in the hands of another person which justified him in believing that improper practices prevailed, but he would neither disclose the name of that person, nor the nature of the papers. So an accusation which was made before the Contract Committee remains unanswered and unproved. This is most unsatisfactory, and amply justifies our dissent from Mr. Selfe's conclusion. The inquiry by the Commissioners is not efficient, and appears meant not to be efficient. Contractors, packers, inspectors, storekeepers, clerks, are all members of the same body, and all have an interest in keeping each other's counsel. When there is neither the power of compelling the attendance of witnesses, nor of extracting the truth from them by cross-examination on their oath, the persons most implicated keep out of the way, and all concerned guard all their secrets with jealous care. We cannot overlook the testimony of the Commissioners while we dwell on the circumstances which lessen its weight. When wanton extravagance, false pretences, and even a fraudulent disposal of the public wealth, are not uncommon amongst the heads of the State, we cannot expect greater virtue in the subordinates. Only a fellow-feeling in the chiefs could have allowed Mr. Elliot and his associates and clerks to carry on their business without accounts, to have no vouchers for the stores they issued, to keep no ledgers, never to balance their books, and be for ever in arrears with their business. Yet we are much afraid that this exposure will produce no beneficial effect on the opinions and conduct of the higher authorities. They have been so long accustomed to be under no control, jobbery and corruption seem to us so systematised and so to pervade all the branches of the public service, that the general opinion in them and of public men is not hostile to corruption. It is equally true of clowns and peers, of thieves and Pharisees, of schoolboys and members of the Stock Exchange, that the opinion they stand in awe of is that of their associates, neighbours, playmates, and fellow-labourers, and not of strangers. We infer, therefore, from the disclosures made by this Weedon inquiry, that jobbery and corruption are common to public men and public offices of every kind. They are released, as the rule, from the competition which not only keeps other men honest, but helps to form and correct their opinions of what the term means. The eye of the public press and the scheme of mutual inspection do not suffice, we are afraid, to keep alive in public men a sense of honesty; and we accordingly believe that the practices denounced at Weedon are much more a fair sample of the general conduct of men in office than an exception. One circumstance will strike the public as rather remarkable. It is—taking their own statements of their own impeccability—that there never was such a set of unbribable people as the tradesmen who supplied goods to the Weedon depot. We are afraid, however, that these worthies have fallen into the common mistake of "proving too much."

THE RUSSIAN IMPERIAL AGITATOR.

Who are the nobles with whom the Emperor Alexander has been remonstrating on their resistance to his august will and pleasure? The nobles of Russia have hitherto borne rather a high character in Europe, at all events as compared with the Imperial family. The Russians have been called the French of the north, and with no small reason: there is some family resemblance between the Russian Slave and the French Gael,—the same vivacity of idea, the same impulsiveness, the same sympathetic desire for approbation. But there are some differences. If the Russian has in some parts of the empire been benefited by an admixture of Norman blood, he has not had the corresponding benefit of admixture with Italian blood, that combination which has perhaps brought forth the highest and most commanding type of Frenchman. Still the Russian noble has been considered a man of active mind, of advancing views, of taste; he has been understood to represent the most cultivated aspect of Russian society; while the Court clung to old Moscow, maintained a savage indigenous spirit, resented French innovations, hated the sound of the foreign language at Court, and, in short, stood upon the ancient ways, barbarous as they were. Strange that the nobles in various governments of the empire should now be themselves standing upon the ancient ways, while it is the eldest son of that same obstructive antiquated family who is pressing for a great reform. The position of the Russian nobles is not unlike that of the French nobles in another respect—their over-developed feudal ownership of the cultivators of the land as well as of the land itself. The Russian noble owes allegiance to his lord, and must serve him with person, purse, and peasants, who form the raw material of the imperial armies; but with regard to the labourers themselves, they are the property of the noble; and when he contributes them to the State he does but pay his taxes in kind. If he has the ownership of the peasant he has burdens in consequence: he must maintain him in old age and in sickness, his is the charge of hospital and almshouses. We may be quite sure, however, that if the noble is under these painful liabilities, there is another side of the same liability which falls upon the poor peasant himself; and we could tell abundant stories taken from that point of view. If the peasant is aged, it must be a kind lord that lets him feel not his uselessness. If he is sick, he may not tarry in the hospital. If he is a valuable labourer, such a man as in this country could work his way, his lord wants his service. If he is an independent, courageous, intelligent man, he may speak a little too openly, is treated as a drunkard or outcast, and either sent to the army or to Siberia. Any way, his will lies in another man's hands, and that man a sort of French noble, who, like an Irish landowner of some generations back, racks-rents his tenantry; only with the more grasping capacity for raking out all that they can yield; and spending his money, faster than he gets it, at St. Petersburg, makes those at home feel the whole stress of his needs. Such a state of things cannot go on for ever; it must come to an end. A country whose peasantry are ground to the dust is daily impoverished, even while its numbers and its accumulated wealth are both increasing; and the spirit of man will not tolerate a consciousness of the strength with multitudes which the examples of luxury hold up before his eyes. They will not remain passive. A reform is necessary. In France it burst up from the under-strata of society, and the upheaval scattered the strata above, shaking the very throne to destruction. The idea has been struck out in Russia that such a reform may not come from below; it must come from above, and Alexander II. is the Daniel O'Connell of Russia.

But he is an O'Connell who confronts opponents very different from our Commons and Lords, with all the oppression that they are said to inflict upon Ireland. There is not, perhaps, in the world so remarkable a class of men as the Russian nobles, who represent almost every form of aristocratic power that at present exists in the world. To have amongst them many princes of the empire direct descendants of that Rurik who is regarded as the founder of the Russian monarchy; while many of old birth, of ducal power own as their equals in antiquity, nobility, and blood, and in some respects of wealth, men amongst the simple boyars or esquires of Muscovy, who, like the Yerapkins, the Rjevskys, or Liapounoffs, when the Russian

empire was consolidated, and they were deprived of something like sovereign power on their own estates, with something like power of life and death over their dependents, threw up the title of Prince and contented themselves with being the simple country gentry of the land. We have among the same distinguished nobility some few creatures of the Court who, like the Kutaissofs, descended from some Imperial butler, or the Viers, from a Venetian cabin-boy upon whom shone the sun of imperial liking. Amongst them also there are the Stroganoffs, representatives of that energetic merchant who really won for Russia her Siberian provinces, by intelligently employing the Cossack robbers that molested his own property, and loyally handing over the proceeds to his imperial master. We have amongst them the representatives of the Nesselrodes, and the Pozzo di Borgos, whom Germany or Italy has furnished for the service of the Court. But amongst the nobles also, there is a class of men who might make the Emperor pause if he were a man to be deterred by sense of personal peril or even dynastic danger. Amongst the nobles are the Orloffs, the Zouboffs, and Bariatskys, who are coolly recorded in authentic Russian histories as being amongst the actual murderers of the Peters and Pauls in the Imperial families, those headstrong ill-regulated princes that molested their nobles with their unconsidered innovations or vexatious regulations. If a Paul was murdered for meddling with men's beards and hats, what might not be apprehended by the man who meddles with their property—the peasants. No French levity which may distinguish the Russian nobles can blunt the danger; there is no button on the foil of the foppish nobility when its blood is up. The Count Samoiloff, who offended his imperial master, was the subject of undying imperial dislike, and he felt the displeasure in many ways; yet never was the young buck's blood quelled. When a popular actor was ordered to caricature him on the stage, the exquisite told the actor that he wanted one "property" to complete the perfection of the character: it was the diamond ring which the nobleman himself commonly wore, and which he presented to the actor to be worn when he personated the character. It was the same man who originally incurred the imperial displeasure by some military fault at a review, and when the indignant Emperor raised his hand to strike, the young nobleman coldly remarked, "Take care, sire, you see I have a sword in my hand."

The Emperor Alexander cannot take his stand against a nobility of this spirit now, notwithstanding its various origin and standing, united in such numbers to oppose him, unless he were conscious of very great support; and such is the fact. In the first place, all the nobility are not against him; but many who best understand the position of the country join with him in urging the most important reforms. Amongst them, for example, we find the Potemkines, distinguished for their fidelity and their audacity; the Scheremeteffs, of whose family the Romanoffs themselves form a younger branch; and many others. The Emperor has, on his side, the large and increasing number of professional men, whom his intelligent patronage encourages to study the resources of Russia and of science. We may presume that he has with him the merchant class, hitherto kept down by Court and nobles, forming, indeed, only the foundation of the class as it will hereafter exist in Russia. This class, notwithstanding its great wealth, has made little way into the ranks of the nobility, and is looked down upon. Some of the nobles have descended into it, and these have been peculiarly disgusted by the obstruction which they have encountered from the old-fashioned ways of Russia. In the matter of the railways, the Emperor lately discovered the large dependence which not only himself but the throne must owe towards this wealth-possessing and wealth-creating class. It is quite certain that the Emperor has on his side also the now turbulent millions of peasantry, who, by their impulsive movements, by the fires which they are lighting up in the Russian forests—those precious sources of noble wealth which, already so scanty, are so rapidly becoming thinned—show their impatience for the coming reform. And, above all, the Emperor has on his side the right. He has shown no disposition to stop in his career. It is reported, and the report is very likely true, that he has promised to visit Paris and London as soon as he shall have accomplished this great work. The nobles have, until now, exhibited a passive resistance. Commissions have been ap-

pointed in the various provinces to collect evidence on the subject, and to suggest provisions for the emancipation of the peasantry, with the necessary regulations for defining the social position and perhaps the municipal regulation of the peasantry; who would, of course, have henceforward, for example, to pay their own taxes to the Crown, to raise rates among themselves for local purposes, and so forth. Even these few considerations show how difficult and onerous the measure is. The nobles have not shown much alacrity in aiding these committees. In a recent tour the Emperor has addressed them in language of paternal encouragement, of reproof, and even of remonstrance and entreaty combined. He has announced to them that, after the termination of the local committees, the nobles of each province will be allowed to elect two delegates to sit in a central commission which will be assembled at St. Petersburg, and it is by the aid of this central commission that the Emperor will definitively arrange his new law. That new law he has determined, it would appear, to settle before he lays down the task, the magnitude and vital importance of which the reader can now understand.

PORTRAITURES OF THE ROYAL FAMILY OF PRUSSIA.

THE Court of Berlin, almost forgotten by us during the stormy times of the late war, has once more attracted public attention in this country. Through the affliction of insanity which has befallen the old King, the governmental machine of Prussia has all at once become unhinged; and questions have started up in the most unexpected manner, the solution of which will probably influence not only the future of Germany, but the course of European policy at large. The Prussian monarchy, at present, stands before the world the prey of the most violent dissensions of its Court. The unity which hitherto it exhibited, at least in appearance, has given way to a display of fierce and unseemly contention in the "highest quarters." Several monarchic parties,—or perhaps we should say factions,—are undisguisedly struggling with each other. There is the feudal and bigot party of the Gerlachs, Stahls, and other romanticists of right divine, who would fain uphold the government of the insane king, in spite of the wretched state of debasement into which he has fallen, both intellectually and physically. There is, further, the Jesuit and reactionary coterie of the Queen, whose desire is to establish a Regency, the chief power of which should belong to the zealot Bavarian princess. There are the minions, also, of the Prince of Prussia—a medley faction, composed of military and bureaucratic elements, with an admixture of the remnants of the "Gotha party." They are loud in their demands for the establishment of the government of the Prince, either as Regent with unrestricted powers, or, better still, as Sovereign and King. There is, lastly, even a small group who advocate the abdication of both King and Prince, in order to make room for young Frederick William, the husband of the Princess Royal. The latter knot of political speculators is, however, as yet insignificant enough, owing to the youth and inexperience of the party on whom they desire the regal responsibility to devolve.

So far as principles are concerned, there is, in the three first-named parties, but a difference in *nuance*. They all have the same objects in view—the investment of absolute power within the narrow circle of a particular caste. But the way in which they seek to accomplish this end lays in various directions. The Camarilla, whose tool King Frederick William IV. has been for years, strives to make the Crown the pediment of a mediæval building, of which the landed aristocracy and a certain sect of religious illuminati would be the supporting pillars. This is the party of the "Junkers" and saintly "Pietists." Opposed to it is the military and bureaucratic party of the Prince, who care but little for theological squabbles and antiquarian imaginings, but who advocate a system of despotism equally, if not more comprehensive, than even that demanded by the adherents of the King. As regards the Queen, she may be said, when speaking of principles, to stand midway between those professed by the King and the Prince. In matters of religion, being a member of the Roman Church, she of course goes far beyond the Crypto-Catholicism of her husband. In matters of government, she more approaches the dry, martinet notions of her mother-in-law than the exuberant feudal romanticism of Frederick William IV. On

the political ideas of young Frederick William, the husband of the Princess Royal, it will perhaps be better not to dilate. It may be that he has scarcely any as yet, except the few dogmas indoctrinated by the professors of the Haller and De Maistre school, to whom his father has entrusted his political education.

Thus, with a view to internal administration, there is probably little to be gained for Prussia by any change the succession to the throne may undergo. It remains now to be seen what influence the preponderance of any of the coteries above named would have on the foreign policy of Prussia—on her alliances with Russia, Austria, France, or England. This latter point is an important one, as it may react on European policy in general.

During the reign of the King, it is well known Prussian policy was always steadily directed towards the maintenance of good relations both with the Government of St. Petersburg and that of Vienna. At the same time, a civil understanding was kept up with the Court of St. James. In fact, the King's favourite crotchet was to preserve the "Holy Alliance," and to this Moloch he sacrificed not only the liberties of his people, but also his own personal dignity. He adored the Czar Nicholas almost as the preserver of the political universe, and the Emperor of Austria he hardly refrained from styling "his august master." In this way the three Northern Courts, as the French call them, were bound together in friendship during the greater portion of Frederick William's reign.

The Queen, on her part, followed the same course of ideas in foreign policy as the King. However, herself a Catholic Princess of Southern Germany, she is even more ardent in remaining on friendly terms with Austria. If any difference, in fact, is to be found between her and the King in this respect, we might perhaps say that, whilst the King strove principally to maintain the Holy Alliance, Queen Elizabeth leaned more particularly to the alliance with Austria, irrespective of all and every consequence. The Queen, therefore, properly speaking, is the exponent of the Austrian element at Berlin.

The Prince, as far as can yet be seen, follows a different track in these matters. He cultivates the Russian alliance at the expense of the Austrian pretensions. During 1849, this "specific Prussian" tendency of his appeared clearly enough: and on this point we are able to bring forward curious documentary evidence. Perhaps it is not saying too much to assert that the Prince's antipathy to the House of Hapsburg would even induce him to court the friendship of Louis Napoleon, however great might be his disrelish for any connexion with the *parvenu*. We need not add that his animosity to Austria does not spring from the possession of any Liberal tendencies on his part. Nothing could be further from his character. It is simply a question of hate between royal families,—a jealousy of Court with Court. But be that as it may, in any case the pursuance by him of a consistent anti-Austrian policy might lead to many important European consequences.

Among those who already speculate on the future kingship of the son of the Prince of Prussia, the idea of an alliance between Prussia and Great Britain is of course a prominent feature in the prospect. But here again it would be more prudent not to indulge in any *château en Espagne*—the accession of Prince Frederick William being as yet but a distant contingency. Altogether the situation of the Continent is such that it would be well to confine speculations to the probabilities of the immediate future.

After these introductory remarks, we give an abridged biography of some of the *dramatis personæ* at present moving on the Berlin stage. We begin with the most prominent figure, the one which now rivets public attention, the heir-presumptive and brother of the King.

THE PRINCE OF PRUSSIA.

In age, the Prince follows very closely upon the heels of his brother; the latter being within a few days of his sixty-third year, whilst the former counts well-nigh sixty-two summers. This similarity in years is noteworthy, for it has contributed in no small degree to render the jealousy between the two princes more violent and irreconcilable from day to day. The heir-presumptive, being a man of naturally resolute and ambitious disposition, has borne with a chafing spirit the precedence of a weak and vacillating brother, his senior but by a score of months. With the course of time, the

cagerness of the Prince to supplant the King has become more and more apparent. It was as if the mind of the Prince grew more exasperated day by day at thus continually finding his brother keeping ahead of him by a neck, without his ever being able to overtake him.

The secret jealousy between the two waxed fiercer from the moment when Frederick William IV. received at Königsberg the oath of fidelity from his subjects. From that day the Prince placed himself at the head of a faction which, often unseen to public eyes, intrigued for personal interests, and sometimes brought about violent scenes in the royal palace. In those early days of the King's reign, the Prince was leader of an ultra-Russian clique at Berlin—a clique in constant relation with the Czar and Ambassador, M. Von Budberg. It may seem difficult, considering the Russian leanings of the King himself, that the Prince should be able to outbid him in his Muscovite policy. Yet such was the fact. The monarchic ultras, in whose society the Prince delighted, were chiefly "Grandees of the Ukermark," French Legitimists, Spanish Carlists, and others of the same mould, all of them in high favour at the Winter Palace. To this coterie, King Frederick William appeared "too German" in his leanings. They opposed to him the Prince, as being a more perfect representative of the Cossack type.

Among men of this stamp the Prince soon became a model of absolutism. He strenuously resisted all attempts at the introduction of representative government. When the King, at last, found himself compelled by the financial difficulties of the country to assemble, in 1847, the famous "*Vereinigte Landtag*," the Prince refused to take the oath of allegiance to the constitution, if the word constitution can be employed at all to designate that miserable Landtag affair. The Prince declared that the royal prerogative had been encroached upon by the grant of a charter. He denied his brother's right to thus dispose of prerogatives which were not his exclusively, but equally the property of all his successors. It was only when the King, as Commander-in-Chief of the army, ordered the Prince to take the oath, that the latter obeyed. Placing his clenched hand on his helmet, he complied with the prescribed form, muttering the while with ill-concealed anger, "I bow to your Majesty's command!" Among his friends, the Prince afterwards did not scruple to declare that, though he had taken the oath in his quality as a soldier, he had not sworn in his quality as heir to the throne!

It may be conceived that these absolutistic freaks were not calculated to enhance the popularity of Prince William. At the outbreak of the popular movement in 1848, his person was consequently the object of the fiercest attack. But of this we will speak in a subsequent article, when we have to treat of the influence the Prince has exercised in destroying the last vestiges of German liberty.

TRIFLES LIGHT AS AIR.

NONSENSE.—It makes one doubt of the utility of Mechanics' Institutions, when one finds that the picked men of that of Leeds could draw up such a "sentiment" as the following, which was placed in the hands of a scholar, Mr. Monckton Milnes, to be recommended to a public meeting last week:—"The extension of the Schools of Art, as they impart a taste for artistic beauty, and give familiarity with the principles of which it rests." Let us translate the "sentiment" into English, and then see whether it be possible to make sense of it. "We wish for the extension of the schools of Art, because they impart a taste for artistic beauty, and make persons familiar with the principles on which it rests." The sentiment is now grammatically intelligible, but still we are in the dark as to its meaning. What is "artistic beauty?" and what are the "principles" on which the undefinable thing rests? It is a pity that the Leeds Institution does not "impart a taste" for common sense and "give familiarity" with Lindley Murray.

A PEEP BEHIND THE CURTAIN.—It appears from a speech which Sir G. O. Lewis, the late Chancellor of the Exchequer, has made at an agricultural meeting in Radnorshire, that he, at least, thinks no reform of Parliament necessary. He holds the House of Commons to be "a very faithful exponent of the general sentiments of the country." Unless Sir G. O. Lewis be a hypocrite—which we do not believe—it is evident that the question of Reform was not even mooted in Lord Palmerston's cabinet. When Mr. Bernal Osborne, after he had quitted office, asked

Lord Palmerston to lay his Reform Bill on the table, his Lordship said that it had not been prepared—he should have added "nor thought of."

HOW JOHN BULL IS GULLED.—It was supposed that one good, at least, had resulted from the miserable Russian war, followed by the more miserable treaty of peace, and that was the proclamation by the Sultan of the Hatti Humayoun, which was supposed to confer important advantages on the Christian population of Turkey. Our newspaper writers at the time fell into ecstasies on the subject. On Tuesday last the *Times* Constantinople correspondent devoted a column to proving categorically that this boasted charter not only conferred no right upon the Christians which they did not before possess, but actually deprived them of one, namely, their exemption from military service. The writer thinks it possible that the British public may be "rather astonished" to hear all this. We think so too.

WEEDS.—The *Standard* quoted the following passage from the Irish Registrar-General's Annual Report the other day:—"As regards the condition of Irish agriculture, I beg to state that I continue to receive communications from various quarters relative to the pernicious growth of weeds, which is unfortunately so prevalent throughout the country, and an anxious desire is generally expressed for some legislative measure to protect the improving farmer who cleans his land from the injury done to his crops by the winged seeds of noxious weeds carried by the wind from the field of some negligent neighbour. Such a protection is afforded to the cultivator of the soil in some of her Majesty's colonies, and in parts of Europe." Neither the *Standard* nor the Irish official seems to be aware that our law provides a remedy for the grievance pointed out. Actions for damage caused by the neglect to weed are occasionally, but happily rarely, tried at assizes. The last instance of the kind we remember was about fifteen years ago. We are not lawyers enough to speak positively on the point: but we apprehend that the remedy is given not by statute, but by common law, founded on the maxim, "So use your own that you do not hurt others." Seeing, however, that the holdings in Ireland are generally small, and the tenants not over rich, it may be desirable to give them a more summary remedy than that by action.

