

THE ST. JAMES'S GAZETTE

An Evening Review and Record of News.

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DRURY LANE.

DRURY LANE.—AUGUSTUS
HARRIS, Lessee and Manager.
EVERY EVENING, at 7.25, and EVERY MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, and SATURDAY, at 1.25, **THE FORTY THIEVES**. The best Pantomime ever produced at Drury Lane, the finest spectacle ever seen, and played by the best and funniest company ever gathered together.

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 8.0, **THE HARBOUR LIGHTS** (394th time). Mr. William Terriss, Messrs. Garden, Maclean, Lyndal, Boleyn, Campbell, Russell, Wentworth, Travers, &c.; Mesdames Millward, Achurch, C. Jacks, Leigh, Brennan, Carter, &c. At 7.15, **FAMILY JARS**. MORNING PERFORMANCE Saturday next, at 2.

GAITY.

GAITY 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 Farien, Fay Templeton, Agnes Delaport, Sylvia Grey, Lottie Collins, McNulty, Barlow, Wilson, Beale, Selwyn; Messrs. Fred Leslie, E. J. Londen, 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.—**GAITY 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**. Preceded, by 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** (324th time), by Robert Buchanan. Messrs. THOMAS THORNE, Carleton, Thorne, Farquhar, Melish, Grove, Wheatman, and **LEONARD BOYNE**; Mesdames Larkin, Leclercq, Venne, Forsyth, and K. Rorke. At 7.45, **NEARLY SEVERED**. MATINEE every SATURDAY, at 2.30.

STRAND.

STRAND THEATRE.—FANNIE LESLIE.—EVERY EVENING, at 8, a New Musical Variety Drama, in Four Acts, entitled **JACK IN THE BOX**, written by Geo. R. Sims and Clement Scott, in which Miss FANNIE LESLIE, Mesdames Florence West, Sallie Turner, Queenie Norman, and Amy McNeil; Messrs. Yorke Stephens, H. Parker, J. Beauchamp, L. Waller, C. Ward, M. H. Grahame, A. Lewis, A. Warden, and J. A. Arnold will appear. New Scenery. Preceded by Comedietta, BY SPECIAL REQUEST, by T. M. Watson. Box-office open from 10 to 5.—**MORNING PERFORMANCE** on SATURDAY NEXT, at 2.

AVENUE.

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

HAYMARKET.

HAYMARKET.—Lessees 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 Coult, Mr. Fenton, Mr. Ferrand, and Mr. H. Beerbohm-Tree; Miss Mary Rorke, Miss Lydia Cowell, and Miss Marion Terry. Booking-office open daily ten to five. No fees. Doors open 7.30.

ST. JAMES'S.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. HARRIS and Mr. KENDAL. **THIS EVENING**, at 8.20, will be performed a New and Original Comedy in Three Acts, written by A. W. PINERO, called

THE HOBBY-HORSE.

The characters by Mr. Hare, Mr. Waring, Mr. Mackintosh, Mr. B. Gould, Mr. A. Sims, Mr. C. W. Somerset, Mr. Hendrie, Mrs. Gaston Murray, Mrs. Tree, Miss Webster, Miss Huntly, and Mrs. Kendal. Preceded by, at 8, **A CASE FOR EVICTION**. Misses Webster, Huntley; Mr. Waring.—Box-office 10 till 5. Doors open 7.30. Acting-Manager, Mr. Huys.

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. W. S. Penley, Chas. Glenney, M. De Verney, Wilfred Draycott, and W. J. Hill, &c.; Mesdames 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.

THE LODGERS.—Special Matinée, WEDNESDAY, Feb. 10, at 3.—**GLOBE THEATRE.**

CRITERION.

CRITERION THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. CHARLES WYNDHAM. At 9, **DAVID GARRICK**. Mr. CHARLES WYNDHAM; Messrs. G. Giddens, W. Blakeley, and David James; Mesdames 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 Saker. Doors open at 7.30. N.B.—MATINEE of **DAVID GARRICK**, on SATURDAY NEXT, at 3 o'clock. Doors open 2.30.

COMEDY.

COMEDY THEATRE.—Sole Lessee, Miss MELNOTTE.—**LAST NIGHTS.**—**THIS EVENING**, at 8.0, **THE BEGGAR STUDENT**, an Original Comic Opera, in Three Acts. Music by Carl Millocker. English version by W. Beatty-Kingston. Seats may be secured at the Box-office (open 10.0 to 5.0) and at all Libraries.

THE BEGGAR STUDENT.—**LAST NIGHTS.**—Notwithstanding the enormous success of this Comic Opera, it CANNOT BE PERFORMED AFTER THIS WEEK.—**COMEDY THEATRE.**

COMEDY THEATRE.—MYNHEER JAN.—In active preparation, for production on MONDAY next, Feb. 14, a new Comic Opera, in three acts, entitled **MYNHEER JAN**, written by Harry Paulton and Mostyn Tedde. Music by Edward Jakobowski. The cast will include Messrs. Harry Paulton, Frank Wyatt, Joseph Tapley, Sidney Harcourt, De Lange, Mous. Marius; Miss Camille D'Arville, Mme. Amadi, Miss Kate Munroe, Miss Amy Martin, Miss Emma Broughton, Miss Annie Wilson, Miss M. Richardson, Miss Alice Lethbridge, Miss Melnotte. The Dances arranged by Mons. J. Hansen (by kind permission of the directors of the Alhambra Theatre). Entirely New and Elaborate Scenery by Mr. T. E. Ryan. The Costumes from designs by Lucien Beshe, executed by Mons. and Mme. Alias. An augmented Band and Chorus, conducted by Mons. Auguste Van Biene. Box-office now open.

ROYALTY.

ROYALTY THEATRE, DEAN-STREET (two minutes' walk from Piccadilly-circus).—Under the management of Mr. WILLIE EDGOUT. **TO-NIGHT**, at 8.45, **MODERN WIVES**, an adaptation, by Ernest Warren, of "Le Bonheur Conjugal," with the following powerful cast: Messrs. Willie Edgout, Lytton Sothorn, Morton Selten, F. H. France, Edward Thirlby; Mesdames E. Brunton, Olga Brandon, Marie Hudspeth, V. Bennett, Eva Wilson, and Alice Atherton. Preceded by, at 7.45, **THE COMING CROWN**. Box-office 11 to 5. (Seats may be booked one month in advance.) Doors open 7.30. Carriages 11. MATINEE SATURDAY NEXT, at 2.30.—Sole Lessee, Miss KATH SANTLEY.

COURT.

COURT THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. JOHN CLAYTON and Mr. ARTHUR CECIL.—**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 8.0, by **THE NETTLE**. Box-office open daily from 11 to 5. No fees.

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

MATINEE OF DANDY DICK every Saturday, at 2.30.—**COURT THEATRE.**

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 **RUDDIGORE**; 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.

SAVOY.—**EVERY EVENING** and SATURDAY AFTERNOON, **RUDDIGORE**, performed by the Company of the Savoy Theatre. Messrs. Rutland Barrington, R. Temple, R. Lewis, H. Henry, and Durward Lely; Mmes. Leonora Braham, Jessie Bond, J. Findlay, and Rose Brandram. Musical director, Mr. F. Cellier; Stage Manager, Mr. W. H. Seymour.

TO-DAY and TO-MORROW, at 2.30, **SPECIAL MORNING PERFORMANCES** of Mr. W. S. Gilbert and Sir Arthur Sullivan's New Opera, **RUDDIGORE**, by Mr. D'O'ly Carte's New York Company, prior to their departure for America on Saturday next. The company consists of the following artists:—Messrs. George Thorne, F. Billington, F. Federici, L. Kloss, and Courtice Pounds; Mesdames Geraldine Ulmar, Kate Forster, A. Jenoure, and Elsie Cameron.—**SAVOY THEATRE.**

SAVOY.—The private boxes, stalls, balcony stalls, and first circle seats left for the morning performances of **RUDDIGORE**, by Mr. Carte's American Company, **TO-DAY and TO-MORROW**, are now on sale at the Box-office of the Theatre and at the Libraries.

OLYMPIC.

OLYMPIC.—MR. EDWARD TERRY'S SEASON.—At 9.15, **THE CHURCHWARDEN**; at 8, **THE TWO BLINDS**; at 8.05, **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.

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, E. W. Thomas; Mesdames Dorothy Dene, Bella Titherage, 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.

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The JANUARY and FEBRUARY NUMBERS of **MURRAY'S MAGAZINE** are NOW PUBLISHED, and contain the following interesting and ORIGINAL PAPERS.

LORD BYRON'S LAST VERSES, written at MISSOLONGHI a few days before his death.

LORD BYRON'S Recollections of MADAME DE STAEL.

LORD BYRON'S Poetical Introduction to LARA.

LORD BYRON'S LAST WORDS ON GREECE.

SIR WALTER SCOTT'S Letter to Lord Byron on his Poem of the "CORSAIR."

WILLIAM GIFFORD'S Letter to Lord Byron on "CHILDE HAROLD."

MR. MATTHEW ARNOLD on GENERAL GRANT.

MURRAY'S MAGAZINE is published MONTHLY at ONE SHILLING, and can be had at all BOOKSELLERS' and RAILWAY STALLS.

NEW NOVEL, "MAJOR LAWRENCE," by the Hon. EMILY LAWLESS, Author of "HURRISH."

THE BISHOP OF CARLISLE on the "CHURCH HOUSE."

LADY MACDONALD'S TRIP by CAR and by COW-CATCHER at the opening of the CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY.

A DAY'S COVERT SHOOTING IN JANUARY, by E. S. H.

A SKETCH FROM LIFE of AN IRISH PARISH PRIEST.

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THE ST. JAMES'S GAZETTE.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1887.

MR. MORLEY ON JURY-PACKING.

WHEN Mr. MORLEY rose to address the House of Commons last night his hearers might reasonably expect that at last the monotony of irrelevant talk would be broken by a speech of some practical importance. Here was a man to whom perfect sincerity and complete honesty of purpose are attributed: a man who combines some practical experience with much reading, and who has held, and no doubt hopes again to hold, an important executive post under the Crown. Surely we might now hope for something better than the repetition of stale party recriminations, and the enunciation of vague theoretical arguments, devised to support a proposition the practical consequences of which have been steadily ignored. The utterances of practical statesmanship and of counsel founded on a knowledge of affairs might be gratefully awaited as a change from the shallow rhetoric and idle invective which have been dinned into our ears ever since the meeting of Parliament. If any such expectations were formed, they were grievously disappointed. When Mr. MORLEY sat down the practical discussion of the Irish question had not been advanced by a single step; and every attentive listener must have felt that, if Mr. MORLEY is to retain his reputation for sincerity, he can only do so at the cost of his reputation for soundness of judgment. If Mr. MORLEY gives a sincere vote for Mr. PARNELL'S amendment solely upon the grounds set forth in his speech of last night, he stands convicted of a want of judgment so lamentable as to unfit him not only for a return to an important administrative post, but also for giving an opinion worth listening to on any great practical question.

Mr. MORLEY'S remarks on the important subject of Irish juries are particularly well fitted to illustrate the defects which marked every part of his speech. The facts with which he had to deal are that in some parts of Ireland the Government has made a considerable use of its right to challenge jurors, and that the jurors who have been challenged were in most cases Roman Catholics. The conclusion which he drew from the facts is that the Government is greatly to blame, and that the people of Ireland have a just cause of complaint. The Irish law officers are held up to the scorn and indignation of mankind for avowing that the power of challenging was used in order to obtain "jurors who would convict." Of course the statement of the law officers was that it was desirable to obtain jurors who would convict, if they were satisfied of the guilt of the accused. They would allege that the power of challenging was used for that purpose only, and that is the purpose for which it is intended.

Does Mr. MORLEY say that the Government of Ireland have used the right of challenging in order to procure the conviction of innocent men? He does not dare to say so. His Irish supporters have said so often enough. But no honest man can repeat that wicked falsehood. Mr. MORLEY knows that the only object of those who have challenged jurors in Ireland on behalf of the Crown has been to secure such jurymen as will acquit the innocent and convict the guilty. He also knows that there are large numbers of jurymen who would not observe their oaths; that there are some parts of Ireland where it is impossible to obtain an honest jury at all, and that there are other parts of Ireland where it is almost impossible to find a Catholic juror who is not either an open friend to crime and disorder or the helpless victim of intimidation. Mr. MORLEY knows well that if he were now Chief Secretary, and if every office at Dublin Castle were filled by Morleys, a frequent use of the challenging power of the Crown would be absolutely necessary to obtain jurors who could be trusted to observe their oaths. What are the possible courses open to the Government in Ireland if they are not to exercise the right of challenging? They might demand the abolition of trial by jury in Ireland; or they might acquiesce in the decision of criminal trials by perjured conspirators, and allow all serious crime to go unpunished in districts where the League is omnipotent. Does Mr. MORLEY suggest the first course? No. Does he suggest the second? No. Neither does he in any way suggest that there may at the present time be a third course. He contents himself with inveighing against the Government, in the actual presence of the heads of the Irish conspiracy, and in the hearing of all the malcontents in Ireland, for taking the only course which it was possible for them to take under the existing circumstances: moreover, the course which he himself must have taken unless he would dispense with trial by jury or acquiesce in the impunity of crime. Are such invectives the language of a man of practical sense, or of a man whose judgment has been in the slightest degree strengthened or developed by official experience?

Mr. MORLEY considers that the Irish question lies, to use his own phrase, "in a nutshell." Where there is a real grievance,

illegitimate resistance will continue until a legal remedy is provided. He understands his own maxim in a slightly different sense—namely, that the continuance of illegitimate resistance proves the existence of a grievance. Therefore he believes Ireland to be suffering under a grievance which the concession of Home Rule could remove, although neither he nor any one else can state definitely in what that grievance consists. Determined to surrender if he can find any one to surrender to, he condones the system of robbery and intimidation known as the Plan of Campaign; at the same time threatening us with worse forms of secret conspiracy if we suppress the Plan. He declines so much as to consider the probable effect on the social condition of Ireland of filling a Home Rule Executive with a mob of Irish-American adventurers; and he rails at the Government for having taken legal means to avoid an admitted danger, for the avoidance or mitigation of which he can suggest no other practical step of any kind whatever.

'WARE ROUGHS!

How long it will be before the political Thinker will discover that the Social Democratic Federation is justified in its Plan of Campaign we have yet to learn; but judging from all appearances the time is at hand. The Social Democrats have taken to rioting, and to the theft and the destruction of other people's goods—which, however, they maintain are rightfully their own, because they created them; and since they openly break and defy the law, the Thinker's assumption in the case of Ireland follows in this case also. There *must* be a grievance or there would be no such violations of law and order. It is better to consider whether the Socialists are justified from their own point of view before we resort to the old and brutal methods of coercion. This is what we expect to hear a little later on if Mr. Morley's views obtain any extension to the claims and the operations of Mr. Champion and his associates; and certainly there is no obvious reason why they should not.

But it is too soon, perhaps, to ask the capitalist—meaning the shopkeeper—to acquiesce at the call of justice in such riotings as went on last night in Blantyre in the north and London here in the south. How far the Lanarkshire miners were actuated by the Socialist philosophy we do not yet know; all we do know is, that they adopted the Socialist Plan of Campaign—the same that was inaugurated exactly a year ago, to a day, in the West end of London, the same that was again put in operation in the north of London last night. In fact, the rioting in the Goswell-road and its neighbourhood was intended to commemorate and repeat the scenes of terrorism and plunder which distinguished the 8th of February, 1886, from all other days of the year. The original intention was to hold a torchlight procession, which was to march along Fleet-street and the Strand to the West-end thoroughfares. For what purpose? To remind the West-end shopkeepers of what had happened before, and hint to them that it may happen again. That was the purpose. But what would have been the result, probably? A repetition of the scenes of February last. As it was, the procession was forbidden and broken up; upon which the rowdy element in the baffled meeting, which we may be pretty sure looked for a more or less lucrative "lark" in Mayfair, turned off from Clerkenwell-green and marched into the Goswell-road. There are no bloated aristocrats in that neighbourhood, and not many blooming capitalists; but there were some large plate-glass windows to smash and shops of some sort or other in great plenty to break into. So to work went the more unbridled spirits of the Social Democratic party, and thoroughly enjoyed themselves before they were dispersed.

The Socialist leaders will say that they had nothing to do with these other riots, and very much deplore them. However that may be, they are all according to the Socialist Plan of Campaign, for which the leaders of the "party" are by no means irresponsible. But there would be little reason to take any notice of these men but for the fact that they work upon a larger mass of rowdiness and ruffianism than London has ever known before. There is the danger; and it is one that will have to be dealt with rigorously if it is not to develop into something very serious indeed. In October last, a writer in this paper, a man thoroughly acquainted with his subject, told us of a vast and rapid change for the worse in the East-end of London. He then said that there was nothing to be feared from "the genuinely unemployed." "The danger comes from the roughs, the loafers, and the class—a compound of rough and loafer—who make a profession of being 'the unemployed.' These people assume the character with a view to 'scooping' the lion's share of any public or charitable provision that may be made for those of the really labouring poor who are in distress from want of work. The rough of the period is a much more difficult and dangerous personage to deal with than was the typical rough of even five or six years ago. He has been got at by the lowest class of revolutionary agitators; and to the rough these men speak very plainly indeed. They preach to him that self-help in its most literal and direct meaning is the first law of nature. They tell him in so many words that all property is the creation of the people, and by right belongs to them; and the roughs, always addressed as 'the unemployed,' are the people. Such doctrine as that suits these gentry 'down to the ground.' Opportunity occurring, they are quite prepared to better the instruction of their teachers." The same writer further said that "the increasing disposition of the rough to organized violence is not a difficult matter to understand. He has been taking lessons from Ireland. He has seen that violence and outrage, systematically carried on, have wrested material 'concessions' from the powers that be, and he has laid the moral to heart. But here, no doubt, as in higher matters, race tells. The English rough is as yet a long way behind the Irish patriot. True, it is, however, that his inclination towards organized violence has increased, and is increasing rapidly; and in many cases he has already adopted

the modern method of justifying violence by political pretences expressed in revolutionary jargon."

As to what is to be done, the same authority—and we do not know of any better—said: "A knowledge on the part of the roughs, and of those who work upon them, that 'the authorities' were prepared to strike promptly, swiftly, and heavily not only against proceedings calculated to endanger the public peace, but also against incitement to such proceedings—a knowledge to this effect would be the best of guarantees for the preservation of order. And it would be a distinct gain to the honest labouring poor—the real unemployed; for any attempt at rioting would be certain to be made in their name, and with the result of alienating from them the sympathy and the aid to which their misfortunes entitle them." In any case, "the roughs, and more especially the spouters who incite them to violence, should be brought to a check. The rough in his later developments is becoming more of a power than a good many people seem to be aware of; and the sooner a stern though scrupulously just policy is adopted in dealing with him the better."

These are words of wisdom; and after this second outbreak it is to be hoped that they will be taken to heart. For exceptional crimes, exceptional measures, promptly and vigorously applied.

NOTES.

