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THE ST. JAMES'S GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1887.

SIR H. WOLFF'S MISSION, AND ITS OUTCOME.

SIR HENRY WOLFF'S mission has long been a puzzle to most people. Mysterious in its origin, and costly in its maintenance, the use of it has never been apparent, though it has lasted now for a very considerable time. When did the necessity for keeping a High Commissioner for Egypt arise? It arose when Lord RANDOLPH CHURCHILL entered the Cabinet in 1885. At that time he had with him two or three parliamentary associates, men who had formed with him the celebrated Fourth Party. When he had fought his way to the doors of the Cabinet, being able not only to demand admittance for himself but to dispose of the fortunes of others, it was but natural that his parliamentary lieutenants should expect some promotion; only natural, too, that he should seek to provide for them. That is the usual thing in the most civilized countries, and the custom obtains even amongst the purest-minded partisan chiefs. Lord RANDOLPH'S lieutenants were Sir JOHN GORST and Sir HENRY WOLFF. Now the first-named gentleman was a lawyer; but such a lawyer that, in a tolerably long and somewhat pushing career, he never had any practice worth speaking of. In short, Sir JOHN GORST was a man whom no Minister who thought only of the service of the country and the dignity of a great profession would have dreamed of choosing as a law officer of the Crown. But as one of Lord RANDOLPH'S friends he was admitted to the office of Solicitor-General; and so his claims were satisfied. If his patron were to say that Sir JOHN has not turned out so badly, we should not contradict him. If he were to add that, at any rate, the expenditure of the country was not increased when Sir JOHN GORST became Solicitor-General, we should hasten to agree with him. Nothing suffered but the dignity of the law, and the susceptibilities of a few who hold—cantankerously, perhaps—that personal partisanship is no sufficient reason for filling high offices of State with men of inferior knowledge and capacity.

But of the two lieutenants it was the least prominent one whose fidelity had now been rewarded. As all the world knows, the other was Sir HENRY WOLFF. At the time, there was great inquiry, great curiosity, as to what was to be done with him; and it presently appeared that there was some difficulty in that matter. For some reason or other no place could be found for him in the Administration; and yet he is indisputably a very clever man, and by no means inexperienced in affairs. There are men in the Cabinet who have less ability than he can boast of, while as for "interest," the most powerful man in the political world at that time was his own captain. Nevertheless, in June, 1885, the first Administration of which Lord RANDOLPH became a member was formed without him. Just then, however, it was found that an Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the SULTAN, who at the same time should be High Commissioner in Egypt, was a necessity of government; and Sir HENRY WOLFF was appointed to the place with a salary of £5,000 a year. We believe, however, that this sum does not by any means represent the cost of this new post. Unless we are misinformed, something like twice that sum is expended on it annually. Yet up to this time nobody has been able to understand why. We have a Consul-General in Egypt with another £5,000 a year, and a regular staff. If he is a capable man, he can do all our business there; if he is incapable, he should have been removed long ago. At the same time we have an Ambassador at Constantinople, with as much time to attend to Egyptian business at the Porte as (for instance) our Ambassador at St. Petersburg has to look after affairs on the Afghan frontier. In short, it was very difficult to believe at the time that any such appointment, any such expenditure, was needed; and though Sir HENRY WOLFF has been employed in his High Commissionership, etc., since August, 1885, nothing has yet come to light to justify the creation of the post or to justify its expense. But it is clear that Lord RANDOLPH CHURCHILL thought differently; and who is so eager to save money, who so fierce in his suspicions of jobbery?

At last, however, we hear that Sir HENRY WOLFF has done something. The story suddenly borne upon the breezes from Constantinople is that he has proposed to the SULTAN that Egypt shall be neutralized, even as Belgium is. According to this scheme the Great Powers are to undertake to guarantee the neutrality of Egyptian territory; no Power is to have a preponderating influence therein; Egypt is to have "the right to allow" the guaranteeing Powers to send their war-ships through the Canal and to move their armies across her territory—(and with the right to prevent their doing so?)—and our troops are to be withdrawn altogether. Not, of course, that this plan has been decided upon by Sir HENRY WOLFF independently. We have here a new

English policy for Egypt formulated by her Majesty's Ministers, and one that our Ambassador at the Porte is quite capable of recommending to the mind of the SULTAN, without the assistance of a special High Commissioner, and with plenty of time to do it in. Therefore the use of the High Commissionership is still unexplained, and the expenditure on it remains to be justified. However, we may now turn from that matter to the new policy itself. Not that we can say much about it to-day; but in a few words we must avow that as at present advised we do not like the policy at all. Possibly, it may be the one we must come to, or had better adopt in the long run; but what more immediately strikes us, apart from the many and serious objections to the scheme as a working plan, is, that it is premature. Even if we include Lord SALISBURY himself, it is impossible for any man to say what will be the outcome of the Eastern imbroglio. Nobody can read the Blue Book on Bulgarian affairs recently published without seeing in it a steady determination on the part of the Russians to have their own way in Bulgaria and the whole Balkan Peninsula. Neither can there be any doubt that, though no Power in Europe can look upon war with equanimity, to Russia war offers fewer terrors and more in the way of absolute relief than it can to any other Power. Should such a war break out—a war which in all likelihood will determine the whole Eastern Question—no man can say what the result will be. And that being the case, we fail to see why England should hasten to take measures the effect of which would be to put Egypt as much out of her hands as out of the hands of Greece and Denmark. Of course, there may be stipulations of which we hear nothing at present that may correct that view of the matter; but the proposal is said to be for complete neutrality, "without favour to any one Power." It is a very grave step, and we view it with great anxiety. *Force majeure*, perhaps, may account for it. But can that be the explanation?

THE PATRIARCHATE OF THE FANAR.

PERA, Feb. 5.

UNDER the mystic guidance of the Spirit Divine, the Holy Synod of the Eastern Church yesterday ordained Monseigneur Dionyssios, Metropolitan of Adrianople, to be Patriarch in place of Joachim IV.; whom ill-health has obliged to relinquish the patriarchal throne, of which he worthily wore the dignities and ably performed the duties while his strength stood by him. In the election the new Patriarch had just twenty votes less than the Bishop of Mitylene. He was "ties" with the former Patriarch, Joachim III., who stood again for election. These were the three names sent by the National Assembly to the Synod; and that body chose Dionyssios.

The election was one of more than usual interest, because it was a battle *à outrance* between the two rival parties of which the one aims at the Slavification of the Eastern Church and the other at the preservation of its Greek substance and constitution. The two parties are called respectively the party of "Orthodoxy" and of "Hellenism;" but both terms are misleading. Dionyssios was the representative of the Greek idea; Joachim that of the Slav. The Mitylene prelate represented the *in medio tutissimus* idea; he beat both specialists in the popular assembly, but the Holy Synod dropped him altogether. The Synod was resolved to affirm one of the two principles; so that, when they retired to church to settle the matter, the *mezzo termine* man was quite out of it: the penny went up for Joachim or Dionyssios. Russia supported Joachim with all her might, and was believed to have squared everything. The Embassy had been very free with its money, and as busy as a polecat in a hen-roost. The reason for this especial activity was that the Russian Ambassador, his Excellency M. de Nelidoff, was in real straits to achieve some sort of a success. He has made failure after failure, until it seems as though his touch were fatal. But the Russian Ambassador was specially anxious to grasp a triumph in the field of Orthodoxy, because two years ago M. Mauroyeni, the Roumanian Minister, negotiated, under his very nose, and without his catching scent of it, the recognition by the Patriarch Joachim IV. of the independence of the Roumanian Church; and as this miss brought him a sharp rebuke from St. Petersburg, his Excellency was particularly desirous of squaring his account. Moreover, there was a reason which was not personal why Russia should take a strong interest in this election. It was this:—The "Hellenists" chose Dionyssios for their candidate less because of his personal qualities than of his personal antecedents, which make him an Intransigent. When Prince Dondoukoff-Korsakoff was civilizing Adrianople, it became necessary for the purposes of his mission to tie a rope round the neck of the Greek Bishop, to drag him in the mud thereby, and to smite him and dance upon him. This treatment left deep traces alike upon the mind and body of the victim, who was no other than Dionyssios. The Russians are shrewd enough to understand that Monseigneur will retain the memory of that promenade, and that it will tend to indispose him to render service to Russia or to assist Russian objects. In supporting Joachim's candidature, M. de Nelidoff has made a fuss which has greatly assisted his defeat, while it has given emphasis to his failure. It is this fussiness which makes him so inferior to General Ignatieff for the work he has to do here. Every one in the place knows what M. de Nelidoff is doing; while his Excellency, blinded by his own splash, is very rarely level with the events that are going on about him.

