

THE ST. JAMES'S GAZETTE

An Evening Review and Record of News.

No. 2078.—VOL. XIV.

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COVENT GARDEN.

COVENT GARDEN.—THE GRAND CIRCUS.—Business Manager, Mr. DOUGLAS COX. Equestrian Director, Mr. A. HENRY. TWICE DAILY, at 2 and 7.30. THE THIRD SEASON OF EQUESTRIAN PERFORMANCES at this Grand Opera House.

SPECIAL NOTICE.—In addition to the enormous attractions that have been duly announced and that have received the unqualified praise of the entire press, Herr RENZ, of Berlin, will introduce his amusing Gymnastic and Musical Burlesque on the Viennese Ladies' Quartette, which is funnier than any pantomime in London, and causes roar upon roar of laughter from beginning to end. Encored three times nightly.

Seats can be secured at the Box Office of the Theatre, open daily from 10 to 5 (no charge for booking), and at all Libraries. Prices from 6d. to £3 3s.

LYCEUM.

LYCEUM.—FAUST, EVERY EVENING. at 8 o'clock. Mephistopheles, Mr. HENRY IRVING; Margaret, Miss ELLEN TERRY. Box Office (Mr. J. Hurst) open to till 5. Seats booked by letter or telegram.—LYCEUM.

ADELPHI.

ADELPHI THEATRE.—Messrs. A. and S. GATTI, Sole Proprietors and Managers. THIS EVENING, at 8 o'clock, THE HARBOUR LIGHTS (38th time). Mr. William Terriss, Messrs. Garden, Maclean, Lyndal, Boleyn, Campbell, Russell, Wentworth, Travers, &c.; Messdames Millward, Achurch, C. Jecks, Leigh, Brennan, Carter, &c. At 7.15, FAMILY JARS. MORNING PERFORMANCE Saturday next, at 2.

GAITEY.

GAITEY THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, GEORGE EDWARDS.—EVERY EVENING at 8, MONTE CRISTO JR., a Burlesque Melodrama in Three Acts, by Richard Henry. Produced by Charles Harris. Misses Nellie Farrer, Fay Templeton, Agnes Delaporte, Sylvia Grey, Lottie Collins, McNulty, Barlow, Wilson, Beale, Selwyn; Messrs. Fred Leslie, E. J. Lonnien, G. Stone, W. Guise, A. Balfour, G. Honey, Charlie Ross, Musical Director, Meyer Lutz. At 7.30, No. 1 ROUND THE CORNER. Doors open at 7.15.

MORNING PERFORMANCE every SATURDAY. at 2. Doors open 1.30.—GAITEY THEATRE.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Mr. HORACE SEDGER, Lessee and Manager. EVERY EVENING, at 8.30, an original Comedy Opera, entitled DOROTHY, By B. C. Stephenson and Alfred Cellier. Preceded, at 7.45, by A HAPPY DAY, by Richard Henry. Doors open 7.30.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—ALICE IN WONDERLAND.—MR. EDGAR BRUCE'S MATINEES.—TO-DAY, 2.30, and EVERY DAY, a Musical Dream-play in two acts, by Savile Clarke, founded on Lewis Carroll's delightful Stories. Music by Walter Slaughter. New Scenery, Properties, and Dresses. Doors open 2.15. Box-office 10 to 5. Special reduced prices of admission for children under twelve.

VAUDEVILLE.

VAUDEVILLE.—THIS EVENING, at 8.30, SOPHIA (216th time), by Robert Buchanan. Messrs. THOMAS THORNE, Carleton, Thorne, Farquhar, Mellish, Grove, Wheatman, and LEONARD BOYNE; Messdames Larkin, Leclercq, Venne, Forsyth, and K. Rorke. At 7.45, NEARLY SEVERED. MATINEE SATURDAY NEXT and EVERY SATURDAY, at 2.30.

PRINCESS'S.

PRINCESS'S THEATRE.—THE NOBLE VAGABOND, by Henry Arthur Jones, at 8.15, in which Mr. Charles Warner, Messrs. George Barrett, Charles Cartwright, Julian Cross, John Beauchamp; Messdames Dorothy Dene, Bella Titheradge, Annie Hughes, &c., will appear. Doors open 7.15. Commence at 7.45 with THE CLOCKMAKER'S HAT. Miss Hampton, &c. Box-office open from 10 to 5.

DRURY LANE.

DRURY LANE.—AUGUSTUS

HARRIS, Lessee and Manager. EVERY DAY—begins at 2.15, finishes at 5.15. Doors open at 12.45. Ordinary doors at 1.15. And EVERY EVENING—begins at 7.25, finishes at 11.15. Doors open at 6.45. Ordinary doors at 7.15. THE FORTY THIEVES. Notice.—In consequence of THE FORTY THIEVES being equal to three pantomimes rolled into one, it has been found necessary to shorten certain of the less important scenes, notwithstanding their excellence, so that the performance may be over in good time. The effect of this, however, has only been to give full scope to its brightest and funniest features. The Referee says:—"Mr. Harris has surpassed all his previous efforts. When you see his present show you will admit that it out-Harris Harris. The enterprising manager knows what his public likes, and he provides it without any regard to expense."

HAYMARKET.

HAYMARKET.—Lessee and Managers, Mr. E. RUSSELL and Mr. G. F. BASHFORD.—EVERY EVENING, at 8, a play in four acts by Henry Arthur Jones, entitled HARD HIT. Mr. E. S. Willard, Mr. Arthur Dacre, Mr. H. Kemble, Mr. Frank Archer, Mr. P. Ben Greet, Mr. C. Dods-worth, Mr. U. Winter, Mr. Compton Courtis, Mr. Fenton, Mr. Ferrand, and Mr. H. Beerbolun-Tree; Miss Mary Rorke, Miss Lydia Cowell, and Miss Marion Terry. Booking-office open daily ten to five. No fees. Doors open 7.30.

GLOBE.

GLOBE THEATRE.—Every Evening, a farce in three acts, entitled THE LODGERS (founded on a French vaudeville), by Brandon Thomas and Maurice De Verney. Messrs. C. H. Hawtreys, Chas. Glenney, W. S. Penley, M. De Verney, and W. J. Hill, &c.; Messdames Vane Featherston, Blanche Horlock, and Fanny Brough, &c., &c. Preceded by, at 8, a play in one act, entitled BARBARA, by Jerome K. Jerome. Box Office open daily from 10 to 5. Business Manager, Mr. E. F. Bradley.

STRAND.

STRAND THEATRE.—FANNIE LESLIE.—On MONDAY NEXT, Feb. 7th, will be produced a new Musical Variety Drama in Four Acts, entitled JACK IN THE BOX, written by Geo. R. Sims and Clement Scott. Original Music by W. C. Levey; New Scenery by W. F. Robson. Preceded by New Comedietta, entitled BY SPECIAL REQUEST, by T. Malcolm Watson. Box-office now open. Full particulars will be duly announced.

CRITERION.

CRITERION THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. CHARLES WYNDHAM. At 9, DAVID GARRICK. Mr. CHARLES WYNDHAM; Messrs. G. Giddens, W. Blakeley, and David James; Messdames F. Paget, E. Miller, and Mary Moore. Preceded by, at 8, "WHO KILLED COCK ROBIN?" Mr. W. Blakeley, Mr. G. Giddens; Misses M. Scarlett and Rose Salter. Doors open at 7.30. N.B.—MATINEE of DAVID GARRICK on SATURDAY NEXT, at 3 o'clock.

COMEDY.

COMEDY THEATRE.—Sole Lessee, Miss MELNOTTE.—THIS EVENING, at 8 (by arrangement with Mr. Carl Rosa), THE BEGGAR STUDENT, an original Comic Opera in 3 Acts. Messrs. H. Bracy, John Child, J. Wealand, A. Watts, and F. Mervin; Messdames Ada Lincoln, Elinor Loveday, Jennie Wilton, and Mdm. Lucy Franklin. Seats may be secured at the Box-office 10 to 5, and all Libraries. In preparation for Feb. 14, a new Comic Opera, entitled MYNHEER JAN. Box-office open To-morrow (Wednesday), Feb. 2.

ROYALTY.

ROYALTY THEATRE.—Under the management of Mr. WILLIE EDOUN. TO-NIGHT, at 8.45, MODERN WIVES, an adaptation by Ernest Warren, of "Le Bonheur Conjugal" (which lately ran for over 200 nights at the Gymnase Theatre, Paris) with the following powerful cast: Messrs. Willie Edoun, Lytton Sothorn, Morton Seltan, F. H. France, Edward Thirby; Messdames E. Brunton, Olga Brandon, Marie Hudspeth, V. Bennett, Eva Wilson, and Alice Atherton. Preceded by, at 7.45, THE COMING CLOWN. Box-office 10 to 5. (Seats may be booked one month in advance.) Doors open 7.30. Carriages 11. Matinée SATURDAY NEXT, at 2.30.—Sole Lessee, Miss KATH SANTLEY.

COURT.

COURT THEATRE.—Lessee and Managers, Mr. JOHN CLATTON and Mr. ARTHUR CACIL.—TO-NIGHT will be acted, at 8.30 punctually, a New and Original Farce in Three Acts by A. W. Pinero, entitled DANDY DICK, in which Messrs. Arthur Cecil, H. Eversfield, F. Kerr, E. Maurice, W. H. Denny, W. Lugg, and John Clayton; Misses Norreys, Laura Linden, Marie Lewis, and Mrs. John Wood will appear. Preceded, at 8 o'clock, by THE NETTLE. Box-office open daily from 12 to 5. No fees.

DANDY DICK. By A. W. Pinero. FIFTH TIME TO-NIGHT.—COURT THEATRE.

FIRST MATINEE of DANDY DICK, SATURDAY NEXT, Feb. 5th, at 2.30.—COURT THEATRE.

AVENUE.

AVENUE.—ROBINSON CRUSOE.—Enormous success. TO-NIGHT, at 7.45, new Burlesque Pantomime in 3 acts and 10 tableaux, supported by a most powerful company. Box-office open daily. Doors open 7.30. MORNING PERFORMANCE on MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, and SATURDAYS at 2.

SAVOY.

SAVOY.—R. D'O'LY CARTE, Proprietor and Manager.—EVERY EVENING, the New and Original Supernatural Opera, in Two Acts, by W. S. Gilbert and Arthur Sullivan, entitled RUDDYGORE; OR, THE WITCH'S CURSE. Commence at 8.15. Doors open at 7.45. Box-office open from 9 A.M. till 11 P.M. Morning Performance every SATURDAY, at 2.30.

OLYMPIC.

OLYMPIC.—MR. EDWARD TERRY'S SEASON.—At 8.15, THE CHURCHWARDEN; at 8, THE TWO BLINDS; at 8.25, HOME RULE. Doors open at 7.30; carriages 10.45. Seats can be booked at the Box-office (no extra fee) from 10 to 5, and at the principal libraries.—MATINEE at 2.30 EVERY SATURDAY.—Acting Manager, Mr. H. T. Brickwell.

OLYMPIC.—Matinees of HEARTS-EASE TO-MORROW and every WEDNESDAY until further notice. Miss HAWTHORNE as Marguerite Gautier. Doors open 1.30, commence 2. Seats may now be booked.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—THIS DAY. Open from 10.0 till 8.0. GRAND PANTOMIME, RED RIDING HOOD, at 3.0 P.M.

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THE ST. JAMES'S GAZETTE.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1887.

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL.

THE speech which Lord RANDOLPH CHURCHILL delivered yesterday afternoon was a most useful one. For it is a matter of great importance that he should be understood as soon as may be; and this speech of his does much to reveal what he is, and what line of conduct he means to pursue.

Any one who chooses to go through this speech for what there is in it, marking at the same time its manner and method, must come to this conclusion: Here is another example of an extremely clever, a remarkably adroit and eloquent speaker, who is yet without judgment. By that we do not mean to say that having a game to play he does not know what he is about. Till lately, nobody could have said that of Mr. GLADSTONE. But, as the career of that right honourable gentleman informs us, knowing what you are about in playing a game of your own is one thing: judgment in affairs of State, or readiness to subordinate affairs of State to playing your own game, is quite another. Here we find the younger man and the older one on precisely the same ground. And after reading yesterday's speech we feel more than ever justified in a warning recently given to certain deluded Conservatives. Again we say, it is necessary to look twice at cleverness and popularity. Again we remind all whom it may concern that there is another political personage in existence whose cleverness far surpassed Lord RANDOLPH'S, and whose popularity was much greater all the while he was employed in disgracing the country and breaking up the party he commanded.

The cleverness of yesterday's speech is much admired. That is to say, the gift Lord RANDOLPH shares so largely with Mr. GLADSTONE—"gift of the gab" is the vulgar description of it—shone out very conspicuously. And a precious gift it is, no doubt, whether it be employed for the service of the State, or whether it be used for mere personal and private purposes. Indeed, it seems to be thought so valuable in these days by the gods who bestow it, that where it is given in abundance every other great and high quality is withheld. That was the case with Mr. GLADSTONE, and it seems to be the case with Lord RANDOLPH CHURCHILL. Look at the substance of what he said yesterday evening, and in what single passage of the speech do we find the man of judgment? Supposing him true to the Unionist cause, which only the other day he declared to be the most important of all, where was the wisdom of flouting and insulting the Liberal Unionists? How long ago was the celebrated Dartford speech delivered? A few weeks. On that occasion he could say, "The main principle and guiding motive of our policy will be to maintain intact and unimpaired the union of the Unionist party. We know how much, how almost entirely, the future of England depends on the union of the Unionist party—how every institution which we value, all the liberties which we prize, are for the time bound up in the union of that party. Everything that we do, either in domestic or in foreign policy, will be subordinate to that cardinal principle, the union of the Unionist party." But now?—Now, when the attack on the Union has yet to be repelled, he sneers at the Liberal Unionists, describes them as a Government crutch, taunts them with the seats they obtained through Conservative help, calls their alliance with the Tory Unionists "precarious," "transient and uncertain as the shifting wind," and tells them that wise Tories would prefer to do without them. Does this show Lord RANDOLPH CHURCHILL to be a wise man, thoughtful for the State?—or only a "clever" man, clever in playing his own game? Whoever studies the whole of this part of his speech will not have much hesitation in answering that question.

Further on he gave us another test of his judgment, another sample of his statesmanship. He has the hackneyed old cry of retrenchment to make good; he has to justify the now established fact that he wanted to reduce the expenditure on the army and navy even by abandoning the defence of our coaling stations—at such a time as this! In order to do so, he tells us how in his opinion the empire ought to be defended. He says, "I would venture to repose the policy of the defence of the empire on the patriotism and loyalty of a free and contented people, animated not so much by the strength of their fortifications as by their undying historic memories. I would prefer to repose the defence of the British Empire upon a careful, thrifty, and frugal husbanding in time of peace of those national resources, in order that in time of war they may be exuberantly displayed in all their irresistible might." One of his lordship's critics, and by no means an unfriendly one, has called this programme of defensive policy "nonsense, pure and simple." It is, indeed. It is eloquent, observe—very eloquent; nowhere in the whole course of this speech does the "gift of the gab" come out

more brilliantly; but test it for sense, for judgment, for knowledge of how wars are fought nowadays, and it is impossible to conceive of greater trash. Look again at the proposal to refer the Army and Navy Estimates to a Committee, so that Governments should be released in future from their constitutional responsibility for them. What sort of a practical politician is it who solemnly advances such a scheme as that?

But much more than a want of judgment comes out in this speech. Here the intelligent observer may get a first glimpse of a fact which has had a vast deal to do with all Lord RANDOLPH'S later conduct. He sees his real rival in Lord HARTINGTON. We recommend our readers to read again carefully all that part of the speech that relates to the Liberal Unionists, with this idea in their minds. Leaving them to do that, we conclude with a repetition of what we had to say three days after Lord RANDOLPH CHURCHILL'S resignation was announced. The bottom reason for that step was this: Lord RANDOLPH saw that a time was at hand when there would be no GLADSTONE and therefore no Gladstonianism in public affairs; he believed, as we do, that when that time comes all that is called Conservative, all that is truly Liberal in the country, will combine against the new Socialistic Radicalism; and when he looked at the men who would then work together—the Hartingtons, the Salisburys, the Derbys, the Goschens, and the rest—he did not exactly see where *his* place would be. To be anywhere head and chief was not to be expected unless he made a party for himself. In due time, Mr. CHAMBERLAIN will be the head of Socialistic Radicalism; Lord RANDOLPH cannot be the head of the combined party that will oppose Socialistic Radicalism; but he can perhaps—(or so he thinks)—"dish" both parties with a programme of Democratic Toryism. And since he found it impossible, after various efforts, to begin work in the present Cabinet, he went out of it.

THE COAL DUES.

MR. W. H. SMITH'S answer to Mr. Buxton yesterday is more satisfactory than it appears at first sight. The leader of the House announced that the Government "adhered to the decision of the late Chancellor of the Exchequer." At this there were cheers from the Gladstonians, who for some reason or other have chosen to regard the abolition of a fund for employing London working men to the tune of about half a million a year as a Radical measure. But Mr. Smith went on to remind the House that even Lord Randolph Churchill, though he had declared that his own opinion was absolutely against the tax, had recognized that Londoners might take a different view. Lord Randolph, according to Mr. Smith, "expressly invited the inhabitants of the districts affected by the proposal to make their wishes known through their representative bodies and members of this House, and assured them that due consideration would be given to those representations when so expressed." As Lord Randolph did not take occasion when he rose later on to repudiate this paraphrase of his statements, we may take it for granted that he is content to acquiesce in it. At any rate, we may assume that this correctly explains the intentions of the Government on the subject. They are waiting to hear the voice of London. It is a matter of purely local interest, and local feeling is to decide upon it. The Government do not take upon themselves to urge the renewal of the dues at the expiration of the present term; but if the inhabitants of the metropolis make it clear that they do not want the impost to lapse, Ministers, we may assume, will offer no opposition to a Bill for its renewal.

The issue, then, lies in the hands of the people of London themselves. They are invited to express their opinion "through their representative bodies;" and they should lose no time in doing so—both in that and in other ways. Let them not be content to leave the matter to the vestries. We have not much doubt as to what the sentiment in most of these elective councils will be, and we shall be surprised if the Chancellor of the Exchequer does not receive an emphatic declaration in favour of the Coal Dues from them. But more than this is wanted. The pedants who desire to abolish all indirect taxes, and the less estimable persons who see their way to make a little democratic capital out of a cheap-coal agitation, will be active enough. The municipal "reformers" will hold meetings and plan demonstrations with the object of persuading Parliament that the vestries do not really represent London opinion on this point. Those who know something about the life and the ideas of metropolitan working men must take care not to let the case go against them by default. The great majority of ratepayers and working men in London are in all probability well aware that they would be great sufferers by the abandonment of the Coal Dues. We need hardly repeat the arguments, many and important as they are, which have led us to this conclusion. Working men who buy coal in small quantities cannot be persuaded that the abolition of a tax of a shilling a ton will make the least difference in the cost of the article as retailed to them. The gas companies, the great hotels, and the large consumers generally will benefit as well as the middlemen. Artisans and poor people will pay just as much as before for their coal. But at the same time one

of two things will happen. Either the public works, to the amount of some four hundred and fifty thousand pounds a year, at present carried on by the Metropolitan Board out of the proceeds of the Coal Dues, will be dropped, or they will be maintained by an enormous addition to the rates. Do Londoners want their rates raised from sevenpence to nearly a shilling? Or do they want to put an end to a remunerative and useful "relief work," which allows a vast sum of money every year to be distributed to London working men in the form of wages? If they answer both questions in the negative (as nine sensible people out of ten who devote any thought to the subject will do), let them give the metropolitan members and her Majesty's Government such an "expression of opinion" in favour of renewing the Coal Dues as they cannot ignore or mistake.

NOTES.

The preparations for war go on—side by side with the most ardent protestations from all sides that there isn't the least need for them. But when a man goes out armed to the teeth, it is generally supposed that danger is apprehended. M. Tisza's statement to the Hungarian Diet is not particularly reassuring. He, of course, asserted that Austria-Hungary was quite peacefully disposed, and had not the least intention of fighting anybody; still, if peace should unhappily be broken it might be as well for the Austrians to prepare, which they seem to be doing with feverish activity. M. Tisza's pacific assurances, such as they are, hardly counterbalance the effect of a *communiqué* in a semi-official Vienna newspaper, which says that the Delegations of the empire are to be speedily summoned for an extraordinary session, since the Government will want more money than it asked for in the Budget.