"If this should meet the eye" of any Unionist elector of Hanover-square who has not yet voted, we trust he will straightway proceed to the nearest polling-place and exercise his privileges as a citizen. And, lest he should think that there is not the least necessity for this exertion on his part, because Mr. Goschen is sure to come in with plenty of votes to spare, let him note what some one having knowledge says in to-day's *Times*. This writer points out that in the first place the Separatists have been making immense exertions, and will certainly poll every available vote. Secondly, many of the Unionist electors of St. George's are out of town just now. Thirdly, many of them will be engaged elsewhere, and will not come back to their division because they regard Mr. Goschen's return as quite safe. And, finally, Conservatives and Liberal Unionists should remember that a small majority will be a very poor success for the united party. A "moral victory" over the Gladstonians is only to be secured by a large surplus of votes for the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

The Bulgarian Blue Book disposes of the monstrous charge that Lord Salisbury had been induced by the Queen to pursue a policy which is absurdly called "Battenbergism." There is nothing whatever in their action, as revealed in these despatches, which the Government need be afraid to submit to the judgment of the country. Lord Iddesleigh's attitude needs no defence. Prince Alexander up to and after the kidnapping *coup* of the 21st of August, was the lawful Prince of Bulgaria, nominated to the throne by the European Powers. Until he was legally deposed, or had abdicated, each of the Powers had both the right and the duty to maintain that he was the Prince of Bulgaria. This was all that the Government did. They continued to assert that the brutal kidnapping plot could not invalidate Prince Alexander's right to his throne. When the Prince had voluntarily quitted the country the case was different. There is not the slightest ground for asserting that the English Government attempted to get the Prince restored after his departure from Sophia on the 7th of September. The statement that they did so—still more that they did so at the instigation of the Queen—is simply false.

For the rest, the Bulgarian correspondence is chiefly interesting as an example of the diplomatic methods adopted by the Russian Foreign Office. The official Russian narrative of General Kaulbars' proceedings could not be more impudently false if it had been written by a hired Russian journalist instead of by the Minister for Foreign Affairs. Fortunately we have side by side with it the official English account. It is obvious that one side or the other is telling downright and deliberate untruths; and happily there is only a small minority of Englishmen who will believe that English consular agents send home lying reports. But the story of the Russian Chancellery is too transparently impossible to deceive anybody. Perhaps it is not even meant to do so. When we are told that General Kaulbars had to fulfil the yearnings of the Bulgarian people for protection from the Regency we can see that it was scarcely thought worth while to make out a probable tale.

Mr. Peter Rylands is one more of the old Radicals gone. We cannot say that he was always a wise politician, or that he often took broad and statesmanlike views of public questions. But he was a man who knew what his principles were, and stuck to them with the rugged tenacity that was the best characteristic of the political school in which he was trained. You knew—to use an expressive colloquialism—where to have him; whereas you never do know where to have the Neo-Radical, with his flaccidity and his open-mindedness about every possible question. Mr. Rylands did not bear an "open mind" on matters which he regarded as of first importance. On the contrary, it was shut fast and locked, and the key was not placed in the custody of whips and wire-pullers. Consequently, when the leader of his party gave the signal for the most astounding "strategic movement to the rear" ever executed in English politics, he declined to obey. With a courage and energy almost equal to Mr.

Goschen's own, he fought the battle of the Union at the last general election; and being, as all the world knew, a consistent and "advanced" Radical, his valiant efforts had the effect on the public mind which they deserved.

For the second time within the last twelve years the French have shown that they have learnt something in the stern school of adversity. As in 1875, when there was also a great German war scare, the attitude of the French continues to be marked by the most careful discretion. Even the Parisian journalists are silent, or are only blowing off their steam upon us, which does not so much matter. In the Chambers they are so anxious not to utter anything offensive to Prince Bismarck that they say nothing at all. When the vote for General Boulanger's additional credit of eighty million francs came on it was passed in complete silence without the least attempt at discussion. Seventeen years ago such self-control could hardly have been expected from a French Republican Assembly. It is very much to be commended.

Poor Mr. Henry M. Stanley! They have actually thought in Cairo that this peaceful voyager rather likes a little fighting. He has taken a large number of Remingtons and a machine-gun with him, and they imagined that he was going to use these weapons. "They had overlooked the quality of the men who would handle the Remingtons, and having confused ideas of my own character—from the descent of the Congo—had concluded that I simply meant to run amuck through hostile Africa until I reached Emin." These "confused ideas" will be cleared up. Mr. Stanley—so he says in his interesting letter to-day—will go by the Congo to rescue Emin, and there will probably be no fighting. Good.

While we are building one People's Palace in the East-end, and projecting another at Kensington, the oldest of all these places of popular recreation is in dire straits. The Crystal Palace is practically insolvent. It has had to be placed in the hands of an official receiver. At present the business will be carried on as usual; but of course if the receiver finds that it involves a continual deficiency, he will have to get rid of it. In that case the great glass building will be pulled down, and the eligible site may be covered by villa residences. This seems a pity, and many Londoners who do not frequent the Palace will sympathize with the appeal issued by Major Flood Page and Sir George Grove. The Crystal Palace is an historical structure, and is associated with thirty eventful years of the nation's life. It certainly ought not to be allowed to disappear. But its fate is a warning to too ambitious promoters of institutions for amusing and educating "the people."

A case of some interest to ratepayers of slender means came before the magistrate at the Wednesbury Police Court yesterday. A man was summoned for refusing to pay the poor rates. According to the statement of the rate-collector, the amount due from the defendant on account of the rate amounted to upwards of £2. The defendant wished to pay this sum in sixpenny and threepenny pieces. The rate-collector, however, declined to accept payment under these circumstances—on the ground that it was not a legal tender. The case was nevertheless dismissed by the magistrate, who ruled that a public official should have accepted the payment as offered. This decision commends itself to common sense. Rate-collectors should in these hard times be glad to get the money they demand in any shape.

A correspondent writes:—A reply made by the First Commissioner of Works to Mr. Howard Vincent in the House of Commons last night suggests a celebration of the Queen's Jubilee that would certainly be more appropriate than nine-tenths of the schemes that have so far been proposed. Arrangements have been made, says Mr. Plunket, by which the roadway through St. James's Park from Marlborough House Gate to Storey's Gate at Westminster will be thrown open to public traffic in the course of the next few days. In the old Hebrew commonwealth the essence of the idea of a jubilee was freedom and the removal of bars and bolts. Might not the opening of this road across the royal demesne be followed by a similar movement on the part of the landowners of Pimlico and Bloomsbury and other parts where obstruction reigns rampant and the soul of persons hurrying to catch trains is much and unnecessarily vexed by unforeseen objections. Would her Majesty conspicuously head the movement herself by throwing open Constitution Hill—a *via sacra* which, as we all know, could not in former days be traversed even at the price of an Irish barony?

Although the debate on the Address is not yet finished (and when it will be finished is beyond the most experienced parliamentary prophet to foretell), 160 measures, mostly those of private members, have been read a first time in the House of Commons. How many will be read a second time and how few will ever be carried to the Lords are questions which the session will solve; but the immediate point of interest about this deluge of Bills is the ubiquity of our legislators. They wander from the qualifications of vestrymen to the pensioning of stipendiaries, from steam-boilers to the nomination of suffragans, and from sites for churches to the cultivation of tobacco in

Ireland, without taking breath. No concern of man's existence is left alone; for even in the commonplace department of food there are Bills which deal with the adulteration of beer, deep-sea oysters, butter substitutes, and "herb and ginger beer." The preservation of hares is partly a question of food and partly one of sport; which latter development of human energy is further attended to by Bills affecting rod-fishing in Scotland and access to mountains in the same country. It may by some be regarded as significant that all the four Bills which mention bankruptcy are specifically confined to Ireland.

Mr. Walter Besant, in the *Contemporary Review*, corrects some popular misconceptions. He informs us, for instance, that the average Englishman (as well as the average Englishwoman) has no recreations whatever, except it be whist and billiards. When he is not working, he is eating, drinking, smoking, reading the newspaper, or playing billiards or whist. Further, he states that except in the houses of professional literary men nobody takes the least interest in literature or art. Mr. Besant has studied "All Sorts and Conditions of Men," and his information is of course correct. Still there is a pretty general impression that such "recreations" as music, singing, painting, dancing, private theatricals, riding, skating, lawn-tennis, rowing, cricket, and football, are pursued by a good many English people in various ranks of life. But perhaps this is an error.

The tragic seems to verge on the ludicrous once again when we read that a number of Melanesian labourers, who were being taken back to the Solomon Islands at the expiration of their contracts, ate up the entire crew of the vessel conveying them. The crew in question consisted of Paratongans and other Polynesians. The shocking event will produce great excitement throughout Oceania. The Solomon Islanders are in great request as labourers because of their physical strength and docility, and it was supposed that the influence of the missionaries and other Europeans had entirely eradicated their old cannibal habits. But inherited tendencies are not to be got rid of all at once. The civilization of all these Polynesians is a thin veneer on the top of a solid fabric of original barbarism. Experience has shown again and again that the tamest savages are always capable of a sudden relapse into their old customs.

The Bill to amend the Appellate Jurisdiction Act which is now before the House of Lords revives the old dispute about life-peers. Among the law lords (or Lords of Appeal, as they are technically called) are certain salaried persons known as Lords of Appeal in Ordinary. At present a Lord of Appeal in Ordinary sits in the House only so long as he continues in his office as such; and one object of Lord Halsbury's Bill is to extend the time of his capacity to sit and vote for the term of his life. The proposed enactment is retrospective as well as prospective, and in the former sense it is avowedly intended to apply to the case of Lord Blackburn. The Bill was read a second time on Tuesday afternoon, and in a somewhat desultory discussion the life-peerage question was once more raised. That the principle is involved is beyond question. But the fact that the first person to be affected by the rule would be such a distinguished peer as Lord Blackburn went far towards facilitating the passing of the Bill. It is not likely to meet with opposition elsewhere.

Our correspondent "A Candid Radical" writes to us as follows:—You may have observed that, by a curious coincidence, the very afternoon on which you published my letter on "Music-Hall Politics" furnished an illustration of my views. One of your contemporaries devoted two whole columns of its yesterday's issue to a description of a music-hall singer, and of the great popular song "Two Lovely Black Eyes." And observe, Sir, a remark made in the introductory part of the article: that which presumably expresses the views of your contemporary itself on the coming interview. "No one really gets to the heart of the people"—of the people, Sir, mark that!—"like a comic singer." What did I tell you? "More of the music-hall element in your own columns." Take my advice before it is too late. Coborn is successfully exploited already; but there are great singers still unexploited. Act on my friendly hint, and admit that I am right in my estimate of the spirit of the age.

Among the most popular of the Salvation Army entertainments is the comic wedding. It always "draws," and our correspondent "A Candid Radical" would doubtless point to it as one more example of the prevalence of the music-hall spirit in this great and enlightened democracy. Yesterday there was a big performance of this kind at Clapton. "Colonel" Clibborn and "General" Booth's daughter were united in the bonds of comic wedlock. Of Miss Booth it is reported that "her career as a fervent soul-saver began early." She started the business (it is a business and apparently rather a profitable one) of fervently saving souls at "The Cat and Mutton Bridge," over the Regent's Canal. Subsequently she has acted as one of the Continental agents of Mr. Booth's establishment for the supply of religion, cheap underclothing, and Salvation Army "dry goods." Specimens of the stones flung at her by natives of the Continent who dislike noises and frowsy processions in the streets were exhibited yesterday. It was in the course of her Continental voyage that Miss Booth found her young affections captivated by the gallant colonel who was also "travelling" for the firm in Queen Victoria-street. The marriage went off

with great *éclat*. There was a large attendance, and comic hymns in several languages were sung with enthusiasm. Subsequently there was a breakfast for 800—at 2s. a head.

The Civil Service Commissioners have made a curious discovery. It is that the candidate who successfully passes his examination is not always the person who, under the same name, enters upon the clerkship which the "pass" secures. In future, therefore, it is said, all candidates for the Civil Service will have to send in their photographs, so that these may be compared with the persons who claim the clerkships. It is notorious that Civil Service examinations are not the only ones in which this trick is played. It is said to be well known at the Scotch universities; where, however, there is more risk of its being found out. In the medical preliminary examinations, where thousands of candidates enter, it must be comparatively easy, and probably it is not unknown in some of the London University examinations.

POLITICS AS A POPULAR AMUSEMENT.

A RECENT article of ours, entitled "Clowning at Westminster," seems to have excited a good deal of attention. Here is another communication on the same subject:—

A writer in the *St. James's Gazette* laments the "toleration which the House of Commons extends to mere buffoonery," but finds it "difficult to explain." I think it may be explained very easily. Politics has become a popular entertainment, and as a people we are easily amused.

You see this in every walk of life. Vulgar humour of the stalest kind makes the public laugh just as much as the finest wit can do. Of course it will be said that there are different kinds of wit and humour for different kinds of people. I don't know about that. In a theatre you have an audience which may be supposed to represent the British public in its many varieties. Yet what pleases the stalls is just what pleases the gallery. The Savoy operas—though in turn they make fun of all the virtues—are clever, and they are successes. But the burlesques and most of the three-act farces are very far from clever, and they are successes too. The funniest thing in "Ruddigore" does not make the house "roar" more than do the witticisms put into the mouth of Mrs. John Wood at present at the Court Theatre; and, of all her remarks, the one that convulses the audience most is to the effect that she loves horse-flesh, even though it be but a little cat's-meat at the end of a stick. When this kind of thing is accepted with delight, why should our dramatists be ambitious? It is quite true that when Sheridan's or Goldsmith's comedies are revived in London they are well patronized; but if you would look upon this as a sign that real wit is appreciated when obtainable, you should not go to the theatre where old English comedy is being played. If you do, you will find that it is not Sheridan's words that "bring the house down," but the gag with which the company adulterates them. Our old English comedies, as seen on the stage nowadays, are little better than adaptations from the original. Take the screen scene in "The School for Scandal." The point where the laughter comes in is when Sir Peter points to the screen and makes a noise like that of a clucking hen. Then he and Charles wink and dig each other in the ribs. Do you think that that is Sheridan's "business," any more than that the ejaculations "Lady Teazle, by all that's wonderful!" "Lady Teazle, by all that's horrible!" "Lady Teazle, by all that's damnable!" are his? The audience give free vent to their hilarity over such innovations, and are not afraid to be seen doing so; for they think it must surely be safe to laugh with Sheridan. Of course there is a public who do know the grain from the chaff, and only enjoy humour which is humour; but they are a very small minority. They are constantly confused, too, with the persons who personate them; for there is a great public who want to be considered superior. These are wary of laughing over comic operas from the French; but they revel in French comic opera business when they get it in a performance of "She Stoops to Conquer."

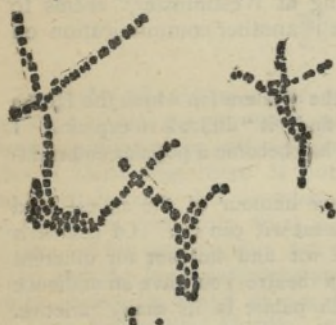
There are about half a dozen jokes which will amuse the English public always. First, there is the mother-in-law joke. Hundreds of novels, plays, and "social sketches" have rung the changes on it. Both sexes seem to enjoy it; tourists take it with them to Switzerland, sportsmen to the Highlands, families to the seaside, and they bring it back again. A joke in the same excellent taste is the one about mothers "hooking" husbands for their daughters. As for our amusing stories, we have a good many really clever ones. But if you want to make your average Englishman uproariously hilarious, tell him about somebody who fell into a cucumber-frame, or into a puddle, or into a water-butt.

Seeing, then, that the comic party out of Westminster are so much appreciated, why not the comic party in it? Assuredly Mr. Labouchere and his new lieutenant, Mr. Graham, do not soar above the comprehension of their public. The writer of the *St. James's* article on "Clowning at Westminster" is too hard on our M.P.'s. Speaking of Mr. Graham's vulgar and flashy performance, he says: "In respect of taste and ability, as well as in its usefulness as a contribution to the transaction of public business, his speech was exactly on a level with a political song at a music-hall." That is sadly true; but then he continues, "and a music-hall is about the only place outside the House of Commons where such a performance would be likely to receive a patient hearing." I question that. Mr. Graham's speech would have been vehemently applauded on almost any public platform. People would have laughed over it in a review. The clerical Mr. Grahams are among the most popular ones. And why be so severe against the music-halls? There are many persons who would "much rather die" than enter one of these places of entertainment, but who nevertheless applaud vigorously when the very songs and dances of the music-halls are given them in theatres—as they are given wholesale just now. Nay, was not a company of the highest in the land invited the other day to the new club to hear a music-hall singer sing "Two Lovely

Black Eyes," which is the success of all the pantomimes this year? There is, I admit, one kind of humour, of which the Sarcastic Party in the House of Commons have a monopoly. As the writer in question put it, Mr. Graham "imparted the necessary flavour of profanity into his performance by making irrelevant Scripture quotations in the middle of the funniest passages." Others do the same thing. Their Scripture quotations are generally inaccurate; which, however, is understood only to add to the fun of the thing. So far as I know, this part of the comedian's business is omitted even from the music-halls. There are, it must be remembered, such things as music-hall licences, while St. Stephens is "protected."

ON THE TRACK OF A COCCUS.

THE history of the investigation into the scarlatina epidemic which broke out in South Marylebone, Hampstead, and St. Pancras in November and December, 1885, is as interesting in its way as any detective story that was ever told. Three expert medical detectives—Mr. W. H. Power, Dr. Cameron, and the famous Dr. Klein—were told off by the Local Government Board to hunt down the offender; and with unwearied patience, the skilful following up of clues, and masterly penetration into the meaning of apparently trivial facts, they succeeded in finding him out. Behold him—the



insidious and deadly streptococcus, the slayer of innocent children and the destroyer of happy homes. A streptococcus, we may explain, is a chain-coccus: that is, a number of cocci, or micro-organisms constituting the virus of a disease, strung together chain-wise.

When the aforesaid epidemic broke out, suspicion fell upon the milk supplied by a certain retailer in South Marylebone. His customers were severe sufferers; and it was shortly found that among the victims of the epidemic were the customers of certain other retailers drawing their supply from the same source. These coincidences pointed to a farm at Hendon as the original seat of the infection.

But when the detectives went there, what did they find? That the place had been for years under the special supervision (at the cost of one of the retailers) of the medical officer of health for the district; that the West Middlesex Company's water was laid on to the farmhouse, to the dairy, and each of the cowsheds; that special attention was paid to the wholesomeness—as regards drainage, cleanliness, ventilation, and the like—of the house, the farmyard, the cowsheds, and the dairy; that the utensils were regularly and thoroughly cleansed by hot water or steam; that the health of the farm-people was specially watched by the medical officer with a view to the early detection of any malady among them that might possibly affect the milk; that there was a separate shed for any sick cow, and another for the observation of newly arrived animals—a sort of quarantine: in short, they found a highly organized model dairy. Clearly they were "off the rails." The farmer repudiated the idea that the milk he supplied could have caused the epidemic; and so far as could be observed he was right.

Still, there was the ugly fact that the victims of the epidemic had all been consumers of the milk from this farm, and from this farm alone. The detectives formed a great resolution. They would examine in the minutest detail the sources and the distribution of the milk, tracing each separate cow's yield into the particular household that finally consumed it; and they would compare the facts thus ascertained with the incidence of the epidemic. Thus it was discovered that only certain milk conveyed the infection (if the milk was the cause at all), and only at certain times. A correspondence was established between particular milkings and particular cases of scarlatina. The next step was to examine the cows which had yielded those milkings; for it appeared likely that something had been wrong with them—though unnoticed by the dairy-people—competent to produce scarlatina in consumers of their milk. And, in point of fact, certain cows were found to be suffering from vesicles and ulcers on the teats and udders. But what of that? What affinity could this affection have with scarlatina?