The new Patriarch is as different a type of man from the high-minded cultivated Christian gentleman who has just retired as he is from his keen

and cunning predecessor, but he is believed to be steadfast in his principles and robust in his common sense. The significant features in the election are that Russian influence has suffered another defeat, and that the Holy Synod, Russian bribes notwithstanding, has affirmed the Greek principle against the Slav.

R. R.

NOTES.

It is well that the voters of St. George's took the trouble to come to the poll in sufficient numbers to prove that the feeling of Londoners in favour of the Union is not diminishing. At the last election the Radicals did not care to try the question how much the majority against them would be increased by the schism in the Liberal party. Thanks to Mr. Haysman's zeal for notoriety, that question is now decided, and one of the largest Conservative majorities in England is increased by 1,400 votes in consequence of the Unionist alliance. Mr. Goschen is to be congratulated on returning to Parliament as the representative of 11,000 voters of whom only 1,500 could be found to vote against him. His opponent has made the most of his opportunity for self-advertisement; and that fact will, no doubt, console him for his failure to produce an illusory diminution of the Unionist vote for the skilful manipulation of Separatist writers. Such exploits as Mr. Haysman's afford a strong ground for the opinion that candidates ought to continue to pay their own expenses.

Lord Dunraven has evidently thrown in his lot with Lord Randolph Churchill; but, like the late Chancellor of the Exchequer, he does not make the cause of his retirement at all clear. He is careful to explain that he differs from his late colleagues only on financial grounds. "Retrenchment" is what he wants. So, it may be observed, does every politician of every party. Lord Dunraven, however, thinks that retrenchment ought to be "raised from the condition of a mere abstract idea into the region of practical politics." The way to do that is for men in the position of Lord Dunraven and Lord Randolph Churchill to investigate the details of administration, and put their fingers on the places where waste and leakages occur. It may be hoped that Lord Dunraven has more practical and definite ideas as to the mode in which retrenchment is to be effected than the late Chancellor of the Exchequer. It may be presumed that the starvation of our coaling stations is not a policy that will commend itself to a colonial federationist and imperialist like Lord Dunraven.

The newspapers are again running over with floods of talk on Irish matters. Inside the House of Commons the debate on the Address dragged on; outside Mr. Morley and Lord Granville, and the atrocity-mongers at Battersea, and Mr. Labouchere repeated the twenty-times-told tale. Some of the speeches were good, some bad, most of them merely dull and mediocre; but all were entirely and absolutely superfluous. Political speeches, it is to be supposed, are made, either to state the case of the orator's party or to convince his opponents. But is there a newspaper-reader in the three kingdoms who is not perfectly familiar with all the arguments of the Home Rulers, as well as of the Unionists? Is there anybody outside or inside the House of Commons whose opinion is in the least degree likely to be altered by any amount of eloquence and rhetoric? Both sides have made up their minds; further talk is the merest waste of time. Of course there is some excuse for it on the part of the Gladstonians, who know perfectly well that the best thing for the cause of order and the Union is silent resolute action and no talk at all.

Herr Windthorst is always understood to be an Old Parliamentary Hand. It was decidedly shrewd on his part to keep secret the fact that the Pope had urged the Catholics to support Prince Bismarck's Septennate Bill, even before the vote had been taken in the Reichstag. Had this fact become known, it is probable that the result of the vote would have been different, and Prince Bismarck's appeal to the country would have been unnecessary. As it is, it is said that in spite of Herr Windthorst's resistance the Papal missives are producing a great effect upon the Catholic electors of Germany. They are also creating some stir in Italy. The interference of the Papacy in party politics is distasteful enough to the Italians; and they are haunted by a suspicion that the Pope, when he is once more on cordial terms with the German Government, will try to get Germany to put pressure upon Italy in the interests of the Vatican. This is, no doubt, a mistake. But the mere suspicion will not do much good to the Vatican, or to Germany or Italy either.

Mr. Veering, a butcher, of Clerkenwell, had to pay dearly for the offence of having filled his shop-front with joints of meat for which he proposed to exact payment from his fellow-men. Such heartless conduct is little better than that of landlords who want to be paid for their land, and it excited the indignation of the hungry Socialists against Mr. Veering on Tuesday. A furious attack was made on his shop, his life was threatened, a great part of his property was stolen or destroyed, and his house would probably have been demolished had it not been for his own courage and presence of mind. Standing at his door with a revolver loaded with blank cartridge in one hand

and a large knife in the other, while a second revolver loaded with ball-cartridge lay ready for use in the shop, he defied the howling mob; and though he could not save his meat, he eventually drove them off. A few police appeared, only to be thrown down and trampled under foot. Inhabitants of a highly civilized country must of course expect to be called upon to defend their homes and goods at the risk of their lives at any moment!

Mr. M'Laren, M.P., has the courage of his convictions. He openly states what many Radicals almost unconsciously imply—namely, that persistent law-breaking is a proper ground, not for punishment of the law-breakers, but for an alteration of the law. If tenants who can pay, but won't, pay over to a gang of agitators the rent which they have bound themselves to pay to the landlord, you must alter the law by giving the land to the tenants upon their own terms. Crime is to be punished not because it is crime, but because it is rare. If a thief steal Mr. M'Laren's watch, it will be a sufficient ground for impunity to show that watch-stealing has become almost universal. Criminal proceedings will therefore be suspended, and the Legislature will make all watches common property.

The Associated Chambers of Commerce devoted a considerable part of their meeting yesterday to a discussion of technical education. Strong speeches were made by members of Parliament of both parties and others; and it was resolved that the spread of good technical education in this country was greatly to be desired, and that public secondary schools ought to be established for the purpose of giving a scientific training (including manual instruction) to youths intended for commercial and industrial pursuits. It was determined to endeavour to obtain Government grants for the support of such schools. No question is of more immediate importance to the welfare of the country than that of industrial and commercial education. If England is to maintain its position as a great commercial Power, it is absolutely necessary that we should regain the ground which has been lost owing to the superior technical education of other countries. The discussion and resolution of the Chambers of Commerce were very valuable.

There was a great meeting at the Albert Palace yesterday about the Glenbeigh evictions. There has always been a certain class of people—described on a celebrated occasion as "fools and fanatics"—whom the complete exposure of a fraudulent agitation, does not in the least discourage in their enthusiastic demonstrations. There is just about as much ground for believing in the tyranny of the landlord at Glenbeigh as there was for believing that Arthur Orton was Roger Tichborne; and we may therefore conclude that it will be possible for some time to come to fill a large hall with an audience ready to weep over the lying tale of oppression, and to greet with frantic applause the treasonable rhetoric of ex-convicts and notorious conspirators. So shrewd a person as Davitt does not probably rate the "magnificent" meeting at Battersea at much more than its real value; and he may perhaps doubt whether he cannot further his nefarious ends by some more profitable enterprise than the arrangement of more bogus evictions for the edification of the British public.

The American mail contract is not to escape without further criticism. According to Mr. G. V. Smalley, who is understood to send letters to America occasionally, the Liverpool companies have completely taken in the Government. He says that we shall really only get *one* mail service, for all working purposes, to New York weekly. The White Star boats, which sail on Wednesday, are so slow that the letters they carry will seldom be delivered in New York till the Saturday week following. Consequently, the correspondent on the other side will be in no better position, so far as answering the letter goes, than if he had had to wait till Monday, when letters sent by the Saturday Cunarder would come in. The privilege of mailing specially endorsed letters by the Inman and North German Lloyd's steamers Mr. Smalley regards as valueless; because nobody does endorse his letters for special boats. Mr. Smalley, however, takes too limited a view of the matter. The people who want to answer letters by the next mail are, after all, not the only Anglo-American correspondents to be considered. It is surely a good thing that there should be a delivery of letters in New York on Friday or Saturday, even if there is to be another on Monday or Tuesday. Besides, Mr. Smalley declines to discuss the advantages we gain by securing an auxiliary war-fleet. But this is rather an important side of the question.

One of the most solid of Jubilee facts is the enormous increase which has taken place in the foreign and colonial trade of this country during the fifty years of her Majesty's reign. This was brought out in a striking manner the other day by Sir Bernhard Samuelson, M.P., in his address to the Associated Chambers of Commerce. Bearing in mind that many of our doctrinaire Radicals laboured long to convince us that our colonies were a source of expense and weakness to the mother-country, the following statistics are very significant. The declared value of our exports to Australia in 1837 was less than £1,000,000. In 1886 it was upwards of £25,000,000. In India and Ceylon it was £3,600,000 in 1837 and £31,500,000 in 1885. Trade undoubtedly follows the flag; and there are not wanting indications that our unrestricted foreign trade is likely in the near future to be severely confined to a few foreign countries, such as China and Brazil, and to our own colonies. In the face of the yearly statistics, it is almost inconceivable that any Englishman should advocate

the neglect of our coaling stations. Our trade with China and Japan alone would warrant for its preservation all the expense of a war *à outrance* with Russia or any other Power.