A SHOT BESIDE THE MARK.—In reviewing Mr. Salass book, called *A Journey Due North*, the other day, the *Times* gave an extract in which the author is at considerable pains to convey to the English reader a notion of the complexion of a Russian peasant girl. The passage we particularly refer to is as follows:—"Nay; there is a wood, or rather preparation of a wood, used by upholsterers—not rose-wood, ebony, mahogany, walnut, oak, but a fictitiously browned, ligneous substance, called Pembroke. I have seen it, at sales, go in the guise of a round table for 17. 9s. I mind it in catalogues: pembroke chest of drawers—pembroke work-table. I know its unwholesome colour, and dully, blinking sheen, which no beeswax, no household-stuff, no wash-leather can raise to a generous polish. Pembroke is the Russian peasant complexion." The writer has fallen into a ludicrous blunder here by mistaking form for substance. There is no wood called "Pembroke;" but there is a table of that name, having a flap at each end. This table, though seldom seen now, was much in vogue half a century ago, and, probably, took its name from some Lord or Lady Pembroke who designed it, as other pieces of furniture are called by the names of their distinguished inventors. Thus, all the pains which Mr. Sala has taken to establish a comparison with the Russian peasant girl's complexion are thrown away, and we know no more about the matter than if he had not written his minute description of what has no existence. The Russian peasant girl's skin may be of any of the colours of the wood of which a Pembroke-table may be made—red, black, white, brown, or yellow, &c. By-the-by, is Mr. Sala a Scotchman? The question is asked because the passage given above contains a decided Scotticism, "I mind it in catalogues." The English of this is, "I remember it," &c.

SAVE ME FROM MY FRIENDS.—When Lord Canning's Oude proclamation was under consideration, his friends in Parliament contended that the word "confiscation" had not the same signification in India as in England—they said it was impossible that his Lordship could have intended anything so bad—one of them used the word "atrocious." In his despatches to the Court of Directors, recently published, Lord Canning states explicitly that he did mean confiscation in the ordinary and English sense, and therefore his Lordship stands in the anomalous position of being condemned by his own defenders.

LITERATURE, SCIENCE, ART, &c.

Literature.

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

MR. CARLYLE'S LIFE OF FREDERICK THE GREAT.

History of Friedrich the Second, called Frederick the Great. By Thomas Carlyle. Chapman and Hall.

THE expectation which has so long possessed the public mind for the appearance of this book, the greatness of its hero, the importance of the historic epoch in which he was long the most distinguished actor, equally with the high esteem in which Mr. Carlyle is held as a writer and thinker, render it impossible to do full justice to its merits within the space of one short notice. We believe, then, that we shall best fulfil our purpose, and shall best succeed in performing what our readers have a right to expect from us, by devoting two articles to the subject, the one with the mere preliminary intent of telling what the book is and giving an idea of its contents, the other undertaking the higher office of recording our opinions as to its merits and value.

Mr. Carlyle's dislike of the eighteenth century is well known by all who have read him. His sympathies are only affected by what we may call, to borrow a metaphor from one of his early contributions to the *Edinburgh Review*, a dynamical age, an epoch of great forces concentrated in few great men. The antipodes of his hatred is a mechanical age, in which changes are worked out by the cogs and wheels of machines, or bodies of men, rather than by the direct blow and instantaneous effort of great minds. But Mr. Carlyle thinks that he has found in the hero of this book a man in, but not of, the eighteenth century. Voltaire, he tells us, he takes as the exponent of its valuable thought, and Frederick as the representative of its only heroic energy. And doubtless in addition to the attractiveness of that great actor upon the historic stage, whose life and genius he has undertaken to narrate and expound, the circumstance of Voltaire being his correspondent, first his friend and then detractor, so that he can thereby bring upon the stage together his two representative men of the century, has been to him an additional inducement to undertake this work.

As might have been fairly expected from his previous performances (and we have a right to measure an author in the maturity of his power, at least, by the standard elevated by him in his early writings), the whole work bears the mark of the most assiduous labour. You see at once that every pamphlet, every despatch, every letter bearing upon the subject, has been studied and mastered. The acts of every performer in the drama have been carefully weighed and reflected upon, every man and woman's portrait studiously looked upon, the eye of every speaker and actor carefully looked into.

The beginning of the book is consummately artistic. He presents the figure of Frederick the Great eighty years ago, by this time regarded by Europe as its greatest general and most kingly ruler, pacing about before Sans-Souci; and then having at once given you a peep of the goal to which he is to lead you through his volumes, he dexterously prepares your mind for the surprise and zest which must be immediately entertained when you turn over a few pages to learn the circumstances of the birth and training of the "Princekin" whom you have just seen, with military bearing, and keen and ardent physiognomy, furrowed with the wrinkles of thought and action. He sets to his work in earnest, having so successfully gained your ear. The opening paragraph to which we allude, we lay before our readers, as a partial corroboration of what we have said:—

About fourscore years ago there used to be seen sauntering on the terraces of Sans-Souci, for a short time in the afternoon, or you might have met him elsewhere at an earlier hour, riding or driving in a rapid business manner on the open roads or through the scrappy woods and avenues of that intricate amphibious Potsdam region, a highly interesting lean little old man, of alert

though slightly stooping figure, whose name among strangers was King *Friedrich the Second*, or Frederick the Great of Prussia, and at home among the common people, who much loved and esteemed him, was *Vater Fritz*.—Father Fred,—a name of familiarity which had not bred contempt in that instance. He is a King every inch of him, though without the trappings of a King. Presents himself in a Spartan simplicity of vesture: no crown but an old military cocked-hat—generally old, or trampled and kneaded into absolute softness, if new;—no sceptre but one like Agamemnon's, a walking-stick cut from the woods, which serves also as a riding-stick (with which he hits the horse "between the ears," say authors); and for royal robes, a mere soldier's blue coat with red facings, coat likely to be old, and sure to have a good deal of Spanish snuff on the breast of it; rest of the apparel dim, unobtrusive in colour or cut, ending in high over-knee military boots, which may be brushed (and, I hope, kept soft with an underhand suspicion of oil), but are not permitted to be blackened or varnished; Day and Martin with their soot-pots forbidden to approach.

In the remaining portions of the poem we have a repetition, in a few sentences, of Mr. Carlyle's views of the eighteenth century, to which we have alluded; a very fair and reasonable statement of the current English view of Frederick and his position, which view we explicitly learn at once Mr. Carlyle is going to assail; and a summary of the encouragements and discouragements which the subject has given in its progress. Then we are introduced to the incidents of Frederick's birth, and expect the work regularly to commence. But the traveller tarries long ere he fairly begins his journey. To our surprise, nearly a whole volume consists of an historical recapitulation, leading us back to the earliest origin, three centuries before the birth of Christ, of what now constitutes the Prussian people; and before that we even reach this early starting-point, we are conducted backwards over a generation or two of Frederick's immediate ancestors.

We travel in company with successive Brandenburg Hohenzollerns, through century after century; now fairly leaping the broad ditch of a dull era or two, again lingering by the way, where historic interest is more than usual and heroic prowess above the average. Margraves, Electors, Kaisers, in succession rise before us in a rapidly evolving panorama. We breathe for a time the spirit and atmosphere of the early days of Europe's primeval energy. Gradually the middle ages dawn upon us, only to enable us to discover how thoroughly *sui generis* Brandenburg was, and how long it was before it came under the operation of general European influences. We emerge into the light of generally known history, at the era of the Thirty Years' War, which first brought the Electorate prominently forward in the system of European policy, then under formation and being consolidated. Rapidly, with almost pyrotechnic quickness, we tread with seven-league boots from battle-field to battle-field, listening to the harsh clanging of trusty swords upon burgher-soldiers' armour; and then, with equal celerity, travelling over a half century, we again land at the point whence we had journeyed backwards.

Frederick's childhood and training are laid before us under the Carlylesque appellation of his apprenticeship, and the leading idea evolved is, that he was subjected to two separate and distinct educational influences, the "French element" and the "German element;" the latter supplying strength and vigour, the former the culture and polish which Frederick in his after literary aspects and correspondence displayed. From the division of the chapter which explains this concomitant duality of training, we quote the following as an illustration:—

From this Edict-of-Nantes environment, which taught our young Fritz his first lessons of human behaviour—a polite sharp little boy, we do hope and understand—he learned also to clothe his bits of notions, emotions, and garrulous utterances, in the French dialect. Learned to speak, and likewise, what is more important, to think, in French; which was otherwise quite domesticated in the Palace, and became his second mother-tongue. Not a bad dialect; yet also none of the best. Very lean and shallow, if very clear and convenient; leaving much in poor Fritz unuttered, unthought, unpractised, which might otherwise have come into activity in the course of his life. He learned to read very soon, I presume;

but he did not, now or afterwards, ever learn to spell. He spells indeed dreadfully ill, at his first appearance on the writing stage, as we shall see by-and-by; and he continued, to the last, one of the bad spellers of his day. A circumstance which I never can fully account for, and will leave to the reader's study.

In order to show the force of the antithesis, we again append some sentences from the "German element" chapter.

So that, as we said, there are two elements for young Fritz, and highly diverse ones, from both of which he is to draw nourishment, and assimilate what he can. Besides that Edict-of-Nantes French element, and in continual contact and contrast with it, which prevails chiefly in the female quarters of the Palace, there is the native German element for young Fritz, of which the centre is Papa, now come to be King, and powerfully manifesting himself as such. An abrupt peremptory young King; and German to the bone. Along with whom, companions to him in his social hours, and fellow-workers in his business, are a set of very rugged German sons of Nature; differing much from the French sons of Art. Baron Grumkow, Leopold Prince of Anhalt-Dessau (not yet called the "Old Dessauer," being under forty yet), General Glasenap, Colonel Derschau, General Flans; these, and the other nameless generals and officials, are a curious counterpart to the Camases, the Hautcharmoys and Forcades, with their nimble tongues and rapiers; still more to the Beausobres, Achards, full of ecclesiastical logic, made of Bayle and Calvin kneaded together; and to the high-frizzled ladies rustling in stiff silk, with the shadow of Versailles and of the Dragonades alike present to them.

Born Hyperboreans these others; rough as hemp, and stout of fibre as hemp; native products of the rigorous North. Of whom, after all our reading, we know little. O Heaven, they have had long lines of rugged ancestors, cast in the same rude stalwart mould, and leading their rough life there, of whom we know absolutely nothing! Dumb all those preceding busy generations; and this of Friedrich Wilhelm is grown almost dumb. Grim semi-articulate Prussian men; gone all to pipeclay and moustache for us. Strange blond-complexioned, not unbecomingly Prussian honourable women, in hoops, brocades, and unintelligible head-gear and hair-towers—*ach Gott*, they too are gone; and their musical talk, in the French or German language, that also is gone; and the hollow Eternities have swallowed it, as their wont is, in a very surprising manner!—

To shed some new light upon the formation of Frederick's character, we travel ten years back, to the time when his father was valorously engaged in the dramatically famous siege of Stralsund. Like a comet, the Czar Peter crosses the horizon—in a chapter—on his way back from his famous foreign travels. Then a chapter, entitled "Crown Prince put to his schooling," reverts, with obvious and conscientious reluctance, to proceed in the work until the foundation has been thoroughly laid, to his early days again. We learn what his tutors did for his literary culture, and what his father's captains and drill sergeants did for his military bearing. The retracing of our steps is so frequent, the transitions by ten or twenty years so instantaneous, that, until we re-read and reconsider, we are singularly apt to lose the exact sequence and the real causal connexion of events, which nevertheless by Mr. Carlyle have been steadfastly regarded.

It is a mundane loss when a great man has left the world without leaving his credible physiognomic portrait behind him. This Mr. Carlyle well knows, and he has searched the German galleries which contain the portraits of his characters no less assiduously than the archives which contain the records of their acts. It is still better, if you have a succession of portraits of illustrious men, taken at different stages of their lives. Mr. Carlyle, with a zest most obvious and sincere, ever and again leaves for a time the thread of his narrative, to tell us descriptively how Frederick looked at each successive leading step of his life. The book contains a series of portraits, and we thereby learn how many of what we found to be his characteristics at starting, last out of his life, and thereby prove themselves to have been deep and genuine; and how many have been rubbed off by the turmoil and trouble of his course, thereby proving themselves to have been accidental, and not of that deep-seated character which is rather burned, in than rubbed off by external circumstances, however cogent. From an early stage of the narrative we make an extract, in illustration of what we have said:—

I find, except Samuel Johnson, no man of equal versatility with Friedrich Wilhelm in that epoch: and Johnson too, with all his tongue-learning, had not logic enough. In fact, it depends on how much conviction you have. Blessed be Heaven, there is here and there a man born who loves truth as truth should be loved, with all his heart and all his soul; and hates untruth with a corresponding perfect hatred. Such men, in polite circles, which understand that certainly truth is better than untruth, but that you must be polite to both, are liable to get to the end of their logic. Even Johnson had a bellow in him; though Johnson could at any time withdraw into silence, his kingdom lying all under his own hat. How much more Friedrich Wilhelm, who had no logic whatever, and whose kingdom lay without him, far and wide, a thing he could not withdraw from. The rugged Orson, he needed to be right. From utmost Memel down to Wesel again, ranked in a straggling manner round the half-circumference of Europe, all manner of things and persons were depending on him, and on his being right, not wrong, in his notion.

But the narration of the events occupies by far a larger space; and, for the most part, the descriptions are not parenthetically introduced, but thrown in by slight touches as the story proceeds. We hear much of Hanover, closely related by marriage to the Prussian family; of England, after George's migration there; of the nearly completed marriage which was again designed by queens and diplomats to cement the connexion; much too we hear of Austria's Kaisers and their ministers, eagerly and fearfully watching the rise of Prussia's power, and trying, by every conceivable means, to retard the progress of its dangerous rivalry. At the end of the second volume we are brought fairly abreast of that portion of Frederick's life by which he has been most generally known—his correspondence with Voltaire and other French male and female philosophers and savans. In *Sartor Resartus* Mr. Carlyle puts forward the queer, eccentric Professor Teufelsdröckh, up in his turreted garret overlooking the quaint town of Weissnichtwo, as his *alter ego* and mouthpiece. Herr Sauerteig, in this book, performs the same service. We shall only add another quotation, in which the imaginary authority is quoted. It contains an exposition of the relations and the respective representativeness of Voltaire and Frederick:—

On various accounts it will behove us to look a good deal more strictly into this Voltaire; and, as his relations to Friedrich and to the world are so multiplex, endeavour to disengage the real likeness of the man from the circumambient noise and confusion, which in his instance continue very great. "Voltaire was the spiritual complement of Friedrich," says Sauerteig once: "what little of lasting their poor century produced lies mainly in these two. A very somnambulizing century!" But what little it did, we must call Friedrich; what little it thought, Voltaire. Other fruit we have not from it, to speak of, at this day. Voltaire, and what can be faithfully done on the Voltaire creed; 'Realised Voltairism';—admit it, reader, not in a too triumphant humour—is not that pretty much the net historical product of the eighteenth century? The rest of its history either pure somnambulism, or a mere controversy, to the effect, 'Realised Voltairism? How soon shall it be realised, then? Not at once, surely!' So that Friedrich and Voltaire are related, not by accident only. They are, they are for want of better, the two original men of their century; the chief, and, in a sense, the sole products of their century. They alone remain to us as still living results from it—such as they are. And the rest, truly, ought to depart and vanish (as they are now doing); being mere ephemera; contemporary eaters, scramblers for provender, talkers of acceptable hearsay, and related merely to the butteries and wiggeries of their time, and not related to the Perennials at all, as these two were."—With more of the like sort from Sauerteig.

The second volume conducts us to the death of the father, Frederick William, and the elevation of the hero to the throne, in his twenty-eighth year. We need not say that the portion of this work yet to come will contain that part of the history of Frederick which is most vitally interesting to Englishmen—the record of that great Seven Years' War, when England, under the guidance of its greatest foreign Minister, recovered in Europe all that it had lost under the craven policy which had lasted since Blenheim and Malplaquet; and when Prussia at last reached the culmination of her greatness, in spite of all that Hapsburg and Bourbon houses could do.

NOTES ON CHERBOURG.

Notes on Cherbourg. By Commander Pim, R.N., F.R.G.S. J. D. Potter.

The little town at the extremity of the peninsula of Cotentin has suddenly attracted to itself a vast deal of attention from this country. The "apparition of a fortress on the French coast, which domi-

nates the Channel, and frowns portentously on our own shores," naturally creates inquiry and raises public curiosity. Without going quite so far as some of our contemporaries, and a large portion of the French press, as to declare that Cherbourg has caused "general alarm" in the mind of the English nation, we may take it for granted that a prudent degree of anxiety has been generally developed to penetrate into the ulterior purposes this vast fortification has to serve, and the why and wherefore it should have been constructed and completed at a time when peaceful relations are presumed to prevail everywhere, and when no visible object can be served except that of creating a standing menace against England, and a ready means of invasion which may be put into operation the moment a rupture of the fragile *entente cordiale* shall occur. It is natural, therefore, we should desire to know all about this fortress, its extent, its means of offence and defence—in short, its belligerent capabilities. We have had ample descriptions in all the leading journals, we have had additional details from members of Parliament who have visited the locality, but we confess we do not place implicit faith either in the "word-painting" of "our special correspondents," or the criticisms of a Lindsay, who cannily contrives to turn a penny honestly if he can, whether from friend or possible foe, or of a Roebuck, whose propensity for snarling is not always controlled by the best-regulated judgment. We have here a little work more to our taste, because from the pen of a sailor of the true British breed—one who has already sustained England's naval reputation, and who, should the time come, will sustain it again. We take it for granted, that all our readers have heard of Commander Pim, who gallantly led the boats' attack on the Chinese forts; it is from this practical officer that the work we are noticing emanates. The author commences by a brief history of Cherbourg, "which can be traced back into remote antiquity." Julius Cæsar is supposed to have occupied the place while preparing for his descent on Albion.

The situation of Cherbourg was certainly well adapted as the base of operations for an attack upon Britain. Within a day's easy sail of the opposite coast, possessed of a capacious bay where the Roman galleys could embark the invading legions with ease, and protected by heights which could readily be made defensible against the attacks of hostile Gauls, Cherbourg was well suited both as a starting point for an invading army and for a safe retreat in case of a repulse.

After narrating the historical vicissitudes of Cherbourg, its connexion with the Norman Kings of England, and its ultimate cession to France, the writer says:—

Vauban, the celebrated military engineer, was, in 1686, employed by the Government of Louis XIV. in strengthening the frontier defences of the kingdom. He appears to have been strongly impressed by what he happily terms the "audacious" position of Cherbourg as regards England, and prepared a most elaborate plan of fortification, which would, he supposed, have rendered it impregnable, and at the same time have made it a place of arms, where a fleet and army might be collected in the event of an invasion of England being resolved upon. He accordingly proceeded to demolish the ancient defences, and commenced the execution of his own works, when, from some unknown cause, probably the exhausted state of the finances, occasioned by the long and costly wars of Louis XIV., the enterprise was abandoned, and Cherbourg was left completely defenceless.

Such was the state of the place when, just one hundred years ago, viz. in 1758, it was seized upon, by a *coup de main*, by the English.

The place was vacated shortly afterwards, and Cherbourg remained in a defenceless state until the Ministry of Louis XVI. commenced the nucleus of the present fortress. The breakwater begun,

In due time it showed itself above the sea level, and became a breakwater; batteries were erected for its protection; docks, basins, workshops, &c. &c., were constructed on the main land; finally, a railroad connected the port with the capital, and thus completed the "Port Militaire."

Here is a description of this breakwater and forts:—

In 1853 this magnificent undertaking (which stands unrivalled in the world) was completed. It shelters an area of about 1900 acres, affording anchorage to at least twenty-five line of battle ships, with a proportion of frigates and corvettes. The western entrance is 8875 yards broad; the eastern one, 1187, through which vessels can come and go in all weathers. The cost has been about 3,000,000*l.* sterling, and seventy years have elapsed since its commencement. It may be interesting to compare the relative sizes of the Digue and the Plymouth Breakwater, viz.:—

	Length.	Breadth.	Aver. Height.
Digue ...	12,333 feet.	885 feet.	66 feet.
Breakwater ...	5280 "	360 "	38 "

THE FORTIFICATIONS ON THE BREAKWATER.

Unlike its sturdy little *vis-à-vis* at Plymouth, the Digue opposes to the sea a perpendicular wall of twenty feet, at which height there is a level platform twenty feet wide extending its entire length, on the seaward side of which a solid masonry parapet eight feet thick and five feet high is erected, being in fact a continuation of the sea wall; this forms an admirable cover for riflemen, but the platform is not adapted for artillery. Three forts and one battery crown the summit and completely command the approaches to the Roadstead.

They are named—

Musoir Ouest de la Digue ...	60 guns.
Batterie Intermédiaire ...	14 "
Fort Central ...	40 "
Musoir Est de la Digue...	60 "

Musoir Est is intended for a circular casemate of two tiers, and is about 200 feet in diameter.