It was at this stage that the great German pathologist was called in. He fastened at once on the ulcers, examined them microscopically, and traced the local and constitutional development of the disease. He found nothing resembling any symptom of scarlatina, nor by inoculating calves with the virus could he produce scarlatina. Inoculation simply reproduced an identical disease. But under the microscope the virus disclosed its active principle, the streptococcus: him the Doctor forthwith captured and cultivated, in tubes containing either solid nutritive gelatine or Agar-Agar mixture. He thrived prodigiously; and when he had increased and multiplied to a sufficient extent he was inoculated into a number of calves: with the result that a disease was produced in them resembling in many respects scarlatina in the human subject. Next, streptococci were artificially cultivated in milk, with the same result. Many months of patient inquiry were at last yielding their reward. The cow-disease, which was at once the child and the parent of the streptococcus, was not itself scarlatina; the streptococcus, as taken from the cow, could not produce scarlatina; but scarlatina, or something as much like it as could be expected from a calf, was produced by the streptococcus after cultivation in milk. Corroboration of this remarkable discovery was afforded by observations upon two specimens of milk drawn from the same cow at the same time—the one from a healthy and the other from an ulcerated teat. The former was quite wholesome; the latter yielded an abundant supply of scarlatina-producing streptococci.

Thus it is clearly demonstrated that in a dairy where extraordinary precautions were taken against the infection of the milk an obscure

disease affected some of the cows, and, while not contaminating their milk in itself, provided the materials for such contamination in the shape of small external ulcers, the matter from which was carried into the milk by the action of the milker's hand. As the milk came from the cow it was pure; as it fell into the pail it was infected. The organism contained in the particles from the ulcers found in the milk a good medium in which to multiply; and such milk then practically corresponded to an artificial cultivation of the streptococcus, capable of setting up scarlatina in the human subject.

HENRY GEORGE ON IRISH LAND LAWS AND IRISH LANDLORDS.

IT will, no doubt, be somewhat of a surprise to most people to learn that the notorious American apostle of the doctrine of "the land for the people," Mr. Henry George, has appeared in the character of a defender of, or at least as apologist for, Irish land law and Irish landlords—of Irish land law, moreover, as it stood previous to the passing of the Act of 1881. Yet such is the fact. When the Land League agitation was in full swing, in the summer of 1881, Mr. George published a pamphlet in New York—a new edition of which has been recently issued—which is designed to show that the laws governing the tenure of land in Ireland were, even before the passing of Mr. Gladstone's Bill in 1881, not so oppressive as regards the tenants as those of other countries, and of his own country in particular. Says Mr. George:—

If to-morrow Ireland were made a State of the American Union the gain would be to the landlords, the loss to the tenants. Under our laws the Irish landlords could rack-rent, distrain, evict, or absent themselves as they pleased, and without any restriction from Ulster tenant-right or legal requirement for compensation for improvements. Under our laws they could impose whatever terms they pleased on their tenants—whether as to cultivation, as to improvements, as to game, as to marriages, as to voting, or as to anything else. . . . So far as the law can give them to him, every American landlord has these powers as fully as any Irish landlord.

Furthermore, Mr. George points out, the law of America gives the landlord, at the expiration of a lease, "the ownership of all the improvements made by the tenant." The law of Ireland, on the contrary, secures to tenants the right to dispose of their interest in the land. While he admits that in the past Ireland was deeply wronged, he argues that now there is no oppression of Ireland by England, and that Irish distress is not due to any English laws which press on industry more heavily in Ireland than in any other part of the United Kingdom.

Needless to say, Mr. George is no friend of landlords or aristocrats of any kind. Nevertheless he confesses that Irish landlords are no worse—if no better—than their neighbours:—

An aristocracy such as that of Ireland has its virtues as well as its vices, and is influenced by sentiments that do not enter into mere business transactions—sentiments which most often modify and soften the calculations of cold self-interest. But with us (in America) the letting of land is as much a business matter as the buying or selling of pig-iron or of stocks. An American would not think he was showing his goodness by renting his land for low rates, any more than he would think he was showing his goodness by selling his pig-iron for less than the market price or stocks for less than the quotations. So in the districts of France and Belgium, where the land is most subdivided, the peasant proprietors, says M. de Laveleye, boast to one another of the high rents they get, just as they boast of the high price they get for pigs and poultry.

He is even friendly to absentees. He thinks a landlord living in Dublin is as much an absentee to his tenantry in Galway or Kilkenny as if he were residing in London, because he considers it makes no difference to the tenantry where the landlord drinks his wine or smokes his cigars. In the United States, he says, absentees are not unknown, and no one objects; "in New York, in San Francisco, in Washington, Boston, Chicago, and St. Louis, live men who own large tracts of land which they seldom or never see." Emigration he declines to regard as an exclusive Irish grievance. "We hear," he says, "a good deal of Irish emigration; of the millions of sons and daughters of Erin who have been compelled to leave their native soil. But have not the Scottish Highlands been all but depopulated?" And he affirms that Scotland is none the worse for the exodus of her surplus population.

None of the proposals made at the time he wrote—most of which have since become law—for the settlement of the Irish land question found favour in the writer's eyes. Fixity of tenure and tenant-right, he observes, would merely carve out of the estate of a landlord an estate for the tenant. And the fixing of a lower rent by a court would only enable the tenant to charge a higher price to his successor. "Whatever might thus be done for present tenants would be of no use to future tenants, and nothing whatever would be done for the masses of the people." Neither, he thinks, would that popular panacea for Irish agrarian grievances, peasant proprietary, be adequate to the purpose. It would accomplish "nothing real or permanent." For not merely is this too but a partial measure, which could not improve the condition of the great masses of the people or help those most needing help, but no sooner were the lands thus divided than a process of concentration would infallibly set in which would be all the more rapid from the fact that the new landowners would be heavily mortgaged. "The tendency of the time," he says, "is against peasant proprietors: it is in everything to concentration, not to separation. The tendency which has weeded out the small landowners, the boasted yeomanry of England—which in our new States is uniting the quarter-sections of pre-emption and homestead settlers into great farms of thousands of acres—is already too strong to be resisted, and is constantly becoming stronger and more penetrating."

Mr. George's advice to the British Government, enforced in this pamphlet, in dealing with the land laws and the landlords of Ireland, may be summed up in his favourite phrase, to "leave them severely alone." The fact that after its publication he became an ally for a brief period of

the Irish agrarian agitators does not lessen the force of his arguments against their aims and opinions: inasmuch as he advocated the abolition of all private ownership of land, whether by landlords or peasant proprietors, in order that it should be held by the State for the benefit of the whole people; while they held, and still hold, to the doctrine that the present cultivators are the rightful owners of their farms, and as such should be given possession of them by the landlords with as little compensation to the latter as possible—or none at all in that happy time when a Parnellite Parliament will summarily remove them.

Mr. George's advice, however, was not taken; Mr. Gladstone took in hand the settlement of the Irish Land question, and succeeded in unsettling it.

NEW NOVELS.*

"THE OLD HOUSE AT SANDWICH."

THIS is a story of the good old-fashioned kind, in which probability is observed about as closely as in a fairy-tale. A young man goes to an old country town, where he hears at length a very painful family history. Some time afterwards he falls in love with a girl who does not know her own name or family. He goes to America, and quite by chance joins a band of silver-miners. He tells his story to their leader—a Byronic person of great wealth, great violence, and great melancholy—who at once declares that the young lady is his long-lost sister. This is, in fact, the case; but the evidence is so inconclusive, not to say so entirely wanting, and the brother is so very nearly a monomaniac, that any reasonable man might have felt some doubts about the matter. The hero, however, is convinced at once (we hope that the prospect of a great increase of fortune had nothing to do with his conviction), and starts to seek his bride in England. As she was born in Sandwich and lived there till she was six years old, and as she is being kept in ignorance of these circumstances by her wicked stepfather, it is, of course, natural that in Sandwich they should be found. There the hero marries her on the anniversary of her father's murder; while the wicked stepfather is duly shot on the same day in the cellar of the old house. Startling coincidences rain so freely upon us, that we are hardly surprised to find a lady appearing on page 60 with "clear blue eyes that impressed you at first sight" and on page 236 with "premature crowsfeet about her dark eyes," or to see that a fisherman whose name was Digges in the first volume has changed it to Jukes in the second. But we are surprised to find an English lady of aristocratic connections speaking of "the young Count of Ebsworth" apparently as a member of the British peerage. Mr. Hatton's style suffers from a strange grammatical "use"—a variety of "ablative absolute" peculiar to himself. Two consecutive sentences from his fourth page may serve as examples: "Squarely built, of medium height, he had a large head from which fell a thick crop of silky white hair. A rubicund face, short white beard, and genial brown eyes, he had a sensitive mouth; and he stood firmly in his square-toed shoes." If it were not for such dangerous eccentricities of grammar, the book might be recommended for boys.

"BENEDICTUS."

When the opening pages of a novel are occupied by a dedicatory poem to Mr. Robert Browning, and the closing pages by long press notices from leading reviews in praise of the author's previous works, we may reasonably expect to find the book an interesting one. And here the expectation is not disappointed, though the nature of the interest excited is not altogether flattering to the writer. The plain fact is that the author of "Benedictus" does not, to use an Americanism, "begin to know" how to write a novel. It is as a storehouse of unique sentences that her book is remarkable. So extraordinary is her use of some English words that only three explanations seem possible. The first is that she is a foreigner and does not use a dictionary; the second, that she has fallen into the hands of a peculiarly malignant printer and has not corrected her proofs; and the third, that she suffers—as Mr. Edmund Gosse believes that Shelley did—from a form of the disease of memory known as aphasia, which leads her to substitute one word for another of totally different meaning. Sentences like the following may employ an intelligent examiner for hours at a time. They may be parsed, and analyzed, and repunctuated, and transposed, but they still remain "wropped up in mystery," like the birth of Mr. Yellowplush: "The doors remain open, with the same numbers hastily chalked on them at random, as if to injure, or farther to involve the civilization which seems a difficult matter to arrive at." "Not so very much," Estelle said lightly, the fuss of overwork and the pretence and conceit of being overworked were opposed to her sense of what was feminine. It is an important exclamation belonging to certain circles in this century; and not to be overworked, or worn out, or busy, or committee-ridden, often stands to energetic persons as being rather lazy." It would be well for the author of "Benedictus"—though not for her readers, to whom her errors come as a refreshment amid their toilsome pursuit of her meaning—if she would learn to be accurate in such matters as the spelling of proper names, her use of foreign words, and her quotations from the Bible. The novelist is not Miss Austin, but Miss Austen. The adjective *matt* is not French, but German; and "delicately" (or, in the American version, "cheerfully"), not "softly," is the adverb employed to describe the going of Agag. The thee and thou of the Quakers, too, like the thee and thou of English grammar (and all other grammars), is a pronoun of the singular number. No young Friend would dream of saying to a Jewess: "Thee is an interesting people;" nor would any elderly Friend, addressing a group of giggling girls, say: "Are thee settling down,

* "The Old House at Sandwich. The Story of a Ruined Home, as Developed in the Strange Revelations of Hickory Maynard." By Joseph Hatton. Two vols. (London: Sampson Low and Co.)

"Benedictus." By the Author of "Estelle," etc. Two vols. (London: George Bell and Sons.)

dears? That is well, for one of thine own companions will now, perhaps," etc. One negative merit "Benedictus" has: it is not vulgar. Even the hero, though ill-mannered, as the heroes of ladies' novels of the second class seem doomed to be, is not vulgar. He is only very tall, very sulky, and very much like an old Italian painting. Some notion of him may be gathered from the following description, which we recommend to any enterprising tailor:—"His stature is all the more imposing because of the long coat lined with fur, which confers a kind of regality on his distinguished figure."

CORRESPONDENCE.

CAVALRY HORSES.

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

SIR,—Some years since there was an importation of large mustangs from Valparaiso, which were purchased there at £10 each, and with a quantity of compressed sainfoin hay, also brought to England as an experiment, sold by public auction at Hounslow. The horses realized £30 each; the hay £4 a load. I examined the horses with the then veterinary surgeon of the Carabineers, and we came to the conclusion that with another inch or two in height such animals were fit to mount any light cavalry regiment. A company was forming to send out light quick steamers with condensing engines for water, when the war troubles began and the promoters succumbed.

Mr. Gittens, once Consul, exported cart stallions to Rio for the purpose of strengthening and enlarging the breed of horses; and he told me that on visiting a corral where some hundreds of unbroken mares had been driven by the Yankee proprietor for the purpose of slaughter for their hides and fat (as mares are not worked), and wishing to purchase a number to breed from, the Yankee said, "Take them as they come at half a crown a head, pick them, as you want the largest, at three-and-sixpence each." As you are referring to cavalry horses, this may interest some of your readers.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

Hounslow, Feb. 7.

J. R. A. DOUGLAS,
Surgeon-Major 5th Battalion Royal Fusiliers.

THE DEFENCE OF LONDON.

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

SIR,—I trust your notice of Major-General Mitchell's paper in the *Illustrated Naval and Military Magazine* may assist in directing the minds of Englishmen not yet bereft of patriotism and common sense to look steadily at this vital question—the defence of London. I have not yet seen Major-General Mitchell's article: but, from the extracts you give, I fear that, excellent as are his proposals, the price is prohibitive in the present state of public feeling. Five millions is, no doubt, a trifle compared with the object to be obtained—the security of London; and were the country fully alive to the enormous advantage such security would give us in a war against a great naval Power, it would compel the Government to prepare to make London safe at any cost.

Much may, however, be done for far less; and I venture to call the public attention to a lecture delivered at the Royal United Service Institution in May last by Major Elsdale, R.E., in which that officer shows how London may be secured against a *coup de main* for £900,000. His proposal is to run a broad military road along the Dorking ridge on the south, embracing Chatham and Tilbury on the east; then passing by Romford, Broxbourne, Watford, Uxbridge, and Weybridge. The cost of this road, 100ft. broad, with telegraph communication and connected with railways at all available intersections, he estimates at £400,000. This would form a "continuous circle of defence round London, to be held at any point by our existing forces, supplemented by a strong moveable reinforcement of powerful guns of position and machine-guns supplied by good permanent magazines at moderate intervals, with assured communications everywhere. We secure London thereby against a *coup de main*, and force an invader to undertake larger and more extended operations for its capture, involving the continued command of the sea and the occupation of a harbour on the coast as a base of operations." With such a road, magazines, and guns, earthworks could rapidly be thrown up, as by the Russians at Sebastopol. But it would be asked, Why spend any money on the defence of London when so much is required elsewhere? Why not spend all the money we can get on our fleet and army; our true defence being the offensive? The obvious answer to this is, that it is only by securing London from a *coup de main* that we free our fleet and army for offensive operations. Of course, if it were possible to make our fleet strong enough to undertake both offence and defence, that would be the most satisfactory solution, as it would be better for the country not to allow an enemy to land at all.

But on this point I would refer your readers to a short paper on the navy by Admiral Sir Thomas Symonds, dated the 18th of December last, in which he clearly shows that our naval supremacy is a thing of the past. "If in the next war with a naval Power we fail in protecting our supply of food even for a short time, the result would be destruction." This, according to Sir Charles Nugent, is, in a few words, what our fleet would have to do:—"It has to meet the fleets of any nations which may be opposed to us. It has to watch 92,000 miles of communications and to guard the enormous traffic which in 19,311 vessels is passing continually to and fro along these lines of communication. It has to carry stores and reinforcements to our garrisons abroad. It has to protect a coast-line in Great Britain and Ireland 3,000 miles in extent, in which there are between fifty and sixty vulnerable points, of which twenty are of the first importance."

We must not shut our eyes to the fact that an invasion of England is more practicable now than it was when Napoleon formed his camp at Boulogne; and it is reckless folly in us to neglect those precautions by which alone we can guard ourselves against the overwhelming disaster of London falling into the hands of an invader.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

February 8.

GERALD GRAHAM, Lieut.-General.

THE ST. JAMES'S GAZETTE.

FOURTH EDITION.

AMERICAN WAR PREPARATIONS.

(CENTRAL NEWS TELEGRAM.)

WASHINGTON, Tuesday Night.—It is understood that the committee appointed to report on the Fortifications Bill have decided to recommend an appropriation of 10,340,000 dols. for fortifications. This appropriation is to be in addition to the measures passed by the Senate yesterday, appropriating 2,000,000 dols. for similar purposes.

RESIGNATION OF THE SERBIAN MINISTER OF WAR.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

BELGRADE, Feb. 9.—General Horvatovitch, Minister of War, has tendered his resignation in consequence of the rejection by the Military Council of his army reorganization scheme. The resignation has not yet been accepted by the King.

LARGE EUROPEAN ORDER FOR BEEF IN AUSTRALIA.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

BRISBANE, Feb. 9.—A Queensland company has received orders for 15,000 cases of tinned beef. It is believed that they are intended for consignment to the Continent.

EXPLOSION OF BOMBS IN LYONS.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

PARIS, Feb. 9.—A telegram from Lyons states that two bombs exploded there yesterday, in the Rue St. Jean, behind the Palais de Justice. The bombs had been placed against a railing adjoining the office of the Commissary of Police. Immediately after the first explosion the Commissary and two policemen rushed out and were slightly injured by the bursting of the second bomb. Witnesses have been examined who declare that they saw three persons loitering about in the vicinity of the Palais de Justice. One of the perpetrators of the outrage must have been somewhat seriously injured, as traces of blood were discovered for a considerable distance. A telegram to the *Soleil* states that eight persons have been arrested in connection with the outrage, and that several of these were wounded by the bursting of the bombs. It is added that at the same hour a bomb exploded at St. Etienne, beneath the windows of the inspector of police in the Palais de Justice.

THE CLERKENWELL RIOTERS.

At the Guildhall Police Court this afternoon, before Alderman Sir James Clarke Lawrence, Robert Butlin, aged twenty, describing himself as a coal-porter, was charged "with riotous conduct, and being concerned with others not in custody in breaking windows at 24 and 169, Aldersgate-street, and damaging the iron railings in front of the shop, No. 64." Mr. Crawford, the City Solicitor, who prosecuted, having intimated that he would apply for a remand, said that he should to-day call evidence to prove that the prisoner was the ringleader of some 300 men who, having left the gathering at Clerkenwell-green last night, proceeded in the direction of the City. On reaching Aldersgate-street the mob commenced to smash windows, and in one case they tore down the iron bars of a shop and broke them to pieces. Two detectives, however, arrested the prisoner, and were thus the means probably of quelling what might have been a serious disturbance. The police were not now in a position to prove who did the actual damage. The prisoner shouted out, "Now for the windows;" but as on his arrest the detectives were surrounded, they were unable at the moment to identify those who followed his instructions. If a remand were granted, the police hoped to bring before the court three or four persons who committed the damage; in which case the charge would take a different shape to that now preferred. Thanks to the precautions taken by the Commissioner of Police, the rioters were resolutely met on the confines of the City, where the police immediately stopped and dispersed the mob as far as they were able. For that reason comparatively little damage was done.