The subject of rational dress, now occupying a prominent place in the columns of the *Standard*, is one for which public discussion is quite unnecessary. The inventive minds of individual women can easily solve the question of combining comfort, beauty, and fashion in clothes according to the taste and fancy of the wearer. Those who find elongated knickerbockers comfortable for walking can wear elongated knickerbockers. Those who like to be eccentric can make these garments conspicuous. Those who like a moderate degree of eccentricity can make them so like other kinds of clothes as to defy anything but a close scrutiny or a high wind; while ladies with a greater desire for looking like other people can, it seems, cover them up altogether with an inoffensive skirt. But there is really no need for them to reveal the secrets of the dress makers' art to the readers of daily papers. Let every woman follow her own inclination and employ her native wit, and fashion, which is the mesne result of countless individual tastes, will, no doubt, take care of itself.

"Novelist" writes:—A reviewer in to-day's *St. James's Gazette* notes that in Mr. Hatton's new novel the heroine has blue eyes on page 60 and dark eyes on page 236; also that one of the subsidiary characters is sometimes called Digges and at other times Jukes. In these days, however, when novelists write to live, and the author who has made his name by one good story can continue manufacturing as many as he likes, to the delight of the libraries, it is no easy matter to pay attention to such details as these. In my salad days I used to spend hours in searching through the first chapters of my manuscripts to see what was the name of a subordinate character, or if he was dark or fair. Now I keep a list of names for easy reference, and merely describe my heroine's eyes as "beautiful" or "penetrating" or "liquid." Mr. Walter Besant has always held that novel-writing should be taught—like mathematics or the classics. I believe I could give "aspirants" a few useful hints myself. But should not novelists be classed with poets? Then that little matter of the eyes or names would be passed over as a poetic licence.

Phrenologists, chiromantists, graphologists, and other clever persons in similar lines of business are permitted to make a living by character-reading and fortune-telling with impunity; and this being so, it seems extremely hard that a lady of limited means cannot invite her friends to "have a cut" at the cards for sixpence without being liable to imprisonment. There can be no crime in announcing coming events; but, even when fortunes are fulfilled, the penalty still awaits the prophetess. Mrs. Jane Brockwell informed an anxious inquirer, about whose "cut" there was a good deal of mystery, that she would come to a police-court through a woman, and that a fair woman would insinuate herself between her and her husband. Without waiting to see if the second part of the oracle was true, the inquirer at once proceeded to fulfil the first part for herself by summoning Mrs. Brockwell, who is now in prison awaiting sentence. Fortune-telling is not the most respectable way of eking out an income; but it seems hard that the priestesses should be exposed to the malice of their consultants simply because the cards refuse to give pleasant answers.

The evil meaning commonly attached to the word "sinister" has been justified by science. Dr. Jobert, a French physician, has discovered that left-handed people have a general tendency towards wickedness and prisons. In the course of his investigations Dr. Jobert found that, although the normal percentage of left-handed people is 9, the prisons give a percentage of 22. There is a consoling suggestion of fatalism about these figures, although Dr. Jobert and other scientists would doubtless blame the left hemisphere of the brain as the prime cause of the 22 per cent. The seemingly inevitable period of incarceration that awaits left-handed people is and must be discouraging. To know, when starting in life, that your left hand is slowly but surely dragging you to gaol—your right being powerless to hold you back—cannot but act as a hindrance to virtuous exertion. It is impossible not to sympathize with left-handed people under these circumstances. There is, however, one crumb of consolation left. The 78 per cent. of criminals who do not belong to the "sinister" race proves that, despite their necessarily virtuous leanings, right-handed people also get sent to prison sometimes.

Sailors are not as a rule looked upon as "marrying men," and are generally supposed to view with disinclination entanglement in the matrimonial knot. It seems, however, that a sailor who honestly wishes to take unto himself a wife is often hampered by technical difficulties that are insuperable. The matter was brought under notice at the meeting of the Convocation of Canterbury yesterday by the Bishop of Llandaff, who called attention to the difficulties besetting the marriage of seafaring men in consequence of the residential qualification required. He quoted the case of a sea-captain who had been at sea for over six years and desired, on arriving at Cardiff, to get married at once. This, however, he was unable to do, as he could only remain there for six days, and was therefore unable to take the qualifying oath. The Bishop made two suggestions for remedying this state of affairs: one that the Archbishop should issue special licences in such cases, and the other that sailors should be allowed to reckon the last fourteen days they had lived on board ship as residence on land. It was ultimately decided to appoint a committee to look into and report upon the subject; and it is to

be hoped that some means will be devised for removing a grievance which can hardly do otherwise than injuriously affect navigation. An enamoured sailor to whom wedlock is rendered practically impossible (for the cost of a special licence is £20) can hardly be in a fit state to perform his duties properly on board the ship that bears him from his beloved.

The following extract from Mr. John Morley's well-known work on "Compromise" is not without interest at the present moment:—

Every act of coercion directed against an opinion or a way of living is in so far calculated to lessen the quantity of conscience in the society where such acts are practised. Of course, where the ways of living interfere with the lawful rights of others, where they are not strictly self-regarding in all their details, it is necessary to force the dissidents, however strong may be their conscientious sentiments. The evil of attenuating that sentiment is smaller than the evil of allowing one set of persons to realize their own notions of happiness at the expense of all the rest of the world.

A Scotch correspondent writes:—The London papers have passed by the death of Lord Deas this week in silence. Yet "the hanging judge," as he was nicknamed by the criminal classes on account of his severity, was one of the most eminent lawyers that Scotland has produced. Lord Deas was eighty-three years of age when he died, and the last survivor of the old race of judges of whom so many good stories have been told, and who were as typical of their country as the dominies and the lairds. He was often confounded with his brother judge, Lord Neaves, by the general public, but not by the persons on whom he sat in judgment; the one prayer of evil-doers in Scotland being that, if they were "caught," it would be Neaves and not Deas who sentenced them. Though belonging to the same school, the two judges were men of different tastes. Lord Neaves's favourite relaxation was writing for *Blackwood*, where his definition of the Permissive Bill, "To permit me to prevent you from having a glass of grog," appeared. Lord Deas only wrote on Scottish law. He was also instrumental in making it.

THE COMPETITION SYSTEM IN INDIA.

It is now more than thirty years since the first civil servants selected by open competition landed in India. It is not too soon, then, to ask ourselves what the results have been of the mode of selection of which they were the first and most conspicuous examples. Since competition is likely for a long time to come to provide our public officials, it is as well to know what it is worth.

Has it succeeded in India? Has it given the country better men than the old East India Directors did?

To answer this question we shall have to look to other things besides the social standing of successful candidates; but we may remark that one thing which competition has not done is to make any material change in this respect. The Haileybury civilians were sons of soldiers, civil servants, clergymen, lawyers, and merchants; and so in the main are the civilians of the present day. The bulk of them belong to the upper half of the middle classes. In old days the rare exceptions to this rule were at the top of the scale: poor sons of noble families, who were tempted to India by the pagoda tree. Nowadays the exceptions—rather less rare—are at the other end of the social scale, and consist of the sons of men below the middle class. But the cost of education has always kept their number low—so low that in considering the service as a body they may for the present be disregarded.

The competition-men being generally of the same class as their predecessors, how do they compare with them in qualifications? In one kind of ability their standard must, no doubt, be a little higher. They have all passed examinations which some of the old service would have failed to pass. That service, however, had a fair measure of average ability, and we doubt if this superiority, either in kind or degree, is very great. Whether the ability to pass examinations is a good test of qualification for public service, is a question that goes to the root of the competitive system. We do not wish to raise it at present; but a good example of the doubts which suggest it is supplied by India itself. We have thrown open the Civil Service of India to competition by natives; and the result is that a Commission is now sitting in that country, whose chief duty it will be to devise means for narrowing the door of admission to the Baboo class, which can pass examinations but lacks "grit," and widening it for other classes, who have the "grit" but are not quite so ready to pass examinations. This serves to show the weak point of what may be called examination ability. That weakness is not so conspicuous, of course, in the case of men who go from this country. Being middle-class Englishmen, they have the qualities of their class; and, with few exceptions, the competition civilians are not less active and manly than their predecessors were. But any superiority in examination ability which the present civilians may possess is probably not very considerable.

In another respect, however, the new men have a decided advantage over the old. They arrive in India better prepared to enter at once upon their new duties. This superiority, which is due to the training that follows competition, not that which precedes it, is an accident rather than an essential part of the system. But in making the present comparison it would not be fair to omit it.