A Democratic member of the House of Representatives referred yesterday to the growing feeling of hostility against America in this country, and alleged that a fleet of English war-ships are to be sent to cruise on the north-eastern coast of America. He declared that the United States possess twenty-seven defenceless ports, and that measures must be taken to meet the threatened emergency. This imputation of hostile feelings and hostile intentions to England can only proceed from ignorance or dishonesty. England has not the least desire to attack or threaten the United States. No doubt, however, the English Government will lend active support to the Canadians in their endeavour to obtain a friendly settlement of the fisheries question, and a settlement which shall not consist in a surrender of everything which the Americans desire without any due consideration being given to Canada for such a concession.

Mr. G. N. Curzon made a very successful maiden speech last night. It was, perhaps, unnecessarily flippant in tone; but it interested and amused the House, and it is to be hoped that Mr. Curzon will in future vindicate his right to an attentive hearing by speeches of more weighty import. Mr. Labouchere followed Mr. Curzon, and replied to his observations in some detail. To judge by the temper which the Radical statesman showed in his attacks on Lord Salisbury for attending to foreign affairs, and on Lord Hartington for sitting on the left hand of the Speaker, some of Mr. Curzon's thrusts had told. Perhaps, however, these outbursts can be accounted for in another way. Whenever Mr. Labouchere feels that his witticisms are falling flat, he appears to relieve his mind by an unusually spiteful attack. Unfortunately, the occasion for these displays grows more frequent with each succeeding session.

Of course it is much better to be governed by the press than by Parliament. It is as well, however, to keep up the forms of parliamentary government, if only for the purpose of correcting the errors into which the press must fall from time to time. For instance, when Mr. Labouchere reads in an evening paper that a certain despatch was sent to Vienna from the Foreign Office, that an allusion to the despatch is to be found in the *Fortnightly Review*, and that its presentation was only prevented at the last moment by telegraph, it is just as well to have an official representative of the Foreign Office to tell us that the despatch never existed at all, and that he cannot find in the *Fortnightly* the passage quoted from it. When these little accidents happen there are two courses open to the newspaper which has made the mistake. Either it says that the Foreign Office has, no doubt, excellent reasons for saying what is not true; or else it takes credit for having put into a shape which enabled it to be formally denied the widespread belief that the despatch had been sent. By either course the dignity of the press is duly maintained.

"A few prominent Liberals" are getting up a series of meetings to make the most of the recent evictions. Mr. J. C. Durant—once, but for a very short time—Radical member for Stepney, has circulated a letter asking for subscriptions and other kinds of help in carrying on this good work. His letter is written in a very candid spirit. Here are first-class "atrocities" running to waste. He says: "You will remember that a similar series some years ago on the Bulgarian atrocities was productive of the best results." "Experience shows that the masses of the people are much more

readily moved by occurrences which appeal to the dramatic instinct than by abstract arguments." "Indignation at eviction outrages" will make people "understand political questions" better than anything else could. "We desire to take prompt advantage of this opportunity." Quite right. It would be a great pity not to take advantage of it, as the opportunity was deliberately created by Mr. Harrington and his friends in order that it might be taken advantage of. The evicted tenants of Glenbeigh would be living comfortably in their cottages now, and Mr. Roe would have got the small sum which he agreed to take in discharge of a large debt, if the "well-paid patriots" of Kerry had not seen the chance of setting such people as Mr. Durant to work.

There is a certain class calling themselves working men whose favourite form of work consists in attendance at public meetings; and among this class Mr. Durant will very possibly find an audience for the spokesmen of the "prominent Liberals." A few banners, and some one whose name is often in the newspapers to spout in a wagon, will attract a crowd of idlers in most parts of London. It would be an insult to hard-working Londoners and men of common sense to suppose that they would agree to resolutions so frothy as those which were passed at Clerkenwell yesterday. The meeting was a good instance of an "appeal to the dramatic instinct of the masses;" and many honest Radicals no doubt went home convinced, for the moment, that they were oppressed patriots fighting their way against fearful odds to the glorious end of liberty and justice.

If we were to test the veracity of foreign news by the accounts which reach European readers as to English events, our faith in "our own correspondents" might be shaken. Here is (literally translated) the account of the Queen's Speech given to the readers of the *Secolo*, the "largest circulation" in Italy. "In her speech before the Houses, the Queen deplored the dethronement of Alexander of Battenberg, alluded to the evacuation of Egypt, and called robbers and brigands those who refused to accept English rule in Upper Burma. She laid stress upon the agrarian agitation in Ireland, for which, she said, the Government will present repressive laws, and ended by praying God that He might be pleased to assist the deputies in their parliamentary labours." After reading this accurate summary, it must surprise us more than ever that we are sometimes misunderstood abroad.

The various attempts to supersede the word *chic* by such expressions as *vlan*, *galbe*, *pschutt*, and the rest of them, have all failed as they deserved, and *chic* has reasserted itself with such vigour as to have become the basis of a standard for comparison for all shades of the airs or graces represented by the root-word. The highest degree is reached by the *superchic*; but this is attained by few, and for all ordinary purposes to be *copurchic* is enough for anybody. *Ultrachic* is to carry the thing too far altogether and to run the risk of losing it. 'Arry is *similichic*, and a downright humbug is *pseudochic*. That is as far as Paris has as yet got; but extensions can be made indefinitely. The practice has its advantages, as it simplifies languages and renders unnecessary the overloading of them with new word-formations.

Adelina Patti's performances at the city of Mexico brought that lucky lady some £7,000 in but very few nights, and created quite a furore. So in another way did a non-musical performance which preceded hers. An "advance agent," a sort of Yankee prophet "sent before," appeared at Mexico shortly before the Diva's arrival, issued posters and advertisements, opened an office, "located" applicants in stalls, boxes, etc., and sold in all some 30,000 dols. worth of tickets. After "doing business" for two days or so, the agent retired on a competency, and has not since been heard of, though sought with tears. Then came Patti's real agent. He again "sold the house clean out." So that the singer's real pecuniary success is represented by just twice the sum her manager actually received. How happy could one be with either!

During the winter months the Isle of Thanet has up to now been practically isolated and train-bound. There are the two Granville expresses, "one down t'other come up," daily, except Sundays, when getting to and from Ramsgate, Margate, and Westgate was a feat practically impossible, except to the most hardened traveller, with plenty of leisure at command and possessed of ample talent for wasting his time. Now all this is changed; and next Sunday, the 6th of February, a carriage will run with the London, Chatham, and Dover boat express, starting 11 A.M. from Victoria (and five minutes to the hour from Holborn), which, after being detached at Faversham, will be taken on to Herne Bay, Westgate (12.40), Margate, and Broadstairs, reaching Ramsgate 1.5 P.M. This means an appetite for luncheon at a convenient hour, and the best part of the day at the best of all seaside places—that is, in the opinion of those to whom the pure air of Thanet means life and health. There is a return, but not an express, train about seven picking up stragglers, which will be a boon to many who can only get an outing; but for those who stay the night, there are early trains on both lines and the celebrated Granville express at ten from Ramsgate. The early express (departing from Ramsgate at eight, calling at Broadstairs, Margate, and Westgate, arriving in London at ten) for business-men is to commence

running in April. The Sunday train at eleven ought to be well patronized when generally known; but as yet we have not seen it announced on the regular time-bills of the London, Chatham, and Dover.

Mr. Gladstone owes the world some trees. In part-payment of this debt he yesterday planted a plane-tree at Newnham, surrounded by enthusiastic lady students. It is hoped that the ex-Premier may be spared to cut the tree down in years to come. In the evening Mr. Gladstone dined in hall with the Master of Trinity. The same honour was conferred last week on Mr. Augustus Harris, of Drury Lane. After such an influx of men of light and leading, Trinity, at all events, ought to be set free from the barbarous spirit of opposition to Home Rule. Mr. Beresford Hope and Mr. Raikes must be trembling for their seats this morning. We shall hear of "dear old" Cambridge yet.

"Pedestrian" writes:—I hear that most of this year's children are to be called Victor or Victoria, according to sex. Can we not have a jubilee perambulator also? I was thinking of this to-day in Oxford-street. The feature of the jubilee perambulator—which would be strictly confined to one occupant—would be its narrowness. The narrower the perambulator, I should say, the better for the child. It would keep him warm, and give his head no room for falling forward when the nurse leaves him in the middle of the pavement and goes to look at the latest Parisian fashions. It would at the same time enable pedestrians to get easier round the perambulator. This is surely a better suggestion than that perambulators should have to take the middle of the street like other four-wheeled vehicles. Yet these are the only two alternatives. No one exceeds me in my love for children. Still, every sensible person will allow that rather a thousand of these should perish than that the life of one human being should be imperilled.

The interest which the Germans feel in melenite is fully reciprocated by that which the French people take in roburite. The French press is particularly exercised over the almost supernatural powers ascribed to the German product, and the general impression is that roburite can give points to melenite. A French journalist who writes with the emphatic air of one who knows what he is talking about declares that roburite is infinitely more destructive than General Boulanger's vaunted explosive. It is the invention of a Berlin chemist, one Root, that by dint of years of careful experiment in the environs of Dortmund, it has been brought to a pitch of diabolical perfection. It can move mountains; but is rendered practically useless by damp. A means of transporting it has been found which will secure it from all contact with the wet. The one objection to it is its excessive costliness, and from that fact the journalist anticipates that its services will only be requisitioned on very special occasions. If, as is stated, roburite can move mountains, and destroy whole regiments *en bloc*, it is clear that a very little of it will go a long way.

The Emperor of Germany has anticipated the result of "Otello," and has conferred upon the composer the Companionship of the Prussian Order of Merit. The news was conveyed to Verdi by Baron Keudell, the German Ambassador to the Court of Rome; and the *maestro* is said to have been deeply moved by this unexpected and unsolicited honour. As Verdi is a strong opponent of the music of the future and of the German element in music, the Emperor William's graceful act will acquire a greater significance in the recipient's eyes. When the insignia of the Companionship arrive, they will doubtless be relegated to the famous glass case at Sant' Agata in which Verdi keeps all his ribbons and decorations. The great musician has his share of vanity, and is not in any way averse to companionships and honours of that ilk; but he has a rooted objection to wearing even the slightest decoration on his breast. He will not even consent to garnish his button-hole with a ribbon. If people want to see his crosses and decorations they must study them, he says, in the glass case at Sant' Agata, for he will not wear them and be stared at. As from all accounts Verdi has a large collection of the pretty things, hailing from every Court and nearly all the societies of Europe, his reluctance to don them is perfectly comprehensible. In the first place there would not be room for them all on his coat, and the selection of two or three out of the number for daily display would hurt the donors of the orders left behind in the glass case.

Fires at Hampton Court Palace are, it seems, not to be dreaded so far as the pictures are concerned. The subject was brought under notice in the House of Commons last night by Mr. Dixon Hartland, who asked the First Commissioner of Works whether, in view of two fires having taken place at the palace during the last four years, he was prepared to take any steps for the preservation of the art-treasures there from further risk of destruction. Mr. Plunket gave a cheerful account of the position in which the works of art referred to stand as regards risks from fire. He detailed the measures adopted for their security in accordance with the recommendations of a committee appointed in 1882, after the fire that occurred in the palace in that year, such as structural alterations in the picture-galleries, which are now subdivided into compartments separated by fireproof partitions. Most elaborate arrangements have also been made for the easy removal of the pictures and tapestries in case of fire. Since the fire that occurred in November last a Departmental Committee have again gone fully into the subject, and have reported that the precautions already in existence, with some variations of detail, are sufficient for the

protection of these art-treasures. This is satisfactory so far as it goes; but it is to be hoped that, even though the pictures be safe, there will be no relaxation of precautions against outbreaks of fire. The palace has a value of its own apart from the works of art contained in it, and its reduction to a heap of ruins would be a real calamity.

A correspondent writes:—There are, unfortunately, nowadays plenty of words and phrases in use in and out of Parliament which are, as the Speaker said the other night, "quite new, and expressions which ought to be rigorously put down." Will you give your help towards putting down a most objectionable word which seems to be gradually creeping into common use? I mean "portfolio," whenever there is any talk of change of Ministers or rearrangement of offices. It cannot be denied that the word has its attractions. It is at once pompous and priggish, and unhappily pomposity and priggishness are very prevalent. But, not to mention other objections to the importation, it is utterly unmeaning. Our Ministers have no portfolios to resign, or accept, or exchange. When a Minister addressing the House has occasion to read a document connected with his office, he generally takes it out of his hat. We cannot well say that the Right Honourable So-and-so takes the Hat of Foreign Affairs or the Hat of Finance; but at any rate it would be better than an unmeaning and impertinent exotic like "portfolio."

A NEW USE FOR CREMATION.

WHATEVER may be my opinion as to cremating the dead of our own species, it is not that of which I would now speak. What I wish to call attention to is the disposal of the carcasses of animals slaughtered in obedience to law; the law which provides that cattle suffering from certain infectious diseases, and in some cases whole herds which from contact with diseased beasts may be thought infected, shall be slaughtered, and their carcasses disposed of by burial or otherwise as the local authorities may deem expedient.

According to the regulation of the Privy Council, every carcass, if disposed of by burial, must be buried as soon as possible in its skin, and be covered with a sufficient quantity of quicklime or other disinfectant, and with not less than six feet of earth. It is further enjoined that, when the local authorities direct that a carcass is to be buried, they must first cause its skin to be so slashed as to render it useless.

That obedience to these regulations is not invariable must be inferred from such a case as was tried in the Borough Police Court of Inverness in the beginning of January; when two labourers were charged with having dug up a carcass, or part of a carcass, which had been so interred, and with having sold the skin to a firm of tanners for 13s. The skin was afterwards sent on to Aberdeen, where the police authorities succeeded in recovering it. The charge having been proved, the chief culprit was sentenced to pay a fine of 15s., with the alternative of ten days' imprisonment; his companion being dismissed with an admonition. A light sentence was imposed in consideration that the offenders were ignorant of the law which declares it illegal to dig up a carcass so buried, and subjects the delinquent to imprisonment, with or without hard labour, for any period not exceeding ten months.

Now, it may well be inferred that for one such case which is detected several may pass unsuspected; though we may hope that no parallel has arisen to one case which occurred about thirty years ago, when pleuropneumonia had but recently appeared in this country. On that occasion some low-class butchers went from Dundee to Fife, and there exhuming carcasses of animals that had died of the new disease, sold them as good meat. Horrible as such an offence appears, yet when we hear of miscreants who sell old clothes knowing them to be infected with small-pox, we may readily believe that there exist many whose consciences would not hinder them from reaping a paltry gain at the risk of spreading contagion among their neighbours' cattle. Against such criminals society has need to guard itself by the use of all possible precautions; and apparently none can afford such absolute security as the use of fire. And although the alternative of burning *versus* burying the carcasses must of course involve some outlay on fuel, the animal charcoal thus obtained would probably prove of such value as considerably to reduce the cost at which immunity from a serious danger might be secured.

For we must bear in mind that it is not only against human stupidity and reckless cupidity that we have to guard. Deep-burrowing worms may at any time bring to the surface germs of disease which long years before have been, as was fondly supposed, stamped out. M. Pasteur has obtained germs of disease, as virulent as in the hour of death, from a pit wherein cattle killed by splenic fever had been buried twelve years previously.

That germs of diseases are thus spread, and may be conveyed to animals by the very grass they eat, has often been proved. Even diseases which afflict humanity may fatally poison the earth for animals. Thus, in the course of an investigation of the cemeteries of Rio de Janeiro in 1883, earth taken only a foot below the surface, from graves where victims of yellow fever had been interred twelve months before, was found to contain myriads of microbes identical with those present in living patients. A perfectly healthy guinea-pig was shut up in a confined space sprinkled with earth taken from that grave, and in five days the animal was dead; its blood being found to be "literally crammed with cryptococcus in various stages of evolution."

Now, by the simple precaution of cremation all such risks are absolutely annulled. In one short hour the identical result which is sought in earth-burial is produced; with this difference: that in the latter case twenty years may not suffice to attain the desired end. "The body yields in the furnace the very same solids and gases which it yields from the soil. The time only differs. Earth burial destroys the soil, it fouls the air, it contaminates the

water, and is a fertile source of human disease." These are the words of so great a scientific authority as Sir Lyon Playfair.

In the face of such evidence, it surely is unwise not to obey the teaching of science, at least in regard to the lower animals. There are those who shrink from the increased trouble and expense of cremation *versus* burial, on the plea that pleuro-pneumonia (which at the present moment necessitates the slaughter of many herds in various parts of Scotland) is by no means so contagious as some other diseases, such as rinderpest; nevertheless, the prevalence of any such disease suggests the expediency of adopting every means of stamping it out. Where a stone tank is available it might be possible to dissolve infected carcasses by chemical means. But large quantities of dangerous chemicals are best kept in professional hands; whereas the kindling of a funeral pyre does not involve either intellect or education in excess of the capacity of the average agricultural labourer.

C. F. GORDON CUMMING.

STORY OF THE AMERICAN MAIL SERVICE.

THE early history of the postal service between this country and its "plantations" across the Atlantic is curious and interesting. In the first attempt to establish such a service it was proposed that the packet-boats should sail from the Isle of Wight. On the 25th of February, 1703, the Lords of Trade reported to the Earl of Nottingham on a proposal made by Sir Jeffrey Jeffreys for establishing a regular service of packet-boats between that island and New York. The lords conferred with Jeffreys and learned the exact nature of his proposals, which were to place on the line two ships, for sailing or rowing, each of 150 tons burthen and carrying fourteen guns and a crew of forty men. One of these ships would, he said, be ready to "part" a few days after entering into an agreement, and sail direct to New York, remain there thirty days, and then return. The next packet was to start two months after the first. Jeffreys reserved the right of taking passengers and fifty tons of merchandise on each voyage. For remuneration he asked the sum of £350 a month, and stipulated that the ships should receive "effectual protection."

The Admiralty Lords were of opinion that "the setting up of such a correspondence between this kingdom and her Majesty's plantations on the continent of America" would be of general advantage and of special use to the Queen's service, especially in time of war. They conceived it convenient that the two ships proposed "be constantly employed in going and returning between the Isle of Wight and New York, which is near the center of her Majesty's plantations" on the American continent. They did not, however, think it fit that so long a time as desired should be allowed for the stay at New York. To them it seemed that the ships should not remain in harbour more than five days either at New York or the Isle of Wight; for it was "the expedition of those voyages" which would make the undertaking most useful. The answers to letters sent to New York by either of these packet-boats might, their lordships thought, in that manner "be forthwith returned from thence; and from all her Majesty's other plantations on the continent sent thither, to lie in readiness against the arrival of the next packet-boat, which will make the course of correspondence as regular and expeditious as is possible for two packet-boats." The lords conclude their report by hoping that Jeffreys, as he insists on carrying "50 tun of goods" in each vessel "home and out," will abate the price he would otherwise ask for his service; but as to the charge of the undertaking, they leave it to the officers of the Navy and Post Office. Among the signatories to this report is "Mat Prior," then a Lord of Trade.