Fort Central is circular on its seaward face, and elliptical towards the Roadstead; it is also casemated, and contains barracks and various establishments: it extends over 500 feet, and is completely isolated from the platform by a broad deep moat always full of water.

The Batterie Intermédiaire is also casemated, some of its guns are directed seaward, others towards the Roadstead. Fort Ouest is similar to Fort Est, and each, like Fort Central, is surrounded by a broad deep moat. These fortifications have been built with the greatest care of coursed and dressed masonry. Not a gun is yet mounted on the Breakwater, in fact, hardly an embrasure is in readiness; nevertheless, a short time would suffice to put each fort on a formidable footing.

Commander Pim corrects the exaggerations of the press with reference to the number of guns of these fortifications. He says:—

Vauban's plan of defence has been adopted at Cherbourg, and as early as 1777 the fortifications were commenced.

Doubtless, when all the works are completed, it will be as strongly fortified as any place in the world: at present, many of the projected redoubts and batteries have not even been commenced.

Beginning from the eastward, Fort Impérial, on Ile Pelée, is the first to attract attention, it is bomb-proof, constructed for fifty-six guns and fourteen mortars, and has a furnace for heating shot.

Next in order is Fort des Flamands, which is casemated, bomb-proof, and armed with sixty guns; it contains two large powder magazines, and has a capacious basin attached, easy of access for the powder hoys. In the vicinity of Fort des Flamands is the small Redoubt de Tourlaville, which, though in good repair, is at present unarmed.

Fort du Roule, on the summit of the hill of that name, occupies a most commanding position; and is, in fact, the key to the defences; its walls are of solid granite immensely thick, but it is still unfinished, and none of its guns are mounted.

The "Port Militaire" is completely enclosed by a line of ramparts and bastions, containing four bomb-proof magazines for supplying the guns; the whole is surrounded by a deep broad moat filled with salt water. Fort du Homet is built on the rocks of that name, and is joined to the ramparts by a causeway of granite; it mounts fifty-two heavy guns, and completely commands the Roadstead. The fort is as ancient as that on Ile Pelée, but like it, the old works have given place to modern improvements. The ramparts on the north and east sea-fronts of the "Port Militaire" are earthworks, faced with masonry, and mount about eighty guns.

Redoubt des Couplets is an old fortification similar to La Tourlaville.

Midway between the Port Batteries and Pointe de Querqueville is Batterie St. Anne, an earthwork mounting very heavy guns; finally, Fort de Querqueville, a citadel in itself, commands the western entrance; it has forty-six guns in casemate, besides mortars, and contains a powder magazine.

All these batteries cross-fire with, and support the forts on the Breakwater, and comprise altogether in round numbers 314 guns and 32 mortars, a sufficiently formidable number though not quite amounting to 3000, which is the generally received estimate.

If to the shore batteries of 314 guns, the number on the Breakwater is added, which it is probable will never exceed 100 instead of 176, the total will amount to 414 guns; and it will therefore be seen, that the garrison can at any time concentrate a fire of about 200 guns upon either entrance, sufficient indeed, if well directed, to sink the finest ships in the world.

The description of the dockyard, arsenal, basins, railroad, and statue follows. We pass them over to come to the conclusion of the gallant Commander with respect to this fortification. Commander Pim says:—

It is not, however, to Cherbourg alone that the entire attention of Englishmen must be directed; never, at any former period of her history, has France so thoroughly and carefully armed herself, or made such preparations on her seaboard; her harbours have been, and are under strict supervision, and great improvements are already

carried out, especially on that part of the coast nearest England; viz., Lorient, St. Malo, Carentan, Port-à-Bessin, Isigny, Caen, Havre, Fécamp, Dieppe, while in the interior her army has increased beyond all precedent, requiring the strongest mind to restrain its warlike outpourings, as evidenced very lately in the case of the regimental colonels; even the Emperor himself has adopted an instrument of destruction: the battering in short, a military ardour seems the order of the day, and it only remains to be considered in what direction these costly means of destruction are to be employed.

The attention of the English is naturally awakened by the unwonted vigour of their neighbour. Suspicion may well be aroused when that neighbour doubles his fist in the face of an intimate friend and ally, and moreover strengthens that suspicion by deeds quite at variance with the poetical words used at Cherbourg. The reason for the present attitude of France towards England it is difficult to conceive. No nation could have proved a more faithful ally or firmer friend, and certainly no friendship can be more essential to the welfare, the happiness, the prosperity, nay, the very safety of the present Government, than that of England. The demonstrations cannot have arisen from fear, for it is well known that the alliance is popular with the English people to a man; that they have a constitutional dislike to war, and that it is not till well in it that they "bear themselves so that their adversaries may beware of them;" therefore, it is absurd to suppose that the French have any dread of aggression on the part of England. One thing, however, is beyond conjecture, that war will burst upon Europe before long, for even if the wish does not exist, no government has the power to keep so mighty an armament as that of France in peaceful cantonments.

England may be the last place upon which the ruler of France would choose to let loose his legions, because he of all men is least desirous to be "written down an ass;" but war becomes a stern necessity with certain potentates, and when the day comes to select the field of operations, can that "remarkable man" resist the temptation of attacking the richest country in the world, when he sees it profoundly indifferent and systematically unprepared.

The only means of check-mating this formidable move, and maintaining the friendship so important to both nations, is to remove the temptation to any aggressive act, by the instant equipment of such a fleet as will render any warlike attempt utterly hopeless.

It is of vital importance to England—due to her rank among nations—to be prepared, because the French Emperor is far too sagacious, even with the immense means at his disposal, to make the attack alone, when the cordial co-operation of a great Northern Power could be easily obtained, whose fleets and armies could prevent any friendly powers (if such there be) from affording the least assistance.

Great Britain has before withstood the world in arms, and can do so again if only true to herself; but it cannot be denied that never before has the nation been so entirely without defences, and without defenders.

These are warnings that both the nation and the Government, whichever party may be in power, will do well to bear constantly in mind. Let us close with the well-worn piece of ancient wisdom, "The best way to maintain peace is to be prepared for war."

THE QUARTERLIES.

THE BRITISH QUARTERLY REVIEW.—The Third and Fourth Volumes of Froude's History of England comes first under notice. The reviewer adheres to his original judgment that the history, as far as it goes, "has been written under a conception essentially just, that its method is excellent, its research profound, and its style admirable, but that it is deficient in some important particulars, that it abounds in genius and imagination rather than in reason and judgment, and that it has run out into extravagant paradoxes." To this judgment we have little to demur, and like the reviewer we have only to repeat our own opinion that the estimation of the character of Henry VIII. by Mr. Froude is contradicted in material particulars by public documents that have recently come to light. "Kalendars and old Almanacs" is hardly as good as it might have been made, nevertheless there are some agreeable reading and anecdotes in the article. "Wycliffe, his Biographers and Critics," is a very good article indeed. The reviewer does ample justice to this great but somewhat neglected reformer, and points out not without something like a feeling of shame that it is to German thinkers the world is mainly indebted for a true estimate of the value of Wycliffe's masculine mind, his immense labours, and the pioneer part he played in the great religious movement. The reviewer is particularly severe on Mr. Shirley, who has prepared a volume under the sanction of the Lords Commissioners of her Majesty's Treasury at the suggestion of the

Master of the Rolls. Mr. Shirley's volume contains portions of Wycliffe's writings, but the reviewer justly, we think, complains that marks of haste and carelessness are visible throughout the compilation. Further, the reviewer soundly rates Mr. Shirley for giving expression and factitious influence in this volume printed at the public expense, to "personal prejudices and party feeling." The reviewer also comes into collision with the Quarterly Review for its unqualified praise of Mr. Shirley's performance. We will not enter into the merits of this difference of opinion—we shall content ourselves with repeating that the article is very good throughout, and will assist to place Wycliffe in that high position among English worthies which he has not yet been permitted properly to occupy. M. Comte's "Religion for Atheists" professes to be a criticism on Comte's "Catechism of Positive Religion," but is rather a piece of scolding than a sober review of the author's theory. Comte has numerous admirers and adherents on the Continent and also a small coterie in this country, who will not thank the reviewer for describing the "Catechism" as being "so puerile, silly, and drivelling in conception and execution, that no other alternative is left for M. Comte's admirers than the unpleasant one of supposing that just when, in his own estimate, he had put the copstone on the system of Positivism, and annihilated all the 'theologies,' he went mad, and that this volume of inanities is the sign and consequence thereof." No doubt there is a good deal of nonsense in M. Comte's speculations; take, for instance, that part wherein he declares that "his system of Positivism" will, within a century, regenerate the world—and,

Before the end of the nineteenth century the French Republic will, of its own free will, break up into seventeen independent republics, each comprising five of the existing departments. Ireland will, ere long, separate from England. This will lead to the rupture of the artificial bonds which now unite Scotland and even Wales, with England proper.

But then it must be remembered, in charity to Comte, that our own Bacon is held to be the spring from whence Comte originally drew his rhapsodical theories of Positivism. "Herodotus," by Rawlinson and Wilkinson, and a "Commentary," by Blakesley, are subjects well handled, and will be acceptable to scholarly minds. The article on "Political Party since the Revolution" is hardly correct or complete. But we are quite with the writer in lamenting the disunion of Liberals, and the obstacles which this disunion is creating to the "Cause of Progress." The writer thus winds up—

Whatever be the character of the measures of the present Government, each successive day of their existence adds to the adherents of Toryism in the church and magistracy, on the judicial and episcopal benches, and delivers some stronghold of the Whigs into their hands. It is foolish to think of strengthening the army by surrendering the camp. The leaders may support liberal measures, but so long as they continue to harass each other's flanks, and refuse to give effect to their principles by the adoption of any concerted line of action, they as virtually abandon the cause as if they went over to the enemy. How long will the country allow its liberal instincts to be neutralized by chronic dissension? How long will country gentlemen register; artisans and mechanics leave their looms and anvils for the polling-booth, and busy townspeople perspire in close committee-rooms, to return a Liberal majority to Parliament, which virtually annihilates itself as soon as it gets into Westminster? If these divisions continue, the country at the next general election, which cannot be far distant, will not only have to secure a majority of Liberal members, but to take upon itself the functions of those members, in organising a party, prescribing a policy, and naming a leadership. The public-interests suffer when the weak rule by the dissensions of the strong.

THE NATIONAL REVIEW begins with an article on Carlyle's *History of Frederick the Great*, or, as he calls him, on some strange philological crotchet, Friedrich, and in which Carlyle's affectation, extravagances, and exaggerations are by no means spared. The merits of the work are acknowledged, but it is carefully dissected. The "Relations of France and England" is the heading of an article in which the antagonism and alliances of the two countries are historically treated, and with a result the value of which our readers, as they either do not know France or do know it, will judge of by the following statement:—"As to the mass of the population [of France], the time is now long past when the name of England excited their passionate hostility." The "Sculptures from Halicarnassus" is an archaeological discussion on the exa-

ventions at Budrum by one evidently having especial acquaintance with the subject. In "Woman," the woman's right question is considered partly on physiological, partly on psychological grounds. Female education is treated upon as a part of the question, and consequently an unfavourable view of the political claims of women is arrived at. The reviewer, by establishing distinctions between the mental characteristics of man and woman, is led to pay a high tribute to the latter. Under the head of "Russian Literature" an analysis is given of the life and works of Pushkin in a very liberal spirit. By placing Mr. John Forster and Mr. John Langton Sanford in opposition in the Parliamentary war, the reviewer takes up a place as marshal of a tournament, in which he shows himself impartial, although he enters the lists with a banner having inscribed "The Great Rebellion." Mr. Trollope's novels receive a favourable notice. A remarkable article in the number is one on the Kabail or Zwave languages and the Tifnagh alphabet. In these days, when philological studies are no longer the monopoly of a few philosophers, but have spread to the universities, and form a part of the college course, we have philological articles more than enough, in which the principles of Voltaire's joke receive a practical application, vowels count for nothing, and consonants for very little. The fashion alone of philology has changed; in the last century every word was derived from the Hebrew, in this, Sanskrit has become the standard. The article on the Kabail languages is of the more interest under these circumstances, because it exhibits the treatment of a man of wide attainments and tempered judgment. In this article the relations of the Libyan languages to the Semitic stock are treated of, and the labours of F. W. Newman, Hodgson, Pulszky, and Hannoteau carefully discussed. The reviewer refers briefly to the relations between the North African Semitic languages and the Houssa negro language. He also takes up subsidiarily the inquiry, whether Africa or Asia ought to be regarded as the country out of which the Hebræo-African family developed itself, and considers the popular assumption that everything human has come out of Asia as invalid, "except on the very superficial hypothesis that human nations all sprung from the three men and three women left some four thousand years ago; an hypothesis opposed to every known fact of extreme antiquity and to all the evidence of language." If the Hebræo-African family be considered as an offshoot from Persia, then the Syro-Arabians would be "the rear of the emigration left behind after its peculiarities had fixed themselves unchangeably in the race; but those to whom a manifold local origin of human races appears more reasonable, and who believe creative power to have displayed itself independently in the man of China, the man of Persia, and the man of Africa, will perhaps, of necessity, regard the Syro-Arabians as an early efflux from Africa." The reviewer does not, however, follow the subject further, but leaves the question of the number of primitive centres of population, and of a single centre, without other discussion. The Tifnagh alphabet is examined and compared with the modern Hebrew. It is an alphabet very remarkable, consisting partly of letters from the Western alphabet, and partly of a peculiar system of dots and lines. Thus, *aleph* is represented by *-vau* by *-nun* by *lamed* by *lamed* by *samech* by *pe* by *koph* by *he* by *...* and other letters by characters which we cannot so readily represent. The reviewer considers the *jod*, *teth*, *beth*, and *daleth* as belonging to the Egypto-Phœnician alphabet, or, as he says, indirectly originating from the Punic. We take a stronger view with regard to the four letters referred to, and would add to them the *mim* and the *resh*, and believe on further study the list will be extended. The Tifnagh is likely to prove a very interesting contribution to that extraordinary chapter in primitive history, the alphabet. The *beth* we have no doubt about. It takes nearly the form of *θ*, but is thereby much nearer to the hieroglyphic for "house" than the modern Hebrew is. There are several forms of *daleth*, one of them is *Δ*. *Teth* is represented by two forms of *π*, and there is a peculiarity not pointed out by the reviewer that many of the letters have a perpendicular form and an horizontal form, or the same type placed perpendicularly or horizontally, which is another feature of antiquity. The *m* we are inclined to consider of the *mim* type, and the *resh* we think, in its two forms of a square and circle, may have originated in the hieroglyphic or Punic.

The *shin* is *g*. The *tau* is *+*. The names of the letters are not of the Syro-Arabian class, but simply expressive of the powers. In an article on Charles Dickens and his works, it is assumed, as a basis, that they must be books of great genius, but the object of the reviewer is to investigate the causes of so great a popularity. This he does rather unfavourably to Dickens, subjecting him to analysis by the polarisation of a psychological ray of genteel collegiate light, and thereby determining his density. It might be expected that Dickens is found wanting, and ascertained to be vulgar, of the lower middle class base, that is, belonging to the persons who keep shops, and cannot send their children to schools where none but the sons of gentlemen and professional men are admitted. The article is very minute in its treatment, and will be read closely by admirers and opponents of the novelist. "Professional Religion" is one of those compositions in which those who speculate on religious matters will find, what they are so fond of, subject of thought and discussion. Tacked to the Review is a note in answer to Colonel Mure's *National Criticism* in 1858—his defence against the *National Review*. We think neither the Review nor Mure have much to congratulate themselves on in the facts which they mutually bring to charge, or on the manner of the fight. As fate will have it, the author of *Time and Faith* has had advertised in the *National Review* his reply to the *Saturday Review*, under the title of *Abuse of Criticism*. Here, again, we say that neither party mends his case. The *Saturday Review* have evidence brought against them of having travestied and exaggerated the words of the author, and the author, in making his defence, shows there were good grounds for an assault on his scholarship, and for the exposure of his philological unsoundness.

WESTMINSTER REVIEW.—The *Westminster Review* for the present quarter is distinguished by an elaborate account of the main features of the administration of Louis Napoleon, of the elements which contribute to its support or sap its foundation. Though the writer is hostile to the Emperor, he states, that his accession to power was the result of the fears of the people, who fought against themselves. They were accessories to his usurpation, or were his fellow-conspirators. As they recover from their delusion, his power, not sustained by a wise policy, will decay, but in what manner it will eventually be extinguished is not to be foreseen. In one detail, the author seems in error. Were he to read Bastiat's little tract, *Baccalaureat*, he would form a different opinion from that which he expresses, though contrary to that of the "best thinkers of France," of the origin and of the working of the new system concerning university degrees. He speaks of it erroneously, we think, as originated by Louis Napoleon, and, if we are right, he is incorrect in ascribing inconsistency to the Imperial Government for altering it. There is in the *Review* a splendid catalogue of our Indian heroes. Mr. F. W. Newman's works are extensively noticed, and his critics criticised. Ample justice is done to the goodness of his heart, the purity of his motives, and the clearness of his style; but if the reviewer be right, Mr. Newman's successive changes have left him where he began. His scepticism seems passive belief in his own emotions, and his knowledge of the infinite seems to end in ignorance and wonder. A spirited historical sketch of travels and voyages makes us aware that more has been learned of the globe in the last half-century than in many previous ages. The old story of the "Calas tragedy" is retold in a masterly way—a gem of knowledge now reset, to throw light on the character of Roman Catholicity. German novels are somewhat unduly depreciated, in an article on "Realism in Art," though *Paul Heyse* finds favour with the reviewer. Finally, there is a spirited and detached account, much of it drawn from local records and traditions of the condition of England at the beginning of the Great Revolution, and the battles which took place. The *Review* is serious throughout, but it is not dull. Much earnestness and much knowledge make it always interesting. The brief notices of contemporary literature are, as usual, excellent.

THE MAGAZINES FOR OCTOBER.

BLACKWOOD.—A continuation of Bulwer Lytton's "What will he do with it" leads the van. "Animal Heat" may be perused with satisfaction and advantage by chilly mortals. "A Plea for Shams" has a hard hit or two at some of our most prominent censorial celebrities, Carlyle, Thackeray, Dickens,

and Tennyson. The writer will not implicitly believe in them or their endless diatribes against society. He will not travel from "Dan to Beer-sheeba" only to find that "all is barren;" he insists upon it that mankind has its bright and its dark side, and that to give all dark and no bright, even in works which are otherwise remarkable for their forcible and polished style, is neither fair nor honest in writers who aim at anything beyond ephemeral popularity. The article on the "Ballad Poetry of Scotland and Ireland" may be pardoned for giving the preference to the Scotch school, as the critic is, without doubt, a Scotchman. We, however, can hardly bestow the same high praise on either school which is given in the article. "Lord Clyde's Campaign in India" is a recapitulation of the incidents of the Indian mutiny, in which Lord Clyde is made to play a more distinguished part than strict truth, we fear, will warrant. Lord Clyde undoubtedly has many great soldierly qualities, but he wants some principal ones which are essential to the composition of a great commander. Lord Clyde, after he took the command in India, made more than one grave military blunder—good fortune, the bravery of the troops, and the skill and determination of the officers retrieved the errors and averted the otherwise fatal consequences. But, of course, Lord Clyde will have his eulogists, who will see nothing but the quintessence of military skill in all his military doings. We are not among the number of his unreflecting admirers. We do Lord Clyde ample justice in his general performances and his good intentions, but we say he made a great mistake in bringing the formal rules of war to bear upon active and fugitive mutineer brigands. By the way, how is it we have heard nothing whatever of importance about the movements or whereabouts of the Commander-in-Chief in the last three or four telegrams?

THE ART JOURNAL.—Plassan's "Football," Hobbema's the "Old Mill," and an engraving by Mote from MacDowell's "William Pitt," form the principal pictorial attractions of this number. The text is of the average merit. Among the notices there is one against the tone and temper of which we are bound to offer our dissent. In noticing the "Nelson Monument," exception is taken to the commission given to Sir E. Landseer by the Chief Commissioner of the Woods and Forests to model the lions for the Nelson Monument. This proceeding is regarded as a resolute intention to "ignore the sculptors," and we are told that the "sculptors are seriously dissatisfied." We do not quite see that the sculptors have any real ground of dissatisfaction. Most, if not all, the leading sculptors know that Sir E. Landseer is not a painter only; they know that he is one of the first, if not the very first, modeller of the day. Some of his productions are held by the best judges to be masterpieces. Our own opinion is that the selection of Sir E. Landseer was most judicious. We should be glad to have pointed out to us any one sculptor who has yet succeeded in modelling a lion. The caricatures and want of anatomical knowledge exhibited by those who have made the attempt are quite sufficient to warrant Lord J. Manners looking in other directions—and in what direction could he look with more certainty of a magnificent result than in the direction of one of the first living animal painters and modellers?