So much of the qualities that can be gauged by examinations. But an Indian career, we need hardly say, demands moral quite as much as intellectual qualities. Force of character and intrepidity; a high sense of honour and public spirit; the ability to learn from facts as well as from books—these are among the chief requirements of an Indian administrator; and they are forms of ability which no examination-paper can test. How in these untested qualities do the

competition civilians compare with the Haileybury men? Such a comparison cannot be fairly made until the administration of India has been in the hands of the former for another generation or two. During the past thirty years the Haileybury men, in virtue of their seniority, have mostly filled the upper posts, and the part played by the later comers was for perhaps half of that period a subordinate one. But so far as they have risen above a subordinate position it seems that in most respects the competition men do not, as a body, differ materially from their predecessors. The truth probably is that in both cases the men have been made by the circumstances in which they have been placed, and that their education and acquirements as boys have had very little to do with their efficiency as men. We have said that in most respects they do not differ. There is one important matter, however, in which it may be doubted whether they quite come up to the old standard. It is said, and we believe with truth, that in loyalty and ungrudging devotion to the public service there is some falling-off to be detected in the present men as compared with those who went before them. It is not that the former stint their labour, but that they look rather more closely to the hire of the labourer. An old Indian official said of them, in his haste, that they were all contractors: so much work, and no more, for so much money. He certainly did not mean all that he said; and of many of them the saying would not be true at all. Still there is enough truth in it to show the nature of the defect implied. It is not to be wondered at, of course, if men who regard their position as one acquired not by favour but by right should be inclined to stand upon their rights. We do not say, either, that their jealousy of their interests and their inclination to discontent are altogether unreasonable. Owing to reduced allowances and the fall in the value of silver, the attractions of service in India are steadily decreasing. It must be admitted, too, that the Home Government has not always dealt wisely, or even fairly, with complaints. Still the bargaining spirit in which many of the new service view their relations to the State, and the organization by means of which they press their claims, are characteristics which must be put in the scale against them when their merits are weighed.

Nevertheless, after making all necessary abatements and corrections on either side, it is perhaps not far from the truth to say that the average efficiency of the competition men stands at about the same level as that of the Haileybury men. Is it also the case that their best and worst men compare evenly with those of the old school? There has not yet been time, as we have said, for many of the former to rise to distinction. But among those that have so risen we cannot find any name that could be put above the best of the old civilians, and hardly any that could be put on a par with them. Even if we exclude from the comparison two or three exceptional men, like Elphinstone and Lawrence, there is in what may be called the second line of Indian statesmen a list of names—such as those of Clerk, Thomason, Grant, Frere, and Strachey—which, whatever may be the case in the future, has not been surpassed hitherto. On the other hand, in its worst men the present service decidedly falls below the old one. There were "hard bargains," no doubt, in the old days—men who did no work at all. But the "hard bargains" of the present day are much worse. They belong mostly to the small percentage of the service which is recruited from the lower orders. Some of these men adapt themselves to their altered circumstances, learn the habits of their new associates, and show themselves to have by nature all the qualities that go to make a gentleman. But there are a few of this class who neither by nature nor by birth are gentlemen; and these men, when their turn comes to hold offices for which their habits and their manners in no way qualify them, are a greater discredit and embarrassment to our Indian administration than the idle men ever were. Fortunately, the number of them is very small.

Summing up on the whole case, it may be said that competition, judged by its results in India, has given us men who, as a body, are equal to the old directors' nominees, that its best men have not hitherto been superior, and that its worst men of all are decidedly inferior to any of former times. Viewed as a concession to the love of equality, a good deal may be said in favour of competition; but, looking at it as a means of supplying the State with public servants, it cannot be said that its results seem likely to fulfil the expectations of its originators.

THE MOUNTAIN FOX.

DURING the spell of Arctic weather which we have this winter experienced in the north, hunting in the hill districts has been at a standstill. It is not that "going" has been difficult or dangerous, as the followers of the mountain hunts are rarely or never mounted. Scattered among the Fell dales are a few packs of small wiry foxhounds, and only deep snow prevents their being regularly hunted. Hidden precipices, mountain snow-storms, and ravines smoothly sunk beneath their downy coverlets are all traps for both dogs and men. None know this better than those who are best acquainted with the mountains—the hunters and shepherds, or the dalesmen who may have occasion to cross from one valley to another.

Although the yeomen of the Lake country are keen sportsmen, the hill-fox is hunted for reasons far other than those of sport pure and simple. Vulpecide is not even a crime; a price being set upon the head of the fox by the wardens of every mountain church. And this, where the crags afford such harbour and the holdings are essentially sheep-farms, must necessarily be so. With no preserved game, and but little life on the mountains, foxes prove very destructive in winter. When other supplies fail, and Reynard is denied the fowl-roost, he has recourse to the small black-faced sheep. These, from their size, are not difficult to overcome, especially if dog and vixen hunt in company; and it is evident that they find mountain mutton very toothsome. It is this *penchant* that makes the hill farmer so consistent an enemy of the fox. He traps it, shoots it, and, when he can safely do so, lays poison in its paths.

One of my amusements in long-gone school vacations was to lie upon a green ledge among the crags armed with an ancient flintlock, and from this point of vantage deal death to the cubs as they came out to play at the mouth of their den. The destruction of the young is the farmer's method of keeping the species within due bounds, and it is the only practicable one. A few favourite breeding sites supply a wide tract of country; these for the most part being in quite inaccessible fastnesses. Here the cubs stay through summer until early autumn, being catered for in the meantime in the most assiduous manner. The mouth of their earth presents a perfect shambles, where every species of native game is represented. But there comes a time when the playful family is taken by night to the woods or the moor, and here, as harbour offers, they abide till winter. These colonies may not unfrequently be found among the heather, their vicinity being marked by the heads and wings of grouse, curlew, plover, dotterel, and the remains of hares. Such a spot constitutes a very paradise of fox-dom, and a perfect training-ground for the cubs. They gambol about at twilight, sending up clouds of fur and feather, though quite unaware that this is the most critical period of their lives. For the bitch-fox has only dug a moderately deep hole in the soft peat, and, unless there be boulders strewn about, the refuge is slight. If found under such circumstances, a stout stick and his dogs soon enables the shepherd to despatch the whole litter; and he never loses an opportunity so presented. Their parents keep at a respectful distance, never attempting to defend their young.

The foxes of the hill-country are of the "greyhound" variety, and are endowed with great powers of speed and endurance—much more so than the covert-fed ones of the south and midlands. And this, perhaps, is one of the reasons why comparatively few foxes are killed in the legitimate fashion. One remarkable run may be described by way of illustration. It lasted upwards of nine hours, and the distance covered must have been considerably over a hundred miles. The chase began about noon, and at six in the evening, when Reynard was believed to be exhausted, he again made for the hills, when both fox and hounds were lost to the hunters. At nine the hounds were heard returning the way they had gone, and were still in full cry. By this time half the pack had fallen off; and the echoes that rang among the mountains in the moonlit night, as the dogs passed and repassed through the gorges, were magnificent. Soon the prolonged deep baying of the hounds was changed into short sharp barks—a sure indication that the dogs were viewing their game. In a short time all was still, and then, perhaps, ended the life of the toughest old fox that ever ran the Fells. The hounds returned, showing by their torn faces that Reynard, even when run down, had fought desperately. Most of the pack, however, were lost or exhausted and did not return until next day; one, completely worn out, crawled from the hills after a week, and three were found to be "crag-fast." Rescuing these is always a dangerous business, and on this occasion it was performed by a party of shepherds with the aid of ropes.

Owing to the tread of the fox being much lighter than a man's and his hearing quicker, it is rarely that even the dwellers in his haunts get a peep at him. If surprised, he never seems disconcerted, but trots off with the most unconcerned air conceivable. The other day, walking by a fence which skirted a fir-plantation and suddenly rounding a curve, I observed a fox coming toward me, and we mutually stopped to gaze at each other. On the part of the fox this hesitation did not last long. In another moment he again came leisurely on. When he was a few paces in front, however, he took the fence at a bound, crept close beneath its further side for some distance, and then, slightly exerting himself, was soon out of sight.

The extreme beauty of the red mountain-fox is best seen when his figure is sharply outlined against the snow. How fleetly buoyant he glides along, his brush floating light as air behind him! What grace in his leaps and litherness in his long finely drawn limbs! These are perfect masses of muscle: which accounts for his marvellous powers of endurance. That easy jog-trot, by reason of its very buoyancy, conveys but little notion of its actual speed. As he floats along, his brush lends itself to the delusion, the close thick fur concealing the intense muscular play beneath. His speed can only be judged comparatively. One day in winter, as I listened to the baying of the hounds among the crags, a fine dog-fox leaped lightly over the fence within a few feet of where I stood. A fast cur-bitch ran him through a long low meadow; but only kept pace for a few strides, the fox out-distancing her with contemptuous ease. The race opened my eyes; for the bitch ran like a rough-coated greyhound, and was "Fleet" both by name and by nature.