Whether or not Sir Jeffrey Jeffreys ever commenced his service we do not know; but if he did, his attempt must have come to a speedy conclusion, as the following year we find the merchants trading to Virginia, Maryland, New Zealand, and New York, petitioning the Treasury to establish, under the direction of the Post Office, packet-boats from London to New York for the carriage only of letters, "in order to the preservation of shipping and merchandise to and from those ports, which, upon timely advice, might be met by cruisers and saved from capture." They add that eighteen of the Virginia fleet were taken on their last homeward voyage. The petition was read at the Treasury Board on the 30th of May, 1704, when "my lords" endorsed it with the significant inquiry, "Query—whether the merchants intend to be at the charge?" Probably the merchants did not; neither did the Treasury. So matters stood as they were, letters being sent by any chance means which occurred. Three years later (in 1707) all this was brought vividly before the Home Government by Lord Cornbury, then Governor of New York, in a letter to the Board of Trade. "I wish," he writes, "with all my heart that packet-boats were established to some part of this continent;" then the colonists would not only have frequent safe opportunities of writing to England, but they would hear more frequently from home. As it was, they were sometimes "many months" without exchanging communications. And then Lord Cornbury adds, "Till I had the favour of your letters of the 7th of May, I have not had one line from your lordship's Board nor from the Right Honourable the Secretary of State these fifteen months; and we have but two safe ways of sending into England, which are the Virginia fleet and the Mass. fleet from New England." But from the first of those places there was no regular post, so that it was very hard to know when that fleet would sail. A letter was six weeks coming from Virginia, or sometimes longer, so that the opportunity was often lost of sending by that fleet. From Boston there was a post once a week in summer time, and once a fortnight in winter, "so that we have a sure conveyance by the Mass. fleet." The conveyances by the West Indies had proved "very uncertain," for several of the vessels had been taken "every year during this war; besides that, several of the packet-boats from England have been likewise taken." Lord Cornbury's appeal seems to have stirred the Home Government into action, as we find by the Post Office Act of 9 Anne

(A.D. 1710) that a service of packet-boats had actually commenced running to and from America. This Act established a General Post Office in London for the whole British dominions, with chief offices in Edinburgh, Dublin, and New York.

The Act of 1710 gives us a curious insight into one of the most frequent causes of delay in the conveyance of letters from one part of America to another. This was the rapacity of the ferrymen in levying blackmail on the post-boys, so to speak; notwithstanding that the ferries were to have been free for the post. So it was enacted that any delay on a ferryman's part of a longer time than half an hour should be punished by a fine of £5. By the Act of 1710 an increase in the postage rate was made, and the following scale fixed, so far as concerned New York: For a "single" letter, 1s.; "double," 2s.; and "treble," 3s.; a letter of an ounce weight being carried for the modest sum of 4s. The postage to New York remained at the same exorbitant rate for years. Thus it happened that when in 1760, a certain American divine sent to a friend at Lambeth two tracts of his own composition, the recipient acknowledged them in these words: "Good Dr. Johnson, I am greatly obliged for the two tracts, but the postage on them amounted to thirty-five shillings."

When they were first instituted, "posts" were evidently meant for the sole use of the State; and it seems to have taken the Government a long time to acknowledge that private individuals had any right to expect the regular despatch and delivery of their letters. So late as the year 1772 the two Postmasters-General addressed a long letter to the Earl of Dartmouth, in which they detailed the arrangements made, at the earnest request of business-men of every class, for a regular service of mails to the American colonies. The writers say that the constant detention of the packet-boats by the Colonial Governors has so often deranged the service that they are compelled to pray Lord Dartmouth to signify to certain Governors that they are not to detain the packet-boats except in cases of the most urgent necessity. Even on this side of the water the Post Office had much to contend with from the irregularity of the Colonial Secretary in getting his despatches ready for the packet-boats.

One of the last passages in the history of the mail-service with New York whilst it remained in English hands is furnished by the circular letter from Whitehall, dated on the 4th of October, 1775, to the various American Governors. It runs as follows:—

Sir,—It having been thought fit to discontinue for the present the packet-boats for North America, I am directed by Lord Dartmouth to desire you will contrive for the future some means of sending your letters to his lordship through the channel of the Admiral, who is instructed to give all proper facility, by means of the small vessels under his command, to the conveyance of letters and intelligence, in every possible channel of communication.

When the packet-boat service was commenced again New York was no longer a British colony.

FRENCH AND IRISH OYSTERS.

As a benefactor of his species, the man who makes two oysters grow where only one grew before does not come far behind the much-quoted grower of the two blades of grass. But M. Renard, the director of the oyster fishery established by the French Government at Arcachon, has done much more than that. Where ten millions of oysters were raised in 1865 he now raises three hundred millions. The curious point is, however, that the original seed for the Arcachon beds came from the west of Ireland; indeed, a number of the Irish beds were dredged out for seed to send to France. Even now, large numbers of Arcachon oysters are sent back to their old habitat for fattening, owing to the limy character of the water there; and the question has often been asked, why the despoiled oyster-beds of the west of Ireland might not be replenished and made to yield results like those attained at Arcachon. The conditions on the west coast of Ireland are more favourable than in Gascony. Not only is there abundance of lime in the water, but in many places the mud is hard instead of soft as on the Gascony coast. When the mud is soft the oysters sink into it and are smothered. Pits are therefore made in the mud and lined with tile or slate; the oysters are then put into boxes with wire bottoms, and the boxes put into the pits. The young bivalves are arranged according to their ages and sizes, and they feed and fatten on the food brought in by the water; while at the same time the wire bottoms of the boxes prevent the oysters from coming in contact with or sinking in the mud. At another fishery, Auray, the oysters while young are kept in boxes called ambulances; these have wire or perforated zinc tops as well as bottoms, with meshes or perforations so small as to protect the oysters from their numerous enemies, but large enough to admit the water freely. All this trouble would be unnecessary in Ireland. As for the financial question, it may be sufficient to state that since 1861 the French Government has assisted the Gascony fisheries to the amount of £104,480, but that the total value of the yield in 1885 was more than half a million sterling. No wonder M. Renard is able to say that the interest upon the capital employed exceeds what it would be reasonable to expect from the most flourishing industrial enterprises.

It appears that most of the Government money has been spent upon experimental beds, with the view of finding out the most suitable places. In the French Budget this year there was an item of £1,350 under this head. A similar procedure would be essential in Ireland, for several reasons. Though the Arcachon stock came from Sligo and Galway, it will not answer for the work of restoration. It has now become acclimatized to warmer waters; and though the oysters from France fatten well on the Irish coast, they will not spat there, save in exceptional years. The Arcachon oysters will not spat under a temperature of 65 deg., and unless the water happens to be at that temperature in the very nick of time the

opportunity is lost. The only oysters that can now be got to spat regularly upon the Irish coast are the American and Norwegian species, which come from a colder water; but they are said to be at present rather ugly in shape, and would want breeding. These are some of the reasons for which the Irish oyster business fails to attract private enterprise. One successful experiment would, however, sweep them all away.

MR. JEBB'S "HOMER." *

MR. JEBB'S "Homer" is, in the best sense of the term, a good book. For, small as it is, it is more full of matter than many a learned tome of many times its bulk. Schliemann's ponderous "Ilios" will serve to point the moral of this remark; and we observe that Mr. Jebb treats the celebrated excavator as he deserves to be treated. "Troy divine" may or may not have stood at Burnárbashi; but Burnárbashi is its site for readers of the Iliad. Schliemann's verbose and grandiose arguments in favour of Hissarlik are as powerless to repel Mr. Jebb's incisively quiet refutation as the multitudinous hosts of Darius were to resist the onset of Alexander's small and well-led army. The house-walls of Tiryns, too, so far as they have been misused to misinterpret the Odyssey, fare no better than Hissarlik fares in Mr. Jebb's hands; and Dr. Schliemann's discoveries—be their intrinsic interest what it may—are displaced for ever, by this small and unpretending book, from the position to which they were raised by a display of fashionable ignorance that, broadly speaking, was little to the credit either of German or English scholarship. A stroke like this is "eloquent to the wise," in Pindar's phrase; and the reader who infers from it that Mr. Jebb's fine scholarship is unmarred by the besetting weakness of too many fine scholars will be right in his conclusion.

This treatise is divided into four chapters, which deal respectively with four aspects of the subject:—(1) The general character of the Homeric poems, and their place in the history of literature; (2) their historical value, as illustrating an early period of Hellenic life; (3) their influence in the ancient world, and the criticism bestowed on them in antiquity; (4) the modern inquiry into their origin. Every one of these chapters is marked throughout by sound sense and sound scholarship, and well deserves to be most attentively studied; but the few and desultory comments that we shall be able to make on their contents will be confined to the first and last chapters. They have more general interest than belongs to the chapters which separate them, and illustrate more clearly and forcibly than the others the position which this treatise entitles Mr. Jebb to take among professed Homeric scholars. His mastery of Attic Greek stands in need, of course, of no illustration. The warmest admirer of Kennedy and Paley will not refuse to bracket Jebb's name with theirs; and we do not hesitate to bracket it now with Monro's and Leaf's. Mr. Jebb has youth—so to speak—on his side against the celebrated ex-head-master of Shrewsbury, and Mr. Paley's Homeric efforts were comparative failures; so in Mr. Jebb—but we prefer to let the reader finish the sentence for himself. Complimentary prophecies are not safe utterances; but we have said enough to show that it is in no spirit other than a respectful and friendly one that we say that this splendid scholar has mistranslated a very famous passage in Homer almost as badly as Chapman did. This passage will be found on his thirty-first page, and will probably form the subject of a very pretty quarrel in the new philological journal of which Mr. Mayor is editor. It is a quarrel, though, upon which we shall not enter: we prefer to dwell on the fine point that Mr. Jebb has made in his comparison of Scott with Homer. He is entirely right here in condemning Mr. Matthew Arnold's unfairness to "the Ariosto of the North;" and the argument by which he reaches his own conclusion, that "a translation of Homer into the metres and style of Scott could never be successful," is a neat proof that "sweetness and light" are heavily handicapped against sense and simplicity. Not less admirable is the reasoning by which Mr. Jebb shows that Addison and Dryden, in their comparisons of Homer with Virgil and Milton, ignore a difference that is even more unjust to Virgil and to Milton than it is to Homer. "The literary epic," he says, "is composed in an age of advanced civilization by a learned poet;" and he does full justice to such a poet by dwelling on the beauties of that great passage in "Paradise Lost" which paints how great "beyond compare of mortal prowess" were the legions of the fallen Archangel. Wolf also protested against comparing Homer with literary epic poets like Milton; but Wolf's scholars failed to see that to compare Homer with the makers of primitive folk-songs or ballads is a mistake in the opposite direction. Mr. Jebb steers clear of either rock, and goes to the root of the matter by saying that "the first step towards appreciating Homer's place in literature has been gained if we clearly perceive wherein Homer mainly differs from 'Chevy Chase' on the one hand and from 'Paradise Lost' on the other." There is one passage, and one only, in this admirable chapter that we venture to deprecate. Mr. H. N. Coleridge's Introduction to Homer is superseded in many respects by Mr. Jebb's, but there are passages in that Introduction that can never be superseded so long as Homer is read by Englishmen. One of the finest of them deals with the epithet "Homeric" applied by the Greeks to the poetry of Sophocles and Pindar. Mr. Jebb, if we are not mistaken, goes a little too far when he would apply that epithet to the character and conduct of some friend. He feels, perhaps, that he owes reparation of some sort to Mr. Matthew Arnold; but the "one example" which he quotes from Mr. Arnold is very far, in our opinion, from establishing the thesis which he defends.

Mr. Jebb's final chapter on "The Homeric Question" is for its lucidity and moderation beyond all praise. We cannot even hesitate dislike of the clear and terse presentment which it gives of views and theories that we

honestly care not one whit for. Let Wolf and Hermann and Lachmann and Kirchoff and Nitzsch be praised to the top of any critic's bent. We are indifferent to all their labours. And the justification of our indifference lies, we believe, in the memorable words, as Mr. Jebb rightly calls them, in which Wolf described how, when he passed from writing about Homer to reading him, his own arguments were swept away by the clear swift current of Homer's matchless song. We are obstinately chauvinistic in our views of this celebrated question, and are more than satisfied by Colonel Mure's defence of the old conservative view. Mr. Jebb praises that defence for its ability and freshness; but has that defence ever been convincingly answered? Answered or not, the old conservative view is beyond all question the view which least distracts the reader who wishes to test to the uttermost the strength and sweetness of Homer. As such we hold it, and as such we recommend it to all students of Homer; but we recommend them also to read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest this admirable little book of Mr. Jebb's as soon—if examiners are looming before their eyes—as they can, and as often as they can.

CORRESPONDENCE.

"DEVILISH ENGINERY."

To the EDITOR of the ST. JAMES'S GAZETTE.

SIR,—In his article on "Locksley Hall," Mr. Gladstone, returning to his attack on Pitt, says that without the promise of Catholic Emancipation "not even the devilish enginery of the other means employed would have sufficed to bring about the legislative union between the two countries." He before called Pitt's action blackguardism, and compared it to the Massacre of St. Bartholomew. These historical exaggerations deserve notice not only as appeals in a powerful quarter to public passion against reason, but because they reveal the frame of mind in which their author is dealing with the vital interests of the nation.

Mr. Gladstone seems not to remember that political interests such as nomination boroughs, of which the Irish aristocracy held a large number, were in those days regarded—however wrongly—as property, for the extinction of which compensation would be due. The measure of parliamentary reform proposed for England by Pitt, with motives the purity of which cannot be questioned, was a scheme for buying up the nomination boroughs with public money. Romilly, as is well known, justified the purchase of a seat in Parliament; and I presume he would have justified compensation for its extinction.

It is not to be assumed, because these people extorted compensation for the nomination boroughs and the other sources of political emolument which they were called upon to resign, that their convictions were adverse to the Union. Nor is it to be assumed that, apart from the promise of Emancipation, the Catholics, their attempt to obtain independence by armed rebellion having failed, were not glad to escape from the fiery hail of Protestant vengeance to the shelter of imperial rule. About the last Act passed by the Irish Parliament was one of indemnity for the illegal application of torture to members of the subject race and the proscribed Church.

When the Parliament of Jamaica concluded its career, like the Parliament of Ireland, in a murderous conflict of races and a reign of terror, a Government of which Mr. Gladstone was a member put an end to the existence of that assembly, and replaced the weaker race under the administrative protection of the empire. There can be no doubt, I think, that a similar motive actuated Pitt, who nobly supported the humane policy of Cornwallis. Mr. Gladstone cannot doubt the value of Cornwallis's judgment, any more than he can doubt his humanity or his sympathy for the oppressed race; and Cornwallis was strongly in favour of the Union. He thought that the measure had lost much of its value by the omission of Catholic Emancipation, but that it was still of so much importance as to be worth carrying anyhow; and he did his best accordingly to carry it. That the purchase of the necessary support was filthy work he felt, and Pitt, no doubt, felt also.

Pitt had no selfish purpose of any kind to serve. He was in secure possession of power; and his speeches on the Union, though there is in them no gush or cant, are those, I should say, of a statesman who thoroughly believes in the goodness of his object. Nor am I aware that Grattan, who, though he strongly opposed the Union, sat tranquilly enough in the United Parliament, ever displayed against Pitt the feeling which the use of "devilish enginery" for the destruction of Irish liberty would certainly have kindled in his patriot breast.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

The Grange, Toronto, Jan. 19.

GOLDWIN SMITH.

BUTCHERS' PRICES.

To the EDITOR of the ST. JAMES'S GAZETTE.

SIR,—As another retired Sussex farmer, I wish to endorse the opinion expressed in the admirable papers by "A Retired Sussex Farmer" which you have lately published. My retirement was perforce; and during my farming operations I suffered so much from the butchers that I speak feelingly on the subject.

Without endorsing the widespread old English belief that butchers are unfit (and incapacitated by law!) to sit on juries on account of their life being spent in killing inoffensive animals, I think there is nothing about them to justify their taking that forty millions a year out of the pockets of the rest of the community.

We ought by all means to assist any well-organized scheme of relief from this monopoly. Any scheme, to succeed, must be on a large scale and guaranteed by sound management.

The fact that the farmers who grow the beasts are being ruined, while the householders are strained to pay for the meat, is enough to show that a great reform is needed. Whether the middle-men or the shopmen are most to be reduced is a mere matter of detail.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

January 31.

R. W.

* "Homer: an Introduction to the Iliad and the Odyssey." By R. C. Jebb, Professor of Greek in the University of Glasgow. (Glasgow: James Maclehose and Sons, 1887.)

THE ST. JAMES'S GAZETTE.
FOURTH EDITION.

THE LOSS OF AN EMIGRANT SHIP.
LATEST PARTICULARS.

According to later reports, the loss of life by the sinking of the emigrant ship *Kapunda* is somewhat less serious than was stated in the first announcement of the disaster last evening. It appears that there were 313 souls on board—namely, 268 emigrants, four cabin passengers, and a crew of forty-one hands. The total loss of life is now said to be 302. Some of the crew and passengers were landed at Bahia yesterday by the French barque *Ulysse*. The names of the crew saved, as given in telegrams, are: Cottrell, Norman, Meaks, Anderson, Hughes, Gordon, besides Forbes (? and) Maunter (? who) remained on board the *Ada Melmore*. The following are the passengers saved:—Wiggins, Barnes, Daly, Russell, O'Calahan, Sandford, Reece, Broadhurst. We are still without full particulars of the disaster, and the accounts published are confusing and contradictory. It appears, however, that the *Kapunda*, which left London in December for Fremantle, Western Australia, came into collision, south of Maceio, with the barque *Ada Melmore*, of Belfast, bound from Coquimbo to England. According to one account both vessels sank; but another version is that the *Ada Melmore*, though seriously damaged, bore up for Pernambuco. The latter vessel is said to have lost two of her crew. Messrs. Trinder, Anderson, and Co., owners of the *Kapunda*, on hearing of the calamity through Lloyd's, telegraphed for particulars. From the fact that the owners have received no intelligence from any officer or member of the crew, it is thought that the captain and officers have gone down with the vessel. Calculating from the time of the arrival of the *Ulysse* at Bahia, it is conjectured that the catastrophe must have occurred shortly before the *Kapunda* reached the Equator, probably off the Azores. She was navigated by Captain John Masson, one of the ablest skippers and most experienced officers in the company's service. The saloon passengers were a Mr. Field, his wife and children. Mr. Field up till last December was head master of the Oval-road Board School, Croydon, and was on his way to take up an appointment at Fremantle. The remaining emigrants were steerage passengers, mostly of the poorer classes, including a number of Scotch and Irish peasants. The greater number of these embarked at Plymouth. The office of Messrs. Trinder, Anderson and Co. was kept open till nearly eleven o'clock last night in order to furnish inquiries with the latest information. Immediately the names of the survivors were received, telegrams were despatched to such of their friends as the company were able to communicate with.

Up to the time of our going to press no fresh details of the catastrophe had been received. Inquiries and telegrams from all parts of the kingdom are being received in great numbers this morning at Messrs. Trinder, Anderson, and Co.'s offices.

The following is an official list of the passengers and crew so far known to be saved, with the ages and such other particulars as are known concerning them:—

PASSENGERS.—Henry Barnes, 19, single; Philip Daly, 27, single; Robert Sandford, 23, single; Robert Wiggins, 18, single; Catherine O'Callaghan, 27, single; Noah Broadhurst, 42, married (his wife and eight children were drowned); William Reece, 40, married (his wife and seven children were drowned). There were three men of the name of Russell among the passengers, and one of these was saved; but it is not known whether it was Michael Russell, aged 28; John Russell, 32; or William King Russell, 22.

CREW.—William Cottrell, first mate; A. Forbes, carpenter; Marks, sailmaker; Anderson, Gordon, and Hughes, able seamen; W. Norman and L. Maunter, ordinary seamen.

PARLIAMENTARY NOTES.

The House of Lords will to-day consider several Bills.—In the House of Commons Lord George Hamilton will resume the debate on the Address. Mr. Stansfeld will ask the Secretary to the Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland whether in criminal cases in Ireland the Crown Solicitor, in directing jurors to stand by, acts upon his own discretion only or upon instructions given to him.

The following is Mr. Parnell's amendment to the Address:—

But humbly to represent to her Majesty that the relations between the owners and the occupiers of land in Ireland have not been seriously disturbed in the case of those owners who have granted to their tenants such abatements of rents as are called for by the state of prices of agricultural and pastoral produce, and that the remedy for the existing crisis in Irish agrarian affairs is not to be found in an increased stringency of criminal procedure or in the pursuit of such rovel, doubtful, and unconstitutional measures as have recently been taken by her Majesty's Government in Ireland, but in such reform of the law and system of government as will satisfy the needs and secure the confidence of the Irish people.

It is understood that the leaders of the Opposition will give a general support to the Procedure Rules, and will endeavour to strengthen them in several respects. They believe that the closure rule might be made somewhat stronger, and that the principle of transferring the Committee stage of Bills to Standing Committees should be carried further.

The Government will, it is stated, raise no objection to the substitution of three o'clock for two o'clock in the new Procedure Resolutions as the hour at which the House should meet, if such appears to be the general desire of the members.