THE ENGLISH WOMAN'S JOURNAL.—"Domestic Life" is hazily written—at least, the article wants simplicity of diction, and wanting that, its ultimate aim and purpose are obscured. "Why are Boys cleverer than Girls?" is explained. "First and Last" is a pretty tale, possessing some considerable descriptive talent. "Social Science" refers to the recent Birmingham display. The article on St. Joseph's Industrial Institute would be worth consideration, were it not defaced by the priestly element. If Irish children require to be trained to habits of honesty and industry, well and good—let the benevolent come forward and subscribe freely and liberally; but if, after such institutions become flourishing and established, they are to be placed either under monks or nuns—as we learn is to be the destiny of this Institute—then we say, the less countenance and support that is given to them, the better. We give no encouragement to priestly meddling and priestcraft anywhere.

THE MECHANICS' MAGAZINE.—The September monthly part is now published, and, we presume, in the hands of every man of science in the kingdom.

THE ECLECTIC REVIEW has an article on Cherbourg, which aims at tranquillising the British mind on

the subject of the strength and aggressive proportions of this formidable fortress. The article adds nothing to what was previously known, and we doubt whether the writer will succeed in persuading the nation that it may dismiss its alarms, and that instead of regarding Cherbourg as an available means of offence against England, it ought to be considered only as a means of defence against attack in the event of a general war. The writer, however, shows good sense in calling upon our engineers to profit by the skill displayed by our neighbours in overcoming natural obstacles which would have been insurmountable to any but men of first-rate engineering science and resources. "The Revision of the Authorised Version," after weighing the objections for and the arguments in favour of a revision of the Scriptures, places itself on the side of Dr. Chenevix Trench, the learned Dean of Westminster, who has published a work on the subject, and who appears to have furnished to the reviewer conclusive arguments for a revision. "Bacon's Philosophy" is a well-balanced critique on the works of two writers—one French, Charles De Rémusat, and the other German, Kuno Fischer. Praise is awarded to both, but in different degree; Rémusat's being considered the most liberal and just in reference to the estimate of the genius of the great original thinker of the middle ages,—the great philosopher whose mind has impressed itself so largely and deeply on succeeding ages. "The Indian Mutiny" deals with the publications of Edward Gubbins and Bourchier, with all which the public are already sufficiently familiar through the notices which have been given in every department of literature—daily, weekly, monthly, and quarterly. "Caird's Sermons" receive a short notice from a critic who is evidently not disposed to acquiesce fully in that popular verdict with which we suspect royal favour has had something more to do than ought properly to be the case. The critic considers that in Caird's Sermons the most serious defect to be remarked is, "that the great cardinal truths of the Gospel are not always presented with due prominence." This is rather sharp censure upon the works of a divine who has filled the public eye so conspicuously as Mr. Caird; but then the censure, if it be intended as such, is qualified by the reviewer's generous desire to see Mr. Caird, what he has already given promise of being, "a burning and a shining light not only to his own communion but to the Church universal." "Mary Anne Schimmelpenninck" and "Brief Notices" complete the number for this month.

THE DUBLIN UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE maintains its literary rank in this number, and reminds us of the best days of the monthlies. All the articles are of more than average merit, some are of superior ability. "Recent Travels in Sardinia," "Rides on Mules and Donkeys," and "Artist Life in Rome," are full of pleasant writing and philosophic instruction. "Life in Old Ireland" opens up unexplored ground, and we should strongly recommend the able writer to continue his labours in that direction. "Lectures on the Atomic Theory," "Irish Lake Poetry," "Theological Styles," and the remaining articles will prevent the reader from feeling tedious, and carry him pleasantly and with advantage through the whole number.

THE CHRISTIAN EXAMINER (September, Boston).—This is a high-class review and is conducted with great ability; it rather tends towards transcendental views and expression, but it has much able writing in it. "Life, an Art," with which this number opens, is a philosophical essay, and has some deep thoughts well developed. An article on the Chinese is interesting, as is a biographical notice of Dr. Watts, which contains an unpublished poem by that excellent poet as well as divine. There are also some theological articles on the profoundest portion of our faith, which we must leave the theologians to decide upon.

The Journal of Psychological Medicine, for October. J. Churchill.—This Magazine, as may be supposed, is strongest on the subjects relating to Lunacy. Its first and its concluding article are on this subject, and they are the most valuable papers it contains. The article on the Moral Pathology of London is full of facts, and is a sad record of crime and misery; and the article on Dreams induced by Food, shows in a remarkable manner the system of association of ideas.

A Reading-Party in the Long Vacation—*Father Tom and the Pope*. (Edinburgh: Blackwood and Sons.)—A couple of stories that have already done good service in the pages of *Blackwood*, and are now offered to the general public in a convenient form and at a very cheap rate.

The Arts.

THEATRES AND PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENTS.

PRINCESS'S THEATRE.—The last season, as the public are at present advised—although such arrangements are by no means immutable even after publication—of Mr. Charles Kean's skilful, and, we hope, lucrative tenure of this theatre, was opened on Saturday night, when *The Merchant of Venice* was performed to a crowded house, with all the correctness for which the lessee has legitimately acquired a world-wide renown. The careful reading of the text, enforced upon every artist by the precept and example of their leader, the splendour of the accessories, the propriety of the restorations in points of detail, leave an impression of unity upon the mind of the spectator who has witnessed any of Mr. Kean's Shakspearean revivals that ordinary managers can rarely be expected to furnish. We consider the combination rare of adequate capital with a large amount of dramatic talent, and a thorough mastery of the business of theatrical management; but he is no common theatrical director, who to these adds a large spirit of commercial enterprise that unflinchingly incurs liberal outlay in such fugitive commodities as stage properties, upon the calculation that he will in time be recouped by the public to whom he offers a first-rate equivalent for their admission money. Such a manager is Mr. Kean, who in aid of all other resources can draw upon the celebrity of his name, and the esteem his character has procured for him in influential circles. With felicitous discernment he has restricted his great managerial efforts to the illustration of Shakspeare, for no other alliance could have supported him against the costs of the entertainments with which he has delighted the town. Under Shakspeare's ensign, however, he has fared, they say, so well as to contemplate retirement; and we must not be the last to congratulate him upon his prosperity.

THE PYNE AND HARRISON COMPANY.—DRURY LANE THEATRE.—Neither the public nor ourselves are weary of the *Rose of Castille*, and, to all appearance, it will be long before either of us cry, "Hold, enough!" The serried ranks of the pit and galleries still show none of those dismal gaps that make treasurers to quake, and tradesmen, who watch the weathercock of "the business," and shake ominous heads at "paper," to press for their little amounts. That the celestials should delight to honour the present Drury Lane company as they have done no other for many a long year, we can account for after a visit to the region of their high Olympus, for, towards the close of the performance on Wednesday evening, we wandered to the erst famous slips—in our schoolboy-days a coveted yet forbidden precinct, as sacred to opulent or extravagant flâneurs, and as distasteful to the respectable patresfamiliares of that period as are the Casino galleries of to-day. We stood alone on the once crowded benches of that dizzy height, which we once had looked to as a barely possible culm of delight, and were rewarded for our airy climb by an appreciation of Miss Pyne's delicious songs and singing as *Elvira*, that we certainly had never reached in the more aristocratic circles below. We confess that with all our desire to find beauties in this opera, and with no dull ear for them, we had before understood neither the extent of this gifted lady's talents, nor the beauty of the orchestral and clarionet *obligato* accompaniment to the air "Oh joyous, happy days!" although we have doubtless more than once alluded to it as the gem of the opera. No noteworthy change has taken place in the performance or other arrangements of the *Rose of Castille*, which the bills now announce to have been performed a hundred times. The novelty, however, which drew us to Drury Lane on Wednesday was the production of a new ballet-divertissement, in two tableaux, composed by M. Petit, entitled *La Fleur d'Amour*, which might have been as appropriately called *la fleur de lis, des champs, de jasmin, or d'asperge*, if you will, for all we could unravel of its meaning. There was an artist in the case, *Sylvio* (Madlle. Zilia Michelet), in a short black tunic, black belt, long grey silk stockings, and a pair of captivating bottines, who did, we admit, after dancing a revival of the nearly fossil Polka Originale, present a flower to a lady in the most unwieldy specimen of truncated crinoline it has yet been our misfortune to behold. The aforesaid anomaly threw so little light into the subject as it went on that we must abandon the unprofitable inquiry, what it came for and what came of it afterwards? We should say that Mesdles. Morlacchi and Pasquale—the former a danseuse of great power, though not yet in form—are interesting, progressive, and, what must to them be more satisfactory than all our opinions, much applauded dancers. The second scene, "The Neapolitan Harvest Home," is a view on or of, if we remember right, the Chiaja of Naples, filled

up with an admirably grouped corps of *coryphée* peasantry, and a harvest-wain and drivers à la Léopold Robert. Here a very spirited tarantella is introduced, which more than redeems the dullness of the first scene. But the most startling feature of the ballet—an invasion, perhaps, which may prove fatal to old and sensitive amateurs—was the introduction of a chorus in aid. This time it is only behind the scenes. What it may come to is at present incalculable. As the peasants are working away at their tarantella, a procession of the Host is imagined to pass outside, and the dancers drop upon their knees, thus unveiling to the spectators the beauties of the scene itself: a solemn strain of church music floats over all, and the divertissement is legitimately brought to a close. Of Mr. Mellon's music, and the almost faultless manner in which it is executed by the band, we may speak very highly. It is clear that no class of music is foreign to Mr. Mellon. He feels, we believe, more at home in the lighter compositions, but we are nevertheless of opinion that he will not be aware of his own power until he has tried his hand upon work of more solidity, range, and pretension than quadrilles or ballet music. Had we space we could say much more on this head, but must return to the Pyne and Harrison doings, from whom we were nearly straying into reflections upon English composers. On Monday next will be produced the romantic four-act opera of *Martha*, arranged for this company by Mr. T. H. Reynoldson, with Mr. W. Harrison as *Lionel*, Mr. J. G. Patey as *Phunket*, Mr. G. Honey as *Lord Tristan*, Mr. T. Gratton Kelly as the *Sheriff of Richmond*, Miss Louisa Pyne as *Lady Henrietta*, and her sister as the soubrette *Nancy*. The management have, we hear, taken much pains with all arrangements, and the opera will be very completely produced. The publication of the libretto in a handy octavo form, with musical illustrations, is a novelty, and will no doubt be appreciated by the public.

EGYPTIAN HALL.—Mr. and Mrs. Howard Paul, to borrow a phrase from our fashionable reporter, continue to entertain numerous circles of friends by repeating the performances to which we drew attention a fortnight since. It is hard to say whether Mrs. Howard Paul's racy impersonation of *Molly Doolan*, the good-humoured maid-of-all-work, with a military sweetheart, *Barny Ryan*, or her "unprotected female," *Selma Singleheart*, most delights the air portion of the audience. We have not before alluded to this lady's very capital imitation of Mr. Sims Reeves in "Come into the garden, Maud," which, coming at the fag end, is so near the end of the bill that we had not heard it until a night or two ago. We can speak with equal approval of *Staley Mildeu*, the "poor relation," who lives no one can tell where nor cares how. Poor *Staley's* comic hits, à la Billy Barlow, at the topics of the day, were intensely relished. As we must—true to our vocation—season our praise with the usual *aliquid amari*, let us again suggest to the clever couple that their entertainment would be all the more entertaining for the omission of *The Good Old Days*, a burlesque of one of Mr. Woodin's impersonations. These caricatures of senility, popular though they unaccountably are with entertainers—for Mr. Howard Paul is not alone in this sin against good taste—are rather painful than otherwise, if not repulsive, to the majority of their audiences. Let them be assured that none but the very vulgar enjoy them.

PROFESSOR FRIKELL, AT THE POLYGRAPHIC HALL, KING WILLIAM STREET.—We have been for several weeks looking for a change of the performances at this establishment, but the extraordinary delight with which the original performances of this true professor of the black art was received has prevented our having that pleasure until now. The greatest favourites of the former bill being still retained, we need do little more than again express our admiration of the "Little Devil's" present of 1007, "Frikell omnipresent," and "The golden egg." We cannot pretend to explain to our readers—but if they will go the magician's hall they may always find somebody officious enough to do so—how Herr Frikell, whom we consider, *par excellence*, the most elegant artist of his tribe, contrives by his new method "to sew on buttons," or "to see without spectacles," but even these deceptions sink into abatement beside the "exchange of heads," which, to use the expressive hyperbole of a visitor, "completely paralysed us." We saw produced a black dove and a white dove. We saw them—we insist upon it, without the slightest respect for the assertion to the contrary of the thick matter-of-fact man next us—decapitated. We saw the living black dove fitted with the white dove's white head, and the living white dove with the black dove's head. To say that we did not see these things when we did, is absurd. The professor was there to give explanation. "It is not *mécanique*," he told us every minute, and we could see well enough it was not "*mécanique*." There was not, and there never is here, any such visible apparatus, rudely fashioned and absurdly painted, as other wizards indulge in. The gentlemanly, busy little Herr forgot that he

himself is his own only apparatus. He seems really a complete self-acting machine, and even to astonish himself. Lest some innocent member of the public should bring him under the notice of the authorities—these being evil days for sorcerers—he goes the length of illustrating one of his feats between the parts. He performs it first rapidly, and then step by step. The audience fully comprehend it now, and its charm is lost for ever. But all others are still a mystery, for the same key will not unlock them, and we beseech the Herr not to continue his revelations. Let us have a little pleasure left in an exhibition of natural magic. That pleasure must be as much damaged by demonstrations, as is that we take in stage plays when we first see the wrong side of the curtain. The secret of the once-celebrated bottle trick has been so ventilated that it has almost ceased to be attractive. If Frikell once explains his wonderful performance "the inexhaustible hat," he may as well, like *Prospero*,

Break his staff,
Bury it certain fathoms in the earth,
And drown his book.

GREAT GLOBE, LEICESTER-SQUARE.—Mr. Wyld has just opened a new and very pleasing set of twenty-six tableaux illustrative of the new treaty ports in China, and of a few of the localities best known to us through her Majesty's special correspondents of both services, and the admirable letters of Mr. G. W. Cooke. We have a pleasing evening view of the Cow-Loon pass with Chinese shipping, and a bright glowing one, which we can speak highly of from personal recollection of the island and harbour of Hong-Kong, with her Majesty's guard-ship and a number of junks. Tiger Island, a locale of more recent and more stirring incident—if we except the Boca Forts—is also represented. So are the Peiho river, Chusan, Whampoa, the French Folly, Ningpo, Shang-hae, and the cities of Nankin and Peking. About the verisimilitude of the latter we can say nothing, but of the general correctness of the former, and several others we have not space to particularise, we can speak in terms of high approval. As works of art the tableaux have merit, and the authorities from which they have been compiled are Colonels Anstruther and Kennedy, Lord Cochrane and Captain Hall, besides private sketches by military and naval men, and those in possession of the East India Company. This exhibition is very well worth a visit either by day or night. The morning diorama is at 3.15, and the evening one at 8.15.

ENGLISH OPERA IN INDIA.—English amateurs and composers will welcome the intelligence that English Opera has taken root and blossomed at one coup in India. On the 31st August last, Wallace's grand opera, *Maritana*, was performed at the Theatre Royal, Kirkee, with the following caste:—*Charles the Second, King of Spain*, Mr. Crowe; *Don Cesar de Bazan*, Captain Miller, 3rd Dragoon Guards; *Don Jose de Santarem*, Mr. Newnham, C. S.; *The Marquis of San Fernando*, Major Learmonth, 17th Lancers; *Don Philip, Captain of the Guard*, Mr. Tende, 3rd Dragoon Guards; *Senor Luis, Alcalde of Madrid*, Captain Stanley; *Don Torribio, Grand Inquisitor*, Captain Cockerill, 3rd Dragoon Guards; *Archbishop of Madrid*, Captain Frank Chaplin, 3rd Dragoon Guards; *Lazarillo*, Mr. Rawlinson, 3rd Dragoon Guards; *Maritana*, Mrs. Frank Chaplin; *The Marchioness of San Fernando*, Viscountess Dangan; Chorus, Men-at-Arms, &c. Signor Costa officiated as conductor of music, and Captain Rose, A.D.C., had the pleasant sinecure of prompter. After the overture an appropriate prologue was delivered, amidst great applause, by Sir Robert Walpole. The right hon. gentleman, considering that he had been buried for nearly a century, presented a gallant appearance, and spoke with much spirit. At the close of the opera the enthusiasm of the audience was unbounded. *Maritana* was called for, and almost buried under an avalanche of bouquets. We have positively no space here for enthusiasm. Our Indian friends are of course delighted to announce the performance of the first opera in India, and by an amateur company, too. So are we to record it, for it is really an event, and, considering the times, a remarkable one. Mr. Crowe's make up, singing, and acting, are described to us as little short of ideal perfection. Captain Miller was a masterly *Don Cesar*, and Mrs. Chaplin's impersonation of *Maritana*, we are informed by our contemporaries of Bombay, was a lesson to all actresses, present and future. Lieutenant Watts, of the South Mahratta Horse, painted the scenery. The Costa of the evening was, it is whispered, Mr. Howard, the Director-general of Public Instruction; and the stage-manager was Greathed, the hero of Agra. After the opera there was a ball and supper at the Mess of the 3rd Dragoon Guards, when several couples formed a *Maritana* Quadrille. Lord Elphinstone, the Chief Justice, the Commander-in-Chief, Sir H. Somerset, Sir Hugh Rose, and many other celebrities, besides of course as much youth, beauty, and grace of the fair sex as could be collected, were pleased to assist at this delightful inauguration of English opera in India, which all who were present will remember with great pleasure.

MERCANTILE AND COMMERCIAL.

INDIA.

GOVERNMENT PATERNITY IN INDIA.

THERE are many worthy and distinguished men in India who, in their several governments and collectorates, have carried out great ameliorations, restored public works, opened new branches of agriculture and commerce, and much improved the condition of the population under their charge, and they are very desirous not only that such improvements shall be carried out, but that they shall be carried out solely by the Government standing in a paternal relation to the people. With this object in view, they would exclude capitalists and exclude companies; nor are they satisfied when they have them tied down in leading-strings of red tape. Above all, they would exclude independent Englishmen from India, because they might mar the designs of a paternal Government, and, it is affirmed, keep back the children of Government from advancement, even if they do not, as is insinuated, oppress them.

As the famous memorandum shows, and yet it does not go into full detail, the Government has done much and many things for India. It has under its charge roads, railways, canals, rivers, and lighthouses; it runs its mail carts, parcel express, river and ocean steamboats, to the envy and eclipse of the ambitious Rowland Hill; it has introduced or fostered the cultivation of indigo, opium, cotton, tea, and coffee; it has carried out many social reforms, suppressed infanticide and suttee, saved female children, and restored widows to life. It has its Government printing-presses and lithographic presses, prints school books, works the electric telegraph, and provides systems of education for all classes and all sects. More from the necessities of the country than its own ambition, the Indian Government has become a great manufacturing and trading concern, beyond even the Russian or any European Government. Some of the South American Governments, which have full treasuries and a large body of barbarians, under the name of citizens, do establish civilisation on a very comprehensive scale, even to the importation of church furniture, and opera companies, the establishment of theatres, and the provision of local newspapers. The Government of India is, however, the grand useful knowledge machine and apparatus for providing enlightenment, and it has nearly two hundred millions of customers dependent upon it for everything that lies between the policeman and the schoolmaster, and for every step above the mud hut and waist-cloths.

The Government of India has done very much and is proud of it, but there is another set of people less satisfied, who, instead of counting up, as the Government does, what has been effected, enter up an account of its short-comings of what it ought to have done, of what it has not done, and of what remains to be done, and this account is of such significance that the display of pride and satisfaction looks very small after the comparison. There is not a collectorate in India which has not a list of wants to be supplied by the paternal Government such as would horrify any Government in Europe, even benighted Portugal and Naples. Many is the large and populous collectorate in India as roadless as the Pampas or as the Great Sahara, many is the river with volumes of water running to waste, without providing navigation, without fertilising the land, and where myriads are, from time to time, actually starved to death in periods of famine, notwithstanding all the exertions and best intentions of a paternal Government. There are some collectorates, which have demanded works of irrigation for half a century, and which are still exposed to the horrors of famine, because Government paternity has not been able to dole out the small sum of capital which would save the people from death and double the revenue of the district. At all times the means of the Government are insufficient for effecting even works of irrigation; the road funds are miserable, the educational resources paltry, and the Government has not even engineers enough to

do justice to the work it has on hand. While the engineer, whose district is large as Yorkshire, is superintending a bit of new road in one place, his other roads elsewhere are falling into disrepair under the eyes of the native superintendents.

It has been too often pointed out that the paternity of the Government, narrow as is its practical influence, is altogether stayed in its exercise during war. An expedition to Burmah or China will stop canals and roads in Bombay; a war on the North-West Frontier will stay the hands of the engineers, whose districts are as far south as Cape Comorin. Thus war brings a twofold scourge upon India, and those collectorates which feel not its blast, are yet made mindful of it by its baleful effect on material and intellectual progress. The moment the Indian revenues feel the effect of a war, public works, reproductive or unproductive, are subjected to a paralysis; the grand canals remain unfinished, the roads are stayed, and so it must be so long as there is to be dependence on Government exertions, and funds derived from the ordinary revenue of the Government. There are no other colonies of the empire subjected to such disadvantageous conditions of finance as those of India, not even the Cape and New Zealand, which have warlike populations, and have been engaged in wars menacing their existence. Even by such a paltry province as Auckland or Natal—and India contains no collectorate so inconsiderable in population—large loans have been raised for immigration and public improvements. Thus our colonies in America, Australia, and Africa, instead of being dependent on their own narrow resources, and being kept back, share in the capital and energies of the metropolitan country, and have public works in advance of their population. Natal, Auckland, or Western Australia, with a population of a few thousands, can raise public loans on the credit of their revenues, but there is no collectorate of India which has a debentured debt for its roads or works of irrigation. In Ireland, a shire or barony may give its guarantee to a railway, but in India each collectorate is made dependent on the financial vicissitudes of the supreme Government. Were the shire of Middlesex deprived of the resources of credit, we should still await our large asylums and public buildings, because we cannot endow the present generation and posterity with works of necessity and amelioration, and because we fear to anticipate the resources of the present and rising generations.