Like many wild creatures, foxes have well-defined routes, and seek their food morning and evening. A curious fact, and one maybe hitherto unrecorded, is that, when foraging, Reynard's whereabouts are often made apparent by carrion-crows and other Fell birds that noisily pursue him high overhead until he secretes himself. In the hill districts his fare is often meagre and hard to obtain; and the shifts he makes and the pittance he has to put up with must sorely pinch him in winter. In summer mountain-hares and moor-fowl are not difficult to obtain; but in times of severity these creatures seem to descend, drawing nearer to the haunts of men. Then he is glad to get rats and mice, and even beetles and earth-worms. Hedgehogs' skins may be found near his earth, and when frogs are obtainable those he considers delicacies. Upon one occasion I found stored up twenty-three shrew-mice; though why they should have been stored instead of eaten I cannot conjecture. Strangest thing of all, foxes are extremely fond of fresh-water crayfish, and these they obtain from the mountain-streams in summer when the water is low.

A curious habit which I do not remember to have seen anywhere recorded, and one in which the mountain-fox invariably indulges, is that of frequently stopping to listen when leaving the earth. At first about a hundred yards divides each halt, but when further away the distance increases. In returning to the crags, foxes never enter them from below, always from above.

MR. STEBBING'S ESSAYS.*

THESE essays well deserve preservation; and collected in their present form they make a very attractive volume. They may be described as a series of studies in the history of the eighteenth century, though some of the careers they relate fall outside the chronological limits of that period. It is impossible, for instance, to bring Abraham Cowley into relation with the eighteenth century, however elastic a sense we concede to that expression. He appears to have been introduced as a pendant to Matthew Prior, who, like himself, combined the characters of poet and politician. But, as Mr. Stebbing observes, though very few years separate the two men, they are nevertheless an age apart. However, if Cowley is somewhat out of place in the company among which he here finds himself, the reader will readily excuse the incongruity for the sake of a thoughtful and discriminating sketch of his political career and poetical genius. The comparison with Wordsworth is, we think, a happy one. "Inferior as is Cowley to Wordsworth as an original thinker, he had an extraordinary and almost an unique faculty for inspiring his imagination with grand philosophical ideas not his own. He is not so much a metaphysical or philosophical poet as the poet of science and philosophers." Change of taste and the growth of new literature have condemned both Cowley and Prior to neglect. The latter, perhaps, deserves his fate. "Without thought or passion no writer can long keep his rank among poets, and Prior had neither." But Cowley has left poems which, in Mr. Stebbing's judgment, cry shame upon our neglect. A reader, he says, "may commence by despising Cowley's contemporaries for worshipping his genius; he will end by blushing for the modern desertion of the shrine."

In an animated introduction, which, however, is often deformed by the abuse of antithesis, Mr. Stebbing has many good things to say for the eighteenth century. He thinks that the unlucky historical performance of Smollett has left the whole age under the fatal imputation of dulness. We do not believe that Smollett's history has had the influence attributed to it; but it is true that there is a strong disposition in our day to disparage the last century. It should be remembered, however, that every age is not only an outgrowth from the one preceding, but in some measure a revolt against it. And there are special reasons why the eighteenth century should appear unattractive. Religious minds feel no sympathy with an age in which enthusiasm was a reproach. Students find its literature, and above all its poetry, soulless and uninspired. The historian who confines his view to these islands has no great conflict of causes to relate. But on a wider consideration the time is seen to be full of interest. If it contains nothing to thrill the heart like the winning of the Great Charter, or the crisis when the Armada had set sail, or the scene when Charles passed to the scaffold at Whitehall, it saw an English empire won in the East and another lost on the western shores of the Atlantic. It beheld the rise of two forces still far from spent: in Hume the power of negative criticism, and in Wesley's movement the revival of the claim of religious emotion to supersede reason as the guide of human life. Even in literature its sanity and good-breeding have made it classical. "The Elizabethan age demonstrates the extreme height to which the English mind can aspire. But Addison, Swift, Pope, Steele, De Foe, and Bolingbroke are still practically our literary models. Their age continues to set the standard by which we test the works of our contemporaries."

Mr. Stebbing's book is not devoted to the important aspects of the eighteenth century to which we have referred. There is no fear of these being neglected. If any one man is entitled to be styled the founder of the British Empire, that man is Chatham. But where Macaulay has occupied the field it would be imprudent for another essayist to enter. What Mr. Stebbing has done has been to illustrate English history during four or five generations by examining the career of some writers and statesmen who, differing in other respects, have one quality in common. Each at one time was a prominent figure in the eyes of his contemporaries. "The creation of a considerable reputation," says Mr. Stebbing, "is never without an interest of its own. No effect can be without a cause. Men may praise something which contains not a germ or spark of what is really praiseworthy; they never praise by accident. Either in the object of their laudations, or in themselves and their circumstances, is to be found the explanation of the halo which surrounds some names."

Readers in search of historical novelties will be disappointed with these pages. No evil reputation is whitewashed, no popular favourite is condemned to the pillory. The verdicts which Mr. Stebbing reviews are all confirmed. He is inclined to leniency in the cases of Shaftesbury and Bolingbroke, but advances nothing to materially alter the estimation in which they are generally held. In these essays and in that on William Pulteney he sometimes credits the reader with a more accurate knowledge of English history than is a common accomplishment, and contents himself with an allusion where a fuller statement is required. His account of "the great Walpolean battle," however, is admirably lucid. It is curious to observe that the period of English history when government was in the hands of an oligarchy was also the period when the evils we generally associate with democracy flourished most rankly. A furious party spirit, even when no principle was involved; a violence of language within the walls of Parliament such as would make a modern Speaker gasp; undisguised and almost universal corruption at home, with a foreign policy veering suddenly from one side to another according to the exigencies of party warfare, make this age one of the most discreditable in our annals. All the fine sentiments and patriotic declamation of Bolingbroke and Carteret and Pulteney were, as Shippen observed, but a scheme for turning out one Minister and bringing in another. Of all party manoeuvres a coalition purely for place is the most contemptible. Such, as Mr. Stebbing rightly judges, was the coalition against Walpole. A generation later corruption was as rife as in Walpole's days; and the spectacle of England provoked from Franklin the same exclamation as that of Rome wrung from the lips of Jugurtha. England had become, in the American's eyes, "a whole venal nation, now at market, to be sold for about two

millions, and able to be bought out of the hands of the present bidders if he would offer half a million more, by the devil himself."

Even so keen an observer as Franklin might well come to this despairing conclusion. But any man who had passed all his life in England, and regarded the country with more friendly eyes than those of the American agent, could see that through all this period of corruption the nation had remained sound. With a restricted franchise, with pocket boroughs, and with bribery rampant in and out of Parliament, public opinion was still a living power. Ever since the Revolution it had increased in strength. When James II., in his design to emancipate the Catholics, sought to ascertain and, if possible, to intimidate the national sentiment, the mode he adopted was to propound three questions to every deputy-lieutenant and justice of the peace. By the time that George III. ascended the throne, not only the country gentry had to be reckoned with, but a great trading interest had also to be taken into account. Thus it was that literature became a growing political force; and the satire, the epigram, and the pamphlet were all pressed into the service for party warfare. Even the prevailing corruption was more sordid than dangerous.

The essays on Franklin and Cobbett are the most fascinating in the volume. The American revolutionist is portrayed in favourable colours, though his violation of Hutchinson's private letters is justly condemned. Franklin's career was one of almost unbroken success; and he is one of the very few men who have wished to live their lives over again. Of Cobbett, Mr. Stebbing says: "Insolence and spite are the spirit he breathes." But even these, he remarks, had their use. There are times when the national health requires a blister, and this was effectually supplied by the writings of Cobbett. The work is closed by slight but interesting sketches of society in Virginia and New England before the Declaration of Independence.

TRADE AND FINANCE.

The value of money continues to decline. Yesterday the discount quotation was $2\frac{3}{4}$ to $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., and little business was done at the higher rate. Bills are scarce and the competition for them is keen. Short money was readily lent at $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., although the Settlement is going on; but, in fact, the Settlement this time has very little influence on the market, so small is the account; and consequently, instead of borrowing, brokers and dealers are paying off some of the advances made to them. The tendency is downwards for the moment. During the week gold amounting to £87,000 was received by the Bank of England, of which £41,000 was sent in yesterday, and it was announced yesterday morning that arrangements had been made for shipping gold from New York. For some time it has appeared probable that gold would be received from New York; for the selling of American Railroad securities for weeks past has been on an enormous scale, and has so turned the balance of indebtedness against the United States as to send up the New York sterling exchange; but it may be doubted, nevertheless, whether the amount received will be very large. If peace is maintained, the speculation for the rise in American Railroad securities will revive; and even if war breaks out, the probability is that much Continental money will be transferred from European investment into English and American, while the purchases of all kinds from America for war purposes will be very large. All this is well understood in the United States, and, as there is no immediate reason for bringing gold from New York, means will be adopted, no doubt, to postpone shipping the metal until the balance of indebtedness is once more turned.