The Railway Traffic Bill will, it is understood, differ in some essential points from that of the Liberal Government, especially in regard to the constitution and powers of the Commission.

ELECTION NEWS.

The *Liverpool Courier* says that, while the evidence of personation already obtained is considered sufficient to unseat Mr. Neville, the member for the Exchange Division of Liverpool, it will be a few days before it has been decided whether or not a petition shall be lodged.

The sheriff has fixed Monday next as the nomination-day for South Sligo election, and Saturday, the 12th inst., for the polling.

Mr. Richard Power has issued an address to the electors of Waterford City, announcing his intention to retire, owing to failing health, after twelve years of parliamentary life. His conviction is unchanged of the necessity of legislative independence for Ireland.

GERMANY AND FRANCE.—PACIFIC ASSURANCES.

We are authoritatively informed from Berlin that during the past week Prince Bismarck has given to the French Ambassador distinct assurances of the pacific intentions of Germany towards France.

DYNAMITE EXPLOSION ON BOARD A STEAMER.

(CENTRAL NEWS TELEGRAM.)

NEW YORK, Tuesday.—An extraordinary explosion has occurred on board the steamer *Guyandotte*, the authorities believing that it has some connection with the present strike. The *Guyandotte* is one of the steamers of the Old Dominion Line, and while on a voyage from New York to Virginia an explosion occurred which tore open the side of the vessel—fortunately above the water-line—for 15 ft. and seriously injured three passengers. The vessel has returned to New York to have the damage made good; and from the inspection made by experts there is little doubt that the explosion was caused by dynamite. This view is strengthened by the reports of the officers of the ship. Just before the vessel sailed from New York a man unknown was seen on board whose movements were so suspicious as to call for remark; but he left the vessel without being interfered with. It is believed the explosion was planned by some of the men now on strike, and every effort is being made to obtain some clue which would lead to the arrest of the guilty parties. The present strike, it will be remembered, began among the employes of the Dominion Line.

MEETING OF THE DANISH FOLKETHING.

(CENTRAL NEWS TELEGRAM.)

COPENHAGEN, Tuesday.—The newly elected Folkething assembled to-day. Nine elections are still disputed. There is no sign of reconciliation between the two parties.

THE PHILADELPHIA AND READING RAILROAD.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

NEW YORK, Feb. 1.—The new plan for the reorganization of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad proposed by the dissentients from the present reorganization scheme provides for the issue of 44,000,000 dols. of New Improvement Four per Cent. Mortgage Bonds to run fifty years. Of this 35,521,700 dols. to be reserved to pay the Consolidated Mortgage of 1871 (known in London as Consolidated 1911), and prior mortgages; and also to pay the Improvement Mortgage of 1873, and the Real Estates Liens of the company. A new General Mortgage of 31,000,000 dols. at 5 per cent. running fifty years, to be issued in exchange for the present general mortgage bonds, the general mortgage deferred and Perkiomen scrip and the accrued interest thereon to July, 1887. It is stated that a number of New York capitalists are willing to come in under the plan, which is based on foreclosure. Assents of bondholders will be received not later than the 21st inst.

THE SALFORD LIBEL CASE.

At the Manchester Assizes to-day, before Mr. Justice Smith, Mr. Ellis Lever, coal merchant, of Bowden, Cheshire, was indicted for having libelled Mr. Samuel Hunter, the manager of the Salford Corporation Gasworks. The case has caused much local interest. The defendant is a large coal-owner in Cheshire, and has on various occasions tendered for the supply of coal and cannel to the Salford Gas Works, and towards the close of last year the tenders were examined, and certain of them were accepted; but before they were signed and sealed the Mayor of Salford received the following telegram:—"Let me caution you against affixing the corporate seal to certain coal and cannel contracts. Bribery, corruption, and fraud have prevailed in your borough to an enormous extent for many years, but I am sure you will be ready to stamp out the offence, and save your people from being robbed as they have been of many thousands every year.—Yours, Ellis Lever." In consequence of that some correspondence took place between the mayor and Mr. Lever; but the latter could not be induced to substantiate his charges. He offered to produce his evidence before a public meeting of the council, but subsequently communicated through his solicitors, and the last telegram the mayor received from Mr. Lever was to the effect that "he had had the opportunity of becoming the most popular mayor Salford had ever had, or of playing into the hands of men to whom the seventh, eighth, ninth, and tenth commandments had no meaning." On behalf of the prosecution, it was contended that the libel had no foundation in fact, that the contracts were honestly considered, and Mr. Hunter declared that he had no pecuniary interest in the decisions of the gas committee.

The case is proceeding.

FASHIONABLE MARRIAGE.

The marriage of the Honourable Theodora Keppel, daughter of Viscount and Viscountess Bury, to Major W. Davidson, R.A., was solemnized this afternoon at the Oratory, Brompton, by the Reverend Sebastian Bowden, assisted by the Reverend K. Digby Beste and the Reverend F. Antrobus. Among the invited guests were the Marquess and Marchioness of Salisbury, Prince and Princess Malcolm Khan, the Duke and Duchess of Bedford, the Earl of Albemarle, Lord and Lady Wantage, Captain and Lady Louisa Charteris, Mr. and Lady Augusta Noel, Lord and Lady Napier of Magdala, Mrs. Davidson, Mr. Davidson of Inchmarle, the Earl and Countess of Morley, the Honourable Arnold and Mrs. Keppel, the Honourable G. Keppel, the Earl and Countess of Leicester, Sir Francis and Lady Outram, the Earl and Countess of Leitrim, Viscount and Viscountess Powerscourt, Mrs. Leslie of Warthill, the Dowager Lady Conyngham, Lady Caroline Garnier, Mr. and Mrs. Davidson of Dresswood, Sir Patrick and Lady Lumsden, Mr. and Mrs. Holford, and Mr. and Mrs. Albert Grey. The bride was given away by her father. She wore a costume of white duchesse satin with long train, the front panel of the skirt being richly embroidered with seed-pearls. The bodice was trimmed with rich point lace and sprays of orange-blossom. Her jewels were magnificent, consisting of diamond necklace from Lord and Lady Wantage, diamond and pearl bracelet from her grandfather, Lord Albemarle; a diamond, ruby, and emerald bracelet from the Duke and Duchess of Bedford; and a diamond brooch, the gift of her brother. There were six bridesmaids, the five sisters of the bride and Miss Mina Davidson. They wore pretty costumes of

Liberty silk and broché trimmed with swansdown and long tulle veils fastened with marabout feathers. The bridegroom's present to them was a gold bangle, with initials in pearls and corals. Major Knox, R.A., attended the bridegroom as best man. At the conclusion of the ceremony the bridal party adjourned to the town-house of Viscount Bury, in Princes-gate, where the bride's mother held a reception, which was numerously attended.

MURDER OF TWO CHILDREN IN BERMONDSEY.

A horrible discovery was made in Bermondsey to-day. It appears that about a quarter to ten o'clock a poorly clad woman presented herself at the police station in Paradise-street, Rotherhithe, and told the acting inspector that she wished to give herself up for killing her two children. She gave the name of Elizabeth Whiting, living with her husband Thomas, a shoemaker, at No. 70, Princes-road, Jamaica-road, Bermondsey. She was detained at the police station, and Sergeant Springett at once proceeded to the address given by the woman, and on entering the back room on the ground-floor he found Elizabeth Whiting, aged three years, lying on the floor with her throat cut and her skull smashed in, and her brother George, aged five years, with his head—which was terribly injured—in a pail of water. It is stated that the father of the children left home this morning in search of employment. For some time the family have been in distressed circumstances, and for the past few days it was noticed amongst the neighbours that the mother appeared very strange. A chopper and billhook marked with blood were found in the room.

THE SOCIALIST CHURCH PARADES.—PROSECUTION.

John Morris, thirty-five, hatter, of 241, Weston-street, Bermondsey, was charged before Mr. Slade, at the Southwark Police Court to-day, with being guilty of disorderly and indecent behaviour in the church of St. Mary Magdalen, Bermondsey, during the celebration of divine service last Sunday morning. Mr. Harrison, solicitor, appeared for the prosecution; and Mr. Hill, solicitor, for the accused. Mr. Harrison said this prosecution was instituted by the churchwardens, the service last Sunday morning having been interrupted by the prisoner in a most unseemly and indecent manner. It appeared that the prisoner was a member of the Social Democratic Federation, and on more than one occasion some members of that body, led by the prisoner, attended the church and acted in such a manner as to compel the churchwardens to take proceedings. The Reverend C. D. Lawrence, rector of the parish of Bermondsey, said that during the last three Sundays twenty or thirty persons calling themselves Socialists attended the morning services and behaved in a most improper manner. The defendant was one of those persons, and apparently acted as their leader. Last Sunday morning he was in one of the front seats, and he and others had in their hands copies of a newspaper called *Justice*, which they were constantly waving. As he was reading the first lesson there were exclamations of "hear, hear;" and while his curate was reading the prayers for the royal family there was constant hissing, and the service was also interrupted during the reading of the Eighth Commandment. In fact, he had great difficulty in carrying on the service owing to the interruptions. The defendant was laughing and talking during the service, and kept turning round, evidently giving his friends instructions what to do. Mr. John Dumphries, one of the churchwardens, gave corroborative evidence. He said that on the previous Sunday he spoke to the prisoner, and asked him to put away the papers and behave with a little decency, and he said, "I am very sorry, Dumphries, but we have orders to show them." Mr. Hill, for the defence, said he would reserve his cross-examination, and the prisoner was remanded for a week. Mr. Hill asked for bail, which Mr. Slade peremptorily refused.

FATAL ACCIDENTS IN AMERICA.

A Reuter's telegram from New York says:—Intelligence from Tacoma, Washington Territory, states that during a hurricane in the mountains near that place, a tree, under which several Chinamen were encamped, was blown down, killing nine of the men, and injuring twelve, while others are missing. A similar accident, by which six white men were injured, occurred a few miles west of the same spot.

LEVEE AT DUBLIN CASTLE.

Lord Londonderry's first levee to-day was largely attended, especially by the nobility, of whom some came from England for the occasion.

THIS DAY'S RACING.

KEMPTON PARK.

MIDDLESEX HUNTERS' FLAT RACE. (Two miles.)—Festival (Capt. Lee Barber), 1. Rosier (Mr. Abington), 2. Bayonet (Mr. C. W. Waller), 3. The following also started:—Crafty (Mr. F. Carew), Bonnie Scotland (Mr. Owen), Dryad (Felton), and Ina Grey (W. Woodlands). Betting: 5 to 2 agst Rosier, 3 to 1 agst Festival, 4 to 1 agst Bayonet, 5 to 1 agst Bonnie Scotland, 8 to 1 agst Ina Grey.

STEWARDS' HANDICAP STEEPLECHASE. (Two miles and a half.)—Sidthorpe (Mr. D. Thirlwell), 1. Vagrant (Mr. Moore), 2. Westgate (Behan), 3. The following also started:—Rosebud (Sensier), Honeycomb (Nolan), Punchinella (Smith), and Lead On (Eyles). Betting: 7 to 4 agst Sidthorpe, 5 to 1 each agst Vagrant and Rosebud, 6 to 1 agst Westgate.

HURDLE HANDICAP. (Two miles.)—Bonnie Lassie (Hunt), 1. Shrivensham (T. Skelton), 2. Ironclad (Brazil), 3. The following also started:—Ivanhoe (Capt. Lee-Barber), Dalesman (Mr. C. W. Waller), Catalina (Mr. G. Lambton), Conundrum (H. Barker), and Vivacious (G. Hale). Betting: 5 to 2 agst Ironclad, 5 to 1 each agst Catalina and Shrivensham, 100 to 15 agst Bonnie Lassie, 7 to 1 agst Ivanhoe.

THIS DAY'S MONEY MARKET.

CITY OFFICE, 13, Angel-court, Throgmorton-street,
Twelve o'clock.

Money in the open market is in fair demand, and short loans are quoted $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.; while the rate of discount is $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 per cent.

Quarter past Two.

The Stock Markets opened with a weak tone in connection with the unsettled condition of politics on the Continent; and after a partial rally in the Home Railway market a further relapse has taken place in prices, which are mostly quoted at a considerable decline on the day. Consols are weak at a fall of $\frac{1}{4}$ for money and the account (March). Home Railways are flat, Brighton and Dover A being again the most depressed, while other descriptions show a substantial fall on the day. The Brighton traffic receipts for Monday show an increase of £1,255, and for Sunday a decrease of £257. American Securities came weak from New York, and have given way since with others, prices being at

the lowest points. Grand Trunk of Canada Railway issues have also given way. The Mexican Railway traffic return shows gross receipts £13,600, an increase of £3,300; but stock is nevertheless offered at a decline of $1\frac{1}{4}$ to $1\frac{1}{2}$ on the day. Foreign Government Bonds are especially heavy; Hungarian Gold, Italian, Spanish, and Egyptian issues being the worst. The Paris Bourse is reported weak.

The following are the changes as compared with yesterday's closing prices:—In the English Funds, Consols have declined $\frac{1}{4}$ for money and the account (March) to $100\frac{1}{2}$ to $100\frac{3}{4}$ and $100\frac{1}{2}$ to $100\frac{1}{4}$. Reduced and New Three per Cents. are quoted $101\frac{1}{4}$ to $101\frac{1}{2}$, and New Two-and-a-Half per Cents. $88\frac{1}{2}$ to $88\frac{3}{4}$.

In Home Railways, Caledonian has fallen $\frac{3}{8}$, Great Eastern $\frac{1}{2}$, Great Western $\frac{1}{4}$, Brighton A $1\frac{1}{4}$, Chatham Ordinary $\frac{1}{4}$, the Four-and-a-Half per Cent. Preference $\frac{1}{4}$, North-Western $\frac{1}{4}$, Sheffield A $\frac{1}{4}$, Metropolitan 1, Midland $\frac{3}{8}$, North British $\frac{1}{2}$, North-Eastern $\frac{3}{8}$, North Staffordshire $\frac{1}{2}$, and South-Eastern Deferred $1\frac{1}{2}$. In Canadian and Mexican Railways, Grand Trunk Ordinary has fallen $\frac{1}{4}$, the First Preference $1\frac{1}{4}$, the Second $\frac{3}{8}$, the Third $\frac{1}{2}$, the Guaranteed $\frac{1}{2}$, Canadian Pacific $\frac{3}{8}$, Mexican Ordinary $1\frac{1}{4}$, the Eight per Cent. First Preference $1\frac{1}{4}$, and the Six per Cent. Second $1\frac{1}{4}$.

In Foreign Government Bonds, Costa Rica Five per Cent. Bonds A have fallen 1, the Five per Cents. of 1888 1, Egyptian State Domain $\frac{1}{4}$, the Unified 1 3-16, the Preference $1\frac{1}{4}$, the Daira Sanieh $1\frac{1}{4}$, French Three per Cent. Rentes $\frac{1}{4}$, the Four-and-a-Half per Cents. of 1872 $\frac{1}{4}$, Hungarian Four per Cent. Gold Rentes of 1881 $2\frac{1}{4}$, Italian Five per Cents. of 1861 $1\frac{1}{2}$, Mexican Old Three per Cents. $\frac{1}{4}$, Peruvian Six per Cents. of 1870 5-16, the Five per Cents. of 1872 5-16, Portuguese Three per Cents. $\frac{1}{4}$, Russian of 1873 $\frac{1}{2}$, Spanish Four per Cents. 1 7-16, Turkish Groups III. and IV. 1-16, the 1871 $\frac{1}{2}$, the Defence $\frac{1}{2}$, and Uruguay Unified $\frac{1}{2}$.

In American Securities, New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio First Mortgage Bonds have fallen 1, Central Pacific shares $1\frac{1}{4}$, Milwaukee $1\frac{1}{4}$, Denver $\frac{3}{8}$, Lake Shore $1\frac{1}{4}$, Louisville $1\frac{1}{4}$, New York Central $\frac{3}{8}$, Erie $1\frac{1}{2}$, the Second Mortgage Bonds $\frac{1}{4}$, Ontario and Western shares $\frac{3}{8}$, Ohio and Mississippi $\frac{1}{4}$, Pennsylvania 1, Reading $\frac{3}{8}$, Union Pacific $1\frac{1}{4}$, Wabash Ordinary $\frac{1}{4}$, and the 100-dol. Preference $1\frac{1}{4}$.

The Eastern rates of exchange are:—Bombay, 1s. 6 1-32d.; Calcutta, 1s. 6 1-32d.; Hong Kong, 3s. 4 1-2d.; Shanghai, 4s. 8 1-2d.

The dividend warrants for the 5 and 10 per cent. dividends declared at the meeting of shareholders of the English and Scottish Mercantile Investment Trust (Limited) on Friday last have been posted.

ENGLISH GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.

Consols	100 1/2	100 3/4
Ditto Account (March) ..	100 1/2	100 1/4
Reduced Three per Cents. ..	101 1/4	101 1/2
New Three per Cents. ..	101 1/4	101 1/2
New Two-and-a-Half per Cents. ..	88 1/2	88 3/4
India Stock Four per Cent. ..	102 1/2	103
Ditto Three per Cent. ..	85 1/2	85 3/4
Ditto Four per Cent. Rupee Paper ..	71 1/2	72
Ditto 4 1/2 per Cent. Rupee Paper ..	73 1/2	74
Bank of England Stock ..	297	299
Metropolitan 3 1/2 per Cent. ..	106 1/2	107 1/2

COLONIAL GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.

Canada 4 per Cent. of 1910-35 ..	105	106
N.S. Wales 4 p. C. of 1903-5-8-9-10 ..	101 1/2	102 1/2
N. Zealand 4 per Ct. Cons. Ins. ..	94 1/2	95 1/2
Queensland 6 per Cent. 1891-95 ..	106	118
S. Australian 4 p. Ct. of 1894-1916 ..	99	101
Tasmanian 6 per Ct. of 1893-1901 ..	107	120
Victoria 4 1/2 per Cent. of 1904 ..	106	108

AMERICAN SECURITIES.

United States 4 1/2 per Cent. Bond ..	113 1/2	113 3/4
Ditto Four per Cent. ..	112 1/2	113 1/4
Virginia Funded Bonds ..	52 1/2	53 1/2
New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio First Mortgage Bonds ..	43 1/2	44 1/2
Central Pacific Shares ..	36 1/2	36 3/4
Chicago, Milwaukee, and St. Paul ..	89	89 1/2
Denver and Rio Grande Shares ..	24 1/2	24 3/4
Illinois Shares ..	135 1/2	136 1/2
Lake Shore and Michigan Southern 100-dol. Shares ..	93 1/2	94
Louisville and Nashville 100-dol. Shares ..	61 1/2	62
New York Central Shares ..	113 1/2	114
New York, Lake Erie, & Western 100-dol. Shares ..	30 1/2	31 1/2
Ditto Preference Six per Cent ..	68	69
Ditto Second Mortgage Bonds ..	98 1/2	98 3/4
New York, Ontario, and Western Shares ..	17 1/2	17 3/4
Ohio and Mississippi Shares ..	24 1/2	24 3/4
Oregon and California Seven per Cent. Preference Shares ..	18 1/2	18 3/4
Pennsylvania Shares ..	55 1/2	55 3/4
Philadelphia and Reading Shares ..	18 1/2	18 3/4
Ditto General Mortgage Bonds ..	103	104
Union Pacific Shares ..	56 1/2	57 1/2
Wabash, St. Louis, and Pacific Ordinary Shares ..	14	14 1/2
Ditto 100-dol. Preference ..	25 1/2	25 3/4

BRITISH AND FOREIGN RAILWAY STOCKS.