Detective John Jones stated that last night he was on duty with another policeman named Rouse at Aldersgate-street. He saw a crowd of 200 or 300 people come along. They commenced to run through Crompton-street. Several windows were broken with stones. He saw the prisoner at the head of the crowd and heard him shout, "Windows." The effect of that was that the mob immediately began to throw stones at the windows. The rioters moved on to Aldersgate-street, the prisoner being at the head of them the whole time. Stones were then thrown in all directions. They were picked up from heaps lying at different places. The witness did not see them picked up; but he saw stones thrown at the windows of Messrs. Peters and Co., 168, Aldersgate-street, and he believed the glass was "starred." He also saw stones thrown with similar results at the windows of Messrs. Goodlake, 169, Aldersgate-street. The plate-glass window of the Vertical Feed Sewing Machine Company's premises, 24, Aldersgate-street, was "starred." At the premises of the Hat Manufacturing Alliance, No. 64, some bars to the window were pulled down by the crowd, and broken. During the whole of the time the prisoner was leading the mob. The witness seized the prisoner while he was running in the centre of Jewin-street at the head of the crowd. The prisoner stopped running and walked on to the pavement. The witness caught hold of him and said, "I am a police officer; you will have to go with me to the station." He said, "You've made a mistake. I've only just left off work; I'm going home." The witness was then surrounded by the mob, and an attempt was made to rescue the prisoner. The prisoner said "I will go quietly." Stones and sticks were used. The witness did not receive a blow himself, but others did. At the station, the prisoner made no answer to the charge; but he afterwards said to the inspector on duty, "What are we to do? They [the police] are always following us about; we are not allowed to beg—we mustn't steal." The witness had ascertained that the prisoner was out of employment. In answer to the prisoner, the witness said he did not see him throwing any stones, but he saw him leading the crowd.

The case was adjourned for a week.

POLLING FOR ST. GEORGE'S DIVISION.

The polling to fill the vacancy caused in the St. George's, Hanover-square, Division, by the retirement of Lord Algernon Percy (Conservative), opened this morning, the candidates being Mr. Goschen (Unionist) and Mr. Haysman (Gladstonian). The voting was comparatively slow at first, but both parties are working hard, and are employing vehicles to bring up voters. Amongst those who lent carriages to Mr. Goschen's committee were Lady Salisbury, Lord Waterford, Lord Galloway, Lord Charles Beresford, the Dowager Lady Stanley, Lord Bramwell, the Duke of Portland, Mr. Tomlinson, M.P., Lord Bath, Sir Graham G. Montgomery, Lord Yarborough, and Mr. W. H. Smith. Mr. Haysman's committee had carriages lent by Sir Walter Phillimore, Mr. Seymour Keay, Dr. Gutteridge, Mr. T. Quinn, M.P., and Mr. Cyril Dodd. Mr. Goschen arrived at his chief committee-room at nine o'clock, and Mr. Haysman was at his some time earlier. There was not much excitement displayed, and party colours were worn only in few instances. It is not expected that the poll will be as heavy as at the last contested election, in November, 1885, when the numbers were—Lord A. Percy (C.), 5,256; Sir W. Phillimore (L.), 2,563. The counting of the votes will commence at half-past eight, and the result will be declared to-night.

As the day advanced the number of voters arriving at the polls increased considerably, many availing themselves of the carriages lent for the occasion. The streets also presented a livelier appearance. At the polling-station at St. Michael's Schools the voting during the first two hours progressed at the rate of nearly two hundred votes to the hour, and very nearly the same rate was maintained at St. Peter's School.

One o'clock.—The polling is now proceeding briskly throughout the constituency, and the thoroughfares in the neighbourhoods of the polling stations are alive with vehicles engaged in bringing up the voters. There has been quite a congestion of traffic outside Mr. Goschen's central committee-rooms, and carriages have been driving up throughout the morning, to be lent for the purposes of the election. So great, indeed, was the supply of vehicles placed at Mr. Goschen's disposal, that they became before the morning had far advanced a positive embarrassment. As they arrived they were despatched to the various committee-rooms and polling-stations; but at all these points the party agents soon had much more carriage accommodation than was needed.

The constituency numbers 11,079 electors, whose votes will be polled as follows:—In-ward of the parish of St. George, Hanover-square, at the St. George's Institute, Little Grosvenor-street, taking the numbers 1 to 1,858 at polling station No. 1, and at polling station No. 2 from 1,859 to 3,880. In the Knightsbridge Ward, from 3,881 to 5,880 will poll at St. Peter's Schools, Lower Belgrave-street, and the out-ward of the same parish at the St. Nicholas schools, Ebury-square; No. 1 polling station taking the numbers from 5,881 to 8,522, and No. 2 covering the remainder, from 8,523 to 11,079.

All Conservative and Unionist voters are urged not to fail to record their votes for Mr. Goschen. A correspondent, writing to the *Times* from St. Stephen's Club, says:—

It must be admitted that unless extraordinary exertions are made the Unionist party throughout the country will be humiliated. A considerable number of the more affluent and opulent electors of the constituency are out of town. Taking it for granted that the return of the Chancellor of the Exchequer is absolutely safe, the majority of these electors will not think it necessary to take the trouble to come to town to record their votes. Judging by the spirit of the Unionists generally in St. George's, I shall not be at all surprised if several of them who are to be found about the clubs fail to realize that it is their duty to poll. The result will be that the country will be taught to believe that Mr. Gladstone's schemes of separation are growing in favour among the people.

THIS DAY'S PARLIAMENT.

The Speaker took the chair in the House of Commons at twenty minutes past twelve.

Sir W. Cunliffe Brooks took his seat for the Altrincham Division of Cheshire.

THE DEBATE ON THE ADDRESS.

Mr. Tuite resumed the debate on Mr. Parnell's amendment to the Address. He contended that the Plan of Campaign was the only defence from ruin of many of the poor tenants in Ireland. He reprobated coercion as an incitement to outrage, and attributed the present diminution of outrages to the existence of the Plan of Campaign and to the hope in Ireland that Home Rule would yet be carried.

Lord Ebrington condemned the Plan of Campaign as a kind of dishonesty which poverty could not justify. He could not see any difference between it and the No Rent manifesto which was suppressed by a Liberal Government. Having spoken in favour of the emigration of the poorest tenants, he condemned Home Rule as it was interpreted by the Irish members, and said that unless the Nationalist members gave up their talk about national independence, it would be difficult for any party in the House to co-operate with them.

Captain Colomb stated that he lived in one of the very congested districts of Ireland, and from personal experience he was in favour of emigration. He did not think that any one believed that emigration was the one panacea for the ills of Ireland, but it was part of a programme to restore a healthy economic state when the population was too much for the land to maintain. He gave an account of his own experience in aiding Irish families to emigrate, and agreed with the remarks of Lord Hartington that the British Government might with local co-operation and assistance do much to promote emigration. The tenants he had assisted to emigrate had done well, and had written to their friends in Ireland urging them to follow their example.

THE TESTING OF ARMS AT PORTSMOUTH.

A Portsmouth correspondent telegraphs that a series of tests are being carried out on board her Majesty's gunnery ship *Excellent*, of swords, cutlasses, and Enfield revolvers, recently supplied to that port. There is reason to believe, it appears, that the revolvers are defective, as well as the cutlasses. There are four tests applied to the latter. First they are dropped point downwards from a height of 12 ft. on to an iron slab; secondly, iron slabs are beaten by the flat of the weapons; thirdly, the weapons are bent by the point towards the hilt; and, fourthly, they are fired at with pistols. The tests applied to the bayonets are more severe. First, the point is inserted for about two inches in an iron socket, and a 56-lb. weight dropped on the hilt; then the point is driven into a piece of wood, and the weapon is thumped in the centre with a heavy implement made for the purpose; and, thirdly, the bayonet is struck heavily across a bar of iron. The correspondent says that very few weapons have stood these tests up to the present.

CABINET COUNCIL.

A Cabinet Council was held at the Foreign Office at eleven o'clock to-day, Lord Salisbury presiding. All the Ministers except Lord Ashbourne were present. The Council did not break up until ten minutes to two, having thus sat for nearly three hours.

THE QUEEN AND THE THEATRE.

Truth says that there are to be a couple of theatrical performance in the Rubens Gallery at Windsor Castle in May, and hears that Mr. and Mrs. Kendal will again be "commanded" for one of them, and possibly Mr. and Mrs. Bancroft for the other, but nothing has yet been definitely settled. The Queen is very anxious to see "Faust," and *Truth* understands that either next month or in May there will be a private performance at the Lyceum on a Wednesday afternoon for the exclusive benefit of her Majesty and any members of the royal family she may think fit to invite.

THE ASSOCIATED CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE

The meeting of the Associated Chambers of Commerce was resumed to-day. The first subject of discussion was the proposed Imperial Institute. A resolution supporting the project was adopted and ordered to be sent to Sir Frederick Abel. A resolution in favour of appointing commercial attachés found on seconder.

THE MINING RIOTS IN SCOTLAND.

A telegram from Glasgow this morning says that up till noon all was tranquil in the mining districts of Stonefield and Blantyre to-day. The Lanarkshire rioters were struck with terror at the prompt action of the authorities. A strong force of Glasgow police, special constables, and hussars is patrolling the district. Seventeen arrests were made. Two of the prisoners are in a dangerous state through swallowing stolen liquor. The damage to property is estimated at £3,000. Night policemen are guarding Glasgow to-day. It is not expected that rioting will be renewed. The miners are idle, and determined to remain so.

ARMED RESISTANCE THREATENED TO EVICTIONS IN IRELAND.

From Ennis it is reported to-day that for the past few days there has been intense excitement in county Clare over the threatened evictions on the property of Colonel O'Callaghan, at Bodyke. It is positively stated that an organized band of 1,000 men, armed with rifles, is ready at a moment's notice to assemble and offer resistance to the police and soldiery who may attempt to protect the sheriff. It is the general opinion that should the evictions be proceeded with there will be a serious disturbance.

APPREHENSION OF A BURGLAR.

The premises of Mr. Davenport, a wholesale jeweller, of 48, Clerkenwell-road, were burglariously broken into last month, and a quantity of diamond rings and other jewellery, valued at £2,000, were stolen. Last evening the police apprehended a man and recovered some of the jewellery, valued at £50. It is expected that other arrests will be made.

THE SALFORD GAS SCANDAL.

At a meeting of the Salford Town Council this morning several deputations appointed at meetings of ratepayers were introduced, and they expressed the feeling which prevailed in the borough with respect to the scandals in connection with the gas department. They demanded that an independent inquiry should be made, and that the whole of the gas committee should resign. The mayor stated that the corporation had already ordered an inquiry, and asked the deputations whether that inquiry would not satisfy the ratepayers. The deputations replied that it would not, and that an independent inquiry must take place, and that the scope of it must not be confined to the conduct of Mr. Hunter, but must include also the conduct of the gas committee. The deputation retired while the council considered the matter.

ST. MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS AND THE FREE LIBRARIES ACT.

The overseers of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, in compliance with a requisition signed by several of the ratepayers, have issued a notice for the vote of the parishioners to be taken to-day to decide whether the Free Libraries Act shall be adopted in that parish. The voting-papers will be called for to-morrow morning.

POSTPONEMENT OF RACING AND COURSING MEETINGS.

The Four Oaks race meeting has been postponed on account of the frost; while the Second South Lancashire (Southport) Coursing Meeting has been abandoned from a similar cause.

THIS DAY'S MONEY MARKET.

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

There is a fair inquiry for money in the open market, and short loans are quoted 2½ per cent, while the rate of discount is 2¼ to 2½ per cent.

Quarter past Two.

The Stock Markets opened with an uncertain appearance, attention being engrossed with the progress of the Settlement; but there is now more steadiness, although Foreign Securities are slow to respond to the improvement in other classes. Consols are 1-16 per cent. better for money and the account. Home Railways are mostly better, but only to a moderate extent. A considerable rise is shown in Grand Trunk of Canada and Mexican Railway stocks; the former being bought for to-morrow's traffic return and the latter on the favourable return issued yesterday and on the easy Settlement. Foreign Government Securities opened weak and still show a slight decline, but are above the lowest prices on a firm market being reported from Vienna. American Securities show a want of decision. Suez Canal shares are dull with other international securities, and Ottoman Bank shares are rather easier.

The following are the changes as compared with yesterday's closing prices:—In the English Funds, Consols for money have risen 1-16 to 100½ to 100%, and the account (March) 1-16 to 100 9-16 to 100 11-16. Reduced and New Three per Cents. are unchanged at 101 to 101½; the New Two-and-a-Half per Cents. are also unchanged at 83½ to 88½.

In Home Railways, Great Eastern has risen ¼, Great Western ¼,

Lancashire and Yorkshire ¼, Chatham Preference ¼, North-Western ¼, Midland ¼, North British ¼, and North-Eastern ¼; but Caledonian has fallen ¼, Great Northern ¼, Sheffield Ordinary ¼, Metropolitan ¼, and South-Eastern Deferred ¼. In Canadian and Foreign Railways, Grand Trunk Ordinary has risen ¼, the First Preference ¼, the Second ¼, the Third ¾, the Guaranteed ¼, Canadian Pacific shares ¼, Mexican Ordinary 1¼, the First Preference 1¼, and the Second 1¼.

In Foreign Government Bonds, Egyptian Unified has fallen ¼, the Preference ¼, the Daira Sanieh ¼, Greek of 1881 ½, Hungarian Gold Rentes ¼, Italians of 1861 ¼, Mexican Old ¼, Peruvian of 1872 ¼, Portuguese Three per Cents. ¾, Russian of 1873 ¼, Spanish Four per Cents. ¾, Turkish Group II. ¾, and the III. and IV. 1-16; but Uruguay Unified has risen ¼, and Argentine of 1871 ½.

In American Securities, Central Pacific shares have fallen ¼, Milwaukee ¼, Louisville ¾, New York Central ¼, Erie ¼, the Second Mortgage Bonds ¼, and Ohio and Mississippi shares ¼; but Pennsylvania have risen ¾, Reading ¾, Wabash Ordinary ¼, and Denver ¼.

The Eastern rates of exchange are:—Bombay, 1s. 5½d.; Calcutta, 1s. 5½d.; Hong Kong, 3s. 4d.; and Shanghai, 4s. 7¾d.

The Alliance Bank (Limited) have opened a branch in temporary offices at 185, Earl's-court-road, and they will move to-morrow into their new premises which have just been erected for them in Sloane-square for their Chelsea branch. A branch has also been opened at 30, Victoria-road, Battersea Park-road.

The half-yearly report and accounts of the North London Railway Company show gross receipts £241,682, as against £241,737 in 1885; expenditure £111,303, against £112,689 in 1885. The directors recommend a dividend of 2¼ per cent. on First Preference stock, 2¼ on Second Preference, and 3¼ on Ordinary stock, carrying forward £2,976.

The half-yearly report and accounts of the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Company show gross receipts £1,991,222, as against £1,901,862 in 1885; expenditure £1,091,340, against £1,090,353 in 1885; leaving a balance available of £339,761. The directors recommend a dividend of 4 per cent. per annum, carrying forward £31,901.

The half-yearly report and accounts of the London and North-Western Railway Company show gross receipts £5,423,395, against £5,363,924 in 1885, and expenditure £2,775,423, against £2,737,076 in 1885, leaving available for distribution £2,085,181. The directors recommend a dividend of 4 per cent. on the Guaranteed stock, 4 per cent. on the Preference, and 7 per cent. on Consolidated Preference, carrying forward £87,238.

ENGLISH GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.

Consols	100½	100½
Ditto Account (March)	100 9-16	100 11-16
Reduced Three per Cents	101	101½
New Three per Cents	101	101½
New Two-and-a-Half per Cents	88½	88½
India Stock Four per Cent.	102½	102½
Ditto Three per Cent.	85½	85
Ditto Four per Cent. Rupee Paper	70½	71
Ditto 4½ per Cent. Rupee Paper	72½	73
Bank of England Stock	997	999
Metropolitan 3½ per Cent.	106½	107½

COLONIAL GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.

Canada 4 per Cent. of 1910-35	104	105
N.S. Wales 4 p. C. of 1903-5-8-9-10	101½	102½
N. Zealand 4 per Cent. Cons. Ins.	93½	94½
Queensland 6 per Cent. 1891-95	106	118
S. Australian 4 p. Ct. of 1894-1916	99	101
Tasmanian 6 per Cent. of 1893-1901	106	120
Victoria 4½ per Cent. of 1904	105	107

AMERICAN SECURITIES.

United States 4½ per Cent. Bond	112½	112½
Ditto Four per Cent.	130½	131½
Virginia Funded Bonds	52	53
New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio First Mortgage Bonds	44½	45
Central Pacific Shares	37	37½
Chicago, Milwaukee, and St. Paul	93½	93½
Denver and Rio Grande Shares	25	25½
Illinois Shares	135½	136½
Lake Shore and Michigan Southern 100-dol. Shares	96½	96½
Louisville and Nashville 100-dol. Shares	61½	61½
New York Central Shares	114½	115½
New York, Lake Erie, and Western 100-dol. Shares	32½	32½
Ditto Preference Six per Cent	65½	69½
Ditto Second Mortgage Bonds	99½	99½
New York, Ontario, and Western Shares	17½	17½
Ohio and Mississippi Shares	26	26½
Oregon and California Seven per Cent. Preference Shares	18½	18½
Pennsylvania Shares	56½	56½
Philadelphia and Reading Shares	19½	19½
Ditto General Mortgage Bonds	102½	103½
Union Pacific Shares	57½	57½
Wabash, St. Louis, and Pacific Ordinary Shares	26	16½
Ditto 100-dol. Preference	27½	28½

BRITISH AND FOREIGN RAILWAY STOCKS.

Caledonian	97	97½
Great Eastern	66½	67
Great Northern Ordinary	114	115
Ditto A	99½	100½
Great Western	135½	135½
Lancashire and Yorkshire	114½	115½
London and Brighton Ordinary	125½	126½
Ditto A	110½	110½
London, Chatham, and Dover Ord.	21½	21½
Ditto 4½ per Cent. Preference	98½	99
London and North-Western	102½	102½
London and South-Western	125½	126½
Manchester, Sheffield, & Lincoln	64½	65½
Ditto A	35½	35½
Metropolitan	108½	108½
Metropolitan District	37½	38½
Midland	124½	125
North British	96½	96½
North-Eastern	153½	154½
North Staffordshire	124½	125½
South-Eastern Ordinary	102½	102½
Ditto Deferred	102½	102½
Grand Trunk of Canada Ordinary	12½	12½
Ditto First Preference Stock	75½	75½
Ditto Second Preference Stock	57½	57½
Ditto Third Preference Stock	29½	29½
Ditto Guaranteed	72½	72½
Canadian Pacific Shares	63½	64
Buenos Ayres & Pac. 7 p. Ct. Shares	23½	24½
Ditto 7 p. Ct. Debentures	125	128
Lombardo-Venetian	7½	7½
Mexican Ordinary	48½	49½
Ditto Eight per Cent. First Pref.	112½	113½
Ditto Six p. Cent. Second Pref.	70½	71½
Ditto Six per Cent. Perpetual Debenture Stock	117	119

MISCELLANEOUS SHARES.

Australian Agricultural	119	124
Anglo-Am. Brush Light (63 paid)	2	2½
Hudson's Bay	22½	23½
National Discount	10½	11
Peninsular and Oriental Steam	62	64
Royal Mail Steam	37	39
Suez Canal	76½	77½

FOREIGN STOCK MARKETS.