After opening somewhat undecided with a downward tendency in the Foreign department, the Stock Exchange decidedly improved yesterday, and closed very strong. There was no particular reason assigned, except that the Settlement is going over very smoothly, that the account open for the rise is very small, and that there is a very considerable scarcity of stock. It was discovered yesterday, in fact, that there is a much larger account open for the fall in certain Foreign Government bonds than was revealed on the previous day. As much as $\frac{3}{8}$ per cent. for the fortnight had to be paid for the loan of Hungarian bonds, being at the rate of 9 per cent. per annum, and other Foreign Government bonds were found to be much scarcer than they had seemed to be on the previous day. As there was no disturbing foreign influence, it would seem that the speculators for the fall thought it advisable to buy back. There was, therefore, a considerable closing of "bear" accounts, which at once sent up prices. This reacted upon all other departments. Furthermore, there appears to be a movement among American speculators to put up certain American stocks; and the instant this was discerned there was an upward movement in the American market. In Home Railway stocks, again, there was a decided improvement. Apparently the speculators came to the conclusion yesterday that they had acted too hastily the evening before. On the strength of the rumour that the state of siege had been raised in Alsace-Lorraine, they sold stocks in large quantities. Yesterday they appear to have repented of this, and to have bought back largely. Instantly prices advanced. The markets are for the moment in such a state that very little buying sends up prices, and very little selling sends them down; and buying and selling set in according as favourable or unfavourable rumours circulate.

The upward movement was far more considerable in Home Railway stocks than in Foreign Government bonds, though it was in the latter the movement began. This is natural, for in the present state of the Continent few English investors care to buy Foreign Government bonds, and what buying there is largely proceeds from speculators who have already sold; but Home Railway stocks were sold speculatively last week when the panic occurred in Paris, and now the speculators are eager to buy back. In the Foreign market the rise ranged from $\frac{1}{8}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$; but in Home Railway stocks, North-Western rose $1\frac{1}{2}$, North-Eastern and South-Eastern Deferred 1 each, District, Metropolitan $\frac{3}{4}$, and Brighton A 1 each, Great Eastern and Great Western $\frac{3}{8}$ each, and Lancashire and Yorkshire $\frac{1}{2}$. Grand Trunk of Canada stocks rose from $\frac{3}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$, and Mexican Railway stocks from $2\frac{1}{4}$ to $2\frac{3}{4}$. In American Railroad securities, Wabash Preference shares rose $1\frac{1}{4}$, Louisville and Nashville $\frac{1}{2}$, Milwaukee $\frac{3}{4}$, and New York Central and Erie shares $\frac{1}{2}$ each.

* "Some Verdicts of History Reviewed," By William Stebbing. (John Murray. 1887.)

THE ST. JAMES'S GAZETTE.
FOURTH EDITION.

ATTEMPT TO KILL MDME. PATTI.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 9.—During a concert which was being given here this evening at the Grand Opera House, a man among the audience, supposed to be insane, made an attempt to kill Adelina Patti by throwing a bomb, which, however, exploded prematurely, injuring only himself. The prima donna was at the time before the curtain responding to the applause. A panic appeared imminent, but was promptly averted by the audience being assured that there was no cause for alarm.

PROPOSED NEUTRALIZATION OF EGYPT.

The first formal sitting of the Turkish and British Commissioners for Egyptian affairs took place on Monday afternoon at the Porte. After some preliminary remarks conveying observations deduced from a careful study of the question in Egypt, with a sincere desire for the establishment of permanent tranquillity and order in the country, and for the welfare and prosperity of its people, Sir H. D. Wolff (the *Times*' correspondent says) presented a written document embodying his views for the practical attainment of these desirable ends on the basis of the neutralization of Egypt and the defence of the Canal. After a short conversation the meeting was adjourned to a day to be named after communication with Sir Henry Wolff. According to other reports, the outlines of Sir Henry's proposal are that the Powers should undertake to guarantee the neutrality of Egyptian territory without favour to any one Power; the right to be reserved to Egypt to allow the Powers to transport their armies through Egyptian territory in case of need. Egypt would remain under the sovereignty of the Sultan, and the existing treaties between Egypt and the Porte regulating such sovereignty would be recognized by the guaranteeing Powers as the basis of the relations between Egypt and the Porte. The English occupation will cease after the adhesion of the Powers to this convention. The *Daily News*' correspondent says that the Turkish officials regard the project favourably. They were apparently unprepared for it, and have not yet had time to consider its import; but the impression it has produced is favourable.

THE BURNLEY VACANCY.

The Central News understands that in Unionist circles a strong feeling prevails that Sir George Trevelyan should stand for Burnley in the Unionist interest.

A deputation from the Gladstonian Liberals of Burnley waited yesterday on Sir James Kitson, at Leeds, for the purpose of asking him to become their candidate for the representation of the borough. Sir James intimated that he would take time to consider the request.

ENGLISH AND GERMAN TRADERS IN MOROCCO.

A Foreign Office paper issued to-day contains a consular report on the trade in textile fabrics in Morocco. From this it appears that British merchants have almost entirely lost the trade in cloth imported into the country, being supplanted by Germans. The latter make a cheaper cloth in imitation of English goods, and give four months' credit to the local merchant without charging interest. The English merchant formerly insisted upon ready money, but now gives three months' credit and charges interest. The trade in cloth, which has passed almost entirely into German hands, is estimated at about £30,000 annually.

ALLEGED LIBEL BY THE "BAT."

At the Bow-street Police Court to-day, Mr. Sproston attended before Sir James Ingham on behalf of Mr. Robert Peck, the owner of race-horses, and submitted an information upon which he proposed to ask for a summons against the printer, the publisher, and the proprietor of the *Bat* newspaper. The alleged libel was contained in an article published on the 1st of February, under the heading of "Letters to Notable Sportsmen," and was signed "Chei-ropteron." Sir James asked to be shown that portion of the article upon which the application was founded. Mr. Sproston submitted that the whole article was a libel, and was set out in full in the information. Mr. Sproston said that he proposed to leave the information embodying the above and to apply for a summons when he had procured the fiat of the Public Prosecutor. Sir James Ingham suggested that the application might be renewed later in the day. Mr. Sproston acquiesced, and at his request Mr. Peck was sworn to the information. The matter was adjourned until the afternoon.

CONVOCATION OF CANTERBURY.

In the Lower House to-day the Prolocutor (Archdeacon Summer) took the chair in the College Hall, Westminster Abbey, at eleven o'clock. Canon Gregory presented the following gravamen:—

That there has latterly been a large amount of lewd and demoralizing matter published in newspapers, sometimes with the avowed object of bringing to light licentious proceedings carried on in the metropolis, with a view to their being suppressed and their perpetrators punished. At other times there have been the record of trials in the Divorce Court. But in all cases, in the opinion of the undersigned, such publications have a tendency to encourage rather than to discourage vice, and to corrupt the minds of many young persons. *Reformandum*: That your lordships the Bishops will use all your influence to restrain the publication of vicious or obscene documents under any guise or pretence, and so assist in protecting young persons from the corrupting influence of such publications.

The House then proceeded to discuss the Draft Prayer Book (Additional Services) Act, which had been sent down for their consideration from the Upper House. It was a measure to authorize the provision of additional services for use in the Church of England, and for the revision from time to time of the rubrics and directions contained in the Book of Common Prayer.

M. GREVY THREATENED BY ANARCHISTS.

(EXCHANGE COMPANY'S TELEGRAM.)

PARIS, Thursday.—The *Gaulois* says that M. Grévy has received letters threatening his life if he does not pardon Duval, the condemned Anarchist.

FRANCE AND RUSSIA.

(EXCHANGE COMPANY'S TELEGRAM.)

PARIS, Thursday.—The *Figaro* announces that General Martinoff has arrived in Paris on a mission from the Czar, to confer with M. Flourens on the Bulgarian question.

ALLSOPP AND SONS (LIMITED).

We understand that the applications for Allsopp and Sons (Limited) exceed £100,000,000, from upwards of 35,000 persons, and chiefly for ordinary and preference shares. It will be remembered that the total amount of these shares available for allotment is only £730,000 of each class. Applications from customers of Allsopp's, and others calculated to promote the continued success of the concern, will naturally be looked on with favour. After an extremely small allotment to this class, it will be seen how small a residue there can possibly be for the general public. In any case, the scrutiny of the lists must occupy a very considerable time.