Caledonian	97 1/2	97 3/4
Great Eastern	67 1/2	67 3/4
Great Northern Ordinary ..	114 1/2	115 1/2
Ditto A	104 1/2	105 1/2
Great Western	135 1/2	136 1/2
Lancashire and Yorkshire ..	115 1/2	116 1/2
London and Brighton Ordinary ..	127 1/2	128 1/2
Ditto A	110 1/2	111 1/2
London, Chatham, & Dover Ord ..	21 1/2	21 3/4
Ditto 4 1/2 per Cent. Preference ..	88 1/2	88 3/4
London and North-Western ..	102 1/2	102 3/4
London and South-Western ..	126	127
Manchester, Sheffield, & Lincoln ..	66 1/2	67 1/2
Ditto A	35 1/2	35 3/4
Metropolitan	107 1/2	108 1/2
Metropolitan District ..	38 1/2	38 3/4
Midland	123 1/2	123 3/4
North British	98	98 1/2
North-Eastern	15 1/2	15 3/4
North Staffordshire	92 1/2	93 1/2
South-Eastern Ordinary ..	125 1/2	126 1/2
Ditto Deferred	102 1/2	102 3/4
Grand Trunk of Canada Ordinary ..	12 1/2	12 3/4
Ditto First Preference Stock ..	75 1/2	75 3/4
Ditto Second Preference Stock ..	5 1/2	5 3/4
Ditto Third Preference Stock ..	29 1/2	30
Ditto Guaranteed	72 1/2	72 3/4
Canadian Pacific Shares ..	64 1/2	64 3/4
Buenos Ayres & Pac. 7 p. C. Share ..	23 1/2	24 1/2
Ditto 7 p. C. Debentures ..	125	127
Lombard-Venetian	7 13-16	7 15-16
Mexican Ordinary	47 1/2	48
Ditto Eight per Cent. First Pref ..	111 1/2	111 3/4
Ditto Six p. Cent. Second Pref ..	68 1/2	68 3/4
Ditto Six per Cent. Perpetual ..	117	119
Debtenture Stock	117	119

MISCELLANEOUS SHARES.

Australian Agricultural	122	127
Anglo-Am. Brush Light (£3 paid) ..	8 1/2	8 3/4
Hudson's Bay	20 1/2	20 3/4
National Discount	10 1/2	11
Peninsular and Oriental Steam ..	62	64
Royal Mail Steam	37	39
Suez Canal	77 1/2	77 3/4

FOREIGN STOCK MARKETS.

Argentine Six per Cent. of 1868 ..	100 1/2	101 1/2
Ditto Six per Cent. of 1871 ..	101 1/2	102 1/2
Ditto 6 p. Cent. Hard Dol. Bonds ..	7 1/2	7 3/4
Austrian Four p. Ct. Gold Rentes ..	85 1/2	86 1/2
Ditto Five per Cent. Silver ..	63	63 1/2
Brazilian Five per Cent. of 1865 ..	99 1/2	100 1/2
Ditto Five per Cent. of 1871 ..	100	101
Ditto Five per Cent. of 1875 ..	98	99
Ditto 4 1/2 per Cent. of 1883 ..	99 1/2	100 1/2
Buenos Ayres Six per Cent. of 1870 ..	99 1/2	100 1/2
Ditto Six per Cents. of 1873 ..	100	101
Chilian Five per Cent. of 1873 ..	101	102
Ditto Five per Cent. of 1875 ..	101	102
Chinese Six p. Ct. of 1895, March ..	108	109
Ditto Six p. Cent. of 1895, June ..	107	109
Costa Rica 5 per Cent. Bonds A ..	64 1/2	65 1/2
Ditto B 4 p. Ct. now 5 p. Ct. 1888 ..	56 1/2	57 1/2
Egyptian Three p. Ct. Guaranteed ..	68 1/2	69 1/2
Ditto Five p. Ct. State Domain ..	69 1/2	70 1/2
Ditto Four per Cent. Unified ..	69 1/2	70 1/2
Ditto Five per Cent. Preference ..	62 1/2	63 1/2
Ditto Four p. Ct. Daira Sanieh ..	66 1/2	67 1/2
Entre Rios 6 p. Ct. 1886	90	92
Ditto 6 p. Ct. Ry. Mortgage ..	92	94
French Three per Cent. Rentes ..	77 1/2	78
Ditto 4 1/2 per Cent. of 1872 ..	106	106 1/2
Greek Five per Cent. of 1881 ..	57 1/2	58 1/2
Hungarian Gold Rentes of 1881 ..	74 1/2	75 1/2
Italian Five per Cent. of 1861 ..	92 1/2	93 1/2
Mexican Old Three per Cent. ..	25 1/2	25 3/4
Ditto of 1864	11 1/2	11 3/4
Norwegian Four per Cent. of 1880 ..	102	104
Peruvian Six per Cent. of 1870 ..	13 13-16	14 1-16
Ditto Five per Cent. of 1872 ..	10 15-16	11 1-16
Portuguese Three per Cent. ..	50 1/2	50 3/4
Russian Five per Cent. of 1871 ..	93 1/2	93 3/4
Ditto Five per Cent. of 1872 ..	94 1/2	94 3/4
Ditto Five per Cent. of 1873 ..	91 1/2	92
Ditto 4 1/2 per Cent. of 1875 ..	86 1/2	87 1/2
Santa Fe 5 p. Ct. N. C. Ry. Mort ..	95	97
Ditto 5 p. Ct. Extensions Mort ..	80 1/2	81 1/2
Spanish Four per Cent.	59 13-16	59 15-16
Ditto Two per Cent.	46 1/2	46 3/4
Swedish Four per Cent. of 1880 ..	103	104
Turkish Six per Cent. Group 1 ..	20 1/2	20 3/4
Ditto Nine per Cent.	2	2 1/2
Ditto Six & Five per Ct. .. 3 & 4 ..	13 5-16	13 7-16
Ditto 4 1/2 p. Ct. Tribute Loan of 1871 ..	68 1/2	68 3/4
Ditto Five per Cent. of 1874 ..	91	93
Ditto Five per Cent. Defence ..	72 1/2	73 1/2
Uruguay Unified Five p. Ct. of 1883 ..	44 1/2	45 1/2

BANKS.

Anglo-Egyptian	15	16
City	15 1/2	15 3/4
Colonial	33	35
Consolidated	7	7 1/2
Imperial Ottoman	6 1/2	6 3/4
London and County	83 1/2	84 1/2
London and Westminster ..	62	63
London Joint Stock	36 1/2	37 1/2
National Provincial (£12 paid) ..	49	50
Union of London	35 1/2	35 3/4

MINING SHARES.

Cape Copper	23	25
Indian Consolidated	15-16	1
Mason and Barry	70-16	7 11-11
Montana	8 1/2	8 3/4
Mysore Gold	6	6 1/2
Oregon Gold	2 1/2	1
Richmond Consolidated ..	4 1/2	5 1/2
Rio Tinto	103-16	105-16
St. John del Rey	28	33
Tharsis Sulphur	3 1/2	4
United Mexican	2 1/2	3

TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE SECURITIES.

Anglo-American	31 1/2	31 3/4
Brazilian Submarine	10 1/2	11
Consolidated Telephone ..	13-10	15-16
Direct United States	7 1/2	8
Eastern	10 1/2	10 3/4
Eastern Extension	10 1/2	10 3/4
Globe Ordinary	4 1/2	4 3/4
Ditto Preference	11 1/2	12
India-rubber, Gutta-percha, and Telegraph Works	24	25
Oriental Telephone	3 1/2	3 3/4
Telegraph Construction ..	39 1/2	40
United Telephone	12 1/2	12 3/4
Western and Brazilian ..	7 1/2	7 3/4

TRAMWAY SHARES.

Dublin	10 1/2	10 3/4
Glasgow	23 1/2	24
Liverpool Un. Tram. and Omnibus ..	11 1/2	12
London	18 1/2	18 3/4
London Street	20	20 1/2
North Metropolitan	20 1/2	21

THE DEBATE ON THE ADDRESS.

SPECIAL REPORT.

There was a perceptible increase of interest and animation in the debate on the Address last night. The knowledge that Lord Randolph Churchill intended to speak, and the utter impossibility of forming any anticipatory notion as to what line he would take or what he would say, brought down to the House of Commons a considerable gathering of members, whose curiosity was rewarded by various bursts of liveliness as the night went on. Even so unpromising a business as the formal issue of a writ at the very beginning of the night's work was turned into an opportunity for a party demonstration; and when the adjourned debate was set going for the third time, there were few of the long stretches of absolute dullness which made the discussions on Thursday and Friday so wearisome.

Mr. Bradlaugh resumed the debate in a long speech which might have been marked off in s'abs or sections, each complete in itself, and having nothing whatever to do with its next-door neighbour. The honourable member seemed to approach the Queen's Speech with a resolute determination to grapple with every separate paragraph, and, if the result was somewhat discursive, at all events it gave variety to the effort; and, not content with commenting on what was in the Speech, Mr. Bradlaugh found fresh material for himself outside it, and started off by denouncing the iniquities of certain Scotch employers of labour who violate the Truck Acts. When he got to the Queen's Speech he wandered at large over the entire field of foreign affairs, apparently with an amiable desire to provoke Lord Randolph Churchill into some further show of revolt against his late colleagues; but as this did not succeed, he quickly travelled from the dangers of Lord Salisbury's foreign policy in general to the state of Egyptian affairs in particular, and then on by rapid stages to the condition of Burma, where her Majesty's Government, it seems, have a morbid fancy for "stealing jewels," and have actually been so abandoned as to give to Mr. Streeter an iniquitous "preference for acquiring the stolen goods." After amusing himself and liberating his mind for some time in this fashion, Mr. Bradlaugh turned at last to deal with Ireland, and harrowed the feelings of the Parnellites and their supporters by retelling an old story of a cruel eviction: only, as the eviction occurred a good many years ago, and under circumstances which are wholly dissimilar from any that exist at present, the story, though told with dramatic effect, and calculated to prove what in the melodramatist's stock-in-trade is known as "a blood-curdler," somehow seemed to lose its point, and to be hardly worth the pains expended upon it—at all events, so far as production in the House of Commons was concerned.

Lord Randolph Churchill was up just before six o'clock, and he spoke for over an hour. It was a dashing speech, quite in the old irresponsible form, when the cares of office were not troubling, and fun, satire, and fancy could be freely cultivated. It was full of hard hitting; and, with one exception, everybody who came within range was made to suffer. With the foreign policy of the Government the noble lord professed himself quite satisfied—much to the disgust of Mr. Bradlaugh—and as to Ireland, he declared that the landlords, instead of being such dreadful wretches as they are generally represented, had really behaved very well, and that they could not have had a better case for themselves presented to Parliament, or one which would stand a more "microscopic examination" than the case of the Glenbeigh evictions. Of the conduct of Sir Michael Hicks-Beach as Chief Secretary—the one solitary statesman who was singled out not to be hauled up for punishment, but to be covered with praise—Lord Randolph could hardly find words to express his admiration; and the House warmly cheered a just tribute to the Chief Secretary; though there was some irreverent laughing among the Parnellites when the noble lord, with some unhappiness of phrase, extolled the right honourable baronet for his "self-sacrifice"—a quality for the very existence of which, or at all events for its full development, the House at large seemed, with genuine amusement, to hold Lord Randolph himself mainly responsible. Among the many sneers in which the noble lord indulged was one at the *Times* for recommending strong measures in Ireland; for Lord Randolph attached little or no importance to the Plan of Campaign, of which he thought a great deal too much had been made, seeing that its operations were very limited, and that rents in general were fairly paid. Still he owned that the Plan was "hopelessly immoral and hopelessly illegal;" and when the Parnellites murmured at this, he retorted, neatly enough, that if it had not been it would never have had the smallest weight with them. One of the most unkind portions of the speech was aimed with more than questionable discretion at the Liberal Unionists. The noble lord sneered at the Liberal Unionists for fancying that, like the Ephesians, who thought they could kill a new creed by shouting "Great is Diana!" they could keep the empire intact by clamouring about "the Union!" What was wanted was not so much clamour as a determined effort to keep Mr. Gladstone and his allies out of office, and that could only be done by identifying the party of the Union with "good government, creditable administration, and wise and progressive legislation." If they were identified with anything the reverse of that, "down would go the Government, down would go the party, and down would go the union to which they professed to be so devoted." He warned the Conservatives "not to attach too much importance to precarious parliamentary alliances," which were "as transient and uncertain as the shifting winds;" and though he acknowledged, amid much laughter, that while in office he had "tried to make things as easy as possible for the Liberal Unionists," and even to "make electoral arrangements that might enable them to preserve their seats," he also confessed—though the confession developed some murmurings amid the laughter—that he had only regarded those Liberal Unionists as "a useful kind of crutch," and had "looked forward to no distant time when the Tory party might walk alone." Next he ridiculed the "round table" and the conference assembled at it, and Mr. Chamberlain for wishing to make the table "larger and rounder," so as to accommodate not only its present visitors but Lord Salisbury, Mr. Gladstone, Lord Hartington, and Mr. Parnell. He thought Mr. Chamberlain was pursuing

"an erroneous and mistaken course," for no Conservative would follow him in attempting to set up anything in the nature of an Irish Parliament; and he recommended the right honourable gentleman to abandon "such extraordinary gyrations." He approved of the programme of legislation contained in the Queen's Speech; and then—coming at last to the question of the Estimates—he once more advocated a policy of retrenchment, and advised the Government to send the Army and Navy Estimates to a really strong Select Committee, to see whether they could not be cut down without injury, and a new era of financial reform thus brought about. Even Lord Salisbury had at last admitted that the increase in public expenditure was "dangerous;" and Lord Randolph was "not disinclined to take credit to himself" for "converting" the noble marquess. The noble lord attempted to show that, although Lord Salisbury—"a master in the art of tactics"—had adroitly fastened upon him the imputation of wishing to give up the defence of the coaling-stations, the suggestion came originally, not from Lord Randolph at all, but from Mr. W. H. Smith, who, however, added that he would "never consent to it." Lord Randolph had really no desire to cut off the expenditure on the coaling-stations; all he wanted was to be sure that the money was properly spent, and not wasted. Finally, the noble lord made an appeal to the future. He had been denounced right and left for his recent action; but this was "not the first time it had been his feeble fortune to wrestle with the Tory party;" and four years ago there was hardly a member of the Conservative party who would "give him so much as a nod of recognition." But subsequent events had justified him before, and he believed would justify him again; and therefore he "appealed to the tribunal of time." Whatever political influence or strength he had obtained had been drawn, not from the House of Commons, or from those who sat on the Treasury bench, but "from without;" and he appealed to "the just and generous judgment of the people." On this great question of economy and retrenchment he would "patiently wait for the judgment of Cæsar."

The subsequent debate naturally fell off in interest for some time, and the dinner-hour was given up mainly to the Parnellites; one of whom, Sir Joseph M'Kenna, plaintively complained, amid unsympathetic sounds, that the Plan of Campaign had actually been put in force—unheard-of atrocity!—on his own estate. Later on Mr. Shaw-Lefevre aired his views, somewhat feebly, for half an hour or so; and Mr. Curzon, one of the youngest members of the House, delivered a maiden speech of unusual ability and promise, in which, more in sorrow than in anger, he remonstrated with Lord Randolph Churchill for his treatment of the Liberal Unionists. Mr. Labouchère followed in his usual vein of mingled truculence and low comedy, denouncing Lord Salisbury as "the great perturbator of the peace of Europe," Lord Hartington for daring to sit on the front Opposition bench, and Mr. Chamberlain for his impracticability; and the debate was closed for the night by Lord Wolmer, who, as a Liberal Unionist, fastened with indignant warmth upon Lord Randolph Churchill, and gave him a severe castigation for "wantonly insulting" his allies. He reminded the House that in his Dartford speech the noble lord spoke in very different terms of the Liberal Unionists, and he asked which of the two speeches must be taken as representing "Philip drunk" and which "Philip sober." As Lord Randolph had chosen, on his own confession, to quit the Government on a question of half a million of money, it was clear that that was the rate at which he valued the Union; and Lord Wolmer, after declaring amid loud cheers that Lord Randolph's speech that evening was "not the way for an English statesman to meet the sacrifices which had been made by men like Lord Hartington," wound up by expressing an emphatic conviction that "the Unionist party were well rid of Lord Randolph." On the motion of Lord George Hamilton the debate was again adjourned.

MAKING POLITICAL CAPITAL OUT OF EVICTIONS.

The following letter, signed J. C. Durant, and dated Clement's House, W.C., January 26, is being sent to aspiring Liberal politicians:—

EVICTON ATROCITIES IN IRELAND.—PROPOSED INDIGNATION MEETINGS IN LONDON.

Dear Sir,—A few prominent Liberals are forming a committee for the purpose of organizing a series of meetings in London to protest against the atrocities now being perpetrated in Ireland and Scotland. You will remember that a similar series some years ago on the Bulgarian atrocities was productive of the best results. Experience shows that the masses of the people are much more readily moved by occurrences which appeal to the dramatic instinct than by abstract arguments, and the indignation universally felt at the eviction outrages now taking place will do more to make the public understand the grave political questions of the day than could have been accomplished by years of effort. We desire to take prompt advantage of this opportunity. We shall apply for most of the largest halls in London, especially at the East-end. The movement will also be valuable in making better known to the public men who in the future may be expected to take a prominent part in public affairs. Would you care to join in the matter by contributing to the necessary expenses, speaking at the meetings, or assisting the committee actively in the work of organization?

A mass meeting, the result of a combination of all the London working-class political clubs, was held on Clerkenwell-green last night, "to protest against Tory coercion in Ireland, and the infringement of English liberty foreshadowed in the Queen's Speech." Mr. Parnell, who was expected to speak, was not present. Mr. Poole, the president of the Clerkenwell Patriotic Club, proposed the following resolution:—"That the eviction of the Kerry farmers, with their wives and little ones, in mid-winter, after a time of unequalled agricultural depression, from land which the landlords had not reclaimed, and from cabins the landlords had no share in erecting, is an unspeakable injustice, a disgrace to the Tory Government, and an outrage upon humanity. Further, this mass meeting of the London democracy protests most emphatically and resolutely against the projected outrage upon English liberties, the most audacious and indefensible act ever attempted on an enfranchised nation; and all here pledge themselves to faithfully maintain the rights of trial by unpacked juries, and of indictment for definite offences only, which our forefathers won, and the present Tory Ministry is about to attempt to snatch from us and our children." The motion having been seconded was carried amid great cheering. There was a plentiful display of banners, red flags, and caps of liberty, plenty of coloured fire was burned, and the several platforms were illuminated by the lime-light worked from the roof of the Patriotic Club.

THE PROPOSED RUSSIAN LOAN.

(EXCHANGE COMPANY'S TELEGRAM.)

PARIS, Tuesday.—The *Gaulois* says the negotiations for a Russian loan, which had been suspended on account of the war rumours, are about to be resumed, the Czar having given most pacific assurances to his bankers.

THE SPANISH NAVY.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

MADRID, Feb. 1.—The Council of Ministers has approved the purchase for the Spanish navy of ninety-five guns of heavy calibre. Admiral Rodriguez Arias, Minister of Marine, leaves here to-day for Toulon, to be present at the launch of the new steel armour-clad turret-ship *Pelayo*, which has been built in the La Seyne yards. The Spanish Mediterranean squadron will meet Admiral Arias at Toulon.

THE EMIN PASHA RELIEF EXPEDITION.

It is announced that Staff-Surgeon Parke will leave Alexandria on Wednesday, to join Mr. Stanley's expedition for the relief of Emin Pasha.

THE MURDER OF MR. PRELLER.

A Reuter's telegram from St. Louis says that the man Hugh Brooks, alias Maxwell, who was sentenced to death for the murder of Mr. Preller, has secured a further respite until the 1st of April pending the decision of the court with regard to his appeal for a new trial.

THE GREAT STRIKE IN NEW YORK.

A Central News telegram from New York to-day says that the strike among the labourers is spreading. It is believed that the platelayers, signalmen, and labourers on the New Jersey section of the Pennsylvania Railway and the men on the Central Railroad in New Jersey will come out on strike to-day, leaving only the engineers and the conductors of the trains working.

THE ST. GEORGE'S ELECTION.

The minority which voted in favour of adjournment on the issue of the St. George's writ was entirely composed of Gladstonian Liberals. The majority included several Unionist Liberals and the following among other Gladstonian Liberals:—Mr. Childers, Mr. Shaw-Lefevre, Mr. Arnold Morley, Mr. Barclay, Mr. Broadhurst, Mr. Duff, Mr. Woodall, Mr. Robert Spencer, Sir Lyon Playfair, Sir William Plowden, Mr. Gourley, Mr. Herbert Gardner, and Mr. Alfred Pease.

TWO SHIPS SUNK BY COLLISION.