The Afghan war was an omen to public advancement in India; the mutiny has proved alike fatal, and vast countries—Bengal, Madras, and Bombay—which no mutineer has traversed, are deprived of public works of primary necessity. Had it not been for the Railway, and Steamboat, and other companies, Indian progress would have been paralysed; but happily, by the introduction of private enterprise, some independent resources have been brought to bear. Educational improvement, in so far as the Government is concerned, is subjected to a like check, and now, even at this stage of the expiring mutiny, the supreme Government has issued a decree to stay all educational buildings and all educational outlay throughout India that can be postponed. This is on account of the financial difficulties of the Government. Education is, to a certain extent, provided for in India by village school funds, in some very few places by a special school tax on landowners, and by the missionary societies; but in every department of education, superior, special, and elementary, the wants of the country are such that India is below the condition of every regular Government in Europe and America. There is no province of Russia and no state of South America, for instance, which is so ill supplied as most parts of India with colleges for superior and professional education; and now at a period when progress is demanded, delay is interposed.

The funds of India are too wastefully applied at the present moment from the want of English assistance. The few officials are, as a matter of necessity, enormously paid; and in Bengal 7000*l.* to five officers is paid for inspection, while only 4500*l.* is distributed in grants in aid; and yet of all classes of professional assistance that of the schoolmaster is, in most advanced countries, to be most

abundantly and cheaply obtained. Although the engineering profession, like all others, is said to be overstocked, although the medical profession is overstocked, and drafts of engineers and surgeons for Indian service are not to be obtained, except by pressing on the home market, inspectors and schoolmasters for all the grammar-schools in India might be obtained from home on moderate terms. While the outlay for inspection is disproportionate, the means of inspection in India are most deficient. It will take any one of the Bengal inspectors, with the present inefficient and expensive means of transit, years to get over his district. What the inspection is, we unfortunately too well know. It is cursory and ineffective, because there is neither time nor power to carry it out satisfactorily. In Bombay, colleges the students of which had passed brilliant examinations in English year after year, have, on a subsequent investigation, been found incompetent in the instruction of the rudiments. In Madras, the Government have been impeded in appointing assistant-inspectors of education, although the want of such officials is most urgently felt. In England, with railways and good roads, inspectors can get over a large district, but in India the want of transit alone is a serious impediment. Thus, at every stage and in every direction, we are led to the same conviction of the necessity of an improvement of the transit as the first element of progressive civilisation.

The dependence of India on the paternal exertions of Government, it must never be forgotten, means dependence on the Government treasury, and as there are whole governments which yearly present a chronic deficit, the means of the Government are only to be calculated on the most restricted scale. The public debt of India is large in the aggregate, and its charge is considered a heavy one, and there is as much tenderness about raising a loan for public works as if the salvation of the country were thereby imperilled. Until the collectorates of India acquire the attributes of governments, and municipal institutions are extended in India, the financial resources of India for the development of its public works must be altogether inadequate. At this moment, in our money-market, the states and cities of our own empire and the world at large, are demanding loans for railways and other public works. Chili, with a population of one million, asks another railway loan; an Indian collectorate, with one million population, can get nothing, and were it not for the railway companies, niggardly organised by the Government, India would obtain nothing from a plethora money-market. The cities of India are not known in our market, and yet Calcutta can as well expend a loan of a million in public improvements as New York, Melbourne, or Quebec, and its application for capital would be as well received.

TEA AND COFFEE IN THE HIMALAYAS.

THE next stage to the establishment of the tea cultivation in Assam is its extension to the Himalayas, which has now reached the step of successful and practical experiment, and which will next year have acquired commercial importance. Concurrently with this, the coffee cultivation is being introduced, for which the successful results of coffee plantation in the South, in Mysore, Coorg, the Neilgherries, and the Shevaroy, have set the example.

The importance of these undertakings must indeed be rated very highly, not only on account of the extent of territory they affect, but on account of the political consequences. The length of the Himalayan range on the borders of our territory is not less than 1200 miles, exclusive of the Sewalik and parallel ranges, and of the Hindoo Koosh, and other chains reaching to the west. If on the sides and borders of these ranges tea, coffee, and cotton planting can be successfully carried on, the English sanatoria will become effective colonies, because they will have available employment for capital and enterprise, and capital and enterprise, attracted by such resources in the southern borders, will penetrate and open up the back countries of Lahoul, Kangra, Bussahir, Koonawur, Darjeeling, and so many now little-known regions of European climate lying between the Chinese borders and our own. Show our home population that there are health and wealth in these hills, and

they will be covered with a chain of English states, which will spread civilisation in the plains and secure the empire of progress.

When the Indian Government liberally bestowed its revenues and energies on the introduction of the tea cultivation, it was little thought that such great social results would be achieved; it was supposed Indian tea would be carried to England—it was not supposed English industry would be attracted to India. The tea experiments in Assam, the cotton experiments in Darjeeling, and the coffee experiments in the Dekkan, have proved the proposition that there is in India scope for English industry. It may still be left in doubt with civil functionaries whether sugar manufacture from native syrup is not an investment for Englishmen preferable to holding ryotwaree sugar lands in the plains, and they may still hold out that Englishmen cannot there grow cotton, but must buy it of the natives, but in the hills and *terai* tea, coffee, and sea island cotton can certainly be cultivated by European superintendence, on lands neither zemindaree nor ryotwaree, but held on grant tenure at fixed quit rents. The first tea garden that succeeded secured the English settlement question and the land tenure question, for so surely as the hill lands acquire an English population will it be required that the quit rents shall, as in Canada, be converted into fee-simple tenures.

The Kumaon and Deyrah Dhoon tea cultivation have proved successful in their early stages, and tea, tea-seed, and tea-seed oil are fetching remunerative prices. Of the Darjeeling progress less has been known, but recently the planters having been called upon to furnish information to the Government, some interesting particulars have been obtained as to the tea and coffee cultivation, but we regret to say nothing as to the important experiments in cotton, which it is hoped the Cotton Supply Association will press on the notice of the Indian Government.

The tea plantations in the Darjeeling district are those of Captain Samler at Kurseong, of Mr. Brine at Hope Town, of Mr. Martin at the Dhoodareah plantation, of Captain Samler at Darjeeling and at Lebong, of Captain Masson at Kurseong, Major Wardroper, and Mr. Grant. All these parties have sent in reports of their progress, and their plantations have been visited and examined by the Superintendent, Dr. Archibald Campbell. The number of tea-trees now in these plantations is 1,200,000, and 500,000 seedlings are ready grown for next year's operations, when the total will be near 2,000,000. In March of next year, instead of the local manufacture, which has hitherto been practised, the manufacture by Chinamen will be begun. It is to be observed that Chinese immigration for tea plantation is taking place on a small scale, but in time, as the field of employment becomes better known, there can be little doubt an immigration of Chinese will take place from the south-western provinces of the empire across those districts now little known and little traversed. Such an event will tend to consolidate our hill settlements by supplying them with other than Hindoo labour, and prepare for the spread of our settlements northerly, which, little as we may try to extend our empire, must be the certain result of our continued sway in Hindostan.

The plants grown in Darjeeling are the Chinese plant and the Assam plant. As yet black tea alone is made. The qualities of the Darjeeling Chinese teas are by their own planters claimed as superior to those of both Assam and Kumaon, though not equal to some of the Kangra teas. The Assam plants do not in Darjeeling produce such fine-flavoured teas as the Chinese, but are found strong. Strength has hitherto been much considered in the India-grown teas, but we must look forward in the course of time to the planters devoting their attention to the more delicate and costlier teas, as in China, which either do not admit of export, or are not appreciated in a distant market. Thus Indian teas are likely to fetch higher prices in India on the whole, than we should expect, judging by the low rates of Chinese common teas. Calcutta will soon have five or six classes of teas of various flavours and qualities, and the tea crop admits of as much variety in treatment as a vintage.

Captain Samler reports of his plantations that at Darjeeling he had up to the end of last year planted 70 acres of land with 150,000 trees. The progress of his plantation was as follows:—

In 1856	58,600
1857	91,400

Of these most were one-tree plants, but of two-tree plants there were 8220, and of three-tree plants 8220. By July, 1858, Captain Samler had increased his total of ground to 78 acres; only about 48,000 plants will be in bearing in 1859. The ultimate produce of this plantation will be about 25,000lbs.

His Kurseong plantation includes 64 acres, planted with 185,000 tea-trees, all three years old, and which will come into bearing next year. The ultimate produce will be about 20,000lbs., and the total of the two gardens 45,000 to 50,000lbs.

Mr. Brine, of Hope Town, has carried on his operations on a very large scale. Up to the end of July last he had 800 acres under plantation, with 450,000 plants, besides 400,000 seedlings, in the nursery, being nearly

half the stock of Darjeeling. The nurseries are 14 acres in extent. By the end of the rains Mr. Brine will increase his plantations to 500 acres. He complains of a great scarcity of labour for clearing the jungle and for weeding, and his operations are impeded. He intends to bring 1500 acres under tea-plants by 1860, but the manufacture will not begin till that year. This large property is capable of yielding 300,000lbs. of tea, of a probable value of 15,000l. sterling. European assistance is much wanted.

The plantation of Major Wardroper is on a smaller scale, but it is three years old. There are 35,000 to 40,000 old trees on 20 acres, and 20,000 on 10 acres.

Mr. Martin's plantation at Dhoodareah consists of 60,000 four-year old trees and 200,000 two-year old trees. There will be some produce next year.

To Captain Masson the colony of Darjeeling has been much indebted for the progress of the tea cultivation. He has some few old trees of seven years, 15,000 to 20,000 trees, and 12,000, to 15,000 seedlings. Captain Masson has a good crop of tea seed, and has carried the tea manufacture to such a stage as to have greatly improved the character of the Darjeeling tea.

On Mr. Scanlan's or Captain Cornish's plantations are 35,000 tea plants and 10,000 seedlings.

The total produce of Darjeeling in a few years will be many hundred thousand pounds of tea, besides seed and seed oil, and of an annual value of above 50,000l.

The coffee plantation is not so much advanced. Captain Samler has seventy acres under cultivation at Kurseong, with 68,000 plants, of which 11,000 are of last year's growth. There are 500,000 plants in the nurseries not yet put out. There are a few berries already on the older plants, and all are looking healthy. It is, however, still matter of experiment how far coffee will succeed on these heights.

The great obstacle to the progress of this important settlement is the bad state of communication with Calcutta by land and water, which, so far from improving, gets worse and worse. It now takes five months to get goods a distance of less than four hundred miles as the crow flies! Mr. Thomas Login, a distinguished civil engineer, is employed by the Bengal Government in improving the road from the Ganges, but this is insufficient for the wants of the district. The settlers have made a very strong application to the local government in behalf of the Northern Bengal Railway, which has not yet been arranged by the Supreme Government. It is represented that, both as regards its development as a sanatorium and a settlement, Darjeeling is kept back by want of this. The railway from Rajmahal and Caragola Ghaut to Darjeeling will make the lands and climate of Darjeeling available for the English troops in Bengal, the residents of Calcutta, and settlers from home. With a railway, the inhabitants believe Englishmen, capital, and enterprise will be brought to Darjeeling; without it, they believe that the extension of railways elsewhere will divert to other districts resources in which they are fairly entitled to share. For this advantage they earnestly press, and it is to be hoped they will be supported by the superintendent of Darjeeling and the Government of Bengal in obtaining this concession from the supreme and home governments.

When it is seen what a small knot of Englishmen, officials, and retired officers have done in creating a revenue on the hills and in the jungles of Darjeeling, it is impossible not to anticipate great results from the full and free action of English enterprise.

NOTES ON INDIAN PROGRESS.

SLIGHT additions to the Santapilly lighthouse have been authorised by the Madras Government. The work is to be done at once.

Some discussion is going on as to the distinguishing marks of the small posts in Ganjam. The Marine Board had proposed obelisks of 40 or 50 feet high, and painted, but the subject is remitted to them for consideration, as the colour would be affected by the rain, or indistinct at any distance, or in hazy weather.

The Madras Railway Company have been authorised to expend 1564l. for works connected with the station at Masulipatam, and 1147l. for a temporary engine shed at Beypoor. This has been the subject of a long correspondence with the Government. Another effort of red tape has resulted in authority to erect steam saw-mills at Perambore at a cost of 2207l. Steam saw-mills will be a great boon to the country, but the paternal care of the officials required great thought before the mills could be set up. There has been a correspondence with a variety of authorities about the railway contractors cutting timber in the Government forests. The Government have made a grant of timber to the Company for railway purposes, but when the contractors set to work to cut it, it is found that all kinds of formalities have not been gone through, and which the Government then set about.

In Ceylon, the Railway Company is earning golden opinions. There was some jealousy lest the railway should interfere with the roads and with other means of progress, but the company have made a good debut by liberal invitations to the opening, as an

earnest of their disposition to cultivate a good feeling in the island, and all jealousy is at an end. The first sod was to be turned on the 3rd of August by the Governor.

The supply of labour for the Ceylon Railway has been taken into consideration, and the Manchester has been sent to Madras to obtain coolies. There was considerable difficulty in obtaining leave from the Madras Government for coolies to emigrate, but at length permission was given for the Manchester to embark five hundred. The supply of extraneous labour is most important, as labour in Ceylon is scarce and dear.

The regulations as to Madras emigration will require revision now that India is an integral part of the empire, and the emigrations to Ceylon, the Mauritius, and the Tenasserim coast, must be put on a freer footing. The Madras Government has been so careful of the coolies that no coolie has taken part in the Australian gold diggings, although there is a good field for coolie labour in those provinces, and there are swarms of Chinese there. By this time Victoria would have obtained a large population of Madrasees, and many Madrasees would have returned home with a good supply of gold-dust, a better reward than their Mauritius earnings, and both India and Australia would have benefited. Instead of this, Australia has been cursed with the beastly Chinese, who are bad neighbours and bad subjects, for, as is too well known by Singapore experience, their combinations set our police at defiance. Under a freer system Tenasserim, Singapore, Hong-Kong, Labuan, Sarawak, Australia, Seychelles, Natal, and South Africa would have been strengthened by Indian emigration, and Ceylon and the Mauritius would have been better supplied. The Chinese emigration is filling up Australasia and many parts of the south-east, while our colonies are languishing for want of labour.

It is only now in the Masulipatam collectorate that the Government authorisation has been obtained for the abolition of the tax on mamoties and cowboys. This trumpery and injudicious tax only affected the Peddana, and amounted to six pounds yearly.

It is very gratifying to find that Shevaroy coffee, the produce of that promising English settlement in the Shevaroy hills, is acquiring a name in India, and it is to be hoped it will take a good rank in time in the English market.

The Government School of Industrial Arts is doing its work at Madras, but, in imitation of the South Kensington School, is charging high prices to students, instead of teaching them free. If industrial art is to be encouraged, it must be encouraged in the spirit of the French Government, and not taxed and bargained with. An entrance fee of two shillings, and a school fee of two shillings a month, are heavy charges for India. The subjects taught are very copious—geometry, mechanical drawing, outline drawing, perspective, architectural drawing, chalk drawing, artistic anatomy, flower drawing, drawing from the life, wood engraving, copperplate engraving, photography, and modelling.

In the industrial department of the school is a novel feature. Instruction is given in the manufacture by hand and machinery of bricks, pipes, tiles, telegraphic pottery, encaustic tiles, and all kinds of structural pottery.

Colonel J. S. Smith, late of the Madras Engineers, is now in London, superintending the purchase of articles of drainage for an experiment on Captain O'Connell's plan for draining the Black Town of the city of Madras.

The project of a steam-tug for the port of Cochin meets with the approval of the Government.

The passage of the bill in the Legislative Council of India for the maintenance of a police force in the port of Madras is no mean step in progress. Everything that tends to the improvement of that disgraceful institution and den of thieves, the police system of India, which for iniquity can only be paralleled by the Court of Chancery here, must be hailed with satisfaction. There is every prospect that the Madras Presidency will now have the benefit of English superintendents of police throughout, but one great impediment to the organisation of an efficient police system in India is the want of Englishmen who have resided long enough to acquire local experience. For this purpose alone a freer immigration of Englishmen is desirable; but indeed, in every department of Government, the want of competent assistance is as much felt as in Russia or Paraguay.

A very important measure of improvement is now being opposed in the trades' union spirit. The Madras Government, following the movement of the others, is taking measures for superseding the copyist as far as possible by the printer, and in consequence the great caste of the writers is threatened with eclipse; and it is urged in their behalf that the affliction on them is great, because the traditional immobility of the country in its customs forbids the hope that they can easily replace one means of livelihood by

turning to any one out of a hundred other means. Fortunately this argument is not worth so much in India. The effect of English improvement is to create numerous new employments without creating new castes, and, we may add, in so far breaking up the old ones. The railway, the steamboat, the steam-engine, the electric telegraph, the printing-press, bookbinding, lithography, wood engraving, photography, and numerous new pursuits have created many new employments; and these fields of occupation will be extended. It is by such means caste is to be weakened, and not by persecution; and the caste of writers must share in the lot of the others.

Every printing-press set up by the Governments of India in the collectorates and districts is a powerful engine of civilisation, in comparison with which a hundred copyists are of no account. Copyists, as gradually reduced, must seek private employment for their art, which is now in greater request, and their children must look out for some other caste.

TAXES ON TRADE.

So much is still said of the treaty with China, the only interesting occurrence for commerce we have of late had to record, that it seems likely to divert the attention of mercantile men from affairs at home. Should this be the case, it will be justly regretted, for more advantages may be obtained for trade by getting rid of noxious regulations, than by treaties with foreigners. In fact, some of the most zealous declaimers in favour of the treaty have already found out that it is a mere concession of abstract rights which we must gradually work out, or they will be worth nothing. Treaties can neither force nor make trade, though they can stop or pervert it; and the good to be obtained by this treaty must be purchased by the same exertions on the part of traders as they must have made had it never existed. The national will, however, which cannot force a foreign trade, may relieve home trade from burdens. Mercantile men have now learned from experience, if ever they were ignorant of them, the inestimable advantages of freedom, and they owe it to themselves—they owe it to the principle by which they have prospered—they owe it to other nations, incited to follow our example, to carry out that principle and get every possible tax and restriction removed from our own trade.

Although there are yet a considerable number of customs duties imposed, as we showed on the 18th ult., on the principle of protection, the chief of them are imposed merely to raise a revenue, and the first point therefore to be satisfied about is the practicability of diminishing the national expenditure. But every person outside the range of the Treasury is thoroughly convinced that the public money is wasted to an enormous extent on unnecessary or worthless labour by jobbery and corruption. Every farthing of this money is obtained by taxation, and every tax carries with it restrictions on industry. The excise on paper and spirits—it is impossible to re-state the fact too often—prevents the manufacture of these necessary articles from being carried on in the best manner. The customs duties impose on the necessary import and export of commodities great heaps of official restrictions, in order to collect the revenue, to which the passport nuisance abroad, so justly complained of, is a trifling evil. A man, in fact, is much easier passed inwards or outwards than a bale of goods; and customs duties are more onerous restraints on the industry by which we all live than are passports on locomotion, which is the privilege and enjoyment of the few. For the mere performance of the obnoxious labours of the Custom-house the sum of 1,351,150*l.* was paid in 1856, and taxes to that amount were levied on the people to pay it. At the same time the men who preside over the performance of these noxious services are inflated with official arrogance, and Messrs. Fremantle, Spring Rice, Goulburn, Saurin, Berkeley, and Greg, the Customs Commissioners, boast of extraordinary merit, and seem to expect the admiration of mankind for lessening ever so little the restrictions they decree and the public money they expend.

Besides requiring a host of boastful and very often insulting officials to carry them into effect, customs and excise duties give rise to evasions and smuggling, to deceit, lying, perjury, and fraud. They are great sources of vice and crime. "Ladies and ladies' maids," the Commissioners of Customs tell us, "have a tremulous and vulgar joy in cheating

the revenue and evading the vigilance of the officers charged with collecting it." Besides the attempts at smuggling of tobacco and spirits, of which the public are informed by prosecutions at the police-offices, a "considerable number of parties of rank and station had their baggage confiscated for smuggling by the customs authorities in 1857." When every kind of indirect taxation causes such an accumulation of evils, we can only feel honestly indignant that a single farthing is ever levied for any but the most indispensable services; and when we know that money so levied is under many hypocritical pretexts scandalously misapplied, we feel dishonoured and degraded by being made the victims of such a system. Not merely freedom of trade, self-respect requires from us that we should as speedily as possible put an end to public extravagance of every kind, in order to get rid of the sufferings, vices, and crimes perpetrated by taxation to support it.