THE LORD ADVOCATE AND THE CROFTERS.

The Central News says:—Mr. John Macpherson, "the Glendale martyr," and Mr. J. G. Weir, late crofter candidate for the Falkirk Burghs, had an interview of nearly an hour with the Lord Advocate yesterday at the House of Commons, and explained to him the amendments they consider necessary in the Crofters Act, and also the events which led up to the recent expeditions to Tiree and Skye. The Lord Advocate intimated that he could hold out no hope of further legislation, and said that all the Government could do would be to encourage emigration. Mr. Macpherson left London last night to address meetings in the north.

FASHIONABLE MARRIAGE.

The marriage of the Honourable Beatrice De Grey, sister to Lord Walsingham, to Admiral the Honourable Walter Carpenter, son of the late Earl of Shrewsbury, was solemnized this morning at St. George's Church, Hanover-square. The body of the church was filled with an aristocratic assemblage, chiefly composed of the friends and relatives of the two families. The bride, who was given away by her brother, Lord Walsingham, wore a costume of white satin elaborately trimmed with Brussels lace and sprays of orange-blossom and tulle veil surmounted by a wreath of natural orange-blossoms. The service was performed by the Reverend Canon Capel Cure, assisted by the Honourable and Reverend Arnold De Grey, brother to the bride. Commander Rickman, R.N., acted in the capacity of best man, and the bridesmaids were the Honourables Mabel and Odeyne De Grey, Miss Carpenter, and Miss Evelyn Talbot. The bride was also attended by three little pages, Michael De Grey, George De Grey, and Humphrey Talbot, who were attired in handsome plush costumes. At the conclusion of the ceremony the bridal party adjourned to the town house of Earl Brownlow, 3, Carlton House-terrace, where the wedding breakfast was served. Subsequently the bride and bridegroom left town for Blinkling Hall, where they will pass their honeymoon.

SIR JOHN LUBBOCK'S SHOP HOURS ACT.

Mr. H. J. Priest, honorary secretary of the United Society of Shop Assistants (of 39, Hatton-wall), applied to Mr. Barstow, at the Clerkenwell Police Court to-day, for a summons against a hair-dresser in the Gray's-inn-road for employing a boy fourteen years of age at his premises for over seventy-four hours per week, contrary to the provision of the Shop Hours Regulation Act, which came into force last November. The applicant stated that the society was taking up the Act in the metropolis by request of Sir John Lubbock, and they wished to obtain a summons against the hairdresser as a test case. Mr. Barstow asked what Act of Parliament the applicant referred to, as he had not heard of it before. Mr. Priest showed the magistrate the section of the Act under which he applied for the summons; but Mr. Barstow, after looking at it, said he could not grant the application. If the person who was employed felt himself aggrieved, he had better apply for a summons personally. Mr. Priest, who appeared surprised at the refusal of his application, left the court.—(It is understood that an application will be made at the Queen's Bench Division for a mandamus to compel the granting of a summons, as the society feel that if the Act cannot be put in force until the employes themselves take proceedings, very few prosecutions will take place).

THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

The proprietors of the Crystal Palace held their annual meeting to-day at the Cannon-street Hotel and assembled in large numbers. The chairman (Major A. G. Dickson, M.P.), in moving the adoption of the report, referred at some length to the unfortunate position of the undertaking, and said that some people might attribute it entirely to the mismanagement of the directors. (Hear, hear, and "No, no.") After explaining the financial position of the company as shown in the report, the chairman stated that notwithstanding the many efforts of the directors to attract the public—having within the last four years given 258 variety shows and 332 miscellaneous entertainments—there had been a decline in the receipts and admissions ever since the exhibitions were started at South Kensington. Having complained of the lack of support from the neighbourhood, for which the Palace had done much, and of the success of the educational department, Major Dickson said that the Crystal Palace owed its existence to the Prince Consort, and the Queen in 1851 opened the Palace at Hyde Park and in 1854 at Sydenham. Therefore, the present being her Majesty's Jubilee, the board proposed to celebrate the occasion in a fitting manner. There would be a series of fêtes on a very grand scale. The present year opened with a brighter outlook than 1886. The exhibitions at South Kensington had come to an end, and the Indian and Colonial Institute had not yet been established. There were rumours—which he hoped were not true—that the Albert Hall and grounds were to be turned into a sort of Cremorne. If so, no doubt it would compete successfully with the Palace. However, the policy of the board was to maintain the fabric of the Palace and the grounds in good condition, to make the place bright and attractive, and so draw thousands to its gates, and to do nothing to deteriorate in any way the high character it had always had. Still, some-

thing must be done to place the company on a sound financial basis; and it would be necessary to go to Parliament for power to raise further capital, to readjust the debenture debt and avoid liquidation. He appealed to the debenture-holders to be reasonable, for it was impossible to pay the cumulative interest on the debt. In conclusion, he expressed his determination to prevent the efforts of wreckers and to keep his post until the position of the company was improved, unless he were forced to resign.

Dr. Reginald Read seconded the resolution.

THE HOXTON MURDER.

The police authorities engaged in the investigation of the murder of Lydia Green have obtained another clue in connection with the movements of Thomas William Currell, the man who is suspected of the crime. It appears that on Saturday night, the 5th inst., at a late hour, a man answering the description of Currell engaged a bed at a lodging-house at the foot of Blackfriars Bridge. He left on Sunday morning, and after his departure the charwoman engaged on the premises found a pair of trousers in the room which he had occupied. In consequence of hearing so much talk of the Hoxton murder, the discovery of the trousers occurred to her as being somewhat suspicious, and she communicated with the police. The trousers, it is stated, are similar to those worn by Currell when last seen. Another suspicious feature in the discovery is that a piece of cloth has been cut out of one of the legs.

A man answering the description of Currell, the supposed murderer of Lydia Green, at Hoxton, was arrested this morning and conveyed to Bow-street Police Station, where, however, it was clearly proved that he was not the man wanted, and he was liberated.

GREAT FIRE IN FRANCE.

A Reuter's telegram from Nantes states that the oil and soap manufactory of Messrs. Serpette Lorois and Co. was destroyed by fire last night. The loss is estimated at 2,000,000 fr.

THE MINERS' DISTURBANCES IN SCOTLAND.

A Hamilton correspondent telegraphs:—Four more prisoners were conveyed hither from Blantyre this morning, making a total of fifty-one now in custody on charges of being concerned in the riots on Monday night and Tuesday. The village remains garrisoned with police, but the hussars have been withdrawn, and no further trouble is anticipated.

THE ASSOCIATED CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE.

The sittings of this body were resumed to-day; Sir B. Samuelson, M.P., presiding. Resolutions were passed in favour of applying the Valuation (Metropolis) Act, 1869, allowing a deduction of one-third for machinery on the rateable value to the rest of the country; for the payment of income tax assessors other than by the poundage system, and asking for the abolition of the carriage tax; declaring the law with regard to the priority of payment of rent to be injurious to trade and commerce, and that the limitation of distress prescribed by the Agricultural Holdings Act, 1883, should be universally adopted; and praying for the abolition of light dues on shipping.

THE SEASON AT MONTE CARLO.

The Monte Carlo correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* says that never (according to the oldest inhabitant) has Monaco been so crowded as in the present season. After describing the characteristics of some of the frequenters of the saloons and the varied fortunes of the players, the correspondent says:—The *coup d'œil* offered by the gambling-rooms of an evening is well worth a visit to Monte Carlo, for those at least who do not object to elbowing Apollyon. The saloons, which are as magnificent as florid decoration, heavily and ponderously overdone, can make them, form a noble background to a dazzling procession of gorgeousness. Hats of huge volume and eccentric form, topped with plumes of funeral bulk, shade faces of the brightest pink. The Bloom of Ninon, judiciously combined with hair-dye, converts Meg Merillies into an odalisque. Gowns, vivid of hue and exiguous in quantity, vie with one another in startling contrast. Diamonds much larger than the Hoggarty one—twice as big as the Kohinoor—glitter in clusters on wide expanses of satin; nestle in bonnets, shimmer on bismuthed arms. The storehouses of all the Indian rajahs, and the treasures of Golconda, seem to have been shovelled forth for the behoof of this Bevy of Beauty. In twos and threes, artlessly intertwined, the hours promenaded the corridors, cackling of runs upon the red, of the wondrous fortunes they would have made but for some fatal *if*. Such as can do so borrow stray pieces from the unwary, and, armed with new inspirations, pounce once more into the trap. Animated groups, some in rough tweed and some in evening dress, gather in knots about the columns, each one declaring that his system is the only system and he its only prophet. One would imagine, but for the telegrams announcing passing events which freely deck the wall, that we were in some enchanted wonderland, where everything was *rouge* or *noir*, or *manque* or *impair*, or *couleur*! Of all goddesses she who presides here is the most cross-grained. Nor does the vixen rest content with the pilfering of purses; for her greedy claws are ever active in the tearing of reputations. Here every one knows everybody's former life; and, if we may believe what we are told, all are equally shady. Yonder brilliant apparition in sapphires and blue velvet, who is passing with angelic simper, has murdered two husbands—or was it three? That one in red went wrong long since, has ruined twelve millionaires, the last of whom cut his throat upon her doorstep. Murmurs of such fell import load the air.