The schooner *Annie*, of Inverness, from London for Inverskeith, with cement, was in collision yesterday morning off Palling with the brigantine *Flora*, of Yarmouth, bound to that port with coals. Both vessels were sunk. The crew of the *Flora* took to their boats and rescued three of the *Annie's* crew; but the master, mate, and one seaman of the latter vessel were drowned.

SERIOUS RAILWAY FRAUDS IN IRELAND.

It was officially announced last night by Mr. Charles Stewart, secretary of the Belfast and Northern Counties Railway, that the directors have just discovered defalcations to the extent of £12,000 in the accounts of the cashier, lately deceased, and consequently have decided not to pay the dividend of 3½ per cent. announced a few days ago. At the Belfast Quarter Sessions last week the accountant of the railway was sentenced to five years' penal servitude for defalcations amounting to £5,000.

A MUSICAL PERFORMANCE AT OSBORNE.

Some of the choir of Westminster Abbey (Messrs. Foster-Hilton, Montem Smith, and boys), under the direction of Dr. Bridge, went to Osborne by command of the Queen on Friday, and sang a new anthem by Dr. Bridge and other music before her Majesty. Dr. Bridge, at the Queen's request, also played an organ solo. At the conclusion of the performance Dr. Bridge was presented to her Majesty, who expressed the pleasure the anthem and singing had given her. The solo in the anthem was sung by Mr. Hilton, who also sang "Nazareth" by the Queen's desire. Her Majesty specially mentioned Mr. Hilton's beautiful voice and the singing of the boys. The party had luncheon at Osborne House.

A CHINESE TORPEDO-BOAT.

Messrs. Yarrow (says the *London and China Telegraph*) have nearly completed a first-class torpedo-boat for the Chinese Government, which will have an excess of speed over any torpedo-boat that there is in the British Navy. No. 79, the last of a batch which the same firm have recently concluded for the Admiralty, may be taken as the best we possess. The one for the Chinese, however, has rather more than a knot an hour greater speed, running twenty-six statute miles an hour. She is built on the same lines as those for the British Government, but she has much more engine-power.

THE ENGLISH CRICKETERS IN AUSTRALIA.

The English cricketers now in Australia have again, thanks mainly to Briggs, scored a victory where success seemed impossible. In the great match against All Australia at Sydney, in which on Saturday the visitors were only 29 runs to the good, Briggs and Sherwin played fine cricket yesterday, and left the Australians 111 to get to win. This they were unable to do, and the Englishmen won by 13 runs.

THE WRESTLING CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE WORLD.

A special telegram to the *Sportsman* from Sydney says:—The wrestling match between T. Cannon, of Cincinnati, U.S., and Donald Dinnie, of Scotland, for £100, the *Police Gazette* belt, and the championship, was decided in Melbourne on Saturday, the result being a victory for Cannon.

THE GOVERNMENT PRINTING CONTRACTS.

It appears from the second report of the Controller of the Stationery Office that, under the new contracts for printing entered into this year after public competition, a net annual saving of about £9,850 has been effected on the Stationery Office votes, or of about £16,366 on the rates paid as lately as 1880.

THE LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET.

A telegram from Liverpool at eleven o'clock to-day says:—The cotton market opened quiet, with a moderate demand. Probable sales, 7,000 or 8,000 bales. Prices on the spot are barely steady. Futures have fallen one point, with sellers thereat. The following transactions are reported for delivery:—February-March, 4-64½; March-April, 5-64½.

SNOW-STORMS IN THE NORTH.

The following "Remarks on the Weather" were issued from the Meteorological Office this morning:—In the course of the past twenty-four hours a large depression has advanced to the north-west of Norway from the south-westward, while a V-shaped subsidiary disturbance has been travelling across the British Islands in an easterly direction. Strong south-west and southerly winds were experienced as these systems advanced, and gales in several places, accompanied by showers of rain and mild temperature. In their rear, however, the wind has shifted to the north-westward or westward, and lulled; and although in most places the sky has cleared, in several instances cold showers have fallen, and in the north of Scotland a snow-storm now prevails. The rainfall has been heavy in the west and north-west; slight at present elsewhere. The sea is rough both at our extreme north-eastern and south-western stations, generally moderate or light elsewhere. The barometer is now rising quickly in the west and south-west, and the north-westerly wind is gradually spreading eastwards over England. The rise will, however, probably prove only temporary; but cold fine weather will probably prevail over England during to-night.

A heavy shower of sleet fell over London at noon to-day. Birmingham was visited by another heavy snow-storm this morning. In a few hours the streets presented a most wintry aspect. Snow commenced to fall at daybreak all over Cheshire, and continued for over two hours, when it lay in the country 2 in. deep. Afterwards a thaw set in, and much of the snow disappeared.

THE CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT.

THE THEFT OF DR. BIRD'S FUR COAT.

At the Central Criminal Court to-day, William Duncan Cameron, twenty-nine, described as a musician, who pleaded guilty at last sessions to stealing a valuable coat, the property of Dr. Bird, and also to other charges of robbery, was brought up for sentence. It may be remembered that during the Campbell divorce suit some questions were asked with regard to a fur coat which Dr. Bird sometimes wore. The prisoner seemed to have gone to Dr. Bird's house while the case was pending and stated that he had been sent by Mr. Lewis (Lady Colin's solicitor) for the coat, which was required in court. The coat was given to him, and he appeared to have immediately pledged it for £5. There were other charges against the prisoner. The Recorder sentenced him to six months' hard labour.

HIGHWAY ROBBERY.

Charles Williams, twenty-two, and Henry Gilbertson, twenty-one, labourers, were indicted for robbing Captain Rodney Eden of a watch and chain of the value of £16. The prosecutor, about seven o'clock on the night of the 14th of January, was passing along the new thoroughfare near the waste ground upon which the prison formerly stood at Westminster, when he was accosted by Williams. The prosecutor gave him 2s., and a few minutes later the prisoner Gilbertson seized him, and told him that he might as well give them all he had got, as they intended to have it. They then tripped him up, and robbed him of his watch and chain. Williams had been several times convicted. The Recorder sentenced Williams to fifteen months' hard labour and Gilbertson to nine months'.

FORGERY BY A SCHOOLMISTRESS.

Annie Mary Tomkins, thirty-seven, a schoolmistress, who pleaded guilty at the last sessions to forging and uttering a cheque for £5, after a previous conviction, was sentenced to twelve months' hard labour.

A PARIS SCANDAL.

A young woman named Annette Harchoux was tried at Paris yesterday on a charge of forging the name of the Abbé Roussel to a bill for £40. Her defence was that the abbé had signed the bill himself after a copious dinner, when he had drunk too much champagne, and that she got him to sign it because she saw that he was getting tired of a *liaison* into which he had drawn her when she was but fifteen. After hearing the evidence of a number of witnesses and the speeches of counsel, the jury, at an early hour this morning, dismissed the charge of forgery, but found the prisoner guilty of theft. The judge sentenced the prisoner to six months' imprisonment and to pay a quarter of the costs; the remainder to be borne by the Abbé Roussel.

GAMBLING ON ATLANTIC STEAMERS.

Thirteen passengers by the Cunard steamship *Umbria* have subscribed their names to the following protest which they have sent to the *Times*:—

The undersigned, as passengers by the Cunard steamer *Umbria*, consider that their rights have been encroached upon by the noisy scenes witnessed on the passage, and that not to raise a hand of protest against the gambling and intemperance now so general on ocean steamers would be in a measure to sanction its existence. If the smoking-room is to be made a gambling-hell, it should be labelled as such, so that all sending the younger members of their families by these steamers may know how to act. Well-known gamblers habitually traverse the Atlantic to decoy the unwary. Two instances occurred on the present trip of the dire effect produced. One young man of respectable appearance was induced by a man who has reaped a rich harvest to risk his money on chance cards and the throw of the dice. He lost all, and then borrowed. Brooding over his trouble and urged to drink by his companions, he endeavoured to jump overboard, and was saved by mere chance. He was immediately placed under arrest, and a keeper set. At night a lady and gentleman were disturbed by threats of murder—all over gambling disputes. If this company are to sustain the high reputation already gained they should put an end to this state of things. The onus rests with them of keeping order, and not with the passengers.

GOVERNMENT WASTE-PAPER.

Mr. T. Digby Pigott, Controller of her Majesty's Stationery Office, has just issued a second report concerning the establishments under his control. Writing of waste-paper, he stated that since January, 1881, 10,000 tons have been received and disposed of by the Stationery Office. The price realized for this was, up to November last, £67,050, an average of about £11,300 a year. The business would, Mr. Pigott observes, be more remunerative if it were not essential that papers, before being sold, should be made illegible by tearing or cutting. In consequence of the decision of the Home Secretary in 1885, that "as a matter of policy" the Government waste-paper should no longer be sent to the prisons in London to be prepared for sale by the prisoners, the Office of Works hired premises in Earl-street, Westminster, where this work (preparing the waste paper for sale) is now done chiefly by women and girls working under the superintendence of forewomen. The girls, etc., of whom there are at the present time upwards of fifty employed, are engaged by the day, and work for eight hours at wages varying from 1s. to 1s. 8d. Two forewomen receive respectively 2s. 6d. and 2s. a day. The average output of waste paper has lately been at the rate of twenty-five to thirty tons a week.

ANTIQUARIAN DISCOVERY AT DRURY LANE DURING THE PANTOMIME.—That the original jars which served to conceal the Forty Thieves had contained Jensen's Cod Liver Oil, taken by every one this cold weather to keep them warm and free from Coughs and Colds. Sold by all Chemists in bottles, 12, 25, 35, 6d., and 6s. 6d. The trade mark, an Iceberg, is on the wrapper of every genuine bottle. "Children like it"—the best proof of its sweetness and purity.—(ADVT.)

THE BULGARIAN QUESTION.

In official and diplomatic circles in Vienna the conviction is expressed that England will not refuse to co-operate in the projected support by the Powers of Turkish mediation in the Bulgarian question. The instructions given by Austria, Germany, France, and Italy to their representatives at Constantinople are to the effect that they shall endeavour to promote the Turco-Bulgarian negotiations, and use their efforts to arrange existing difficulties. They are at the same time empowered, in the event of serious difficulties arising, to enter upon joint deliberations in reference thereto. The main difficulty is that Russia adheres to her demand that the Regency should disappear. It is reported from Constantinople that the British Government regards all else as secondary in importance to the election of a Prince who would govern the country in accordance with the constitutional rights of the Bulgarians, and uphold the independence of the principality. All the proposed changes with respect to the Regency, the Ministry, and the Sobranje are deprecated by England as tending to lessen the probabilities of a solution in the direction indicated. Moreover, it is considered that the present Bulgarian Government has fulfilled its task of maintaining order in a satisfactory manner. While holding these views, however, the British Government will not interrupt the endeavours of the Porte and the Powers generally to promote a conciliatory arrangement between Russia and Bulgaria, and will support any measure calculated to mitigate present differences. In Russian diplomatic circles (a St. Petersburg telegram says) the proposal made by the late Lord Iddesleigh for the nomination of a provisional Regent pending the election of a new Prince for Bulgaria meets with support. It is believed that the Prince of Oldenburg, whose name raised no objection in Europe when first mentioned, but who declined to allow himself to be put forward as a candidate, would not refuse to accept the title of Provisional Regent of Bulgaria if the Czar called upon him to assume that position pending the appeasement of the Bulgarian crisis.

GENERAL BOULANGER.

These are the terms, according to *La France*, in which M. de Freycinet spoke on a recent occasion of General Boulanger:—

People have said that General Boulanger is too much given to advertise himself; but I don't know what they mean. When did the General ever publish or announce any document or fact in any wise likely to do mischief to the country? If so, let some proofs or instances be shown. For my part I have seen none. What I have seen in him is a steadfast desire of bettering our armaments, an unflinching energy, and, I will repeat, a perfect uprightness in all his dealings with the other members of the Government. To assert, as has been done, that he is rash is easier than to give a single instance of his alleged imprudent behaviour; and now I should add that the mere thought of how Prince Bismarck alluded to him in the Reichstag should compel us, from sheer patriotism, no longer to discuss the position he holds as Minister of War. To let it be imagined for a moment that a French Parliament could take any notice of suggestions from Berlin would be a cause of national division, and would weaken the hands of the defenders of the soil. I repeat that, whatever opinion be entertained of General Boulanger's character, it is now no longer the time to discuss his influence; it is absolutely necessary to stand by and support him, and I could not conceive my friends pursuing any other course.

In a leading article headed "On the Edge of the Knife," the semi-official *Berlin Post* remarks that the position of General Boulanger is not only strengthened, but is perhaps at the present moment unassailable. The writer adds:—

The General, supported by the Radical Chauvinists, controls the peace-loving masses also, because the latter are not able to give an acceptable form to their wishes, but rather find their judgments confused by the agitations of the past years. This state of things can only be changed by a temporizing Government which might be led by a happy inspiration to accept a true peace. But a Government under General Boulanger is scarcely likely to be able to temporize. He is master of the situation in a degree that neither Thiers nor Gambetta ever was. But he can only govern the situation by keeping up the warlike impulse which he has given to it. The impression left on the minds of all observers is that the armaments of France are being pushed forward with feverish energy. General Boulanger has it no longer in his power to lead the French people back into the path of peace, or, if he attempted it, he would have to quit his post, burdened with the reproach of having led France to the brink of great peril.

MR. GOSCHEN AND ST. GEORGE'S, HANOVER SQUARE.

Mr. Goschen has issued the following address to the electors of the borough of St. George, Hanover-square:—

Gentlemen,—Having been invited to fill the vacancy in the parliamentary representation of your borough, caused by the retirement of Lord Algernon Percy, I have the honour to offer myself as a candidate for your suffrages. I have so recently and so fully explained my attitude on the great questions of the day that I need not trouble you with a detailed statement of my political opinions, or of my conception of my duty as Chancellor of the Exchequer. Neither will you desire, with the programme of the Government, of which I am a member, in your hands, that I should enumerate the various legislative proposals which I am ready to support. The great principles on which that Government is prepared to act can be stated in a few words. The maintenance of a single State in these islands, governed by a single Parliament; the restoration of the efficiency of that Parliament; the vindication of the law, threatened as it is by anarchic combinations and doctrines; the defence and development of our commerce and industry by a steady policy which shall beget confidence abroad and at home; the avoidance of alternate fits of panic and parsimony—these are more than ever the paramount objects to be kept in view by British statesmen. For these objects I desire loyally to co-operate with Lord Salisbury and my other colleagues, and it is in order to render that co-operation possible that I appeal to you to return me to the House of Commons as your representative.—I have the honour to be, gentlemen, yours faithfully,

GEORGE J. GOSCHEN.

The new writ moved for last night in the House of Commons for St. George's, Hanover-square, owing to the retirement of Lord Algernon Percy, will soon be acted upon. The nomination will be on Friday next, and the polling on the following Monday.

At a meeting yesterday afternoon of the Conservative Association of St. George's, held at 17, Grosvenor-place—Mr. Goschen being present and Mr. Cubitt in the chair—it was formally proposed by Sir James M'Garel Hogg, seconded by Admiral Duncombe, supported by Lord Algernon Percy and other gentlemen, and carried with acclamation, that Mr. Goschen be a candidate for the borough. Mr. Goschen, in a short speech, expressed his gratitude for the honour that was paid to him, and accepted the invitation.

At a hastily summoned meeting of the leading Liberals and Radicals of the borough, held last night at the Pimlico Radical Club, it was announced that Lord Algernon Percy, the Conservative member for the constituency, had resigned his seat. It was resolved to contest the constituency, and Mr. Wallace, the secretary, read a letter which he had received from Mr. Haysman offering himself as a Gladstonian candidate. On the motion of Mr. Peter Calder, seconded by Mr. Seney, the chairman of the club, it was resolved "That this meeting heartily thanks Mr. Haysman for offering himself so gallantly at the present crisis as a Gladstonian candidate for the vacancy in this borough, and heartily binds itself to use every effort to support his candidature." The resolution was carried unanimously.

THE EUROPEAN SITUATION.

THE WAR PREPARATIONS.—SPEECH BY M. TISZA.

The preparations for increasing the German army (the *Berlin correspondent* of the *Standard* says) are going on in spite of the defeat of the Bill in the Reichstag. Apart from the 72,000 reserves who are to be called out for training, last year's recruits who have not yet served are summoned to be ready to present themselves at the beginning of April. This is virtually the beginning of the calling out of the 41,000 men who would have been provided if the Army Bill had passed. The general situation is somewhat better, although we are not yet out of danger. To-day I had a conversation with one who is in a position to know what is going on, and I think I cannot do better than give the substance of what he said:—

So far as Eastern Europe is concerned the outlook is much better, chiefly owing to the recent attitude, not only of Russia and Austria, but also of England. Since the beginning of this year these three Powers have been earnestly endeavouring to come to an understanding by mutual concessions, and thanks chiefly to the moderating influence of the German Emperor the relations of Austria and Russia are so much improved that a final peaceful solution of the Bulgarian question may almost be regarded as certain. Lord Salisbury has of late given evidence of a desire to go as far as possible to meet Russia, of course without endangering England's international position. I repeat, the mutual relations of England, Russia, and Austria are such that the danger of a conflict about Bulgaria may be regarded as out of the question. Between France and Germany relations appear lately to have become more strained; but it is only in appearance, in reality nothing has occurred since the beginning of the year to increase the tension between the two countries. The situation, in a word, has become neither better nor worse, and I can assure you that so long as the present Government remains in power in France, nothing is to be feared. There is, however, always the question, "How long will the present French Government remain in power?" and it is there the real danger lies. It is impossible up to the present to see a way out of this critical situation, which is economically and financially ruinous.

Much excitement, with a panic on the Bourse, was caused in Vienna yesterday by the announcement that the Delegations of the Austrian and Hungarian Parliaments would shortly be summoned for any extraordinary session. The Delegations are expected to meet in March, and they will be asked to vote a sum of about thirty millions of florins for the purchase of army stores and provisions. The *Times* correspondent remarks:—"It need scarcely be pointed out that a demand for credits intended to purchase provisions for the army is a very different thing from credits for mobilization. If mobilization were contemplated not two millions sterling, but more than ten times that sum would have to be asked for." At the council of Ministers held in Vienna on Sunday, Count Kalnoky stated that the prospects of a diplomatic settlement of the Bulgarian question had improved, and the relations between Russia and Austria had in the last few weeks become decidedly more friendly; but, on the other hand, the tension between Germany and France was increasing.

In yesterday's sitting of the Lower House of the Hungarian Diet M. Tisza replied to an interpellation from M. Iranyi upon the foreign political situation.

The Premier commenced by stating that since the declarations made by him and by Count Kalnoky in the Delegations no change had occurred in Austria-Hungary's relations with foreign States, least of all with Germany. The Government still cherished the hope that while safeguarding the interests of the monarchy it would succeed in maintaining peace. He (the Premier) would avail himself of the present opportunity to throw some light upon the rumours of armaments mentioned by M. Iranyi. "It is perfectly well known," said M. Tisza, "that among all the States of Europe, Switzerland and Belgium not excepted, though each is equally zealous for the preservation of peace, there is not a single State which does not wish to place itself in a position to be able to defend its interests with its own strength. This is not preparation for war, but precautionary action. A measure of this nature, dictated solely by prudence, is being taken by us, partially with the assent of the competent legislative bodies." M. Tisza went on to beg the House most earnestly not to regard the measure to which he had alluded as a preparation for war, but to consider it only as a measure of precaution, undertaken with the intention that if, in face of the preparations made by all other States, peace should, contrary to his (M. Tisza's) hopes, be disturbed, Austria should be able to protect her interests; and if, through the failure of all peaceful efforts, they could only be protected in another way, then to protect them in that other way. The Minister's speech was loudly cheered on all sides.