Argentine Six per Cent. of 1868	100½	101½
Ditto Six per Cent. of 1871	101	102
Ditto 6 p. Cent. Hard Dol. Bond	72	73
Austrian Four p. Ct. Gold Rentes	86	87
Ditto Five per Cent. Silver	61½	62½
Brazilian Five per Cent. of 1865	99½	100½
Ditto Five per Cent. of 1871	98	99
Ditto Five per Cent. of 1875	98	99
Ditto 4½ per Cent. of 1883	93	94
Buenos Ayres Six per Cent. of 187	98½	99½
Ditto Six per Cents. of 1873	97½	98½
Chilian 4½ per Cent. Conversion	97½	98½
Chinese Six p. Ct. of 1895, March	106	110
Ditto Six p. Cent. of 1895, June	107	109
Costa Rica 5 per Cent. Bonds A	65	67
Ditto B 4 p. Ct. now 5 p. Ct. 1888	56½	57½
Egyptian Three p. Ct. Guaranteed	98½	99
Ditto Five p. Ct. State Domain	90½	90½
Ditto Four per Cent. Unified	69½	69½
Ditto Five per Cent. Preference	92½	93½
Ditto Four p. Ct. Daira Sanieh	66½	67
Entre Rios 6 p. Ct. 1886	89	90
Ditto 6 p. Ct. Ry. Mortgage	92	94
French Three per Cent. Rentes	76	77
Ditto 4½ per Cent. of 1872	105½	106½
Greek Five per Cent. of 1879	77½	78½
Ditto Five per Cent. of 1881	57	58
Ditto Five per Cent. of 1884	57	58
Hungarian Gold Rentes of 1881	74½	74½
Italian Five per Cent. of 1861	91	91½
Mexican Old Three per Cent.	25½	26½
Ditto of 1864	11	11½
Norwegian Four per Cent. of 1860	102	104
Peruvian Six per Cent. of 1870	13½	13½
Ditto Five per Cent. of 1872	10½	11
Portuguese Three per Cent.	50½	50½
Russian Five per Cent. of 1871	92	93
Ditto Five per Cent. of 1872	91½	92½
Ditto Five per Cent. of 1873	91½	91½
Ditto 4½ per Cent. of 1875	86	87
Santa Fé 5 p. Ct. N. C. Ry. Mort	95	97
Ditto 5 p. Ct. Extensions Mort	89	91
Spanish Four per Cent.	65	66½
Ditto Two per Cent.	46½	46½
Swedish Four per Cent. of 1860	101	103
Turkish Six per Cent. Group 1	19½	20½
Ditto Nine per Cent.	2	13½
Ditto Six & Five per Ct. 384	13	13½
Ditto 4½ p. Ct. Tribute Loan of 1871	68	68½
Ditto Five per Cent. of 1854	91	93
Ditto Five per Cent. Defence	79	79½
Uruguay Unified Five p. Ct. of 1853	46½	46½

BANKS.

Anglo-Egyptian	14½	15½
City	18½	19½
Colonial	32	34
Consolidated	7	7½
Imperial Ottoman	9	9½
London and County	83	84
London and Westminster	61½	62½
London Joint Stock	36	37
National Provincial (612 paid)	49	50
Union of London	35	36

MINING SHARES.

Cape Copper	31	23
Indian Consolidated	3½	1
Mason and Barry	7½	7½
Montana	8	8½
Mysore Gold	6½	6½
Ooregum Gold	3½	1
Richmond Consolidated	4½	4½
Rio Tinto	10½	10½
St. John del Rey	30	33
Tharsis Sulphur	3½	4
United Mexican	2½	3½

TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE SECURITIES.

Angle-American	32	32½
Brazilian Submarine	10½	10½
Consolidated Telephone	3½	3½
Direct United States	7½	8
Eastern	10½	10½
Eastern Extension	10½	10½
Globe Ordinary	4½	4½
Ditto Preference	11½	11½
India-rubber, Gutta-percha, and Telegraph Works	23	24
Oriental Telephone	3-16	5-16
Telegraph Construction	38	39
United Telephone	12½	12½
Western and Brazilian	7½	7½

TRAMWAY SHARES.

Dublin	10½	11
Glasgow	13½	13½
Liverpool Un. Tram. and Omnibus	17½	17½
London	18	18½
London Street	20	20½
North Metropolitan	20½	21

THE EUROPEAN SITUATION.

The special military credits of 191,000,000 fr.—including the 86,000,000 fr. for the new rifles and the 30,000,000 fr. for the navy—passed the French Chamber yesterday without a word of discussion. There had been a suggestion of postponing them till after the German elections; but it was pointed out that the effect, if any, on the elections had been already produced, and that a postponement might be construed as an intention to vote still larger sums. A formal contradiction is given to the statement that Prince Bismarck had advised M. Herbetie that the best method of averting war was to insist upon the Chamber discussing the law on cereals before dealing with the Boulanger credits. The *Times*' correspondent says that Prince Bismarck, so far from asking the French Cabinet to make this declaration directly or indirectly, had given the advice not to do anything, and not to appear to try and hamper him. By a decree issued yesterday General Boulanger's favourite creation, the Cercle Militaire—an institution which has not a little contributed to his popularity in the army—is converted into a Government institution under the dependency and control of the Minister of War.

In Berlin the situation is still regarded as reassuring so far as France is concerned; but there was, nevertheless, a relapse on the Bourse, due chiefly to the rumour which affected the London Stock Exchange—namely, the impending placing of Alsace-Lorraine under a state of siege.

There was another relapse on the Vienna Bourse yesterday, caused by the reported statement of Count Moltke as to the gravity of the situation. The Vienna correspondent of the *Times* says that language of this kind is beginning to strike the public in that country as contrasting most unfortunately with the peaceful professions made by Prince Bismarck.

Bearing in mind what Prince Bismarck's character formerly was, articles and speeches which are at variance with his own spoken sentiments are necessarily taken here to mean either that the Chancellor is insincere or that he has lost his power. Everybody knows how he treated Count Arnim; everybody knows with what brutal energy he has been accustomed to inflict *démentis* on newspapers, native or foreign, which attributed to German policy objects different from those which he wished it to appear that he was pursuing. If, therefore, Count Moltke and the newspapers speak of war while Prince Bismarck himself talks of peace, it can only be, according to Viennese opinion, that the Chancellor does not mean what he says, or that he has no longer the power of enforcing what he means. The truth is, that Germany's conduct is not understood, or at least is viewed as revealing an amount of vacillation in Prince Bismarck which shakes public confidence in that statesman.

The *Standard*'s correspondent says that the opinion he quoted from an eminent authority, that Prince Bismarck would soon question France as to whether she would remain neutral in the case of an Eastern conflagration, is corroborated to a certain extent by a London telegram to the *Press*.

The latter states that Prince Bismarck informed M. Herbetie that a declaration on the part of the French Cabinet to the effect that France would observe a strict neutrality in the event of a war breaking out in the Balkan Peninsula would have a pacifying effect in Germany. In this form the statement can hardly be correct; for such a declaration would only bind the Minister making it, whereas Prince Bismarck desires to obtain such a pledge in the name of France. The German Chancellor, in fact, intends to ask for a formal State Treaty between France and Germany, binding the former to keep neutral in case of a war in the East, and whenever the Chancellor finds the moment has arrived when the question of war or peace has to be decided upon, the above-mentioned query will be put, and will, if rejected, serve as a *casus belli*.

In the Belgian Chamber yesterday the Premier proposed as an item of expenditure a vote of 20,000,000 fr. for the cost of the new armament of the infantry and of the improvement of the fortifications of Liège and Namur. This is to be reckoned as an instalment of one-third of the sum required for increasing the military contingent when necessary. A Government loan to meet military expenditure is spoken of, and it is said that the King will shortly visit England. For the construction of works for the defence of Copenhagen the Danish Government demands sixty millions of crowns, to be spread over a period of five years. The ordinary Army and Navy Estimates are not included in this demand, nor are the four millions of crowns required for new firearms for the infantry.

THE BULGARIAN QUESTION.

Another meeting was held at Constantinople yesterday, at which the Grand Vizier, M. Zankoff, and M. Voulkovitch, the Bulgarian Diplomatic Representative, were present. Artin Effendi, Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, also attended. The Bulgarian delegates came to the Porte at the time the conference took place; but they were not invited to take part in the deliberations. The discussion lasted three hours, and a protocol of the proceedings was signed. It is reported that they came to an agreement embodying the following points—namely, (1) the reconstruction of the Regency; (2) the formation of a Coalition Ministry, which shall decide whether it is necessary to proceed to new elections for the Sobranje, or whether the present Assembly shall be maintained; (3) the recognition of the three parties to be represented in the Government; and (4) the representation to the Sobranje of three candidates for the throne, including the Prince of Mingrelia. There is some discussion also as to a fifth point, whether or no a Russian general shall be appointed Minister of War. The *Kreuzzeitung* learns from a good source that General Kaulbars is preparing to return to Bulgaria, in which case drastic measures will be taken to reassert Russian influence. This, it is thought, might conveniently be done by expelling or imprisoning some twenty influential persons who, from their positions at Sophia, are believed to dominate the whole country.

NORTHAMPTON AND THE QUEEN'S JUBILEE.

The Northampton Town Council last night was engaged in discussing proposals for the Queen's Jubilee. The recommendation of the committee that some of the common lands of the borough should be converted into a Jubilee Park in commemoration of the Jubilee received strenuous opposition. The mayor was asked to move the adoption of the report, but said he had no wish to, and a Radical councillor proposed the next business. The deputy-mayor and another Radical councillor both seconded this proposition. Councillor Campion, as an amendment, moved the adoption of the report. The deputy-mayor said the Queen had been a very wise woman; she had been careful not to involve herself in any unpleasant consequences with regard to her Governments, and he did not wish to deprive his fellow-townsmen of their holidays and festivals on this remarkable occasion. Councillor Purser (Radical) said her Majesty had sometimes leaned too much to one party in the State, but generally she had acted wisely in taking the advice of those in power. Only four members voted for the Jubilee proposal. Ultimately it was decided to call a town's meeting to consider the enlargement of the School of Art and Free Library.

THE MINISTERIAL CRISIS IN ITALY.

The resignation of the Italian Ministry was announced in the Chamber of Deputies yesterday. It is generally believed that Signor Depretis will again be entrusted by the King with the formation of a Ministry, but it is considered that the task will be a difficult one. The correspondent of the *Times* says:—"The withdrawal of Count Robilant from the direction of foreign affairs will be at this juncture a new menace to European tranquillity, as no successor could command at once the influence at home and abroad which he possesses, or could in this crisis perform the duties of the office successfully." Both in Berlin and Vienna the resignation of the Depretis Ministry is regarded with uneasiness and anxiety. Numerous reports have been received from Paris and St. Petersburg, showing the great satisfaction felt in those capitals at Italy's difficulties in Abyssinia. The Vienna correspondent of the *Standard* says:—

The resignation of the Depretis Cabinet is represented as due in part to the intrigues of Russia in Abyssinia, and M. Katkoff is thought to have every reason to rejoice at the event, and to make a boast of the "good work" done among the Abyssinians by the Russian emissary, the Cossack Hetman Aschinois, who has just returned home, leaving behind him a few Cossacks to aid the Negus against the Italians at Massowa. This view may, perhaps, be a little far-fetched; but there is no doubt that if ever a Foreign Minister was odious in the eyes of Russia it was Count Robilant. This arose from his having published in a recent Green Book his famous despatches on the Bulgarian question—despatches which were everywhere received with delight, except at the Court of St. Petersburg. Apart from this matter, however, the fact that Count di Robilant was in Berlin and Vienna thoroughly trusted to go with the Powers opposing Russian aggression was of itself sufficient to account for his unpopularity with the Russians. Another important point was the engagement given by the Italian Government vigorously to suppress Irredentism, so that in case of an Eastern War Austria felt quite secure against any danger arising from that source. It is not known whether there were written pledges in existence to this effect, and whether the Depretis Cabinet had engaged to follow a certain course of a nature calculated to benefit Austria in case of a Russian war and Germany in case of a French war, in return for certain pledges on the part of the two central empires; but, at all events, any such engagements could only bind the Ministry that made them, and must fall to the ground with its disappearance from office. Russia and France, therefore, appear to have equal reason for satisfaction at the fall of the Depretis Cabinet.

ATTACK BY DACOITS IN BURMA.

A telegram from Mandalay says that at midnight on Monday a body of 300 dacoits made a simultaneous rush from all sides upon a squadron of Hyderabad Cavalry, under Captain Gubbins, encamped near Woontho. After one hour's fighting the enemy were repulsed. The British losses were two native troopers killed and three wounded, but the enemy's loss is unknown. Two squadrons are now co-operating with Captain Gubbins, and the dacoits are being hotly pursued. Two thousand volunteers for the police force which is being organized in Upper Burma have been selected from the troops which are under orders to return to India.

A SHIP'S CREW EATEN BY CANNIBALS.

A letter dated Apia, Navigator's Islands, Dec. 13, says:—"Terrible news reached this place a few days ago. A number of Melanesian labourers belonging to the island of Malaita, in the Solomon Group, being on their way home, have eaten up the entire crew of the ship, which was conveying them, and then plundered the vessel. All Apia is in the greatest excitement, as we thought such an occurrence no longer possible. The captain and mate were residents of this place; they leave wives and children. The crew consisted of Paratongans and other Polynesians. Nothing further is yet known, and it will be very difficult to find out whether any provocation had been given to the cannibals. I was at the harbour when these Solomon Islanders were shipped. Counting men, women, and children, they numbered about sixty persons."

THE AMERICAN MAILS.

The Postmaster-General announces that after the end of this month the regular mails for the United States of America will be despatched every Wednesday and Saturday by ships of the Oceanic and Cunard Companies leaving Liverpool on those days and calling at Queenstown on the following day to pick up the mails. In addition to the two regular mails in each week thus provided, the Post Office will be free to despatch mails by any other ships which the public may desire to use for the transmission of their letters to America. Such letters need only be superscribed with the name of the ship and the route by which it is desired they should be forwarded; and, in the case of the Inman steamers and those of the North German Lloyd, the Post Office will dispense with the name of the ship and accept the general superscription "by Inman Line" or "by German Line;" thus affording additional facility to those who, while well aware of the regular weekly voyages of these steamers, are unacquainted with the name of the particular ship sailing on each occasion. These arrangements will practically afford a means of sending mails on four days in the week—namely, on Tuesday evening (specially addressed) by Inman Line, on Wednesday evening by Oceanic Line, on Thursday morning (specially addressed) by North German Line, and on Saturday evening by Cunard Line. These are the days of despatch from London. Postmasters elsewhere in the United Kingdom will be able to give information as to the local time of posting.

THE WILL OF THE LATE SIR THOMAS MAY.

Probate has lately been granted of the will of Sir Thomas May, of Mayfield, Bart., who died on the 10th ult., at 17, Charles-street, St. James's. The will is dated the 19th of July, 1884, and the testator then described himself as Thomas Paine May, gentleman, of No. 35, Amersham-road, New-cross. He appointed as his executors Stephen Tucker, of The Albany, Piccadilly, and Henry Augustus Deane, of 39, Russell-square, and left all his property, real and personal, "except as below mentioned," to his beloved sons Thomas and James, adding "exceptions to the above. To my wife Mary I give the sum of 1s. (one shilling); to my daughter Margaret I give the sum of 1s. (one shilling); to Nellie Julia Maria Thylyse, of No. 35, Amersham-road, New-cross, to whom I owe a debt of gratitude for services faithfully rendered, I give the annual sum of £100, to be paid by monthly instalments." The personalty in England is under £2,750.

THE REVENUE.

The receipts on account of revenue from the 1st of April, 1886, when there was a balance of £5,625,944, to February 5, 1887, were £72,357,554, against £70,599,061 in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year, which began with a balance of £4,993,207. The net expenditure was £75,223,099, against £77,112,534 to the same date in the previous year. The Treasury balances on February 5, 1887, amounted to £2,391,223, and at the same date in 1886 to £3,276,062.

HOW TO KEEP WARM.—ROYAL GALVANIC BATHS, 55, MARLBOROUGH-ROAD, FOR EVERY KIND OF ELECTRIC AND MEDICATED BATH.—FULL PARTICULARS MAY BE HAD OF THE SECRETARY.—[ADVT.]

YESTERDAY'S PARLIAMENT.

In the House of Lords yesterday the Pluralities Bill was read a third time and passed. Lord Cross presented a Bill to facilitate the sale of glebe lands in England, and the application of such lands to the purposes of allotments. The measure, he explained, was permissive, and was intended to supplement existing legislation. It was proposed that until some county authority had been created, the sanitary authority should be empowered to purchase a portion of the property for the purpose of offering it in small allotments, and to that end they would be empowered to borrow money. The Bill was read a first time, and their lordships rose at five o'clock.

In the House of Commons the adjourned debate on Mr. Parnell's amendment to the Address was resumed by Mr. John Morley, who, regarding the proposition that the only remedy for the existing crisis in Irish affairs was to be found in such a reform of the law and the system of government as would satisfy the needs and secure the confidence of the Irish people as the vital factor in the present political situation, declared that he should vote for the amendment. There was not the slightest sign that the present Government had any grasp of the Irish question or possessed any definite and intelligible Irish policy. Lord Hartington's suggested remedy of a State-controlled emigration was impracticable, while the limited extent to which Irish tenants had availed themselves of the tempting facilities offered by successive Acts for acquiring the ownership of their holdings indicated that no remedy for the agrarian crisis would be found in the direction of land purchase if unaccompanied by other measures of a political character. It was idle to expect that the party exigencies which had hitherto caused vacillation and intermission in the administration of repressive measures would now cease to exist, and it was not in the direction of coercion that any hope for the better government of Ireland could be found. His firm conviction was that the leaden, motionless cloud which overhung the deliberations of Parliament would not lift until they had achieved such a reform of the system of government as would meet the needs and acquire the confidence of the Irish people. Mr. Howorth, Sir E. Grey, Mr. E. Robertson, Mr. E. Harrington, Colonel Waring, Mr. H. S. Wright, Mr. Hozier, and Mr. Jacob Bright having spoken, the Solicitor-General for Ireland replied at some length to the attacks made upon the Irish Executive, and declared that the land question must be dealt with by the present Parliament. The Government had not come into office as a Government of oppression, and the strengthening of the existing law had been forced upon them by an illegal agitation. Having secured the supremacy of Parliament, they were under the grave responsibility of seeing that the laws made by Parliament were enforced in all parts of the kingdom. The amendment he described as inaccurate in its statement of facts and impossible of adoption by the House. It plainly set forth a policy which the country had already condemned, and the continued discussion of which would only lead to culpable waste of the time of Parliament. The debate, on the motion of Mr. B. Coleridge, was again adjourned, and the House rose at twenty minutes to one o'clock.

AN AGRICULTURAL DIFFICULTY IN INDIA.

How great are the obstacles which the prejudices of caste throw in the way of agricultural improvement is, the *Homeward Mail* says, well illustrated, as remarks an up-country paper, by the persistent opposition offered by native cultivators to the introduction of bone manure. It is well known that this preparation is the best accessible substance for restoring to the earth the phosphoric acid extracted by every crop, and thereby ensuring the continued excellence of the out-turn from the land; but, for the reason noted, its use has hitherto been extremely limited. Some time ago Mr. Allen, of the Bengal Agricultural Department, induced an intelligent zemindar, Moulvie Fazlan Rahman, of Dunri, to manure his beet-root with some bones he had buried some time previously. The result was that he obtained a greater crop than he had ever had; but the roots were "literally unsaleable in the local bazaar, solely because they had been manured with bone." There are signs, however, that the efforts of the officers of the Agricultural Department to dispel this foolish illusion will in the end be successful. The pundits of the Burdwan district have declared that to handle or use bone-manure involves no loss of caste, and, as a consequence, the preparation has already been extensively employed by the Brahmins of that quarter.

THE HEALTH OF LONDON.