There is one branch of this expenditure, by no means necessary to the performance of the duties of the State, worthy of especial notice. A navy and army and courts of law we must have; but on them, when the money to support them can only be obtained by a great sacrifice of social welfare, the smallest possible sum should be expended. The contrary is, unfortunately, the fact, and the necessity to have them is made the pretext for a vast quantity of wanton extravagance. The other branch of expenditure alluded to is voluntary; it is a work of supererogation on the part of Government, a kind of generosity exercised very often as is pretended in favour of the deeply-injured taxpayers. It takes the shape of grants for galleries, education museums, hospitals, scientific experiments, &c., as if Government had some funds of its own not derived from taxation, and as if payments of every kind were not required by duty, and some could be withheld at pleasure. To such a doctrine we cannot assent. Government is an instrument created by society for the performance of great and solemn duties, and those who are for ever appealing to it for favour delude it into the paths of injustice. The expenditure of Government, like that of other spendthrifts on taste, is proportionably more than the necessary expenditure on the family, and is permanently increasing.

In 1841 the miscellaneous charges for civil services amounted to 3,601,841*l.*, and in 1855, after which this item of expenditure in the *Statistical Abstract* was hidden amongst civil charges of all kinds, was 6,741,126*l.* In 1857, as we learn from other sources, it was 7,227,719*l.* For the present year the charge is still greater, and the bulk of the vast increase arises from the Government having imitated the Governments of the Continent—urged thereto by successive schemers—in meddling with everything, including education, art, and science. They hold themselves in no degree responsible to their subjects for their expenditure. They regard the public money as their private property, to be used as they please; and if they abstract a portion of it from keeping up their courts and armies, and apply it to art and science, in the eyes of their subjects or slaves they appear to be acting a very meritorious part. We acknowledge the principle of public money being the property of the people held by the Government on trust, and only to be levied and only to be expended for the advantage of the tax-payers. Our Government, therefore, has no right to spend a sixpence on any kind of whim, and it has done a grievous wrong to the tax-payers by doubling in a few years the charges for the miscellaneous civil services.

Without entering into details, we assert that the grants for the pretended improvement of the people, or for commissioners to take care of them, have not sprung spontaneously from our Saxon institutions, but are poor and spiritless exotics, none of which thrive here, imported from the imperialism and the bureaucracy which prevail abroad. The Chadwicks, representatives of centralisation for paupers and police; the Lingens, representatives of the same principle for education; the Coles, who represent it for art and science; the Trevellyans, who represent it in the public offices; with a vast brood of inspectors and commissioners, who eat up the bulk of the sum appropriated for civil services and carry into effect new regulations, all of which are restrictions, are the genuine offspring of constraining and coercive despotism. To borrow such contrivances from systems of government which we all justly and heartily condemn, is to be at once absurd and contemptible. This branch of expenditure, therefore, which is so rapidly increasing, the mercantile classes may, with great propriety, resist, and

require that it should be curtailed. It is entirely a supererogatory expense, not required by the duties imposed on the government of a free people.

Last year there was levied by the Customs on:—

	<i>£.</i>
Butter and cheese	159,000
Coffee	457,000
Corn	473,000
Currants and raisins	294,000
Wine	1,966,000
Timber of all kinds	575,500
Small articles, taken collectively	745,000

Making a total of.....4,669,500

It is therefore by no means too much to say, taking into consideration the expense of levying these duties, and the greater productiveness of other duties which would be sure to ensue from abolishing these, that the addition made to the expenditure for civil services within the last twenty years has compelled us to submit to all this otherwise unnecessary taxation. It is not too much to say that by reducing the expenditure on miscellaneous civil services to its amount in 1810, all the duties levied by the customs on small articles, and the duties levied on provisions—coffee, corn, currants, and raisins, wine and timber, the necessities of our social existence—might all at once be got rid of, reducing by three-fourths the labours of the Custom-house officers, and dispensing with the noxious services of four out of the six Customs Commissioners.

This is not a question, as beggars for Government favours and Government expenditure represent it, of mere pounds, shillings, and pence, and a sordid love of pelf on the part of the tax-payers, but one of political principle, morality, duty, and conscience. That the arts shall flourish and science be continually enlarged is much to be desired, and seems to be, independent of all Government patronage, the natural consequence of the growth of society. But that this effect is to be brought about by levying the taxes enumerated to the stoppage of trade, the proportionate diminution of wealth, and the degradation of society, is not to be believed, and would be scarcely worth purchasing at such an enormous cost. All the services of Government are dear if they involve a diminution of social welfare. At least this ill-considered, if not wanton, expenditure and extravagance on its part wipes out the line of its duty; it ceases to be the strict guardian of the public money, which becomes the ordinary prey of innumerable pretenders. It has a fatal effect on the morals of the whole people, including the mercantile classes, and is the chief source of that disregard of duty we all have continually to deplore. If the Government had acted conscientiously and honestly in disbursing the public money, and in levying none but strictly necessary taxes for the performance of its own narrow duties, we should never have heard of the Liverpool Borough Bank and the Great Western Bank. Unnecessary taxation and needless expenditure, a fatal example to the whole people, lie at the bottom of much pauperism and much crime.

A great portion, therefore, of the Government expenditure, and consequently of the present taxation, is not necessary; and indirect taxation should be reduced. It is more pernicious than direct taxation, restricts liberty and industry, and stops the production of wealth, as well as misappropriates it. The trading classes, who are its immediate victims, have the best right to be heard on the subject, and it becomes them, we think, in conjunction with financial Reformers, to get rid of the unnecessary customs duties we have adverted to.

The number of the *Financial Reformer* for October, which discusses this subject, says, amongst other things, that sugar, which yields the largest sum to the customs, "has become one of the necessities of life. How to deal properly with it has always been one of the most difficult questions for Chancellors of the Exchequer. The duties now levied are absurd and perplexing in the extreme." Any attempt at improving the quality of the sugar imported is checked by the duty. If the value of the article be increased only 6*d.*, the extra duty is 1*s.* 2*d.* Till within a few years the sugar duties were annually granted and annually subject to revision. Quite as much from a desire to form a permanent system of finance, and remove as far off as possible the control of the House of Commons, as to give security to dealers in sugar, these duties have been made permanent, and the present system of levying them is the fruit of the latest wisdom of Parliament. They are understood to be in the main the product of the contriving brain of the late Secretary of the Treasury in conjunction with

advisers from Mincing-lane. Let us look, then, at the effect of the manner of levying the duties alluded to. These duties are now, for sugar equal to white clayed, 16s.; not equal to white clayed, 13s. 10d.; not equal to brown clayed, 12s. 8d. Just in these proportions, therefore, the law discourages the importation of the refined article and encourages the importation of the unrefined. It gives a bounty on a particular species of industry; it encourages the importation of the less valuable article, which requires more tonnage to carry; it interferes with production, and is in principle, with its scale of duties, as much a protective law for particular interests as was the corn law. Some twenty years after the proclamation of free trade we pass and maintain as to sugar a law which is a complete violation of those principles. That this law has given and still gives great annoyance to trade is testified by the Customs Commissioners themselves. In their second report they exult in having made in 1857 "an improvement in their arrangements which have given satisfaction (that is some relief) to the trade, and effected a saving of expense." But the description of what is now the practice indicates to anybody but case-hardened Commissioners of Customs considerable inconvenience to trade.

The whole of the sugar (they say) imported into London is now assessed at the Custom-house in Thames-street. Hither the crown samples are forwarded from the different wharfs and docks as soon as drawn, and at the same time as the merchant's samples are forwarded to him or his broker. Two rooms in the upper part of the building, suitable in space and light, are appropriated to the purpose, and here all samples are subjected to the inspection and judgment of two or three landing waiters, superintended and checked by a landing surveyor, and aided, in case of difficulty or dispute, by Mr. Ogilvy. Many advantages result from this arrangement. The first and greatest is uniformity of assessment. All sugars are submitted to the decision of the same officers, under the same circumstances of light, &c. The consequence is that, whereas formerly *appeals* to the Board against the assessment of the officers *was* (sic) very frequent, such a thing now scarcely occurs once a quarter.

With the grammar and defective education of the Commissioners we shall not trouble ourselves, but it is made plain by the extract that the principle of taxing an article according to its quality, and ascertaining that quality by samples in a room which does not appear to be artificially lighted for the purpose, and, therefore, will be subject to varying lights, these samples being drawn at a distance and their value decided by the judgment of men affected like others by an east wind or a bad dinner, is pregnant with much hardship and much injustice. It is possibly open also, like other Government contrivances, to not a little bribery, and may be taken as a sample of the inconvenience of customs duties even when regulated by modern care and skill.

Our contemporary, the *Financial Reformer*, seems to think that "able men" of the middle class, as Inland Revenue and other commissioners, might manage these matters better, but the present sugar duties are a specimen of what such "able men" can effect. The late Secretary of the Treasury has a great reputation for *ability*—his City reputation in other respects is no concern of ours. He probably directed all his energies to form these sugar duties, and the result is a system which the *Financial Reformer* very justly condemns. The conclusion to which we are brought by this failure is, that the system is radically *bad*, and that directing great abilities to work it out, instead of altering its nature, makes it utterly intolerable. Disregarding, on this point, all Treasury and Custom-house authorities, we say it is the duty of the mercantile classes to obtain a sweeping abolition of Custom-house restrictions and Custom-house duties. We have adduced facts to show that they should disregard the sycophantic cry that the Government must have a revenue, except it be a revenue proportioned to its duties, not to the whims and the extravagances of Chancellors of the Exchequer and their toadies. "I must live," said the thief. "I do not see the necessity," said the *chef de police*, and hanged the man for robbery. So when Government says, "I must have a revenue to keep up my extravagance," let us answer, "We do not see the necessity; we will most willingly enable you to pay the dividends on the debt, to support the army and navy, and the courts of justice, but we will not allow trade to be taxed to enrich political quacks and encourage political quackery."

QUANTITIES *versus* VALUE.

(To the Editor of the Leader.)

SIR,—In the *Leader* for 2nd October you have, under the head of "Quantities *v.* Value," referred to an aspect of the Board of Trade returns which well deserves attention—the relations of the quantities and weights as well as of the values. This consideration equally affects imports, exports, and our shipping trade. I have before now pointed out the necessity of the Board of Trade giving us better materials for comparison. Something has been done lately, but the want of uniformity in the returns subjects the inquirer to complex calculations to obtain a result. Thus, there are articles returned in lbs., bushels, cwt., and tons. Take copper: copper ore and regulus are returned in tons, copper in cwt. As far as possible all articles should be brought to the ton unit.

In the returns of exports and imports of copper ore and regulus the two articles are mixed together, so that the copper contents cannot be approximately ascertained; yet regulus seldom falls below 50 per cent., or ore below 20 per cent., the average for the former varying about 60 per cent., and for the latter about 30 to 25 per cent. Iron is given in tons, copper and tin partly in cwt.; and the same anomalies and irregularities are to be traced throughout.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
HYDE CLARKE.

42, Basinghall-street, Oct. 4, 1858.

GENERAL TRADE REPORT.

London, Friday Evening.

THERE is not much change to report in the general condition of trade. Here and there we perceive fluctuating movements, some of them slightly adverse, but they are neutralised or counterbalanced by favourable currents elsewhere; so that, upon the whole, the commerce of the country may be described as having arrived at a very satisfactory stage, inasmuch as it is regular, and only liable to ordinary casualties. The next movement will be upward again when the present quiet period shall have passed away. This may be inferred from the character of the demand for most of our manufactured productions, the change of the season, and the firm prices required for every description of raw material. These are all elements of improvement. The cotton manufacture, notwithstanding that a slight concession in prices has been made, is healthy; and the trade would unquestionably become more active if the price of cotton relaxed, but of that we see no present prospect. Still the wants of the public, both at home and abroad, are indefinite, and if they are to be supplied at all the natural prices must be paid. The woollen and worsted trades are prosperous though raw wool is dear and scarce; and the production of linen, or the demand for it, is not checked by the advancing prices of flax. The iron and hardware branches are decidedly improving. We repeat, therefore, that though we may now have a short period of comparative quiet after the late return of activity, that quietude will be only the forerunner of renewed vitality; and that our prospects for the rest of the year, and for a considerable slice of the next, are as favourable as they can be.

Money remains abundant and cheap, and the supplies will be further increased in the course of next week by the dispersion of the dividends. After provision had been made for the acceptances at maturity on the 4th, which naturally caused some increase in the demand, the inquiry subsided, and the applications now are upon a very small scale indeed. As we have previously stated, trade does not now require any material assistance from the Money Market; its own soundness is its best support. Except among the bill-brokers, the Stock Exchange speculators, and some of the banking interests, no disappointment was felt yesterday at the resolution of the Bank Directors to maintain the existing minimum of 3 per cent. Some of those interests certainly were annoyed, and they are now urging the Court to abandon the practice of fixing a rate at all, and to deal with their means according to the laws of supply and demand, at the best rates they can obtain. We doubt whether the suggestion will be of any care of money capitalists, it is to be tempted, as accepted. At all events, it is a practical confession that as trade does not require the foster-far as possible, to withdraw from its present safe condition. The time for that has not yet arrived, and it is apparently at some distance.

We noticed in our last that business on the previous day had rallied from the temporary depression of Tuesday, and that the brisk demand for goods

suitable for India had produced an improvement in the prices of those descriptions. The demand has since been satisfied, but prices remain firm at the advance. The full prices of last week have also been obtained for T-cloths and long-cloths, but business in them has been languid owing to makers being unwilling to make concessions. The business of the week has, however, been considerable, but there has been no excitement in it. Export yarns remain firm. German buyers are only giving out orders of immediate urgency, the prices required preventing any speculative movements from that quarter. To-day the prices of cloth of all kinds were steady and firm, and there was no material change in business. The state of the Liverpool cotton market prevents spinners and manufacturers from lowering their terms, occupied as they are largely upon contracts of some duration.

The Blackburn market on Wednesday was, on the whole, rather in favour of buyers, particularly for No. 40's yarn and the lower descriptions, but the finer descriptions sold pretty well, with a turn in favour of sellers. The average amount of transactions was, however, scarcely maintained.

The Leeds cloth markets this week have shown no change. The sales have been considerable, and quite equal to a full average in times of brisk trade, particularly of winter goods. Light fabrics for ladies' cloaks and mantles are in good demand.

At Bradford, on Monday, the wool market was in nearly all respects the duldest for some time past. But it was exceptional. Production of yarns still goes on, and nothing can prevent it so long as spinners possess stocks of their own of the raw material. Noils and brokes commanded a fair sale. Spinners are fully employed with orders, and they are producing little or nothing on speculation. Little has been done in yarns except for Russia, for which large orders have been given out. Cotton warps firm. With respect to goods, the demand for winter descriptions is satisfactory both from home and export houses. Indeed the manufacturers have as many orders as they can execute. There are complaints, however, about unremunerative prices, owing to the high price of wool. Yesterday the market was good, and prices tended upwards, especially as the advices from Leipsic fair were favourable.

The worsted trade of Halifax is experiencing a steady and full demand, both goods and yarns being freely sold, though there is not much apparent briskness. Wools are firmly held. Spinners, owing to the prices required, purchase only for immediate use. This policy has hitherto been found to sustain prices rather than otherwise, and it is one cause of the complaints of manufacturers of the narrow margin of their profits; but fears are expressed that unless the raw material becomes cheaper, power-looms and spinning-frames will be less at work.

At Huddersfield, although there is no new feature to notice, there has been a steady but not a brisk demand for goods, principally for winter use. The warehouse business—that is, business done without reference to the regular markets—has improved during the week. Wool has been in active demand. The consumption throughout the district is very large, and it is increasing. Stocks consequently are much reduced, and prices are well maintained. The manufacturers of woollen and Bedford cords, winter overcoatings, and smart fancy trousers, however, continue to be busily employed with orders on hand, and large quantities of these goods are being regularly delivered direct from the manufactories. In cords almost every variety of shade is being required, although the colour most in demand is a stone drab in a 4s. quality. In winter overcoatings, which are being extensively manufactured this season by several of the principal houses here, the choice is still for self colours or plain mixtures; while the fabric varies in appearance constantly, and passes under different names: Varna, Palmerston, Kinburn, &c., being used to designate the various differences of "make." In price these goods usually range from 8s. 9d. to 10s. 3d., according to weight and colour. Several of the manufacturers here have already brought out their pattern ranges for next spring and summer, and these, so far as we have been able to ascertain, have met with considerable success, orders for favourite styles being readily given by merchants here. These consist for the most part of neat mixture twist grounds, with narrow borders, and have a much smarter appearance at the price than the majority of last summer's styles. The plain goods trade here does not yet show any decided signs of improvement, although there is every probability of a further advance in the value of good wools at no distant date. The country trade is still quiet, although slowly improving. The shipping demand for low goods in this market has rather fallen off.

At Rochdale the wool market on Monday was irregular. Some holders thought that prices had attained their maximum, and they were disposed to relax in their terms; but others were firm and refused to take lower prices. A good business was

done. With respect to the goods market we have a favourable report to make. There was a good attendance of buyers, and an advance of 2s. was established upon flannels. The demand for all qualities was brisk, and manufacturers are well occupied with orders.

Accounts from Doncaster, where there is a wool market, state that very little is left in growers' hands, and that the advance since the first Saturday in September has been from 1s. to 2s. per stone. A novel feature in the trade is, that a todd of wool, 28 lbs., is at present worth a quarter of wheat of 36 stones—a very different state of things to that in 1856-7.

The hosiery trade in Leicester and Nottingham remains moderately active, notwithstanding the high prices required for yarns. The lace trade is less active, but there is a concurrence of opinion that there will shortly be a period of considerable activity. Some large orders from the United States have been received during the week.

The Barnsley linen trade, like that at Belfast and Dundee, has revived, but not in proportion to the expectations that were entertained of it. This is mainly owing to the advancing prices of flax. Dulness prevails in the commoner articles. Fancy drills are in demand. It is, however, the handloom branches that are most depressed, the powerloom factories being all fully employed, working full time, while all the bleach-works in the neighbourhood are busy both with yarns and cloths.

In the various linen markets round Belfast the demand for goods has been moderate, while stocks are light and prices firm. This applies to Magherafelt, Movemore, Armagh, Lurgan, and Ballymena; and to all kinds of linen goods. In Belfast itself handloom drills remain in fair demand at the late moderate advance in price. Diapers, of which stocks are low, are in better request, at rather higher rates. The stocks of printing lawns and cambric handkerchiefs are reduced, and meet an improving sale, without any material alteration in value. The late advance has checked operations in light linens for bleaching, and few transactions are reported; stocks, however, are very small. In goods for dyeing and for hollands there is a brisk trade at the full advance in prices before noted; stocks extremely low. For heavy linens there is a moderate sale at firm rates. In powerloom drills there has been a fair sale at previous rates. For heavy linens there is a good inquiry, but the advanced prices demanded retard sales; stocks are pretty large. Light linens for bleaching are in limited request, owing to the advance in prices; stocks are very small, owing to manufacturers being engaged in making up old orders. For printing lawns and cambric handkerchiefs there is a pretty good demand; stocks moderately large and prices firm. Of roughs there is no stock, and manufacturers are fully engaged. In unions little or nothing is doing. In white linens the home market is healthy but quiet, while the foreign markets are improving. Line yarns have been in only limited demand, and stocks have rather increased, but old orders are keeping down any tendency to accumulation. Pads in request. The country flax markets are all exceedingly firm.

In Dundee the linen trade has been languid, though holders are firm. There has been a further advance in flax of from 1l. to 2l. per ton. A failure took place on Saturday in the spinning trade. The liabilities of the party were considerable, and the depression produced by this event has not yet passed away.

The silk trade continues active notwithstanding a further advance, in the month just closed, in some descriptions of the raw article.

From the Staffordshire potteries the accounts continue favourable.

The accounts from Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Walsall, Sheffield, and Glasgow are altogether more favourable with respect to the iron and hardware trades, though complaints are still rife. The more cheering prospects of the ironmasters have induced them to maintain their prices; and meanwhile orders are coming in from many quarters, though they lag from the United States, owing to the caution exercised by the agents there. The screw, tube, wire, and plating businesses are all brisker, and domestic orders are more numerous and heavier than at any previous period in the year. The fancy trades are dull; but as they were the last to experience depression, it is only natural that they should be somewhat late in participating in the otherwise general improvement.

THE SUEZ SCHEME.—The Paris meeting on the Suez Canal question is fixed for the 15th of next month. In the interval, Mr. Lange, the representative of the company in this country, is about to revisit the various towns in which meetings were held last year. He is also charged, it is said, to obtain information respecting dredging machines and other appliances for the projected work.

HOME, COLONIAL, AND FOREIGN PRODUCE MARKETS.

REVIEW OF THE WEEK.

Mincing Lane, Friday Evening.