Notwithstanding these Ministerial assurances, there is (the *Times* correspondent says) no abatement in diplomatic circles of the anxieties caused by the relations between France and Germany. The secret fear seems to be that the control of Germany's policy may not rest altogether in Prince Bismarck's hands. The German Chancellor is known to be sincere in proclaiming his desire for peace, but high military influences are believed to be working against him; and it is remembered with concern that whenever Prince Bismarck and the War Office have been in conflict, the Chancellor, powerful as he is, has had to give way. This is the plain truth as to those war alarms in high places which would appear almost inexplicable in face of the many peaceful assurances that continue to be given by French politicians. A Vienna telegram gives the following explanation of the situation:—

Notwithstanding the indications pointing to the eventuality of war between Germany and France, it is considered in diplomatic circles here that Prince Bismarck has a very weighty reason for not precipitating a collision with France, although from a German military point of view such a contingency might be less undesirable at the present moment than hereafter. It is positively known that the Imperial Chancellor, notwithstanding his recent speech in the Reichstag expressing indifference concerning Bulgaria, has not yet been able to obtain from St. Petersburg a binding assurance of Russia's neutrality in the event of a Franco-German war. There is believed to exist a close connection between the hesitating and evasive attitude of the Russian Government upon this subject and the language of the Russian press, which makes a firm stand against the pledging of Russian neutrality. In view of this situation, the military preparations commenced by Austria last month are interpreted as due much less to the initiative of the Austrian Government, on account of its anxiety concerning complications in the East, than to impulsion from Berlin, accompanied by the hint that, in view of the growing danger of a Franco-German war and the attitude of Russia affording no guarantee to Germany, the contingency of the *casus fœderis*, provided for in the Austro-German treaty of alliance, might arise for Austria-Hungary.

The Vienna correspondent of the *Pesther Lloyd* expresses a fear that Russia has initiated the negotiations in Constantinople only for the sake of gaining time for war preparations, and in order to secure a pretext for an invasion of Bulgaria.

THE NEW MILITARY REPEATING-RIFLE.

As a result of the committee presided over by Sir Evelyn Wood, which recently met at the War Office to report upon a repeating-rifle which had been submitted to the military authorities, orders were yesterday given for experiments to be made with the weapon, at as early a date as possible, by selected men of eighteen infantry battalions at home stations.

MESSRS. HATCHARD, 187, PICCADILLY, W., keep a large stock of all the New, Standard, and Children's Books, Bibles, Prayer-Books, &c. Discount 2d. in the 1s. Libraries arranged.—[ADVT.]

GENERAL BOULANGER.

The writer of "The Present Position of European Politics" in the *Fortnightly Review* (understood to be Sir Charles Dilke) deals with France in his last communication. He has a good deal to say about General Boulanger, and from this part of his paper we quote some passages:—

The whole of the persons who count in France, have counted latterly, or are likely to count, are, with one possible exception, admittedly peaceable. The one exception, of course, is General Boulanger, and it must be admitted not only that he excites in Germany and in Russia fears or hopes, as the case may be, but that he arouses very general public attention even in France. The personality of the man is strong. He has come very suddenly to the front. Gambetta, indeed, used to speak of him as one of the four best officers in France, but he put him rather below than above at least two of the four. General Boulanger is still quite young; he is very handsome, and a good speaker. He owes his advancement to M. Clémenceau, but he has rather eclipsed his patron, who, indeed, never was especially popular. General Boulanger is commonly supposed to have violated the gentlemanly code of honour, but it is universally admitted that what has happened has not done him any harm. I shall be disbelieved when I state simply that his personal popularity in France is greater than that enjoyed by any man since Napoleon was at the height of his power, with the possible exception of Lafayette at the moment of the Revolution in 1830. General Boulanger excites a good deal of prejudice in society; but society in France counts less than it does in any other country in Europe. He is probably more popular with the army than was the Prince-President in 1849 and 1850, and the dislike felt for him by a large number of the superior officers was felt also, and even more intensely, for the Prince-President.

So popular is he with the private soldiers and, generally speaking, with the great majority of the electors, that it may be said that no one else in France, with the doubtful exception of old M. de Lesseps, in comparison with him, is popular at all.

All the politicians are afraid of him, and yet, somehow or other, he is never mentioned without a smile. In spite of his extraordinary popularity no one takes him quite seriously, and the newspapers are able to ignore his real standing with their readers and to go on writing of him as a ring-master, which they pretend he resembles. It must be admitted that the circus element is not wanting in General Boulanger's composition. He is not only a much advertised man; he has done a good deal to advertise himself. At the same time he is an able War Minister; and the constant kindness which he has shown to the private soldier is probably an honest kindness, for a calculation of the good results of which towards himself he cannot with any fairness be charged. Although General Boulanger's popularity in France is far greater than that enjoyed by Gambetta in his lifetime, he has never attained in European estimation the same position, nor does he deserve it. But in Germany there is an uneasy feeling with regard to General Boulanger's popularity, and by some Germans and by the German newspapers he is thought to be a War Minister who means war. There never was a greater mistake made than to think that General Boulanger is warlike. He seems to me to have done his duty as War Minister with no special view of undertaking an aggressive war, but, on the contrary, to have shown, in constantly limiting the expeditions intended to conquer so-called "colonies," a prudence which is laudable from every point of view. I cannot agree with those who think that the strong personality of General Boulanger in any way affects the situation of France in Europe and her probable future. A very considerable time ago I asked a friend of mine who was going to Paris to find out for me whether General Boulanger, who was beginning to excite attention, was a man, a soldier, a mountebank, or an ass. The report was of no great practical value because it was to the effect that the "Bonaparte without a victory" was at once all four. But although probably, for the reasons which I have given, an excellent War Minister, General Boulanger has shown by his last considerable speeches that his English blood is strong in him, and that he is not a man, as the French say, "to break windows."

We saw just now that General Boulanger is not likely to be any especial danger to peace. Is he likely to be a danger to the Republic?

I have said that in the event of France desiring a master, she is more likely to look to a new man than to a member of the late royal families; and, when this is said, people begin to ask, with that attraction which is always felt for the element of personality, "Have you such a person in view?" I have in view, not the present War Minister in particular, but the Generalissimo of the French forces in the event of war, whenever that may come. France is very unlikely to be badly beaten in the next war, for the reasons which I have given in the article upon Germany. If, however, she is to have any chance of success, her Ministry must trust the best general that they can find, and let him virtually assume a dictatorship during the continuance of the war. A Generalissimo thus placed with full powers at the head of an army of some four millions of men may be successful. If so, all will admit that the Republic will run a danger through his success. If he is not successful, the strong probability is that France will not be greatly driven back within her frontier, and to some extent will be able to hold her own, with an ever-increasing amount of suffering caused by the pressure of taxation, and the withdrawal of men from agriculture and from trade. If the Generalissimo has been fairly cautious, is he not likely, even in these circumstances, to be almost as formidable a person to his colleagues as he would be in the event of a successful war. In case, however, of a severe defeat of France, the Republic would certainly be upset in favour either of the House of France or of some individual who had been less compromised in the failure than had others: some general, for example, who had made a gallant stand. I cannot but think that a calm observer must fear that war, either successful or unsuccessful, must be fatal to the French Republic. Not necessarily in name, however; not even probably in name. The next man who upsets the French Republic will, if he is a prudent man, retain Republican forms. Under ordinary circumstances, that is to say, supposing that there is no war soon, General Boulanger will not rise higher than he has already risen. With his popularity, with his face and figure, he would have a good chance of being elected President if the election of President were by a national vote; but he has little or none as matters stand, the election being made, as is well known, by both Houses sitting together in Congress. Like the popularity of the Prince-President in 1850, General Boulanger's popularity is one which lessens as you go upward in the social scale. . . . The net result of the efforts of General Boulanger and of his enemies has been that, while he is still a young man, the General's popularity greatly exceeds that of the next most popular Frenchman, who has been far more years before the country. M. de Lesseps cannot well be Generalissimo; General Boulanger could and would be Generalissimo if there were war at any short interval from the present time. Some suppose that there may be civil commotion in France, and that he may be the general who will put it down, and that in this way, as well as in war, there may be danger to Republican institutions. In my opinion that is not so. If there should be civil troubles, put down by force, the general who puts them down will have incurred violent resentment and will not be popular enough with the whole country to found for himself a dictatorship, supposing that he wished to do so. But with war it is different. Whilst an unlucky war might even restore the House of France, and a doubtful war might produce a dictatorship, a successful war would give to the Generalissimo who brought to France Alsace or Belgium a supreme power veiled under republican forms. It is certain that the next French Cæsar will have no arch-chancellors in breeches and silk stockings about him, and it is probable that he will be styled President of the Republic. But the virtual autocracy of a strong man is not by any means out of the question. In spite of General Boulanger's present popularity, it is quite possible that within a few years, as he grows older, he may be forgotten. In France men, even useful men, are thrown aside more easily and more completely than is the case with us in England.

TRADE AND FINANCE.

The report of the Controller of the Empire upon the definitive Russian Budget of 1885, which was expected last November, only now appears in the *Journal de St. Pétersbourg*. The ordinary revenue amounted to £76,228,284, valuing the rouble at 2s. of our money, which, of course, is too high. Compared with the Estimates, this was a falling-off of a little over 1¼ millions sterling. The ordinary expenditure amounted to £80,661,436. There is thus shown a deficit of £4,433,150. But, in addition, there was an extraordinary expenditure of £7,700,000, which raised the total deficit to £12,133,150. No extraordinary military outlay is acknowledged, although it was in 1885 the Penjdeh incident occurred, bringing with it the necessity for preparation for war with this country—a very costly matter. And the increase acknowledged in the ordinary War Budget but slightly exceeds seven millions. Either the force massed on the Afghan frontier was totally insufficient for a war with Afghans and British, and the preparations to support it were ludicrously inadequate—in which case Russia played a game of brag and won—or these figures are untrustworthy. The charge for the debt in 1885 amounted to the enormous sum of £26,359,466, or nearly four millions sterling more than the charge for our own debt when sinking-fund is left out of account. Turning to the receipts, we again find a large falling-off in the personal and land taxes, in the drink duties, in Customs, in payments by the peasants for their lands, and in railway receipts.

The Liquidation on the Paris Bourse caused a general depression in prices yesterday morning. Fears were entertained of heavy failures; and that there are difficulties admitted of no doubt. It would seem, however, that the continuous selling of the past few weeks—which was largely on Parisian account—relieved the situation; and as both Berlin and Vienna were firm, prices soon rallied, and at the close were higher than on Saturday. Speculators have been making the most of war rumours and Parisian difficulties. They have aggravated the fall that was inevitable under the circumstances. For example, the Consols Settlement now going on proves that large speculative sales must have been made; for while "the rate of continuation" on Consols a month ago was 3 per cent., yesterday the rate had disappeared. The speculation for the fall had neutralized the speculation for the rise. Last week we had evidence at the fortnightly Settlement of a considerable speculation for the fall. This speculation is now a support to markets; for the stock was sold at a high price in the hope of buying back at a low, and therefore every fall brings in buyers.

The tenders for £2,155,000 in Treasury bills were received yesterday at the Bank of England, when the whole amount was allotted in three months' paper, at an average of £2 15s. 1½d. per cent. discount. Tenders at £99 5s. 11¼d. or about 2½ per cent. discount (reckoning the short month of February), will receive about 88 per cent., above in full. The average price per cent. was £2 15s. 1½d. Very few of these bills are thought to be in the market, and it is assumed that the Bank of England has taken a considerable amount of them.

In places yesterday there was more inquiry for money in connection with the turn of the month, and the rate for short loans ranged from 2½ up to 3 per cent., while discount was unaltered at 2½ to 3 per cent. The supply of bills was small; but rates were fairly steady owing to the result of the tenders for Treasury bills, which were all allotted in three months' paper, at an average of a trifle above 2½ per cent. discount. A large amount in gold was sent into the Bank—no less than £317,000, chiefly from Egypt, and a further £300,000 from Egypt is expected to come to hand shortly. As yet there is no mention of gold being arranged for shipment from New York to this side; but such a movement may take place at any moment, the exchange being very high.

It is said that already funds are being remitted by the Continent to this country for safe keeping, in apprehension of war. This is extremely probable; and if the danger of war grows greatly remittances will become larger and larger. Numbers of people will come over here, and even many who stay at home will send over money to have it perfectly safe. There will probably likewise be a considerable shifting of investment from Foreign Government bonds and from local industrial securities into English and American securities. Where, for example, it is thought probable that invasion may occur it is evident that there must be anticipated a very considerable disorganization of trade of every kind. Railways, mines, and the like will earn much less, and much damage even may be done. Investors, therefore, in industrial enterprises in districts which are likely to be invaded will have a strong inducement to sell out of these securities and invest in securities which are out of the reach of war. If, therefore, as the spring advances the danger of war becomes greater, we may expect to see a steady fall, not only in Foreign Government bonds, but also in industrial securities in the districts exposed to invasion. After a while this transference of investments must lead to a rise in prices in this country and in America. If this country can keep out of the war, the transference both of money uninvested and of money for investment will tend to raise prices in different ways; while the reaction from the first shock of the outbreak of hostilities will also tend to send up prices. There will be less transference of capital to the United States for safe keeping than to this country; but it is probable that the investments in American Railroad securities will be larger than the investments in English securities, for the simple reason that the prices of all English securities are already so high as not to be tempting to foreign investors. Furthermore, the demand for American produce of all kinds caused by war will increase the tendency to an upward movement in prices in the United States.

The following dividends have been announced:—Northamptonshire Union Bank, 11s. per share; Royal Exchange Bank, 4 per cent. per annum; London Road Car Company (Limited), 6 per cent. per annum; and Rylands and Sons (Limited), 5 per cent. per annum, leaving £31,275 to be carried to the reserve fund.

The Ulster Marine Insurance Company (Limited), of Belfast, announce that their London agency has been undertaken by the marine department of the South British National and Adelaide Insurance Companies from this date.

THE MORNING PAPERS.

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL'S SPEECH.

The *Times* thinks it a pity that Lord Randolph Churchill, prepared, as it seems, to support the Government in adopting strenuous measures for re-establishing the authority of the law, should have gone out of his way to make light of the Plan of Campaign and its consequences, and to vindicate the timid and vacillating course of the Irish Executive since the close of the last session of Parliament. It is a painful truth that disorder in Ireland is not the trivial matter which Lord Randolph Churchill represents it to be. The *Times* regrets that Lord Randolph Churchill's renewed and emphasized pledges of loyalty to the Unionist cause were not accompanied with expressions of cynical and contemptuous disparagement of the Liberal Unionists, for whose adhesion Lord Randolph Churchill was effusively grateful not many weeks ago.

The *Standard* congratulates Lord Randolph Churchill, so far at all events as the greater part of his speech is concerned, upon having achieved a distinct success. There was a marked ease and readiness in his manner which few members of the House can approach. He was serious without being dull, tenacious without being offensively aggressive. The position which he has chosen to take is most unwise and unfortunate. But he maintained it with gravity and dignity. He did not disguise the extent to which his conceptions of political expediency differed from those of the members of the Government, but he refrained from any idle taunts at their expense; he showed a due regard for the obligations which his participation in their confidential counsels imposed upon him, and in the general field of controversial politics he gave them a frank and unequivocal support. If any brooding Radical has solaced himself with the thought that the loss to the Cabinet was a gain to the Opposition, Lord Randolph Churchill has summarily undeceived him. The ex-Chancellor of the Exchequer entertains certain erratic ideas on the subject of finance which he is prepared to enforce even at the risk of troubling the repose of the Treasury benches; but if he is not more Ministerialist than the Ministerialists, he claims to be, if possible, a truer Tory.

The *Daily News* congratulates Lord Randolph Churchill on having struck a serious if not a deadly blow at what he once proudly called the "union of the Unionist party." He was a little more reticent than before about his late colleagues; but if his hostility to them increases in the proportion it has observed since Thursday last, her Majesty's Government will have reason to regret his resignation.

The *Morning Post* remarks that Lord Randolph Churchill is nothing if not self-reliant, and none who have watched his parliamentary career can be surprised at the attitude he has taken up. His belief and confidence in the Tory democracy are inextinguishable, and he is naturally unwilling that for the sake of gaining any temporary advantage any steps should be taken which might have the effect of inducing that democracy to turn their eyes elsewhere. In this it must be admitted that he is right; the only doubt that can arise is as to the expediency of expressing his opinion in his usual blunt fashion. He may regard the Liberal Unionists as a useful crutch in the present emergency; but they may be pardoned if they think that it was somewhat discourteous to say so. But after all, Lord Randolph Churchill, when not weighted by the responsibility of a Minister of the Crown, must be judged by a standard peculiarly his own.

The *Daily Telegraph* says that Lord Randolph Churchill has greatly improved his present position before the country. The only passages of questionable judgment in his otherwise extremely able and judicious speech were those in which he made somewhat slighting reference to the Liberal Unionists. No doubt he is entitled, from his own point of view, to regard that party as only a "useful kind of crutch;" but, if crutches were animated and possessed the power of withdrawing their support at will, it would be neither polite nor prudent to remind them too pointedly of the humility of their functions until the cripple is at least confident of his ability to walk alone.

The *Morning Advertiser* observes that fortunately for the Unionist cause Lord Randolph Churchill is one of those maladroitly clever men who unmake as well as they make themselves, and are afflicted with an untoward faculty of thwarting their own influence by their own actions. Coming from a statesman of less mark, but more gravity in politics, one could imagine the perfectly uncalled-for flout flung at the allies who have helped the Conservatives to defeat the attack upon the Union, and whose full and faithful adhesion is still necessary if the Union is to be maintained, producing a mischievous and regrettable effect. But there is no doubt the Liberal Unionist party will take the unappreciative reference made to them last night for what it is worth, and that the needless allusion will ruffle no temper among them.

The *Irish Times* is of opinion that Lord Randolph Churchill has regained his influence by last night's speech, and shown again that he possesses powers of the highest order. If he has failed to prove that he was justified in resigning the Chancellorship of the Exchequer, he has proved that he is no mere waverer in opinion.

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL'S DOCTRINE OF RETRENCHMENT.

The *Times* can conceive of nothing more dangerous, in these times of international trouble, than Lord Randolph Churchill's counsel to the democracy to abandon special preparations, to rely on the patriotism and loyalty of a free and contented people, and to trust to the wealth and enterprise of our race to develop the national resources in time of war. If there is any lesson which modern wars have taught it is that campaigns are short, sharp, and decisive; that belligerents caught unprepared by a stronger enemy have not the chance of recovering their ground; that armaments, ironclads, torpedoes, heavy ordnance, trained soldiers, cannot be extemporized; and that the risk to the United Kingdom and to the British Empire of even a temporary disaster is so incalculable that it would be nothing less than criminal to incur it.

The *Standard* could have wished that Lord Randolph Churchill had been content to leave his doctrine of retrenchment to be studied in the by no means meagre account of his views which he tendered in explaining the cause of his retirement. No one will like—no one will understand—his position a bit the better for the further remarks in which he sought last night to elucidate and enforce his point.

ALCARD V. SKINNER.

The *Times* approves Mr. Justice Kekewich's decision in this case. A gift to a sisterhood is not necessarily void; the acts of grown-up people are not to be interfered with in the absence of fraud or unfair influence. But the successful defendant will probably not deny that it would be well when ladies unversed in business join sisterhoods and talk of giving away all their money or property that their friends should be consulted, that ample time for reflection should be given them, that vows made perhaps in haste should be reconsidered, and that provision should be made for the not improbable contingency of their changing their minds.

The *Daily News* observes that the story is a painful one and draws this moral from it that young ladies should be very sure they have a vocation for poverty and drudgery before they give up their money and their lives to the work of a sisterhood.

WORK FOR THE UNEMPLOYED.