The return of the Registrar-General shows that in London 2,665 births and 1,485 deaths were registered during last week. Allowing for increase of population, the births were 291, and the deaths 586, below the average numbers in the corresponding weeks of the last ten years. The annual death-rate per 1,000 from all causes, which had declined in the preceding four weeks from 26.3 to 19.6, further declined last week to 18.4. During the first five weeks of the current quarter the death-rate averaged 21.8 per 1,000, and was 2.5 below the mean rate in the corresponding periods of the ten years 1877-86. The 1,485 deaths included 48 from measles, 11 from scarlet-fever, 16 from diphtheria, 40 from whooping-cough, 1 from typhus, 14 from enteric fever, 12 from diarrhoea and dysentery, and not one from small-pox, ill-defined forms of continued fever, or cholera. The deaths referred to diseases of the respiratory organs, which had declined in the four preceding weeks from 731 to 432, further declined last week to 364, and were 279 below the corrected average. Different forms of violence caused 54 deaths; 47 were the result of negligence or accident, among which were 19 from fractures and contusions, 7 from burns and scalds, 6 from drowning, and 10 of infants under one year of age from suffocation. Five cases of suicide were registered. The death of a female, described as "formerly an authoress, daughter of a naval officer," whose age was stated to be 100 years, occurred in Nazareth House, Hammersmith, on the 27th ult.

DRURY LANE LODGE OF FREEMASONS.

At a meeting of the Drury Lane Lodge of Freemasons, held yesterday afternoon in the saloon of Drury Lane Theatre, Brother Augustus Harris was installed as Worshipful Master. The officers appointed for the coming year were as follows:—Sir John Gorst, M.P., Senior Warden; Admiral Inglefield, Junior Warden; Reverend Martin, P.G. Chaplain, chaplain of the lodge; Brothers Fleming, treasurer; Broadley, secretary; James Fernandez, S.D.; Bancroft, J.D.; Harry Nicholls, J.G.; Charles Dickens, M.C.; and Ganz, organist. A handsome P.M. jewel was presented to Lord Londesborough, and a special jewel was also presented to Brother Parkinson for his services as Installing Master. A banquet was afterwards given at the Freemasons' Tavern, when Mr. Parkinson, in the name of the lodge, presented a piece of plate to Mr. A. M. Broadley in recognition of his work as secretary during the year.

REMARKABLE SALE OF SEALSKIN GARMENTS and other fine furs, guaranteed half West-end prices. Ladies' fur sets, sable tail capes, trimmings, carriage and hearth rugs, and gentlemen's fur-lined coats. PHILLIPS, 52, NEWGATE STREET, LONDON. £20,000 worth trimmings and furs, every description, half price. Price lists on application. N.B.—Our only address.—[Advrt.]

THE FIGHTING IN ABYSSINIA.—HEAVY ITALIAN LOSSES.

The Italian Minister of War has received despatches from General Gene, giving an account of the fighting with the Abyssinians on the 25th and 26th of January. The General says the behaviour of the troops in both engagements was splendid, and their morale excellent. Twenty-three officers and 407 men were killed, and one officer and eighty-one soldiers wounded. General Gene reports that all the wounded are in hospital at Massowa, and most of them will be sent home by the mail steamers. A telegram has been received at Cairo from Colonel Kitchener to the effect that the Abyssinians captured four guns and have destroyed the forts. The second expedition for Massowa, consisting of 800 men and two batteries of field-guns, together with large quantities of shrapnels and cartridges, left Naples yesterday on the transport *Giava*. According to the present arrangements, the third and last expedition will follow within a week. The Cairo correspondent of the *Daily Chronicle* telegraphs:—

News from Massowa states that two Abyssinian divisions are prepared to assault the town on the land side, which, however, is practically impregnable, as the causeway connecting Massowa with the mainland is strongly fortified. The members of the Russian mission to King John of Abyssinia are said to have endeavoured to persuade the Negus to compromise the affair, but the latter replied that the only condition on which he could undertake to do so was the surrender of Massowa, which gives the Abyssinians their only trade-outlet into the Red Sea. The Negus is willing to give an equivalent for the possession of Massowa, but he refuses to accept any pecuniary consideration for its retention, either by the Italians or any one else.

ANGLICAN CONVENTS.

The *Guardian*, commenting on the case of Alcard v. Skinner, says:—

There are some considerations arising out of this case which it will be useful to discuss. In the first place, it seems to us that in the Convent of St. Mary-at-the-Cross vows are undertaken somewhat too hastily, considering that they are meant to be life-long and irrevocable. The preparatory and noviciate stages are not, so far as we can gather from the evidence in this trial, so long as they ought to be; and in Miss Alcard's case, at least, they were shortened for no assignable cause. Another point on which Anglican Sisterhoods should consider popular feeling is the appropriation of the funds belonging to those who join them. No one can object to the free gift by an inmate of a convent of the whole of her income. Such a gift is an acknowledgment of two very essential principles—the absolute community of the whole sisterhood, and the immense importance for work of freedom from financial cares. But the case is very different with regard to the capital from which the incomes arise. The income affects only the donor herself, and may well be devoted to any work in which she is engaged; and even the most fickle is not likely to change her mind from quarter-day to quarter-day, nor can she complain of the loss of what she gave as an inmate. But the capital sum concerns other interests and other expectations. Considering the legal principle laid down by Mr. Justice Kekewich, communities should be very careful in accepting any donations to insist upon the donors taking the best disinterested advice on the subject. Lastly, this, like almost every similar case, compels us to urge that the recognized authorities of our Church ought no longer to disregard their responsibility for these institutions. Anglican monasteries and convents, in whatever forms they may exist, are too important, both in their work and in their general influence on the Church, to be left to the guidance of any priest who chooses to establish one. It is no slur on Mr. Nihill to say that it would be better for the sisters in his convent, and for the whole Church, that the Bishop of the diocese should exercise some supervision over it. We are glad to see that Bishop Temple has recognized the convent to the extent of holding confirmations in it: but this does not exhaust Episcopal responsibility in the matter.

THE WOMEN'S JUBILEE GIFT TO THE QUEEN.

The Queen has intimated to the Executive Committee of the Women's Jubilee Gift that she would consider that the gift of an equestrian statue of the late Prince Consort from her women subjects would be a fitting and a touching personal present on the occasion of the Jubilee—the statue to be placed in Windsor Park. Inasmuch, however, as the executive have good reason to believe that the amount which will be contributed will be largely in excess of that required for the statue, they propose, when they have some definite idea of the amount of the surplus, to approach the Queen with a view to ascertain her Majesty's wishes as to its disposition. The offering will not be tendered, nor would it be accepted by her Majesty, as a sum of money.

ATTEMPT TO MURDER A MISSIONARY.

News has been received at Melbourne from the Friendly Islands that while the Reverend Shirley Baker, a missionary, was out driving with his son and daughter in Tonga Island, they were attacked and fired upon by a party of natives who were lying concealed; Mr. Baker's son and daughter being both badly wounded. The attack is believed to have been connected with an intended rising of the natives, and 700 troops have been sent to the scene of the occurrence. Mr. Baker, besides being a missionary, is Premier of the Island.

DEATH OF A PASTEUR PATIENT.

The *Hampshire Independent* of to-day says:—Information has been received at Winchester that a child sent to M. Pasteur's hospital in Paris by Lady Heathcote, in consequence of having been bitten by a mad dog at Hursley on Sunday week, has died there of hydrophobia. The dog on the same day bit several other children and a number of pigs or dogs in the surrounding villages, and was ultimately destroyed at Eastleigh. Police orders have since been issued throughout the county that all dogs except led dogs and sheep-dogs must be muzzled, under a heavy penalty, and orders to the same effect have been issued by the local authorities in Southampton and Winchester.

THE ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of this society was held yesterday in a room at the Royal Albert Hall. Sir Trevor Lawrence, M.P., who presided, moved the adoption of the report, which stated that the council had entered into preliminary negotiations with the Royal Albert Hall Corporation for the mutual use of the hall and the conservatory; but their offers had been declined. During the past year the practical work of the society at Chiswick Gardens had been carried out in the usual manner, and those grounds were maintained in a state of efficiency. The receipts of the year were £7,601, whilst the outlay was £8,381, leaving a balance of £780 against the society. Mr. Guedalla seconded the motion. After some discussion the report was adopted. The suggestion of Mr. Veitch, that a committee of five Fellows should be appointed to co-operate with the council in efforts to promote the future fortunes of the society, was adopted. The proceedings closed with a cordial vote of thanks to the chairman.

Mdme. ADELINA PATTI writes:—"I have found it matchless for the hands and complexion. (Signed) ADELINA PATTI. PEARS' SOAP, for the Toilet and Nursery, prepared specially for the delicate skin of ladies and children and others sensitive to the weather, winter or summer. Prevents redness, roughness, and chapping. Sold everywhere.—[Advrt.]

SOCIALIST RIOTS IN LONDON.

Owing to the publicity given to the police prohibition of the proposed Socialist torchlight procession in commemoration of the riots last year, large crowds collected last night on Clerkenwell Green. By nine o'clock some five or six thousand persons had assembled. They were addressed by various orators, the speeches being of the usual violent type. A strong force of police, mounted and on foot, were on the spot. Shortly after nine o'clock some of the Socialists attempted to light torches, but were prevented by the police from doing so. After the speeches had been delivered the mob dispersed in various directions. One portion, numbering about 300 boys and young men, proceeded by Aylesbury-street and Compton-street into the Goswell-road. On reaching the baker's shop of George Embach, at the corner of Compton-street and Aylesbury-street, they commenced operations by smashing a large plate-glass window with a stick. They next attacked the shop of Mrs. Chipp, of 66, Compton-street, but did not steal anything. The owner of the adjoining premises, Mr. Geering, a butcher, lost joints of meat valued at £20. He fired a revolver several times, and the men made a more precipitate retreat than they probably would have done had they known that the weapon was merely loaded with blank cartridge. In their flight the rioters lingered for a moment to hurl a volley of stones at the windows of the Harrow Inn. Turning into Goswell-road, where the tramway lines were being repaired, they found a plentiful supply of missiles, of which they took ample advantage. At Farling Brothers' tailoring establishment they completely demolished a sheet of plate-glass covering the entire front of the ground-floor. Messrs. Crisp, card-box makers, and Mr. De Pinna, landlord of the Horseshoe Tavern, had their windows broken. Mr. Ezra Hann, a shopkeeper, not only had his plate-glass window broken, but his stock was damaged. Three large granite stones were thrown through the window, and passed close by the head of Mr. Hann's son. The rioters marched to Aldersgate-street, where they were confronted by a body of the City Police. In spite of this, they did not immediately abandon their mischievous career, but the only premises damaged were those of Messrs. Goodall, stationers, and two or three other firms. The rioters made their way as far as Newgate street, where their progress was checked, the constables working their way among them and dispersing them. Two arrests were made, one of the prisoners being caught in the act of throwing a stone in Fann-street. At eleven o'clock last night order had been restored. Another contingent of agitators, composed apparently of men residing in the western suburbs, walked in the direction of Pimlico after the meeting. They indulged in a good deal of horse-play and a little stone-throwing.

SERIOUS MINING RIOTS IN SCOTLAND.

A serious strike riot broke out at Blantyre, near Glasgow, on Monday night, on the return of the miners from a meeting in Hamilton. Information was sent to the police headquarters at Hamilton, and two mounted policemen were despatched, one of whom in riding through Stonefield was struck on the mouth with a stone, and three of his teeth were knocked out. Chief Constable M'Hardy, on learning the serious turn of affairs, took out a strong force. He was accompanied by Honorary Sheriff Forrest, who read the Riot Act. By this time the mob had wrecked and looted two provision-shops, and were spreading through the public-houses, many of the younger members of the mob being visibly affected with drink. Sergeant Charles received a bad wound on the cheek with a stone, and several others were struck. They ultimately dispersed the crowd, and at three o'clock all was quiet. The rioting recommenced at eight o'clock yesterday morning. By eleven matters became so serious that the merchants met and telegraphed to Hamilton for assistance. Shortly after noon sheriff Birnie arrived, along with the chief constable and with mounted and foot police. The mob, who were engaged wrecking Dixon's store, received them with showers of stones. The sheriff read the Riot Act, and the police charged the mob. After a lull of an hour the riot broke out anew. About two o'clock the mob broke into and sacked the co-operative stores at Baird and Co's, opposite the end of the village. The police were brought round, and charged and dispersed them amidst a shower of stones. Matters, however, became still more serious, and a troop of hussars and 170 police from Glasgow were sent to reinforce the local constabulary.

A correspondent, telegraphing late last night, says:—After nightfall matters looked very serious. In the village of Stonefield the rioters had broken into the police-office and rescued the prisoners, and the looting of provision-shops was proceeding apace, when the hussars and the extra police arrived. The cavalry at once charged the mob and dispersed them in every direction, and it is reported that the casualties are numerous. At least ten policemen are more or less seriously injured, and the damage to property is very extensive. About a dozen shops and stores were completely looted, goods not carried away being much damaged. Throughout the whole country the miners are in a state of intense excitement, and outbreaks in other centres are feared. The authorities have, however, provided for any emergency, and it is expected that the police and military will be able to suppress with promptitude any renewed attempt at lawlessness."

THE HEALTH OF THE NAVY.

A Blue Book, containing a statistical report of the health of the navy for the year 1885 was issued this morning. It is reported that the returns for the total force disclose what is considered a satisfactory condition: the yearly ratios of sickness, invaliding, and deaths are substantially less than those of the preceding year; and not only have the increases which that year exhibited disappeared, but, beyond this, reductions are shown in comparison with the averages of late years in nearly every instance. On the home station a reduction in the amount of venereal disease, compared with 1884, has again been manifest, "though the ratios remain far in excess of those experienced during the last years of the enforcement of the Contagious Diseases Acts. The last year's reduction in what appears to be the concurrent disease, scabies, has again turned into a considerable increase."

THE SMALL ARMS FACTORY AT ENFIELD.

A correspondent at Waltham Abbey says that nearly all the workmen who for some time have been out of employment at the Royal Small Arms Factory, Enfield Lock, are now busily engaged. Two or three departments are more than ordinarily busy, and overtime is being worked. Although, however, much briskness prevails at the factory, it is not generally known whether the War Office has yet adopted any particular rifle for the army.

AN OCEAN VOYAGE IN AN OPEN BOAT.

The steamship *Garth Castle*, which arrived at Plymouth this morning, spoke the cutter *Homeward Bound*, which is making a voyage from the Cape to England, on the 7th of February, in lat. 42.54 north; long. 9.42 west. Her two passengers were well and wished to be reported. When spoken to the *Homeward Bound* was distant 201 days from the Cape, and about five hundred miles from Plymouth, steering in a north-easterly direction.

THE FISHERIES QUESTION.

EXCITEMENT IN NEWFOUNDLAND.—OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.)

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8.—The correspondence between the Governments of the United States and Great Britain from the 8th of December to the present date on the subject of the fisheries has been sent to the House of Representatives. On the 11th of December, Mr. Bayard, the Secretary of State, informed Sir L. Sackville West, the British Minister here, that he had instructed Mr. Phelps to make representations to the English Government with regard to the regrettable act of the Canadian naval authorities in lowering the flag of the *Marion Grimes*. About the same time Lord Lansdowne reported that the Privy Council approved the seizure of the *Everett* and *Steele*. On the 27th of January Mr. Bayard sent to Sir L. S. West a letter on the subject of the refusal of the captain of a Canadian naval cutter to permit a Canadian vessel to restore to an American schooner a seine which the former had found and the latter had lost. Some further correspondence follows relative to the detention of American fishing-vessels. A communication from Lord Lansdowne emphasizes the desire of Great Britain not to curtail the privileges of the United States fishermen, but maintains that there were just grounds for the detention of the *Everett*, *Steele*, *Pearl*; and Lord Iddesleigh wrote to Mr. Phelps on the 30th of November stating that the British Government earnestly desired an equitable settlement, and was disappointed at the lack of any indication on the part of the United States of a wish to negotiate on the basis and principle of mutual concessions. There is, however, rather a suggestion on the part of the United States that an *ad interim* construction of the terms of the treaty should be obtained which might for the present remove the chance of further disputes. Great Britain is desirous that the points of technical detail and construction should be left to a Commission constituted to examine them.

ST. JOHN'S (Newfoundland), Feb. 9.—Intense excitement has been caused here owing to the refusal of the Imperial Government to give its assent to the Act of the Newfoundland Parliament prohibiting the export of bait. The reason given by the British Government is that the French have made large investments in the Newfoundland Bank Fisheries, which would be greatly prejudiced if the royal assent were given to the Bill. The *Mercury*, a Ministerial organ, discussing the action of the British Government, says:—

The people look upon this refusal with feelings of indignation rather than of sorrow, the reason given being a mere subterfuge, because had the Act been assented to when sent home a year ago the French fishermen would not now be making preparations for the ensuing season's fishing. It is a very significant fact that no such humiliating vacillation prevailed with regard to the Canadian Bait Bill, running concurrently with the Newfoundland Act and having similar objects. It appears also that the desires of four million colonists meet with a ready response from the Imperial Government; while a similar request from an adjoining colony of two hundred thousand inhabitants is coolly ignored. What tender regard the imperial rulers show for French susceptibilities and commerce, and what utter disregard for British colonial interests does not this episode exemplify!

The *Mercury* adds:—

In view of the impossibility of the starving Newfoundland fishermen competing with their bounty-fed French rivals, to whom they are practically compelled to supply bait, it is not difficult to see what fate awaits the colony whose all is invested in this industry. By every consideration of justice and humanity the mother-country is bound to maintain the fishermen of Newfoundland on an equality with foreigners by granting a bounty equal to that granted to the French or by providing means to replace the industry sacrificed at the shrine of imperial expediency. The Newfoundland Legislature will meet in a few days to re-enact the bait law; and the Imperial Government and Parliament will be told that the preservation and control of the bait regulations and fisheries is vital to the existence of Newfoundland.

PUBLIC FEELING IN ALSACE-LORRAINE.—ELECTION MANŒUVRES.

(CENTRAL NEWS TELEGRAM.)

STRASBURG, Monday (via Bâle, Tuesday).—During the past few days the panic which had arisen in connection with the war rumours has almost completely subsided here, and the reassured inhabitants see plainly enough now that they have been the victims of the exaggerations of pessimists and the manœuvres of the official press. It has been stated with the utmost gravity that there are in Alsace-Lorraine 150,000 men ready to pass the frontier on the word of command being given; but special inquiries which I have made enable me to state positively that the assertion is false. There has been no increase of troops in these provinces beyond some comparatively slight augmentations of garrisons. The reserves have been called up without an explanation of the motive for the summons; and this action on the part of the military authorities seems to have been one of the causes of the recent panic, which was augmented by the sight of some convoys of ammunition and artillery. For instance, the peasants at Mudolsheim, near Strasburg, noticed that the fort at that place was being strengthened with artillery, and, fearing that war was about to break out, they hurried here, imparting their error to the townspeople. Some of them demanded their money from their bankers. The authorities turned it to good account for election purposes, and made no attempt to allay the excitement by pacific assurances. During the time General Boulanger was inspecting the French forts in the east, particularly that at Raon l'Étape.

FATAL FIRE AT ASHFORD.

A fire occurred early this morning at the house of a tanner living at Hempstead-terrace, Ashford. The house was completely burned out, and of the inmates two children were burned to death, and their mother was so seriously injured that she is not expected to recover.

DEBRETT'S PEERAGE FOR 1887.