TRANSACTIONS have again been of limited extent in the aggregate, and the quiet which characterises the general features of these markets seems likely to undergo but little change during the remaining period of the year. The closing of the navigation at the Northern European ports must shortly preclude anything beyond a partial export demand, and operations will therefore be confined chiefly to home requirements. Of these indications are still favourable, and the advices to hand this week from India and China are calculated to accelerate the employment of the industrial classes, upon which the consumption of the leading products mainly depends. It must, however, be borne in mind that the continual large deliveries from importers' stocks, although evidencing a great extension of the consuming power of the country, have no doubt been to some extent absorbed in replenishing the warehouses of the numerous dealers throughout the kingdom. We must therefore be prepared to see an occasional declension of our home trade, as buyers are now so situated as to be enabled, in any turn of the markets against them, to act with reserve for a tolerably lengthened period. Importers, on the other hand, disencumbered of their late surplus stocks, are likely to remain firm in their demands, and hence the difference between buyer and seller, which has stood in the way of business during the present week, seems likely to be the prevailing feature, at intervals, for some time to come.

CORN.—The supplies of English wheat at market have been small, but the imports of Foreign liberal, and the course of the markets on the Continent is still in favour of shipments to this country, as the decline in prices has been greater and more progressive there than here. At Ancona the wheat crop is reported to have been secured in superior condition, and would be ready for shipment about November; selected Roman could be put on board at 46s. 6d. per quarter, 63 lbs., cost and freight, to the United Kingdom. From the United States the advices are rather against importations thence, as the deliveries were small, holders firm, and prices advancing.

The price of English wheat at Mark Lane has not undergone any quotable change, and the few choice samples on offer have been readily placed, but inferior qualities hang on hand. Fine white brought 50s. per qr.; good, 47s. to 49s.; good to prime red, 44s. to 46s.; common, runs 39s. to 40s. per qr. The comparative scarcity of English rendered holders of Foreign firm, but at former prices sales were only practicable in retail quantities. The finest Dantzic samples ranged from 54s. to 56s.; good, 52s. to 53s.; fine old Rostock, 49s. to 50s.; French red, 44s. to 45s.; St. Petersburg, 40s. to 42s.; low Russian, 36s. to 38s. per qr. Flour has sold rather more readily, especially the better Country marks. Prices have, at the same time, not varied materially from those quoted last week; Town made, quoted 43s.; Town households, 36s.; No. Twos, 31s. to 32s.; Country households, 33s. to 35s.; seconds, 30s. to 31s.; and Norfolks, 30s. to 36s.; French, 35s. to 38s. per sack of 280 lbs.; choice American, 25s. to 26s.; sour, 21s. to 23s. Barley of choice malting quality continues firm; its scarcity to command high prices, say 42s. to 45s.; but medium qualities are a slow sale, although not quotably lower; grinding samples meet a steady sale at 26s. to 27s. per qr. Malt is in steady demand where the quality is good, but otherwise, sales are difficult and prices very irregular. Choice loose is quoted 72s. to 74s.; fine shop samples, 66s. to 68s. The increased supplies of barley coming forward for some successive markets are telling upon prices, which are still radiating downwards, and good useful samples are purchasable at 1s. 2d. per stone. Peas are also receding in value, partly from the increased imports of foreign. The arrivals of foreign oats have again been large, and buyers have still the advantage in terms, although the depression has not been quotably extended. Good old Russian are worth 24s.; Tagaurog, 21s.; choice new Irish, 28s. to 29s. per qr. Floating cargoes have become rather firmer in value, the arrivals off the coast having been of less magnitude; small cargoes of Galatz have sold at 31s. 6d. per 492lbs., and Ibralla, at 31s. 8d. per 480lbs.

LONDON AVERAGES.

	Qrs.	s.	d.
Wheat.....	8942	at	45 11
Barley.....	1248	"	86 8
Oats	895	"	27 6
Rye	—	"	—
Beans	727	"	39 8
Peas	69	"	56 6

WEEK'S ARRIVALS.

	English.	Irish.	Foreign.
Wheat	1170	—	4,160
Barley.....	450	—	28,210
Malt	410	—	—
Oats	70	4840	44,820
Flour,	880	—	280
Ditto	brls.	—	80

SEEDS.—Arrivals of linseed this week are 5600 qrs. from the sea of Azof, generally out of condition. The floating trade is without improvement, and 55s. still the price for Black Sea seed, deliverable in the United Kingdom. Stocks are light on the spot, and 59s. to 58s. 6d. obtainable for Bombay, and 57s. for fine Calcutta seed. The gross import this year is 171,400 qrs. against 139,200 qrs. last year. The exports of linseed-oil and linseed from the United Kingdom, since the 1st of January, exceeds the produce of the entire importation during the same period; the present depression in the value of the raw and manufactured articles, can therefore be ascribed only to the large shipments made, or now making in the East India and at Russian ports. Rapeseed is in better demand, and continental advices are in favour of higher prices, but quotations are at present unaltered. Oil cake remains the same as last noticed.

POTATOES.—With moderate supplies and in fair demand, prices are steady. Regents, 70s. to 90s.; Shaws, 60s. to 75s.; French, 55s. to 65s.; Belgian, 50s. to 60s. per ton.

Stock.—The demand for live stock has been dull throughout the week, and inferior breeds, both of beasts and sheep, have receded about 2d. per stone; prime have, on the contrary, been pretty well sustained. Down wethers, in some few cases, making a trifling advance. The supplies have been tolerably liberal, but the proportion of really good useful descriptions has been exceedingly small, and hence the exceptional stability in their value. The following were the numbers at market, and the current quotations on the respective market days:—

MONDAY.			
Beast.	Sheep.	Calves.	Pigs.
5,656	23,500	157	350
4s. to 4s. 10d.	4s. to 5s. 2d.	3s. 10d. to 4s. 10d.	3s. 8d. to 4s. 8d.

THURSDAY.			
Beast.	Sheep.	Calves.	Pigs.
1,390	6,230	210	220
3s. 8d. to 4s. 10d.	4s. to 5s.	4s. to 5s.	3s. 6d. to 4s. 4d.

PROVISIONS.—The weather has been favourable for trade in the dead meat markets, and supplies not having been heavy, prices have ruled steady, especially for prime fresh carcasses. At Newgate and Leadenhall, beef ranged from 2s. 8d. to 4s.; mutton, 3s. 6d. to 4s. 4d.; veal, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 4d.; pork, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 8d. per stone, by the carcass.

SALTPETRE.—The stock has sunk to 2720 tons, and a further reduction is anticipated before supplies of any moment can arrive. Holders are consequently very firm, and prices have again advanced. About 5000 to 6000 bgs. have changed hands on the spot, at 42s. 6d. for 13½ to 47s. for fine 1 per cent.; but 5 per cent. has also sold in small lots at 47s. to 48s. For arrival, 100 tons have sold at 42s.; and subsequently 43s. has been offered and refused for parcels close at hand. The Calcutta letters refer to light shipments and rising prices.

SPRITS.—A moderate business has been done in rum at late rates. Deliveries are good, but more than equalled by the arrivals. Large sales of German spirit are reported at 1s. 2d. per gallon.

INDIGO.—The overland accounts have merely confirmed those previously received, and have not, therefore, materially affected the position of the market. With the quarterly sales approaching, on the 12th, but little is doing, but the market is firm.

COCHINEAL is firmer in value, and a more ready sale. 284 bags have been placed. Honduras silvers, 3s. 8d. to 4s.; Teneriffe, 3s. 10d.; blacks, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 8d. per lb.

SAFFLOWER.—Public sales of fair extent have manifested a good demand, and full prices have been paid, middling red to good pinky selling at 6l. 10s. to 8l. 10s. per cwt.

OTHER DYE STUFFS.—Madder Roots are 1s. 6d. per cwt. dearer; Bombay sold at 22s. 6d. Public sales of redwood have confirmed our previous report, and the general supplies have been held for 5l. per ton.

GAMBIER has sold in retail quantities at late rates; cutch bought in at 82s. per cwt.

SHELLAC.—The demand has recently been more active, and besides a good deal done privately, 61 casks 100 bags in auction sold readily at 68s. 6d. for European livery; 67s. 6d. for native livery orange; and 70s. for dark red button.

INDIA-RUBBER has further advanced to 8½ for East India lump, at which the market closed firm.

COTTON.—The overland advices have induced a more confident feeling in some departments of the Manchester trade, and cotton markets of both London and Liverpool have become firmer in sympathy. The amount of business passing is however limited.

H&MP.—Manilla has advanced 10s. per ton; good roping sold at 28l. to 28l. 10s. Jute has been less active, but steady sales of low medium to good made at 16l. 10s. to 21l. 5s. per ton.

METALS.—Manufactured articles remain steady in value, but unmanufactured have in one or two cases slightly given way. The fluctuations are not however material. Scotch pig iron, after touching 56s. 6d., closed yesterday at 54s. to 54s. 6d., and to-day was quoted the same. The week's shipments were 11,423 tons against 12,418 tons last year. Rails are worth 6l. to 6l. 5s. at the works, and 6l. 15s. in London. There has been some inquiry for English tin, but foreign, although steady in value, is next to nominal. The present

is 900 tons. Spelter sells in small lots at s. 6d. to 23s. 10s. per ton. Copper and lead un-

DES.—Public sales of 108,000 East India went at animation, but at about previous quotations. Indian, and other imports of salted hides, obtained fair bids.

ATHER.—The trade at Leadenhall this week has somewhat dull, but prices in all cases steady. S. Streatfeild, Laurance, and Mortimore review as s:—"Since our circular of the 8th ult. the leather has assumed rather a quiet appearance. The sale of fresh goods have by no means proved excessive, and as respects prime of most descriptions, supply continues of a very limited character. Although transactions have been of much less importance than of the previous month, prices generally are well maintained, and our quotations remain nearly unaltered.

K.—The position of the markets is considered stable. 2000 bales of the new China silk are expected to be landed about the 11th. The market since our advice has been very firm, although not active. Silk is still in limited request, but the deliveries are tending. Public sales are fixed for the 20th inst. Present stock of Bengal is 4343 bales sold, and bales unsold, total 9946 bales, against 4746 bales; of China, 13,903 bales sold, 3011 bales unsold, total 16,914 bales, against 12,577 bales in 1857; cotton, 1759 bales sold, 2960 bales unsold, total bales, against 2951 bales; and of Chinese thrown, bales sold, 217 bales unsold, total 1157 bales, against 4176 bales in 1857—giving an aggregate stock 341 bales against 34,455 bales in 1858.

S.—Linseed is again lower, offering at 31s. 15s. to 32s. the spot; and 32s. for monthly deliveries to 33s.; rape sells in retail quantities at our last quotation—olive offers at late rates freely, but finds few buyers; Ceylon cocoa-nut is in better demand, and 37s. per ton paid in quantity; Cochin is worth 38s. 4d. according to quality; fine Lagos palm brings 40s.; a cargo sold 39s. 5d., the packages being objectionable; fine oils are dull of sale generally; 87s.; pale seal 37s. 10s.; pale southern 36s.; 35s.

ALE-FISH.—The screw steam whalers at the Straits Fishery have been successful; but as yet it is positively known of the sailing vessels, in the case of which there is no disposition to do business, prices are nominal.

PERU.—There have been no arrivals of unrebated 44,000 brls. are off the coast; the value 10s. The large stock of spirits is firmly held, and no can be offered under 39s.

LOW.—The price has been gradually creeping up the week. The bulk of the quantity given off has been taken away from the scale, so that consumers have been moderate buyers; but there have been very few sellers, as the continued high price of Petersburg affords no inducement to import, and reason is now fast drawing to a close. To-day the market closes quiet on spot, firm for delivery; spot, 3d. to 50s. 6d., all the year 50s.; January to 50s. 6d.; March alone, 51s. The public sales went off with spirit; 1337 cks. sold; Australian 46s. to 50s. 3d.; sheep, 42s. to 48s. 3d. St. Petersburg letters to 20th Sept. o.s. state about 10 cks. done at 159, 160, and 400 cks. for next at 161; Exchange 35, 13-16 to 15-16; total estimated 128,000 cks., of which it was supposed 10 to 15,000 cks. might be kept over; 32,000 cks. left, and 30,000 cks. close at hand. Shipment, 7 cks., 1855; 86,182 cks., 1856; 64,364 cks., 67,481 cks., 1858. We understand the last statement states 71,000 cks. shipped off, 163½ paid, 165 Town tallow, 52s. 9d.; rough fat, 2s. 9d.; 1 stuff, 37s.

MONEY MARKET AND STOCK EXCHANGE.

CITY, FRIDAY NIGHT.

THIS week has passed without any perceptible change in the comparative stagnation that has for many months prevailed in the monetary world. Money flows into the country from all quarters, and advances from the Continent, America, and India, are expected to continue for some time. Regularity. The condition of things which appears to baffle the foresight and calculation of the most experienced. No one can point to any quarter from which relief to any appreciable extent is to be expected, and the prevailing feeling is of uncertainty and uneasiness. The vast accumulation of idle specie, both in the Bank cellars in private hands, goes on; trade progresses slowly, and no staple department offers the immediate prospect of such an expansion as is likely to be advantageously any great portion of the accumulation which is regularly taking place. There is a small additional demand for money this week,

but the relief has been insignificant, and is likely to prove transitory.

The Bank Directors have continued to maintain their firm and judicious attitude, but it is doubtful whether they will be able to resist the pressure that is arraying against them very much longer. We shall have three or four millions thrown into the hands of the public in a few days, from the payment of the dividends, and this amount, in addition to that already in existence, will have to seek for channels of secure investment.

The opinion in the moneyed circles is, that next Thursday the Bank Directors will have to make a reduction in the minimum rate of discount, in order to try what effect that step will have in creating activity among the mercantile trading and moneyed interests. We believe we are not far from the fact when we say that difference of opinion as to the expediency of this step exists among the Bank Directors themselves. The Bank Directors are a large family—it is hardly to be expected that twenty-six men who are mostly concerned in large monetary transactions should all be of the same opinion. Up to this time the prudent and steady section have contrived to resist successfully the wish of their more impatient colleagues for a reduction, but from what we have collected, it is not improbable that they may have to give way. It must not be disguised that there is a City party—a faction, some choose to designate it—who are determined to revive speculation. This party is formidable in influence and capital, or, at least, in the command of capital, and they are actively at work to compel the Bank to make a reduction without further delay. We know that this party is warmly opposed, but it is very questionable whether the opponents will be sufficiently firm and unanimous to resist successfully a movement they deprecate.

The question that naturally presents itself is, what good will a reduction effect? Our reply is, that such a proceeding may possibly effect good—but the greater probability is, it will be productive of mischief.

We have already pointed out the notorious fact that speculators are waiting to ease unwary holders of capital by diverting it into channels of a doubtful character. Foreign loans, foreign railways, foreign mines, are waiting the favourable moment to be launched on the money market. One of these large foreign speculations—absorbents of British capital—is just this moment announced. The Stock Exchange are impatient at the inactivity which exists in all the markets, and at the insignificant amount of *bond fide* business which the public transacts, and at the difficulty the majority of the members experience to make out an income. It is tolerably certain, therefore, that in this quarter the utmost facilities will be afforded for the promotion of speculative enterprise. It is here, perhaps, that the seat of the possible mischief resides. It is by the aid of the lax and unfair system of business of the Stock Exchange that so many bubbles of home and foreign manufacture have been floated, and so much misery and ruin brought home to outsiders from time to time. If speculation should again come into the ascendant, it will be necessary to keep a strict watch on the conduct and operations of the Stock Exchange. But in all such crises, we feel it is hopeless to expect to inspire caution. Periodical speculation, apparently, is one of the conditions of our artificial system of society, and though the same result—loss to all but those who concoct and those who give currency to unsound enterprise—is sure to occur, no one appears disposed to take warning by past experience, or to refrain from deluding himself with the vain hope that his case will prove an exception.

It is remarkable that in this favourable period for raising money the railway interest obtains so little attention. Beyond question, sound railways offer the very best security for permanent investors; but then there is so much remarkable distrust in the public mind, that although the annual return is much beyond that which the public funds afford, comparatively few persons feel confidence enough to invest. We are astonished the railway interest does not see its position with the public in the true light. If railway magnates would really adopt some common plan by which competition and rivalry might be effectually restrained, they would do wonders towards lifting railway shares from their depressed condition and increasing dividends. If the public could once regain confidence in railway securities, railways would find no difficulty in reducing their enormous debenture debts. They

would get money readily at 3½ to 3¾ per cent., perhaps lower, and the saving that this would effect would tell most beneficially on the dividends of shareholders. But we fear such a consummation is not to be hoped for, especially as the shareholders appear to exhibit a degree of apathy on the subject that is perfectly wonderful.

We may here remark that very shortly the large amounts of specie we receive from Australia will cease for a period. At the end of the year we shall not have such regular remittances, as the "diggers" will not be able to carry on operations owing to season disabilities. This may afford some trifling relief, but it will only be of a temporary character.

The financial condition of France excites attention in reflecting minds, and we may go further and add apprehension. The immense speculation in which France involved herself a few years ago, and the sudden expansion of trade which she displayed, the unsound condition of her money-market, the expense of the Russian war, and the outlay for home improvements, are all circumstances which tell strongly against the soundness and stability of her financial position. Scores of joint-stock schemes and bubbles have already collapsed, and some of the concocters are very properly sustaining punishment at the hands of justice—the *Crédit Mobilier* is believed to be only kept from a crash by immense efforts, and other large companies are maintaining their credit with difficulty. Under these circumstances, and for others which we leave out of sight, we should not be astonished if France were to experience the renewed pressure of that crisis from which she partially escaped last year.

The gigantic foreign speculation—the Lombardo-Venetian Railway—is now set afloat in the Stock Exchange, and the market has been "rigged up" to a nominal premium of 4 per cent.

The concessionaires of the great lines of railway purchased from the Austrian Government are the following:—The Credit Bank of Austria, the houses of Rothschild of Paris, London, and Vienna; Messrs. Talbot, Blount, of Paris; and S. Laing and M. Uzielli, of London. These parties have issued a report, drawn up so as to catch the moneyed public; but they have not said one word about the secret profit which they themselves are to net. We have a rooted distrust of foreign concessions, because we know that the speculators who obtain them have only in view their own selfish ends, and that the result is nearly always disastrous to *bond fide* shareholders. Messrs. Laing and Uzielli are identified with that abortive and ruinous speculation, the Crystal Palace; this fact will hardly tend to give confidence to the public in the new foreign gigantic speculation. We should advise capitalists to be very cautious in touching these shares.

The French Custom-house have just published the complete statistics of the trade of France in 1857. The real value of the total imports of France in 1857, including the precious metals and the transit trade, was 107,560,000*l.*, and the real value of the exports, including the same, 105,560,000*l.*, making the total value of the imports and exports together 213,120,000*l.* Of this amount, representing the total external trade of France, 153,200,000*l.* is the value of the united imports and exports by sea, and 59,920,000*l.* of the exchanges carried on by the land frontier. The total trade, which represented a value of 213,120,000*l.* in 1857, was only 93,600,000*l.* in 1847, showing an increase of 119,520,000*l.*, or 128 per cent. in a period of ten years.

An instalment of 15 per cent. on the recent Turkish loan of 3,000,000*l.* falls due to-day. It is doubtful whether the remaining portion of the loan, 2,000,000*l.*, will be taken up by the original allottees.

A notice was posted in the Stock Exchange to the effect that the Cape Town and Dock Railway Company had sealed the contract from Cape Town to Wellington with Captain Galton, the agent of the Colonial Government.

The amount of gold sent into the Bank during the week is reported to be nearly three-quarters of a million. A large amount still remains on hand, which will most likely find its way to the Bank.

The liquidators of the Great Western Bank of Scotland have been compelled to make on the unfortunate shareholders a second call of no less than 100*l.* a share, payable in one sum within four weeks from this date. This makes, with the former call of 25*l.*, a payment of 125*l.* on each 50*l.* share—in other words, a total loss of 175*l.* per share. The estimated deficiency remaining to be provided for after exhaustion of the first call, producing about 500,000*l.*, is not much short of 1,000,000*l.*, making 1,500,000*l.* raised and to be raised by calls, in addition to the 1,500,000*l.* of capital lost—that is to say, a total loss, so far as at present ascertained and estimated, of 3,000,000*l.*, or twice the capital. The loss on four Glasgow accounts alone is above 883,000*l.*

The shares of the Atlantic Telegraph have been quoted recently at 420*l.*, as some rumours have prevailed that the line is perfect and transmits signals one way correctly. This report, however, is not entirely credited.

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.