Mr. J. Brailsford Bright, M.A., writes to us as follows from 31, Golden-square respecting a new organization of which he is secretary *pro tem.* :—

In Berlin a system of Expressmen (Dienstmänner), and in other capitals of Europe similar services have long been in existence, and their want has been felt in London. Moreover, it is believed that, besides the functions of commissionaires, porters, messengers, etc., other services, such as guides, and a good deal of irregular household work now performed by irresponsible individuals, could advantageously be organized by the same body, which would thus provide, or rather assist in the provision of, work for a large number of the unemployed of different classes. The present time is most appropriate for the foundation of such an enterprise; and an association, composed of members of many of the leading professions and of different political and religious views, has now been formed for this purpose. The service will be named "The Express." Its members will have their special stations and districts; a certain number being attached to the offices or depôts of the association, and held in readiness for various business and domestic services, for which application may be made by telephone (as in New York) or otherwise. Expressmen will not be allowed to compete with other efficient and well-known services, such as the Corps of Commissionaires, the Army and Navy Pensioners' Employment Society, etc.; the object of the present association being simply to organize supplementary and miscellaneous services. The men will wear a cheap but suitable uniform, in which the name of the association will be woven; and the latter will be responsible for small values entrusted to them. The men will be furnished with books of receipts for fixed amounts corresponding with the minimum tariff of charges which they are allowed to make. These tickets they will be bound to give up to their employers; any complaints from whom to the association will receive immediate attention. They will pay a certain commission on each such book; by which means it is hoped that the enterprise will soon be rendered self-supporting. When this happens it is proposed, with a view to the encouragement of steady service and a healthy *esprit de corps*, to admit duly certificated members (of, say, six months' standing) to a consultative voice in the management; also that all profits—that is to say, all receipts in excess of fair working expenses—shall be devoted to a fund for eventually converting the association into a self-governing as well as self-supporting corporation. The tariff and other details will shortly be advertised in the leading daily papers. Meanwhile I shall be happy to answer any questions.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

- SONS.**
BATEMAN, wife of Captain Richard S., R.N., at Rosary-gardens, South Kensington, Jan. 29.
CHANNER, wife of Brigadier-General G. N., V.C., Bengal Staff Corps, at Norham-gardens, Oxford, Jan. 29.
JONES, Mrs. John P., at Vale-street, Denbigh, Jan. 29.
MARSHALL, wife of Rev. E. T., at Manca Vicarage, March, Jan. 28.
MITCHELL, Mrs. W. R., at Salthrop, Jan. 30.
ROBINSON, wife of Rev. E. C., at Endon, Catford Bridge, S.E., Jan. 27.
WOOLRVCH, Mrs. Herbert R., of Haddo-villas, Blackheath, Jan. 27.
- DAUGHTERS.**
BARNES, wife of Mr. John G., Barrister-at-Law, at Kensington Park-road, W., Jan. 31.
BEWICK, wife of Captain Bewick, 60th Rifles, of Coulby Manor, Yorkshire, at Cadogan-place, S.W., Jan. 29.
MCANALLY, wife of Rev. Charles, M.A., at Lansdowne-terrace, West Hampstead, Jan. 29.
SHAW, wife of Lieut.-Colonel J. Hay, late 2nd Batt. Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, at Belmont, Upper Tooting, Jan. 27.
TUCHMANN, Mrs. Charles, at Belsize Park, N.W., Jan. 30.
WHEELER, Mrs. George B., at Elm Lodge, Beckenham, Kent, Jan. 30.

MARRIAGES.

- BATCHELOR-SMITH.—At St. Andrew's, Haverstock-hill, R. Harvey, son of Mr. H. W. Batchelor, late of Kentish-town, to Ada, daughter of Mr. William Smith, Head Master of the Orphan Working School, Maitland Park, N.W., Jan. 26.
BIRCH-JONES-PEARSON.—At St. Peter's, Fleetwood, Rev. J. Birch-Jones, Vicar of Chipping, to Lucy M., daughter of the late Rev. James Pearson, M.A., F.R.A.S., formerly Vicar of Fleetwood, Jan. 27.
CHEVYNE-SERVANTE.—At Christ Church, Gipsy Hill, Mr. W. Watson Chevyn, M.B., F.R.C.S., of Welbeck-street, W., to Mary E., daughter of the late Rev. Wm. Servante, Jan. 29.
- LOWE-BOYD.—At St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Edinburgh, Mr. George S. S. Lowe, of Stoke Damerel, Devonport, son of the late Admiral Lowe, to Anna F., daughter of Mr. Thomson Boyd, of Royal-terrace, Edinburgh, Jan. 26.
MATTHEWS-EARLY.—At St. Mary's, Witney, Mr. Francis W. Matthews, of Barford St. Martin, Salisbury, to Elizabeth, daughter of the late Mr. John Early, of Woodside, Witney, Jan. 27.
WEBER-BROOKS.—At St. George's, Hanover-square, Frederic H., son of the late Frederic Weber, M.D., of Green-street, Grosvenor-square, to Anna, daughter of Mr. Thomas Brooks, of Barkby Hall, Leicester, Jan. 29.

DEATHS.

- ALEXANDER, Mr. Charles L., F.R.C.S., L.S.A., at Trinity-square, S.E., aged 67, Jan. 27.
ALLEN, Mr. William, at Walnut Tree House, Worcester, aged 73, Jan. 27.
BUSH, Mr. Robert F. E., M.A., son of Rev. R. Wheeler Besh, Rector of St. Alphege, London-wall, at Oakfield, Rugby, aged 39, Jan. 29.
CHAMBERLAYNE, Sarah, widow of General, formerly 2nd Dragoon Guards, at Orford House, Stanstead, Essex, aged 84, Jan. 29.
EASTMAN, Eva F., wife of Mr. T., at Stubbington Lodge, Fareham, Hants, aged 74, Jan. 28.
GELSTHORPE, Rebecca, wife of Mr. John, at Carter-lane House, Alfraton, aged 79, Jan. 27.
HARVEY, Mr. William D., late of Richmond and Notting-hill, in America, aged 49, Jan. 26.
HAWKES, Charlotte E., daughter of the late Rev. W. H., of Ashford Lodge, Petersfield, at St. Leonards-on-Sea, Jan. 27.
HESLOP, Rev. Canon, at Oakley Rectory, Basingstoke, aged 64, Jan. 30.
HOPE, Alicia, daughter of the late Sir John Barr, of Craighall, at Pinkie House, Musselburgh, aged 71, Jan. 29.
JOHNSON, Rev. Woodthorpe, M.A., at Grainsby Rectory, Great Grimsby, aged 73, Jan. 25.
LONDON, Louisa, widow of Captain Charles G., Bengal Infantry, at Lyme Regis, aged 77, Jan. 29.
- LINTON, Christina, widow of Mr. Robert, F.R.S., F.R.C.S., at Glengyle-terrace, Edinburgh, aged 85, Jan. 28.
MACKENZIE, Melissa D., daughter of the late Mr. James, at Winchester, Jan. 18.
MAXWELL-LYTE, Rev. John, M.A., Domestic Chaplain to the Lord Bishop of Truro, son of the late Mr. Henry Maxwell-Lyte, of Falkland, county Monaghan, at Lis Escop, Truro, aged 36, Jan. 23.
MOORE, Elizabeth, wife of Mr. William W., late of Holme Bury, Bushey Heath, Watford, Jan. 26.
MOUSLEY, Charles E., late Lieut.-Colonel, Staffordshire Militia, at Haughton Hall, Tamworth, aged 67, Jan. 28.
SANDHAM, General George, late R.A., at Rowdell, Pulborough, Sussex, aged 73, Jan. 29.
SEVFANG, Harriet, at Cambridge-road, Bromley, Kent, aged 86, Jan. 24.
STARR, Henry J. F., son of Mr. George, late of Pernambuco, aged 25, Jan. 4.
WINGROVE, Raymond P., son of Mr. Richard P., at Birchington, near Westgate, Kent, aged 8, Jan. 25.
WOOLLOMBE, Mary E., widow of Vice-Admiral George, at Hemerdon, Plympton, Devon, aged 81, Jan. 26.
WORMALD, Edmund, son of Mr. Harry W., of Cookridge and Sawley, aged 44, Jan. 27.

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STOCKS AND SHARES.

THE following List gives the prices at one o'clock to-day. The principal Stocks and Shares not quoted below will be found in the Money Market Article on another page:—

COLONIAL GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.

Canada, Dominion of, 5 p. ct. 1903	112	114
Do. ditto 4 p. ct. 1904-5-6-8	104	106
Cape of Good Hope 1890-1900	—	—
Do. ditto 1891	—	—
Do. 5 per cent. 1900	107	109
Do. 4½ per cent.	102	104
Do. ditto (June & Dec.)	101	103
Natal 4½ per ct. (Mar. & Sept.)	101	103
Do. 5 per cent. 10-40	104	106
New South Wales, 1888 to 1894	101	107
Do. 5 per cent. 1895 to 1902	105	114
Do. 2 per cent. 1872 to 1893	105	107
New Zealand 6 per cent. 1891	105	108
Do. 5 per cent. 1914	110	112
Do. 5 per cent. Consols	102	104
Do. 6 p. cent., March 15, 1891	107	109
Do. ditto (June & Dec.)	106	108
Do. 4½ p. cent. 5-30, 1879-1900	—	—
Do. ditto 10-40, 1883-1918	101	103
Do. ditto 1889	101	103
Quebec (Province of) 5 p. c. 1904	108	110
Do. ditto 1906	108	110
Queensland 6 per cent. 1891-1896	105	118
Do. 4 per cent. 1913-1915	95	101
South Australian 6 p. c. 1891-1900	—	—
Do. ditto 1901-1912	115	120
Do. 5 per cent. 1911-1920	106	116
Do. 4 per cent. 1929	100	102
Do. ditto 1916	100	102
Straits Settlements Gov. 4½ p. c.	103	105
Tasmanian 6 per cent. 1895	110	115
Do. 4 per cent. 1 July, 1906	99	101
Victoria 6 per cent. 1891	106	108
Do. 5 per cent. 1894	106	108
Do. 4 per cent. 1899-1901	101½	102½
Western Australian 4½ per cent.	105	107
Do. ditto 4 per cent.	102	103

REGISTERED AND INSCRIBED STOCKS.

Canada 4 p. c. Stock Reg., 1904	105	106
Do. Loan for £4,000,000, 1910	105	106
C. of Good Hope 4 p. c. Stock Reg.	93½	94½
Do. (Loan of 1883) Ins.	99½	100½
Ceylon 4 p. c. Inscribed Stock	102½	103½
Natal 4 p. c. Consol. Stock Reg.	96½	97½
New South Wales Stk 4 p. c. Ins.	107	108
Do. 3½ per cent. Stock Ins.	94	95
Do. 3½ do. Stock, 1885	—	—
Queensland Stock Ins.	101	102
S. Australia (Loans of 1882-3-4)	103	104
Victoria 4 p. cent. Railway Loan	108½	109½
Do. 1881, Inscribed Stock	102½	103½
Victoria 4 p. cent. Loans of 1882, 1883, and 1884, do. 1903	104	105
W. Australia Loan of £525,000 Stk.	103½	104½

AMERICAN SECURITIES.

Massachusetts 5 per cent. 1888	101	103
Atlantic First Leased Lines Rental	—	—
Trust, 4 per cent. Mt. Debts	78	80
Baltimore & Potomac 1st Mt. Line	124	126
Central Pacific of California Six	—	—
per Cent. First Mortgage	116	118
Delaware and Hudson Canal	—	—
Mortgage Bonds, 1894	112	117
Denver & Rio Grande Consols	—	—
Lehigh Valley Con. Mortgage	121	125
New York Central and Hudson	—	—
River Seven per Cent. Mort.	133	138
New York, Pennsylvania and	—	—
Ohio Third Mortgage	4	5
Norfolk and Western Preferred	47	48
St. Louis Bridge 1st Pref. Stock	104	106
Do. 2nd Preferred Stock	52	54
Do. 1st Mortgage Gold Bonds	133	137
Union Pacific Railway 1st Mort.	116	118
Union Pacific Land Grant	100	105

RAILWAYS.—BRITISH POSSESSIONS.

Atlantic and St. Lawrence 6 p. c.	138	140
Bombay, Baroda, & Central India	—	—
guaranteed 5 per cent.	161	164
Ruffalo and Lake Huron	11½	12
Canada Central Five per Cent.	—	—
First Mortgage Bonds	108	110
Can. Pac. Stk. 5 p. c. First Mort.	103½	104½
Chicago and Grand Trunk 6 p. c.	109	108
Demerara 7 p. c. Perpetual Pref.	138	142
Eastern Bengal 4 p. c. Guar. Deb. St.	106	108
East Indian, Annuity A	23½	23½
Do. Annuity B, 61 per annum	24½	25
Do. Def. Annuity Cap. Guar.	—	—
4 per cent.	117	120
Do. Irredeem. Deb. Stk. 4½ p. c.	119	121
Great Indian Peninsula Guarant.	—	—
teed Five per Cent.	145	148
Do. 4 per Cent. Deb. Stock	106	108
Hamilton & N. W. 1st M. 6 p. c.	107	110
Madras guaranteed 5 per cent.	126	128
Do. ditto 4½ per cent.	121	123
Do. ditto 4 per cent.	115	117
Melbourne and Hobson's Bay	—	—
United 5 per cent. Bonds	107	109
M. of Canada Sterling 1st Mort-	—	—
gage	100	102
Do. (Con.) 5 per cent. 1st Mort	98	100
Nizam's State Railway Guarant-	—	—
teed 5 per cent. Shares	108	110
N. of Canada 6 p. c. Pref. Stock	55	60
Do. 5 per cent. 1st Mortgage	105	107
Do. 3rd Pref. Bonds A and B	94	96
Do. North. Exten. 6 p. c.	104	105
Do. ditto 6 p. c. Impr. Mort.	104	105
Do. 4 per cent. Deb. Stock	83	85
Ont. & Quebec 5 p. c. Perp. Deb. St.	109	110
Oude & Rohilkund 5 p. cent.	126	128
Do. 4 per cent. Deb. Stock	105	103
St. John and Maine	30	32
Scinde, Punjab, & Delhi 5 p. c.	—	—
South Indian guar. 5 per cent.	126	128
Do. 4½ per cent. Deb. Stock	114	116
S. Mahratta Guar. 4 p. c. till 188	101	103
Do. 4 per cent. Deb. Stock	106	107
Tasmanian Main Line Debenture	—	—
4 per cent. Stock	86	88
Toronto, Grey, and Bruce 4 per	—	—
cent. 1st Mortgage	84½	85½
Wellington, Grey, and Bruce 7	—	—
per cent. Bonds, 1st Mortgage	98	100

BRITISH RAILWAYS.

East London Consolidated	10	12
Furness Consolidated	105	108
Glasgow and South-Western Con.	101	103
Hull, Barnsley, and West Riding	—	—
Junction Shares	17½	18½
London, Tilbury, & Southend Co.	140	144
Mersey	7	9
North London Consolidated	178	183
Rhymney	175	180

RAILWAYS.—DEBENTURE STOCK.

Caledonian 4 per cent.	116	118
East London 6 per cent.	110	116
Do. 5 per cent.	110	120
Do. 6 per cent. 1874	90	110
Do. 6 per cent. 1875	60	90
Glasgow and S. West. 4 per cent.	114	116
Great Eastern 4 per cent.	116	118
Do. A 5 per cent.	141	143
Do. B 6½ redm., 5 p. c.	133	135
Do. 4½ per cent.	129	131
Great Northern 4 p. c.	115	117
Great Western 4 per cent.	119	121
Do. 4½ per cent.	123	125
Do. 4½ per cent.	132	134
Do. 5 per cent.	145	147
Lancashire and York, 4 per cent.	117	119
London & Blackwall, 4½ per cent.	120	122
London and Brighton, 4 per cent.	115	117
Do. Perpetual 4½ per cent.	129	131
London & Chatham Arb. ½ p. ct.	124	125
Do. ditto B 4½ per ct.	123	125
Do. ditto 4 per cent.	109	111
Do. ditto 1883	109	111
London & North-Western 4 p. ct.	119	121
Do. ditto South-Western 4 p. ct.	118	120
Do. ditto B 4 p. ct.	118	120
Do. ditto 3½ p. ct.	102	104
London, Tilbury & 4 per cent.	114	116
Manch. & Sheffield 4½ per cent.	118	120
Metropolitan 4 per cent.	115	117
Do. 4½ per cent.	126	128
Do. 3½ per cent.	93	103
Metropolitan District 6 per cent.	151	153
Do. 4 per cent.	106	108
Midland 4 per cent.	118	120
North British 4 per cent.	115	117
Do. E. P. and D. B. 5 per cent.	—	—
North-Eastern 4 per cent.	118	120
Do. 4½ per cent.	120	122
North London 4½ per cent.	131	133
North Staffordshire 4½ p. cent.	121	123
South-Eastern Perp. 4 per cent.	117	119
Do. ditto 5 per cent.	142	144
Taff Vale 4 per cent.	110	113

FOREIGN RAILWAYS

Antwerp and Rotterdam	22	24
Bahia and San Francisco, g. 7 p. c.	22½	23½
Brazilian Imperial Central Bahia	21½	21½
Do. 6 p. cent. Debenture Stock	111	113
Buenos Ayres Great Southern	153	160
Do. Extension	14½	14½
Do. 5 p. cent. Debenture Stock	118	120
Buenos Ayres and Ensenada Port	8	9
Do. 8 p. cent. Preference	13½	14½
Buenos Ayres and Pacific Pref.	109	111
Buenos Ayres and Rosario Ord.	23½	24½
Do. ditto 7 p. c. Pref.	14½	15
Do. ditto 5 p. c. Deb. Stock	112½	113½
Central Argentine Limited	169	171
Do. 6 per cent. Debent. Stock	136	138
C. Uruguay of Montevideo, Lim	11	11½
Do. Perm. 6 p. c. Deb. Stock	120	131
Conde d'Eu, Lim., g. 7 per cent.	15½	16½
Copiapu	40	41
Dutch Rhenish	17	18
Do. New	4	6
Do. ditto 1872	½	1
East Argentine, Lim., g. 7 per ct	101	103
Do. 6 per cent. Deb. Stock	110	112
Great Western of Brazil g. 7 p. c	19	20
Do. 6 per cent. Deb. Stock	114	116
Imp. Brazilian, Natal, and N. Cruz	6½	7½
Lima, Limited	6	6½
Namur and Liège 14½ per annum	11½	12½
Do. 6 per Cent. Preference	25½	27½
N.-W. Uruguay 6 p. ct. 1st Pref	60	68
Do. ditto, 5 per cent. 2nd Pref	45	47
Ottoman (Smyrna to Aidin)	11½	11½
Prov. Orei-Vitebsk g. 5 per cent.	18	19
Recife and Sao Francisco g.	103	105
Riga and Dünaberg	15½	16½
Royal Sardinian	10	10½
Do. Preference	10	10½
Royal Swedish	10½	11½
Do. Preference	3½	3½
Sambre and Meuse	9½	10
Do. 5½ per Cent. Preference	11½	12½
San Paulo Brazilian guar. 7 p. c.	39½	40½
Do. 5½ p. c. Debenture Stock	130	132
Smyrna and Cassaba, Limited	22½	23
Do. 7 per Cent. Preference	26	26½
Southern Brazilian Rio Grande	—	—
Do Sul Guaranteed 7 per cent.	21½	22½
Varna	2½	3
West Flanders	11	12
Do. 5½ per cent. Preference	11½	12½
West. of Buenos Ayres 6 p. c. Bds	110	112
Do. do. 5 p. c. Mort Deb.	91½	93½

LAND COMPANIES.

Canada Company	83	85
Canada North-West Land	2½	3½
Natal Land and Colonization	4	5
Newfoundland Land	½	½
Otago and Southland Investment	1½	2
Peel River Land	83	85
Scottish Australian Investment	195	205
South Australian	60	63
S. Austrln. Land Mort. & Agency	2½	2½
Van Diemen's Land	24	26

TELEGRAPH SHARES.

Anglo-American Preferred	52	53
Do. Deferred	10½	11½
Cuba, Limited	11½	11½
Do. 10 per cent. Preference	18	19
Eastern 4 per cent. Debent. Stock	101	103
Eastern Exten. 6 per cent. Debent.	106	109
Great Northern of Copenhagen	13½	13½
Indo-European, Limited	34	35
London P. Brazilian, 6 p. c. Deb.	100	103
Reuter's, Limited	6½	7½
Submarine	190	200
Do. Ditto Scrip	—	—
West India and Panama 1st Pref.	8½	9
Western Union of U.S. 1 M. Bonds	123	127

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It is, however, with infinite reluctance that I surrender the trust which your kindness has confided to me, and which nothing but the consciousness that I am no longer in a position to fulfil it would have induced me to resign.

In ceasing to be your member, I desire most heartily to tender to all classes of my constituents my warmest thanks for the courtesy and good-will which I have ever met with both from political friends and foes, and to assure my numerous supporters that I shall ever bear in most grateful remembrance the generous indulgence and hearty friendship, as well as the cordial and energetic support which they have on all occasions extended to me.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,
Your obedient and grateful servant,
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