Messrs. Dean and Son have just published DebreTT's Peerage for 1887, this being the 174th year of publication. "DebreTT" is well known as a trustworthy book of reference for information respecting the peerage, baronetage, and knightage. It also gives biographical notices of the Companion of the various Orders; a most useful addition to the matter usually contained in peerages. The editor, Mr. R. H. Mair, LL.D., in his preface, states that "DebreTT" is the oldest serial extant; and, having been well-established before George III. was King, is the only publication which has existed throughout the whole jubilee periods of two English monarchs. Not appearing till February, "DebreTT" contains six weeks' later information than kindred works. Over 30,000 persons mentioned in the book have during the year supplied material to the editor.

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TRADE AND FINANCE.

Brokers and dealers were in the early part of yesterday engaged in the settlement of the account, and little else was done. As the Berlin Bourse was reported weak, the other Continental Bourses gave way, and the Foreign market in London likewise declined. In the later afternoon a rumour was circulated that the state of siege had been proclaimed in Alsace-Lorraine, and all prices fell. At the close, Italian Rentes were 1 lower than on Monday evening, Russians of 1873 were $\frac{3}{4}$ lower, Hungarian Gold Rentes $\frac{3}{4}$, and Greek from $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1. The Home Railway market, which had been firm about midday, lost strength on this decline in Foreign bonds; but at the close there was little change from the evening before; and American Railroad securities, though the opening prices at New York were better, closed generally lower than on Monday. The truth is that confidence in the ability of the great Continental capitalists to sustain prices has been rudely shaken. For a long time past the London market has distrusted Foreign Government bonds, and refused to take part in the Berlin speculation; but the struggle at the time of the Afghan scare had taught the speculators respect for the ability of the leaders of the Berlin Bourse. That respect has given way. The market at the same time should not forget the lesson of two years ago. It is shown, for example, from yesterday's Settlement that much of the recent selling of Foreign Government bonds was purely speculative.

The supply of money in the open market having been reduced by the accumulation in the London and Westminster Bank of subscriptions to Samuel Allsopp and Sons (Limited), rates were for a time yesterday a trifle harder both for loans and discount; but some of this money came out later and rates eased a little. Day-to-day money was quoted $2\frac{1}{4}$ to $2\frac{3}{4}$ per cent., while the quotation for bills, of which the supply was not large, was $2\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. The rate demanded in the morning by bankers and others for account-to-account loans was 4 per cent.; but the general range was $3\frac{1}{2}$ to $4\frac{1}{2}$, and the former figure was a common charge for people in good credit having first-class securities to offer. The final instalment on Arthur Guinness, Son, and Co. (Limited) fell due yesterday; but the money as it was paid in was lent out again in the market.

As was anticipated, the first day of the Stock Exchange Settlement has shown a very great reduction in the account open for the rise. The enormous sales of the past fortnight prepared every one for this, and it has also revealed a considerable speculation for the fall, which was likewise expected. In the morning the banks asked 4 per cent. for loans to the Stock Exchange, but were obliged to take from $3\frac{1}{2}$ to $3\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. For the much smaller account now open there is, of course, much less money wanted. Moreover, the payments made for much of the stock lately sold by foreigners are understood to have been left in London and employed on the Stock Exchange. There was thus yesterday an abundance of money at low rates. Within the Stock Exchange rates were also low on Foreign Government bonds and Home Railway stocks; but they were higher on American Railroad securities than had been anticipated. For the loan of Russian Bonds of 1873 as much as $\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. for the fortnight, being at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum, was paid. From this it is evident that much of last week's selling of Russian bonds was speculative, and that, in fact, comparatively little can have been sold in this market by actual holders. The same is more or less true of Hungarian bonds. For the loan of Gold Rentes 3-16 per cent. was paid for the fortnight, being at the rate of $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. per annum. Hungarian bonds were largely held in Paris, and, in addition to the genuine selling there, there must have been purely speculative selling. For the loan of French Rentes 3-16 for the fortnight, or at the rate of $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. per annum, was likewise paid. On Italian Rentes the rate for deferring payment was only 1 per cent.; and on Egyptian Unified only 2 to 3 per cent. In the Home Railway market the rates for permission to postpone payment for purchases made were lower than a fortnight ago, from 1-16 to $\frac{1}{8}$, which is a difference in annual rate of from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 per cent. There was a marked exception, in Metropolitan stock, on which as much as $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. for the fortnight, or at the rate of 12 per cent. per annum, was paid. The rates were decidedly lower also on Canadian and Mexican Railway stocks. But on the more speculative Railroad securities they were much higher than had been expected. On the better classes rates were very low, but on the speculative securities they ranged from 5 to 6 per cent. This does not mean, however, that the account in these securities has not been reduced as in others; but only that lenders on such securities insist upon high rates to cover risks. Upon the whole, then, it is clear that the reduction in the account has been great.

From Mr. Edgar Vincent's report upon the Egyptian Budget of 1887 it would appear that the Egyptian population is making considerable advance in prosperity. He tells us that the change in the dates for the collection of the land tax in Lower Egypt has proved a great boon to the cultivator. The postponement of taxes from January and February to November and December enables him to keep the proceeds of the sale of the latter portion of the cotton crop to meet the expenses of cultivation during the year. He is thus free from the necessity of borrowing from petty usurers in the provinces; and, Mr. Vincent adds, "there is nothing more remarkable in the history of the last three years in Egypt than the gradual disappearance of the village money-lenders. The amount of the indebtedness of the fellaheen has been still further diminished during the past year; and it is curious to observe that with the diminution of borrowing in the villages the cry for land mortgage and other land banks has practically ceased." There appears little reason to doubt that a partial abolition of the *corvée* has ameliorated the condition of cultivators of the poorer class, and has rendered the burden of the land tax less heavy for them to bear; and when dealing with the falling-off in exports he adduces other evidence in support of the view that the prosperity of the population is increasing. It is estimated that the value of the exports for 1886 did not exceed £E.10,100,000; in 1885 they amounted to £E.11,425,000, and in 1884 they were £E.12,550,000. The reduction of value would appear to be attributable to a fall in the price of cotton and cotton-seed,

and to a diminution in the quantity of cereals and beans exported. The quantity of wheat exported appears to be steadily on the decrease. Previous to 1885 the annual average exports amounted to 350,000 ardebs; in 1885-86 only 75,000 ardebs were exported; and this year, notwithstanding a crop above the average, no more than 80,000 ardebs will be exported. "This figure would seem to confirm the opinion of several merchants who have relations with the interior that a considerable increase in the consumption of wheat has taken place. The fellaheen, who were previously nourished with maize and doura, are now able to afford the more expensive diet of wheat."

DR. CLARK, M.P., AND SWAZILAND.

In reference to our Note of yesterday and the extracts we gave from the *Cape Argus*, Dr. Clark, M.P., writes as follows:—

I have not seen the copy of the *Cape Argus* to which you refer in your Note to-day; but, if your quotations are accurate, the report is in some respects the very reverse of the truth. I was not introduced to the Swazi King by an emissary of Mr. Kruger's, nor was it stated that I was an Induna sent out to report on the grievances of the Swazis and Zulus. The King did not take the advice of his councillors before talking politics with me. I talked politics with the King at our first interview, a quarter of an hour after I arrived at the royal kraal. After supper, with an English missionary for an interpreter, I talked politics in the hut of his principal wife, and I asked him to consult with his councillors, and to tell me if the letters written in his name, asking for an English protectorate, were from him, and if he desired to come under the protectorate of either the Boers or the British. The King and his councillors have repudiated the letters, and wish to remain independent.

When the King stated this fact, I pointed out that by the London Convention the independence of Swaziland was recognized by both the Transvaal and British Governments; that he was in a better position than any other African King; but that, this fortunate condition was being imperilled by the grants of land he was giving to the white adventurers who were flocking into his territory. I urged him to refuse any more concessions, and, as the only land occupied was within a mile or two of the Transvaal border, to hand over the land where the white men were living to the Transvaal Government and ask for grazing farms in exchange. I hold that this is the only way to prevent the annexation of Swaziland, and the destruction of the Swazi race. The Transvaalers do not require the gold-bearing hill on their eastern border; they have already got the finest gold-fields in the world, and the portion in Swaziland is only the eastern end of these once rich reefs; but Swaziland is becoming a sewer to receive all the vagabondage of South Africa. Men who are wanted for murder in Natal and the Transvaal find safe quarters in Swaziland, and occasionally make raids into the Transvaal. I was plundered of most of my property the first night after I crossed the border, and had two days' semi-starvation in consequence. The Zulu nation has been practically destroyed. The Swazis are now being demoralized and debauched. The King has very foolishly given away about one-half of his territory for money and wine. Englishmen and Boers, on various false pretences, have got the King's mark to concessions of land and grazing-rights. The same land has been given to different individuals, and the King has told the rival claimants that the strongest man is to keep it; hence Swaziland is fast drifting into anarchy. The only way to prevent these evils is to refuse to recognize any of the concessions that have been granted. The one got by Mr. Forbes was a concession of the whole mineral rights of Swaziland, and all the other concessions are an infringement of Forbes's one. Forbes is the only man who has erected machinery, and by placing the portion worked by Forbes's Company in the Transvaal, and preventing any other white man from settling in the country, the Swazis may be preserved; otherwise, they are doomed.

THE PARIS CATTLE SHOW.

One of our Paris correspondents writes:—The annual exhibition of fat stock, which used to be held in Paris the week before Lent, has of late years been considerably developed, and now includes a display of male breeding-stock (bulls, rams, and boars), of dairy cows, and of live poultry. With so many ramifications, it has been found necessary to divide the show into two sections, the first of which—including the breeding-stock and the different varieties of agricultural produce—has been open to the public for the last few days. The show has been held, as before, in the Palais de l'Industrie, outside which buildings are exhibited in endless variety the implements and machinery; these latter remaining on view until the middle of next week. To any one wishing to form a clear idea of the manifold agricultural resources of France, a visit to this exhibition could not fail to be most instructive, as he would find in the course of a walk through the rooms on the first floor that nearly every known specimen of fruit and vegetable were grown within the limits of the mother-country; while the horticultural wealth of the colonies is illustrated by exhibits from Algeria, Tong-king, and Martinique. The good taste with which exhibitions of this kind are arranged is also very much to the credit of the Ministry of Agriculture, and the whole show testifies to the progress which breeding upon scientific principles has made in France of late years. The show of bulls is a very large one, there being 288 entries of them altogether, including 71 shorthorns and 53 Normans; the other breeds represented being the Flemish, the Gascon, the Garonne, the Charolais, the Salers, the Breton, and the Bazadais. Although the short-horn breed is much the strongest numerically, and although the two classes into which it is divided are highly commended, it does not take the highest honours of the show, the champion prize for the best bull being awarded to a four-year-old Norman bull belonging to a breeder from the neighbourhood of Cherbourg, which is famous for the excellence of its brindled cattle. There are about a hundred entries of rams, two of the classes being for foreign-bred animals, and being monopolized by the Leicester and Southdown breeds. In pigs the French would seem still to be very dependent upon English stock; for while there are only four entries in the class for boars of French breeds, there are nearly five times as many in the class for foreign breeds, the whole of these latter being English. There is a very fine exhibition of dairy cattle, the entries numbering nearly two hundred; and it is only in France that one can see such a splendid collection of turkeys, geese, and ducks as are on view this week in the Palais de l'Industrie. M. Voiteiller, whose poultry farm is in the neighbourhood of Paris, deservedly takes the champion prizes with two such pens of Toulouse geese and Rouen ducks as one does not often find exhibited even here. The show of fat stock and of dressed poultry will begin on Saturday, and remain open until Wednesday of next week.

THE MORNING PAPERS.

MR. MORLEY'S SPEECH.

The *Times* remarks that throughout his speech Mr. Morley fences with the issues raised by the amendment for which he intends to vote. One can quite understand why he is unwilling to discuss the Plan of Campaign. Yet he professes to discuss the situation in Ireland without reference to the Plan of Campaign, or with only such reference as may throw discredit upon the Government. The whole of this part of his attack rests upon a statement which cannot bear a moment's examination, therefore his criticism is of little practical value. When Mr. Morley scoffs at the notion that the enforcement of the law against terrorism and spoliation may cease to be dependent on "the exigencies of parties" he speaks in a strain unworthy of one who has studied philosophy and history. It has been the noble work of civilization and of political progress to emancipate the administration of the law from subjection to party interests. There is no reason why the protection of peaceful citizens in Ireland against a cruel tyranny, such as that laid bare in the speeches of the deputation from the Irish Defence Union at the Mansion House yesterday, should be less certain and permanent than the operation of the ordinary law against murder, robbery, and fraud. To play fast and loose with the elementary securities of society in order to catch votes in the House of Commons or in the constituencies is, in truth, as discreditable as to pass Bills of Attainder and Bills of Pains and Penalties in order to do pleasure to a despotic monarch or to satisfy an intolerant faction.

The *Standard* says that Mr. Morley reasons fairly from his premisses; the only objection to his argument is that his premisses are fundamentally wrong. From the Unionist point of view, the *Standard* does not quarrel with his speech; but, if it believed in Home Rule, it would have to reproach him with a grave want of judgment in the selection of his points. If it was his object to exhibit Separatist dogma in the most unfavourable light, he could not have adopted a more effectual method. His policy is a policy of despair. He is willing to surrender to the Parnellite party because he sees no prospect of resisting them; he would allow Ireland to try the experiment of self-government, because he is convinced that English statesmanship cannot cope with the determination of the Nationalist party to render government of any other kind impossible. Having once adopted this as a principle of conduct, he applies it without mercy and without reserve.

The *Morning Post* assumes that Mr. Morley's speech must have proved somewhat disappointing to his Irish friends. It was critical and it was discursive, but it was singularly barren. He skimmed the entire field of Irish politics, but he scarcely touched seriously on any topic, and he left the House hopelessly in the dark as to the precise grounds upon which he based his approval of Mr. Parnell's amendment.

The *Daily Telegraph* observes that the generous but misguided sympathy which has led Mr. Morley to throw himself heart and soul into the Irish Nationalist cause exhibits in two distinct ways its distorting influence upon his judgment. It makes him more than a little blind to the faults of his Parnellite allies, and very far from kind to the virtues which still survive among English politicians. His language, full of trust and confidence when he surveys the former, assumes a tone of downright cynicism as soon as he turns to the latter. He refuses to trace any of our past failures to pacify Ireland to the virulent hostility of Irish agitators; but, on the other hand, he is ready to base a prediction of future failure on an assumption of the incorrigible factiousness of English political parties. It never occurs to him to suspect that land-purchase schemes have hitherto been baffled by the efforts of Mr. Parnell and his followers; nor does he for a moment doubt that a policy of firm administration of the existing law will be defeated by the rivalries of contending bodies in the Imperial Parliament. Such a combination of inconsistent moods would appear strange in any one; but in a man of Mr. Morley's intellectual stature it is astonishing indeed.

The *Irish Times* cannot find a ray of independent intelligence in the whole speech. It is one of the least effective speeches Mr. Morley has ever delivered, and marks plainly his difficulty in supporting the position of an ally of the Irish party. He cannot slur over what they have done; he cannot have confidence in what they will do. How utterly foolish does it read when placed beside the representations which the defenders of the Union submit to the British people.

The *Dublin Express* remarks that Mr. Morley has swallowed Home Rule without making a wry face in public or in private; and he would swallow with zest even much more Home Rule than Mr. Gladstone has so far considered it advisable to prepare or recommend.

The *Freeman's Journal* says that if the Irish cannot have Home Rule, it is better that they should be ruled by honest brute force than by the mixture of fraud and force now called Government.

LAST NIGHT'S DEBATE.

The *Daily News* considers that the debate last night was dull and not worthy of the time it occupied or of the speech by which it was introduced. There is a constant tendency on the Ministerial side to go into small details, and to avoid all consideration of principles. No refutation of Mr. Morley's account of the genesis of Irish discontent was undertaken; yet if that account is true, as every unprejudiced reader of Irish history and observer of Irish social movements knows it to be, the inference that Home Rule is the only lasting cure is irresistible, and will at length force itself on the minds of the whole British people.

THE SOCIALISTS.

The *Standard* insists that the public must have more protection against the Socialists. One would be only too glad to hear of the Socialists attending church, if their only object were to force on the attention of the congregation the reality of that distress of which, however, little demonstration is required. In some churches they have apparently come with this object, and behaved themselves with perfect propriety. But elsewhere they have manifested such a total contempt for that decency of behaviour which the most illiterate among them must know to be customary in a place of worship, as to make it absolutely necessary to show them that the offence is one of which the law can take cognizance, and that it cannot be repeated with impunity. So with the braggarts who get up torchlight processions. We see what happened last night; but conceive what might have been the consequences of permitting some two thousand Socialists to parade the streets of London from Clerkenwell to Hyde Park between nine and ten o'clock at night with lighted torches, and attended by a swarm of "roughs," ready to take advantage of the slightest opportunity for mischief which might present itself. The time has come when such dangers must be thoroughly guarded against, and Sir Charles Warren must take care in future that there shall be no blundering in the carrying out of his orders.

The *Morning Post* would make the men who convene these meetings responsible for the consequences. It would be idle to pretend that they are not fully aware of the almost inevitable result, and it is intolerable that they should be allowed to expose peaceable citizens either in the East-end or in the West-end of London to the rowdiness of the dangerous crowd which their meetings always attract.

MR. STANLEY'S EXPEDITION TO EMIN PASHA.

Before leaving Cairo on his expedition to relieve Emin Pasha, "the last white captain in despair," as he described him at the Mansion House the other day, Mr. Stanley wrote a long letter to the chairman of the relief fund committee, in which he states his reasons for preferring the Congo route, and gives some interesting information about Emin himself which he received from Dr. Junker, the Russian explorer who recently arrived in Cairo from Africa. When he reached Cairo, Mr. Stanley found that the experts there did not favour his taking the Congo route. "However, unrolling my map, they were soon convinced that, if not the quickest, it was decidedly the safest. By the explanations which followed I learned the true cause of the misapprehension of the majority of the experts. The latter, it seems, had formed the curious idea that, because the expedition was to be armed with several hundred Remingtons and a machine-gun of the latest invention, it was to be an offensive force conducted after strict military rules. They had overlooked the quality of the men who would handle the Remingtons, and had concluded that I simply meant to run amuck through hostile Africa until I reached Emin."

THE CHARACTER OF THE EXPEDITION.

Mr. Stanley then describes the character and object of his expedition:—

It is the relief of Emin Pasha that is the object of the expedition, said relief consisting of ammunition in sufficient quantity to enable him to withdraw from his dangerous position in Central Africa in safety, or to hold his own, if he decides to do so, for such length of time as he may see fit. Considering the quality of the escort, being mainly Zanzibaris or freed slaves, it would be rash to expect too much from them. It is already known in Zanzibar that Uganda is hostile, that Mwanga massacred some sixty of the followers of Bishop Hannington, that the Masai route has its dangers, that Karagwe is tributary to Mwanga, that the Wabba are numerous and aggressive, that Ruanda has never yet been penetrated, that beyond a certain line, whether on the Masai route or the Karagwe route, there is certain danger, and no matter with what cheerfulness they would assert at Zanzibar their readiness to defy all and every belligerent, African travellers of any experience remember how weak they are prone to be when in actual presence of danger. Assuming, however, that this band of 600 Zanzibaris were faithful, consider their inexperience of their new rifles, their wild, aimless, harmless firing—their want of discipline and tone—their disposition to be horrified at sight of the effects of fighting; remember that, in reality, they are only porters, and do not pretend to be warriors, and you will see how very unequal such men are to the duties of defending munitions of war in the face of an enemy. To expect them to march faithfully forward to court the dangers of fighting, with the seductions of Uryamwezi and Zanzibar in their rear, would be too much. In this expedition we cannot turn aside, as formerly, in presence of pronounced hostility and seek more peaceful countries; but our objective point must be reached, and risk must be run, and the ammunition must be deposited at the feet of Emin Pasha. Therefore, to arm these people with Remingtons or machine-guns is not enough; you must cut off their means of retreat, allow no avenue of escape—then they will stand together like men.