No. of shares	Amount of shares	Amount paid up.	Name of Company.	London.		No. of Shares.	Amount of shares.	Amount paid up.	Name of Company.	London.		No. of shares	Amount of shares.	Amount paid up.	Name of Company.	London.	
				T.	F.					T.	F.					T.	F.
84543	12	10	Ambergate, &c.	63	63	Stock	100	100	Chester and Holyhead, 5½ per ct.			48810	203	13	Ditto New	d2½	d2½
Stock	100	100	Birkenhead, Lancashire, and	70	69	Stock	100	100	Cork and Bandon, 5½ per cent.				100	all	Ditto Bonds 1876	108	108
			Cheshire Junction	94	94	Stock	100	100	East Anglian, Class A, 5 and 7 p. c.	114	114		100		Ditto 1873 without op.	106	106
Stock	100	100	Bristol and Exeter	87½	86½	Stock	100	100	— Class B, 6 per cent.	108	108		25000	20	Ditto 5½ p. ct., 1877, ditto	100	100
Stock	100	100	Caledonian	33	39	Stock	100	100	— Class C, 7 per cent.	116	116		25000	20	Madras guar. ½ per cent.	19	19
Stock	100	100	Chester and Holyhead	18	18	Stock	100	100	Eastern Counties Extension, 5 per	116	116		50000	20	Ditto ditto 5 do.	20½	20½
Stock	100	100	East Anglian	63½	63	Stock	100	100	cent., No. 1.	114	114		50000	20	Ditto 4½ per cent. Extension	par	par
Stock	100	100	Eastern Counties	49	48	Stock	100	100	— No. 2.	130	130		25000	20	Ditto Thirds ditto	par	par
Stock	100	100	Eastern Union, class A	34	33	Stock	100	100	— New 6 per cent.	121	122		25000	20	Ditto Fourths ditto	par	par
Stock	100	100	— class B	94	95	Stock	100	100	Eastern Union, 4 per cent.	112	112		25000	20	Ditto	par	par
28000	25	25	East Kent	67½	67½	Stock	100	100	Great Northern, 5 per cent.	112	112		25000	20	Ditto New	par	par
Stock	100	100	East Lancashire	28	27½	Stock	100	100	— 5 per cent. Redeemable at	106	106		30000	10	Ditto Punjab	par	par
Stock	100	100	Edinburgh and Glasgow	105	104½	Stock	100	100	10 per cent. pm.						Trinidad (limited) Scrip.	par	par
Stock	100	100	Edinburgh, Perth, and Dundee	85	85	Stock	100	100	— 4½ per cent. do.								
Stock	100	100	Great Northern	129	130	Stock	100	100	Great Southern and Western								
			— A stock	105	105	Stock	100	100	(Ireland), 4 per cent.								
Stock	100	100	Great Southern and Western (I.)	54½	54½	Stock	100	100	Great Western, red. 5 per cent.	93	93		50000	10	Antwerp and Rotterdam	5½	5½
Stock	100	100	Great Western	90	90	Stock	100	100	— con. red. 4½ per cent.	85	85		25000	20	Belgian Eastern Junction	1½	1½
18000	163	143	Lancashire and Carlisle	112½	112½	Stock	100	100	— irred. 4 per cent.				50000	20	Dutch Rhineish	d3½	d3½
Stock	100	100	— Thirds	112½	112½	Stock	100	100	Lancashire and Yorkshire, 6 per	142	142		100000	20	Eastern of France	30	23½
24000	163	15	— New Thirds	112½	112½	Stock	100	100	cent.						Great Luxembourg Constituted	8½	8½
Stock	100	100	Lancashire and Yorkshire	111	111	Stock	100	100	London and Brighton, New, guar.	163	163		113392	4	Shares		
48444	16	6	— F. 167.	111	111	Stock	100	100	6 per cent.				26505	4	Obligations		
Stock	100	100	— 97. shares	111	111	Stock	100	100	London and S.W., late Third				400000	20	Namur and Liege	9½	9½
11900	113	113	London and Blackwall	111	111	Stock	100	100	Manchester, Sheffield, & Lincoln	70	70		265000	20	Northern of France	39½	39½
Stock	100	100	London, Brighton, and South C.	92	92	Stock	100	100	3½ per cent.				300000	20	Paris and Lyons	35½	35½
Stock	100	100	London and North-Western	111	111	Stock	100	100	— 67.				27000	20	Paris and Orleans	57	55½
244000	123	73	— Eighthths	111	111	Stock	100	100	Midland Consolidated, 6 p. ct. Stk.	141	141		83334	5	Royal Danish		
Stock	100	100	London and South-Western	98½	98½	Stock	100	100	— Bristol and Birn., 6 per ct.	104	104		31000	5	Sambre and Meuse	8½	8½
Stock	100	100	Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincoln	36	36	Stock	100	100	— 4½ per cent. pref.						— 5½ per cent. Pref.	8½	8½
50000	10	3	Metropolitan	98½	98½	Stock	100	100	Norfolk Extension, 5 per cent.	110	110		26737	8½	West Flanders	5½	5½
Stock	100	100	Midland	71	71	Stock	100	100	North British				300000	20	Western and N.-W. of France	26	25
Stock	100	100	— Birmingham and Derby	143393	17	8½			North-Eastern—Berwick, 4 per								
20000	50	50	Midland Great Western (I.)	11	11	Stock	100	100	cent. pref.								
22220	25	25	Newport, Abr., and Hereford	65	65	Stock	100	100	— York, H. and S. purchase	par	par		20000	25	MISCELLANEOUS.		
Stock	100	100	Norfolk	65	65	Stock	100	100	North Staffordshire	24	24		50000	10	Australian Agricultural	30	35½
60000	50	3½	Northern Counties Union	57½	57½	Stock	100	100	Oxford, Worcester, and Wolver-	121	121		350	1000	Atlantic Telegraph (Limited)	130	410
Stock	100	100	North British	98½	98½	Stock	100	100	hampton 6 per cent.				6000	50	British and Irish Mag. Tel. A	42	42
Stock	100	100	North-Eastern—Berwick	43	43	Stock	100	100	Scottish North-Eastern Aberdeen	122	122		3261	20	Do. B. 7 per cent. till 1862	21	21
64115	25	16½	— G. N. E. Purchase	49	49	Stock	100	100	guaranteed 6 per cent.	123	123		11739	20	Do. C.	15	15
Stock	100	100	— Leeds	77½	77½	Stock	100	100	— 7 per cent. 6 Pref. Stock				8915	100	Canada	118	120
Stock	100	100	— York	102	102	Stock	100	100	— 3½ per cent. Pref. Stock	74	74		200000	5	Crystal Palace	1½	1½
Stock	100	100	North London	44½	44½	Stock	100	100	South Devon, Annuities 10s.	103	103		30000	5	Do. Preference	5½	5½
168500	20	17½	North Staffordshire	30	30	Stock	100	100	South Eastern ½ per cent. pref.				34364	9	Eur. and Amer. Steam (Limited)	5	5
Stock	100	100	Oxford, Worcester, and Wolvn.	113	112	Stock	100	100	South Yorkshire, 4 per cent. guar.				80000	20	Eastern Steam	2	2
Stock	100	100	Scottish Central	28½	28				BRITISH POSSESSIONS.				700000	St.	Electric Telegraph	114	114
Stock	100	100	Scottish N. Eastern Aberdeen Stk.	82	82				Bombay, Baroda, and Central				10000	1	Electric Telegraph of Ireland	1½	1½
Stock	100	100	Scottish Midland Stock	46	46				India, guaranteed.	par	par		70000	5	English and Australian Copper	1½	1½
Stock	100	100	Shropshire Union	35	35				Ditto ditto	par	par		20000	10	European and Indian Jn. Tel.		
Stock	100	100	South Devon	74½	74				Ditto Additional Capital	par	par		20000	15	General Steam Navigation	d1	d1
Stock	100	100	South-Eastern	78	78				Buffalo, Lake Huron	par	par		50000	20	London Gen. Omnibus Company	23	21
Stock	100	100	South Wales	14	14				Buffalo, Brant and	par	par		30000	10	Mediterranean Electric Telegraph	7½	7½
27582	20	20	South Yorkshire and River Dun.	d5	d5				Goderich 6 p. ct.	88	88		12000	10	Mediterranean Ex. Tel. (Limited)	7½	7½
Stock	100	100	Do	94	95				bonds 1 Aug 1872	82	82		30000	25	National Discount Company	d	d
Stock	100	100	Vale of Neath	175000	100	100			Ditto 1 July 1873	88	88		188576	1	North British Australasian		
				200000	20	100			Ditto 1 June 1874	80	80		25000	20	North of Europe Steam	1	1
Stock	100	100	Buckinghamshire	105	105	20			Calcutta and S. East. (Limited)				50000	1	Oriental Gas	par	par
Stock	100	100	Clydesdale Junction	140	146	20			Central Oude (Limited)	par	par		120000	5	Peel River Land and Min.	23	22
Stock	100	100	E. Lincolnshire, guar. 6 per cent.	111	111	100			Ceylon Guaranteed 6 per cent.	par	par		30000	50	Peninsular and Oriental Steam	87	87
8000	50	50	Hull and Selby	14	14	all			Demerara	par	par		20000	50	Do. New	99	99
43077	12½	12½	London and Greenwich	25	25	100			Eastern Bengal	107½	107½		10000	50	Rhymney Iron	23	23
11136	20	20	— Preference	97	97	100			East Indian				10000	15	Do. New	7	7
Stock	100	100	London, Tilbury, and Southend	24	24	all			Ditto C Shares	par	par		15000	100	Royal Mail Steam	63	63
82500	5½	5½	Manchester, Buxton, and Matlock	98	98	all			Ditto D Shares. Extn.	18	18		200000	1	Scottish Australian Investment	11	11
Stock	100	100	Midland Bradford	50	50	100			Geelong & Melbourne guar. 5 p. c.	39	40		14200	25	South Australian Land	39	39
16882	50	50	Northern and Eastern 5 per cent.	142	142	all			Grand Trunk Canada	76	75		75000	1	Submarine Telegraph Scrip.	11	11
Stock	100	100	Royston, Hitchin, and Shepreth	104	104	100			Ditto 6 per cent. Dober. 1878	d5	d5		75000	1	Do. Registered	1	1
78750	12	12	South Staffordshire	92	92	40			Ditto 6 p. c. 2nd iss. 3 p. c. dis.	par	par		50000	20	Trust and Loan Company of Upper		
Stock	100	100	Wilts and Somerset	100000	20	all			Great Indian Peninsula guar.	21½	21½		10000	100	Canada	12	12
				100000	20	4			Ditto New ditto	par	par		400000	St.	Van Diemen's Land	103	103
Stock	100	100	Bristol and Exeter, 4 per cent.	102	102	2			Ditto ditto	par	par		20000	20	Victoria Docks	73½	73½
Stock	100	100	Caledonian 10½, 4½ per cent.	28156	20½	all			Great Western Canada shares	18½	18½				Do. New	73½	73½

* Ex. Dividend, or ex. New.

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JOINT STOCK BANKS.

No. of Shares.	Dividends per annum.	Names.	Shares.	Paid.	Price per Share.
22500	20½ per cent.	Australasia	20	40 0 0	88
10000	7½ per cent.	Bank of Egypt	25	25 0 0	25
6000	5½ per cent.	Bank of London	100	50 0 0	47
20000	6½ per cent.	British North American	50	50 0 0	59
32200	5½ per cent.	Char. of India, Australia, and China	20	10 0 0	d2½
4500	6½ per cent.	City Bank	100	50 0 0	61
20000	6½ per cent.	Colonial	100	25 0 0	30½
25000	6½ per cent.	Commercial of London	100	20 0 0	21
25000	6½ per cent.	Eng. Scot. and Aust. Chartered	20	20 0 0	17½
35000	6½ per cent.	London Chartered Bank of Australia	20	20 0 0	21½
20000	12½ per cent.	London and County	50	20 0 0	28½
30000	22½ per cent.	London Joint Stock	50	10 0 0	32½
50000	14½ per cent.	London and Westminster	100	20 0 0	40
10000	16½ per cent.	National Provincial of England	100	35 0 0	
28000	16½ per cent.	Ditto New	20	10 0 0	

JOINT STOCK BANKS.

No. of Shares.	Dividends per annum.	Names	Shares.	Paid.	Price per Share.
			£	s. d.	
20000	6½. per cent.	National Bank	50	25 0 0	49
25000	20½. per cent.	New South Wales	20	20 0 0	39½
50400	12½. per cent.	Oriental Bank Corporation	25	25 0 0	19
25000	...	Ottoman Bank	20	20 0 0	05
20000	14½. per cent.	Provincial of Ireland	100	25 0 0	
4000	14½. per cent.	Ditto New	10	10 0 0	
12000	6½. per cent.	Ionian Bank	25	25 0 0	33
12000	12½. per cent.	South Australia	25	25 0 0	
4000	...	Ditto New	25	12 10 0	
32000	10½. per cent.	Union of Australia	25	25 0 0	59
8000	20½. per cent.	Ditto New	25	19 0 0	57
100000	...	Union of Hamburg	15	8 0 0	
60000	15½. per cent.	Union of London	50	10 0 0	25
3000	3½. per cent.	Union Mutual Bank	100	50 0 0	
4000	3½. per cent.	Western of London	100	50 0 0	d17

RAILWAY INTELLIGENCE.

THERE has been very little movement in the Railway market. One day prices appear likely to advance, the next a dullness creeps on the market, and prices recede; none but the old established houses are doing any business; the majority of dealers and brokers are literally standing still. We do not anticipate any decided move until we see the result of the pressure which is about to be brought against the Bank Directors.

RAILWAY COMPANIES' ASSOCIATION.

At a meeting of directors and other representatives of railway companies, held yesterday at the Euston Hotel, H. S. Thompson, Esq. (Chairman of the North Eastern Railway Company), in the chair; the following companies were thus represented:—

London and North Western: the Marquis of Chandos, chairman; Admiral Moorsom, deputy-chairman; Mr. Tootal; Mr. Stewart. Midland: Mr. Beale, chairman; Mr. Hutchinson, deputy-chairman; Mr. Ellis; Mr. Newcombe. North Eastern: Mr. Thompson, chairman; Mr. Leeman, deputy-chairman. Lancashire and Yorkshire: Mr. Wickham, chairman; the Mayor of Liverpool; Mr. Wilson; Mr. Hargreave. Great Western: the Hon. F. Ponsonby, chairman; Mr. Williams. East Lancashire: Mr. Dugdale, chairman; Mr. Riley, deputy-chairman; Mr. Blacklock. Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire: Mr. Gamble; Mr. Lees; Mr. Watkin; Mr. Hutton. North British: Mr. Hodgson, chairman; Mr. Rowbotham. Lancaster and Carlisle: Mr. H. Howard, deputy-chairman; Colonel Maclean. Glasgow and South Western: Sir Andrew Orr, chairman. Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton: Mr. Fenton, chairman. Stockton and Darlington: Mr. Meynell, chairman. Shrewsbury and Hereford: Mr. Williams. Birkenhead: Mr. Salisbury, M.P., chairman; Mr. Townsend; Mr. Petitjean; Mr. Mason. Carlisle and Silloth: Mr. Irving. West Hartlepool: Mr. R. W. Jackson, chairman. Warrington and Stockport: Mr. Fosberry. Edinburgh, Perth, and Dundee: Mr. H. Lees. Port Carlisle: Mr. Heysham. Edinburgh and Glasgow: Mr. Ewing.

After a lengthened discussion, it was unanimously resolved:—

"1. That it is desirable to give a more permanent organisation to the present conference of delegates, and that an association be now formed, to be called the 'Railway Companies' Association.'

"2. That a committee be now appointed to draw up rules and regulations, and define the objects of the association, viz.:—the Marquis of Chandos, Sir Andrew Orr, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Beale, Mr. Ponsonby, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Leeman, Mr. Watkin.

"3. That the first meeting of the association be held at the Railway Clearing House, on Thursday morning, the 4th of November, at half-past 10 o'clock.

"That the thanks of the meeting be given to the chairman."

CONWAY AND LLANDUDNO.—The opening of the St. George's Harbour Railway, between Conway and Llandudno, took place on Friday. The first train completed the journey in something less than ten minutes. Eight passenger trains are to run daily to and fro.

IMPROVED SECOND-CLASS CARRIAGES.—The directors of the South Western line have introduced upon it a set of greatly improved second-class carriages, which, from their construction, it would be well to see modelled on other railways running from London. The South Western second-class carriages have too long been of an inferior and inconvenient kind, but the new ones are in every respect comfortable, roomy, and neatly fitted up, and contrast favourably with the wretched boxes in which passengers were pent up previously.

RAILWAYS IN FRANCE.—Among the improvements about to be made in Paris is the construction of a new terminus to the Northern Railway, more suited for the immense traffic carried on there. Several additional works are to be executed round the new terminus, which will render it the rival of the Strasburg terminus, the finest that has yet been constructed. The Directors of the Western Railway Company are to construct a branch line from Nanterre to Bougival, a favourite resort of the Parisians. A railway from Lyons to the Camp of Sathonay is about to be constructed. The Council-General of the Charente Inférieure has renewed its recommendation for a railway from Nantes to Bordeaux, which shall traverse the Charente Inférieure in its full length and unite Brest with Bayonne, with branches to La Rochelle and Rochefort.

GREAT WESTERN OF CANADA.—The half-yearly meeting of shareholders was held on Thursday, at which copious reports were presented from the London directors and local manager at Hamilton, relative to the present position and future prospects of this great trunk railway for Canada. After considerable discussion and a ballot, it was resolved by a majority of 6808 votes to 5611, to declare a dividend of 4 per cent. per annum instead of 8½ per cent. A vote of 150,000 was passed to put the Detroit and Milwaukee line in efficient working order as a tributary and continuation of the Great

Western line, and a vote was also passed by acclamation of undiminished confidence in the English and Canadian directors.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending on Wednesday, the 6th day of October, 1858.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

£	£
Notes issued..... 33,325,310	Government debt.. 11,015,100
	Other securities... 3,459,900
	Gold coin and bullion..... 18,850,310
	Silver bullion.....
£33,325,310	£33,325,310

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

£	£
Proprietors' capital 14,553,000	Government securities (including Dead Weight Annuity)..... 11,131,669
Rest..... 3,710,120	Other Securities..... 15,122,081
Public deposits (including Exchequer, Commissioners of National Debt, Savings Banks, and Dividend Accounts)..... 8,441,449	Notes..... 12,502,350
Other deposits..... 11,904,939	Gold and Silver Coin..... 676,165
Seven Day & other Bills..... 812,757	
£39,432,265	£39,432,265

M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.

Dated the 7th day of October, 1858.

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, October 5.

BANKRUPTS.

JOHN GOUGH, jun., Isleham, Cambridgeshire, corn merchant.
AUGUSTE MARTINS, late of Mark-lane Chambers, City, merchant.
CHARLES WILLIAM PRATT, Cambridge, draper.
JOSEPH BLUNT, Austin Friars, money scrivener.
VALENTINE BUTTERIS, Dartmouth, Devonshire, book-seller.
SAMUEL LONGDEN, Chesterfield, Derbyshire, grocer.
JOHN CARMICHAEL, Liverpool, merchant.
NATHANIEL BULLIVANT, Altrincham, Chester, victualler.
JOHN WRIGHT and SAMUEL STRINGER, Longsight, Manchester, woollen cloth merchants and woollen waste dealers.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

R. COCHRANCE, Glasgow, grocer and spirit merchant.
R. YOUNG, Inverness, shipowner.

Friday, October 8.

BANKRUPTS.

JOHN PRINCE GOODHEW, Leadenhall-market, butcher.
FRANCIS PARRY M'CARTHY, Beech-street, Barbican, City, ironmonger.
CHARLES MOODY, Derby, builder.
GEORGE HUNT BARNSDALE, Millfield, near Peterborough, builder.
JAMES GRANGER, Birmingham, stationer.
GEORGE JENNINGS, Hampton-in-Arden, Warwickshire, butcher.
JOHN BURBRIDGE, Bristol, printer.
THOMAS SHARP, Kirton Fen, Lincolnshire, brewer.
SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.
DUNCAN M'ALPINE, Glasgow, accountant.
ROBERT WILSON, Edinburgh, writer.
JOHN GEORGE WATT, Edinburgh, commission merchant.

BOOKS RECEIVED THIS WEEK.

Memoir, Letters, and Diary of Rev. H. S. Polehampton. Post 8vo. R. Bentley.
Gordon of Duncairn. 2 vols. foolscap 8vo. R. Bentley.
Holbein's Dance of Death. Foolscap 8vo. H. G. Bohn.
Bibliographer's Manual. By W. T. Loundes. Part III. Foolscap 8vo. H. G. Bohn.
Neander's General Church History. Vol. IX. Parts I. and II. Foolscap 8vo. H. G. Bohn.
Handbook of Musical Art. By the Hon. and Rev. T. C. Skeffington, M.A. James Blackwood.
Fallen Heroes of the Indian War. Foolscap 8vo. J. H. Lindley.
British Columbia and Vancouver's Island. Foolscap 8vo. G. Routledge.
The English Cookery Book. By J. H. Walsh. Foolscap 8vo. G. Routledge.
The British Journal of Homoeopathy. Foolscap. Groombridge and Sons.
Elementary Notes on the History of France. 12mo. Tallant and Allen.
Martha. A Romantic Comic Opera. 8vo. R. Williams.

FEMALE COMPLAINTS.—KEARSLEY'S ORIGINAL WIDOW WELCH'S FEMALE PILLS are strongly recommended as a safe and valuable Medicine in effectually removing obstructions, and relieving all other inconveniences to which the female frame is liable, especially those which arise from want of exercise and general debility of the system. They create an appetite, correct indigestion, remove giddiness and nervous headache, pains in the stomach, shortness of breath, and palpitation of the heart. Sold by J. SANGHAT, 150, Oxford-street, London, price 2s. 6d., or by post for Thirty-six Postage-stamps. For Exportation.—The above can be obtained through British merchants, shippers, and Colonial agents.

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TO THE NERVOUS AND DEBILITATED.

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

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