Then the expedition is non-military—that is to say, its purpose is not to fight, destroy, or waste; its purpose is to save, to relieve distress, to carry comfort.

Emin Pasha may be a good man, a brave officer, a gallant fellow deserving of a strong effort of relief; but I decline to believe, and I have not been able to gather from any one in England, an impression that his life, or the lives of the few hundreds under him, would overbalance the lives of thousands of natives, and the devastation of immense tracts of country which an expedition strictly military would naturally cause. The expedition is a mere powerful caravan, armed with rifles for the purpose of ensuring the safe conduct of the ammunition to Emin Pasha, and for the more certain protection of this people during the retreat home. But it also has means of purchasing the friendship of tribes and chiefs, of buying food and paying its way liberally. . . . The Congo route permits the expedition to approach within three hundred and sixty English statute miles of the southern end of Lake Albert without disturbing any but small tribal chiefs, who, on viewing such a large caravan, will at the worst only seek refuge in the bush for a few hours until the alarm is passed.

THE VARIOUS ROUTES.

Having stated in more detail his objections to the other routes, Mr. Stanley mentions the length of the land journey by each route:—Congo route—Maladdi to Stanley Pool, 235 E. miles; Stanley Falls to Lake Albert, 360 E. miles; total, 595 E. miles. Karagwe route—Zanzibar to Lake Albert, 950 E. miles. Masai route, via Taveta, Kenia, and Turkan, 925 miles. Assuming that the expedition would cover six miles a day, the land journey by the Congo route would take 99 days. The voyage from Zanzibar to the Congo would take 20 days; Lower Congo, 3; Upper Congo, 35 (by steamer); total, 157 days' voyage. By the Karagwe route there would be 156 days' land journey, and by the Masai route, 154 days' land journey.

WHO IS EMIN PASHA?

Mr. Stanley has received various information regarding the man for whose relief he has started.

I am told he was one of Midhat Pasha's medical attendants, and was obliged to fly Constantinople on the downfall of that Minister. By a pilgrim ship he reached Suakim, and then he crossed the desert and made his way to Khartoum with a caravan. Reduced to very low circumstances, he was introduced to Gordon, who gave him a billet as storekeeper, and afterwards appointed him doctor. It was in that capacity he was found at Lado by a traveller in the Equatorial Provinces—August, 1877. Turning to an old diary of that period, my informant read out to me certain extracts wherein Emin Effendi was represented as a Stamboul Turk. Here is a quotation which I heard:—"Emin Effendi, unlike Turks in general, exhibits a taste for botanical research, and is quite a naturalist. I am also impressed by the fact that, though he has acquired a singular taste for scientific studies from contact with Western civilization, he is as yet remarkably free from its vices." Whence one may gather that Dr. Schnitzler, alias Emin Effendi, must have preserved a strict incognito by reticence and rigid abstention from indulgence in gossip—always receptive, but never communicative.

From Dr. Junker Mr. Stanley learned that Emin Pasha is tall, thin, and exceedingly short-sighted; that he is a great linguist—Turkish, Arabic, German, French, Italian, and English being familiar to him. He did not impress Junker with his fighting qualities, though as an administrator he is sagacious, tactful, and prudent. His long isolation seems to have discouraged him. He says: "Egypt does not care for us and has forgotten us; Europe takes no interest in what we do." He is Austrian by birth, and is forty-one years old. His force is distributed among eight stations, from 200 to 300 men in each—say about 1,800 in all. The garrisons of the four northernmost stations were discontented and mutinous at last accounts. They answered Emin's advice to consolidate with reproaches. His suggestions that they should all withdraw from the Equatorial Province via Zanzibar were responded to by accusations that he intended only to sell them to Zanzibar as slaves. Junker (Mr. Stanley adds) cannot give an exact figure of the force itself, or of the Egyptians, or clerks, or Dongolese with Emin; but, being questioned closely as to details, replied that the approximate number of those likely to return with the expedition would be as follows:—White Egyptian officers, 10; non-commissioned (black), 15; white clerks (Copts), 20; blacks from Dongola, Wady Halfa, etc., 300—men, 345. White women, 22; black women 137—women, 159. Children of officers, 40; soldiers' children, 60—children, 100. Total, 604.

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. ditto 5 p. ct. 1900	107	109
Do. ditto 4½ p. ct.	103	104
Do. ditto (June & Dec.)	101	103
Natal 4½ p. ct. (Mar. & Sept.)	101	103
Do. ditto 5 p. ct. 1900-1901	104	106
New South Wales, 1888 to 1894	101	107
Do. ditto 5 p. ct. 1895 to 1902	105	114
Do. ditto 2 p. ct. 1875 to 1893	105	107
New Zealand 6 p. ct. 1891	105	108
Do. ditto 5 p. ct. 1914	110	112
Do. ditto 5 p. ct. Consols	102	104
Do. ditto 6 p. ct., March 15, 1891	107	109
Do. ditto (June & Dec.)	106	108
Do. ditto 4½ p. ct. 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 ditto 1906	108	110
Queensland 6 p. ct. 1891-1896	106	118
Do. ditto 4 p. ct. 1913-1915	99	101
South Australian 6 p. c. 1891-1900	—	—
Do. ditto 1901-1918	115	130
Do. ditto 5 p. ct. 1911-1920	106	116
Do. ditto 4 p. ct. 1929	100	102
Do. ditto 1916	100	102
Straits Settlements Gov. 4½ p. c.	103	105
Tasmanian 6 p. ct. 1895	103	115
Do. ditto 4 p. ct. 1 July, 1906	99	101
Victoria 6 p. ct. 1891	106	108
Do. ditto 5 p. ct. 1894	106	108
Do. ditto 4 p. ct. 1899-1901	101½	103½
Western Australian 4½ p. ct.	105	107
Do. ditto 4 p. ct.	102	103

REGISTERED AND INSCRIBED STOCKS.

Canada 4 p. c. Stock Reg., 1904	104½	105½
Do. Loan for £4,000,000, 1910	104	105
C. of Good Hope 4 p. c. Stock Reg	98½	99½
Do. (Loan of 1883) Ins	99½	100½
Ceylon 4 p. c. Inscribed Stock	102½	103½
Natal 4 p. c. Consol. Stock Reg	96	97
New South Wales 4 p. c. Ins	107	108
Do. 3½ p. ct. Stock Ins	94	95
Do. 3½ p. do. Stock, 1883	—	—
Queensland 3 p. c. Ins.	101	102
S. Australia (Loans of 1882-3-4)	101½	102½
Victoria 4 p. c. Railway Loan	101½	102½
Do. 1881, Inscribed Stock	102½	103½
Victoria 4 p. c. Loans of 1882, 1883, and 1884, do. 1908	104	105
W. Australia Loan of £5,250,000 Stk.	103½	104½

AMERICAN SECURITIES.

Massachusetts 5 p. ct. 1888	101	103
Atlantic First Leased Lines Rental	—	—
Trust	76	78
Baltimore & Potomac 1st Mn. Line	124	126
Central Pacific of California Six	—	—
per Cent. First Mortgage	116	118
Delaware and Hudson Canal	—	—
Mortgage Bonds, 1894	113	117
Denver & Rio Grande Consols	—	—
Lehigh Valley Con. Mortgage	133	135
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	46½	47½
St. Louis Bridge 1st Pref. Stock	100	106
Do. 1st Mortgage Gold Bonds	52	54
Do. 1st Mortgage Gold Bonds	133	137
Union Pacific Railway 1st Mort.	110	118
Union Pacific Land Grant	100	105

STERLING BONDS.

Allegheny Valley, 1910	130	132
Atlantic First Leased Lines Rental	—	—
Trust, 4 p. ct. Mt. Dabs	85	87
Baltimore and Ohio 6 p. c., 1902	120	122
Do. ditto 6 p. ct. 1910	123	125
Do. ditto 5 p. ct. 1877	110	112
Memphis and Ohio	116	119
N.V.C. & Hudson River 6 p. ct.	119	121
Pennsylvania General Mortgage	125	128
Do. Consolidated ditto	118	120
Pittsburg & Connellsville 6 p. c.	127	129
Union Pacific Rail. Omaha Bridge	123	128
United N. Jersey Ry. Canal 1894	110	112

RAILWAYS.—BRITISH POSSESSIONS.

Atlantic and St. Lawrence 6 p. c.	138	140
Bombay, Baroda, & Central India	—	—
guaranteed 5 p. ct.	161	164
Buffalo and Lake Huron	11½	12
Canada Central Five per Cent.	—	—
First Mortgage Bonds	108	110
Can. Pac. Stl. 5 p. c. First Mort.	103½	104½
Chicago and Grand Trunk 6 p. c.	105	107
Demerara 7 p. c. Perpetual Pref.	138	142
Eastern Bengal 4 p. c. Deb. St.	106	108
East Indian, Annuity A	22½	23
Do. Annuity B, 4 p. annu	24½	24½
Do. Def. Annuity Cap. Guar.	—	—
4 p. ct.	116	117
Do. Irredeem. Deb. Stk. 4½ p. c.	119	121
Great Indian Peninsula Guarant.	—	—
teed Five per Cent.	144	147
Do. 4 p. Cent. Deb. Stock	106	108
Hamilton & N. W. 1st M. 6 p. c.	106	108
Madras guaranteed 5 p. ct.	125	127
Do. ditto 4½ p. ct.	120	123
Do. ditto 4½ p. ct.	114	116
Melbourne and Hobson's Bay	—	—
4 p. ct. Bonds	107	109
M. of Canada Sterling 1st Mort-	—	—
gage	100	102
Do. (Con.) 5 p. ct. 1st Mort	98	100
Nizam's State Railway Guarant-	—	—
teed 5 p. ct. Shares	106	108
N. of Canada 6 p. c. Pref. Stock	55	60
Do. 5 p. ct. 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 p. ct. Deb. Stock	83	85
Ont. & Quebec 5 p. c. Perp. Deb. St.	209	210
Oude & Rohilkund 5 p. ct.	125	127
Do. 4 p. ct. Deb. Stock	105	106
St. John and Maine	29	32
Scinde, Punjab, & Delhi 5 p. c.	—	—
South Indian guar. 5 p. ct.	125	127
Do. 4½ p. ct. Deb. Stock	114	116
S. Mahatma Guar. 4 p. c. till 1889	100	103
Do. 4 p. ct. Deb. Stock	105	107
Tasmanian Main Line Debenture	—	—
4 p. ct. Stock	80	85
Toronto, Grey, and Bruce 4 p. ct.	—	—
1st Mortgage	84	85
Wellington, Grey, and Bruce 7	—	—
per cent. Bonds, 1st Mortgage	98	100

BRITISH RAILWAYS.

East London Consolidated	9	11
Furness Consolidated	104	107
Glasgow and South-Western Con.	101	103
Hull, Barnsley, and West Riding	—	—
Junction Shares	17	18
London, Tilbury, & Southend Co.	139	143
Mersey	6	8
North London Consolidated	178	183
Rhymney	168	173

RAILWAYS.—DEBENTURE STOCK.

Caledonian 4 p. ct.	116	118
East London 6 p. ct.	140	160
Do. ditto 5 p. ct.	119	120
Do. ditto 6 p. ct. 1874	90	110
Do. ditto 6 p. ct. 1875	60	90
Glasgow and S. West. 4 p. ct.	113	115
Great Eastern 4 p. ct.	116	118
Do. ditto A 5 p. ct.	142	144
Do. ditto B 6 p. redm., 5 p. c.	132	134
Do. ditto 4½ p. ct.	—	—
Do. ditto East Anglian 4 p. c.	115	117
Great Northern 4 p. ct.	118	120
Do. ditto 4 p. ct.	118	120
Do. ditto 4½ p. ct.	131	133
Do. ditto 5 p. ct.	145	147
Lancashire and York, 4 p. ct.	117	119
London & Blackwall, 4½ p. ct.	120	122
London and Brighton, 4 p. ct.	115	117
Do. ditto Perpetual 4½ p. ct.	129	131
London & Chatham Arb. ½ p. ct.	124	126
Do. ditto B 4½ p. ct.	123	125
Do. ditto 4 p. ct.	109	111
Do. ditto 1883	109	111
London & North-Western 4 p. ct.	118	120
Do. ditto 4 p. ct.	118	120
Do. ditto 3½ p. ct.	104	106
London, Tilbury & 4 p. ct.	114	116
Manch. & Sheffield 4½ p. ct.	138	140
Metropolitan 4 p. ct.	115	117
Do. ditto 4½ p. ct.	126	128
Do. ditto 3½ p. ct.	98	100
Metropolitan District 6 p. ct.	153	158
Do. ditto 4 p. ct.	106	108
Midland 4 p. ct.	118	120
North British 4 p. ct.	115	117
Do. E. P. and D. B. 5 p. ct.	—	—
Do. ditto 4 p. ct.	118	120
Do. ditto 4½ p. ct.	130	132
North London 4½ p. ct.	131	133
North Staffordshire 4½ p. ct.	131	133
South-Eastern Perp. 4 p. ct.	117	119
Do. ditto 5 p. ct.	142	144
Taff Vale 4 p. ct.	110	113

FOREIGN RAILWAYS

Antwerp and Rotterdam	21	23
Bahia and San Francisco, 5-7 p. c.	22½	23½
Brazilian Imperial Central Bahia	21	23
Do. ditto 6 p. ct. Debenture Stock	110	112
Buenos Ayres Great Southern	153	150
Do. ditto Extension	14	14½
Do. ditto 5 p. ct. Debenture Stock	118	120
Buenos Ayres and Ensenada Port	8	9
Do. ditto 8 p. ct. Preference	13½	14½
Do. ditto 5 p. ct. Deb. Stock	108	110
Buenos Ayres and Pacific Pref.	23½	24½
Buenos Ayres and Rosario Ord.	139	143
Do. ditto 7 p. c. Pref.	14½	15
Do. ditto 5 p. c. Deb. Stock	112	114
Central Argentine Limited	167	169
Do. ditto 6 p. ct. Debent. Stock	137	140
C. Uruguay of Montevideo, Lim	11	11½
Do. Permt. 6 p. c. Deb. Stock	129	131
Conde d'Eu, Lim., 5 p. ct.	15	16
Copapo	38	42
Dutch Rhenish	16½	17½
Do. ditto New	4	6
Do. ditto 1872	½	1
East Argentine, Lim., 7 p. ct.	100	102
Do. ditto 6 p. ct. Deb. Stock	110	112
Great Western of Brazil, 7 p. c.	128½	130½
Do. ditto 6 p. ct. Deb. Stock	114	116
Imp. Brazilian, Natal, and N. Cruz	6	7
Lima, Limited	6	6½
Namur and Liège 14 p. annu	11	12
Do. ditto 6 p. ct. Preference	25	27
N.-W. Uruguay 6 p. ct. 1st Pref	68	72
Do. ditto, 5 p. ct. and Pref	46	50
Ottoman (Smyrna to Aidin)	11½	11½
Prov. Orei-Vitebsk 5 p. ct.	17	18
Recife and Sao Francisco g.	103	105
Riga and Dunaiberg	14½	15½
Royal Sardinian	10	10½
Do. ditto Preference	10½	11½
Royal Swedish	3½	3½
Do. ditto Preference	3½	3½
Sambre and Meuse	9½	10
Do. ditto 5½ p. Cent. Preference	11½	12
San Paulo Brazilian guar. 7 p. c.	39½	40½
Do. ditto 5½ p. c. Debenture Stock	130	132
Smyrna and Cassaba, Limited	22	23
Do. ditto 7 p. ct. Preference	26	26½
Southern Brazilian Rio Grande	—	—
Do. Sul Guaranteed 7 p. ct.	21½	22½
Varna	2½	3½
West Flanders	10½	11½
Do. ditto 5½ p. ct. Preference	11	12
West. of Buenos Ayres 5 p. c. Bds	109	111
Do. do. 5 p. c. Mort. Deb.	93	99

LAND COMPANIES.

Canada Company	83	85
Canada North-West Land	2½	3
Natal Land and Colonization	4	5
Newfoundland Land	½	¾
Otago and Southland Investment	2½	3
Peel River Land	84	86
Scottish Australian Investment	195	205
South Australian	60	63
S. Austrin. Land Mort. & Agency	2½	2½
Van Diemen's Land	24	26

TELEGRAPH SHARES.

Anglo-American Preferred	52	53
Do. ditto Deferred	11	12
Cuba, Limited	11½	11½
Do. ditto 10 p. ct. Preference	18	19
Eastern 4 p. ct. Debent. Stock	101	103
Eastern Exten. 6 p. ct. Debent.	104	107
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. & M. Bonds	123	127

BANKS.

Agra, Limited	8½	9
Alliance, Limited	12	13
Anglo-Austrian	8	9
Anglo-Californian, Limited	10½	11½
Anglo-Foreign Banking, Limited	8½	9½
Anglo-Italian, 1866, Limited	5½	6½
Bank of Africa, Limited	5	6
Bank of Australasia	100	102
Bank of British Columbia	28	29
Do. ditto New Issue at 2 prem.	13½	14½
Bank of British North America	67	69
Bank of Constantinople	5	6
Bank of Egypt	28	30
Bank of New South Wales	63	65
Bank of New Zealand	8	9
Bank of Roumania	26	27
Bank of South Australia	26	28
Bank of Victoria	35	38
Central of London, Limited	10½	11½
Chart. of India, Aust., and China	22½	23½
Chart. Mer. of Ind., Lon., & China	18½	19½
Com. Bank of Australia, Lim.	8½	9
Delhi and London, Limited	12	14
English Bank of Rio de Jan., Lim.	13½	14½
English Bank of River Plate, Lim.	11½	11½
Eng., Scottish, and Aust. Chart	33	34
Franco-Egyptian, issued at 5 pm.	—	—
German Bank of London, Lim.	11	12
Hong Kong & Shanghai Bk. Corp.	53	55
Imperial, Limited	17	18
International Bank of Lond. Lim.	14	15
Ionian	25	26
Lloyds, Barnett's, & Bosanquet, L.	16½	17½
London and Brazilian, Limited	10	11
London and Hanseatic, Limited	10	11
London and Provincial, Limited	13½	13½
London and River Plate, Limited	16½	17½
London and San Francisco, Lim.	5½	6½
London and South-Western, Lim.	22½	23½
London Bank of Mexico & South	—	—
America, Limited	3½	4½
London Chartered of Australia	23	24
London, Paris, and Am. Bank, L.	17	19
Mercantile Bank of River Plate, L.	2½	3
Merchant, Limited	24	34
National, Limited	—	—
National Bank of Australasia	9	9½
Nat. Bank of New Zealand, L.	1½	1½
North-Eastern, Limited	6½	6½
Provincial of Ireland, Limited	5½	5½
Queensland National, Limited	19½	20½
Standard of South Africa, Ltd.	124	134
Union of Australia, Limited	43½	44½
Union of Spain and England, L	68	70

GAS COMPANIES.

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Interest..... £112,000
Accumulated Funds..... £3,134,000

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The Meeting will be Addressed by

The Right Hon. W. H. SMITH, M.P.

The Dean of WESTMINSTER.

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The Earl of DUNRAVEN, K.P.

Sir RUTHERFORD ALCOCK, K.C.B.

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