POSTPONEMENT OF DONCASTER RACE MEETING.

This race meeting has been postponed until Wednesday and Thursday of next week, owing to the frost.

THIS DAY'S MONEY MARKET.

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

Money is in fair demand in the open market in connection with the Settlement on the Stock Exchange, and short loans are quoted 2½ per cent. The rate of discount is 2¼ per cent.

Quarter past Two.

The conclusion of the Settlement continues to take up attention in the Stock Exchange, and other business is consequently curtailed, but the general tone is good, and securities that were dull at the opening have since rallied a little. The English Funds are firm, and Consols show an advance of ¼ per

cent. Home Railways, some of which are quoted ex dividend, have improved, but North British is lower on the weaker market for pig-iron in Glasgow. Grand Trunk of Canada stocks opened with steadiness, but are now dull. The traffic return shows a gross increase for the week of £7,729. Mexican Railway stocks are firm at a further important advance, on the closing of "bear" accounts. American Securities opened firm on yesterday's improvement in New York, and prices are still better now than at first. Foreign Government Securities were dull generally this morning and flat for Egyptian issues, on the unfavourable reading of this morning's news; but prices are now recovering.

The following are the changes as compared with yesterday's closing prices:—

In the English Funds, Consols have improved ¼ to 100¼ to 100½ for money, and 100 13-16 to 100 15-16 for the account. New and Reduced Three per Cents. are unchanged at 101 3-16 to 101 5-16, and New Two-and-a-Half per Cents. at 88¼ to 88½.

In Home Railways, Great Eastern has improved ¼, Great Western ¼, Brighton A ¼, Chatham Ordinary ¼, the Preference ¼, Sheffield A ¼, North-Eastern ¼, and South-Eastern Deferred ¼; but North-Western has declined ¼, Midland ¼, and North British ¼. In Canadian and Foreign lines, Grand Trunk Ordinary has declined ¼, the First Preference ¼, the Second ¼, and the Guaranteed ¼; but Canadian Pacific has risen ¼, Mexican Ordinary ½, the First Preference ¼, and the Second 1.

In Foreign Government Securities, Egyptian State Domain has declined ½, the Unified ¾, the Preference ¾, the Daira Sanieh ¼, French of 1872 ¼, Russian of 1873 ¼, Turkish Group II. 3-16, the Tribute Loan of 1871 ¼, and the Defence ¼; but Hungarian Gold has improved ¼, Mexican Old ¾, Peruvian Six per Cents. ¼, the Five per Cents. ¼, Portuguese ¼, and Spanish Four per Cents. 3-16.

In American Securities, Pennsylvania and Ohio First Mortgage Bonds have risen 1, Central Pacific shares 1½, Milwaukee ¾, Denver 1, Lake Shore ¼, Louisville ¼, New York Central ¾, Erie ¾, the Second Mortgage Bonds 1¼, Ontario shares ¼, Ohio and Mississippi 1¼, Pennsylvania and Reading ½, Union Pacific ¼, Wabash Ordinary 1¼, and the Preference ¼.

The Bank of Bengal rate is now 8 per cent.

The Eastern rates of exchange are:—Bombay, 1s. 5 27-32d.; Calcutta, 1s. 5 5d.; Hong Kong, 3s. 3¼d.; Shanghai, 4s. 7¼d.

The statement of the New York Central and Hudson River Railroad Company for the quarter ended December 31, 1886, shows—Gross earnings 9,021,000 dols., and net income 1,605,000 dols.; which is equal to about 1.90 per cent. on the stock.

ENGLISH GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.

Consols	100¼	100½
Ditto Account (March)	100 13-16	100 15-16
Reduced Three per Cents.	101 3-16	101 5-16
New Three per Cents.	101 3-16	101 5-16
New Two-and-a-Half per Cents.	88¼	88½
India Stock Four per Cent.	102¼	102½
Ditto Three per Cent.	85¼	86
Ditto Four per Cent. Rupee Paper	70¼	71
Ditto 4½ per Cent. Rupee Paper	72¼	73
Bank of England Stock	997	999
Metropolitan 3½ per Cent.	106¼	107¼

COLONIAL GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.

Canada 4 per Cent. of 1910-35	103¼	104¼
N.S. Wales 4 p. C. of 1903-5-8-10	101¼	102¼
N. Zealand 4 p. C. Cons. Ins.	94	95
Queensland 6 per Cent. 1891-96	106	118
S. Australian 4 p. C. of 1894-1916	108	100
Tasmanian 6 per Cent. of 1893-1901	108	120
Victoria 4½ per Cent. of 1904	105	107

AMERICAN SECURITIES.

United States 4½ per Cent. Bond	111¼	111¾ xd
Ditto Four per Cent.	110¾	111¼
Virginia Funded Bonds	110	111
New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio First Mortgage Bonds	45¼	45½
Central Pacific Shares	39¼	39½
Chicago, Milwaukee, and St. Paul	94¼	95¼
Denver and Rio Grande Shares	86¼	87¼
Illinois Shares	135	136
Lake Shore and Michigan Southern 100-dol. Shares	97¼	97½
Louisville and Nashville 100-dol. Shares	63¼	63½
New York Central Shares	110	110¾
New York, Lake Erie, and Western 100-dol. Shares	33¼	33½
Ditto Preference Six per Cent	69	70
Ditto Second Mortgage Bonds	100¼	101
New York, Ontario, and Western Shares	18¾	18½
Ohio and Mississippi Shares	27¼	28
Oregon and California Seven per Cent. Preference Shares	18¼	18½
Pennsylvania Shares	57¼	57½
Philadelphia and Reading Shares	20	20½
Ditto General Mortgage Bonds	102¼	103¼
Union Pacific Shares	58¼	59
Wabash, St. Louis, and Pacific Ordinary Shares	18	19
Ditto 100-dol. Preference	30¼	30½

BRITISH AND FOREIGN RAILWAY STOCKS.

Caledonian	97¼	97½
Great Eastern	65¼	66 xd
Great Northern Ordinary	114	115
Ditto A	100	101
Great Western	136	136½
Lancashire and Yorkshire	115	116
London and Brighton Ordinary	125	127 xd
Ditto A	112	112½
London, Chatham, & Dover Ord	21¼	22
Ditto 4½ per Cent. Preference	97¼	97½ xd
London and North-Western	164	164½
London and South-Western	126	127
Manchester, Sheffield, & Lincoln	65¼	66½
Ditto A	35¼	36
Metropolitan	108¼	108½
Metropolitan District	38¼	39¼
Midland	125	125½
North British	38¼	39¼
North-Eastern	15¼	15½ xd
North Staffordshire	9¼	9½ xd
South-Eastern Ordinary	124¼	125½ xd
Ditto Deferred	104	104½
Grand Trunk of Canada Ordinary	12¼	13
Ditto First Preference Stock	75¼	75½
Ditto Second Preference Stock	57¼	57½
Ditto Third Preference Stock	29¼	30½
Ditto Guaranteed	72¼	72½
Canadian Pacific Shares	64¼	64½
Buenos Ayres & Pac. 7 p. C. Shares	23¼	24¼
Ditto 7 p. C. Debentures	125	128
Lombardo-Venetian	7¼	7½
Mexican Ordinary	50¼	50½
Ditto Eight per Cent. First Pref.	114¼	115½
Ditto Six p. Cent. Second Pref.	72¼	73¼
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	22¼	23¼
National Discount	10¼	11 xd
Peninsular and Oriental Steam	62	64
Royal Mail Steam	37	39
Suez Canal	75¼	76

FOREIGN STOCK MARKETS.

Argentine Six per Cent. of 1868	100¼	101¼
Ditto Six per Cent. of 1871	101	103
Ditto 6 p. Cent. Hard Dol. Bond	71¼	72¼ xd
Austrian Four p. C. Gold Rentes	85	87
Ditto Five per Cent. Silver	62¼	63¼
Brazilian Five per Cent. of 1855	99¼	100¼
Ditto Five per Cent. of 1871	98	99
Ditto Five per Cent. of 1875	98	99
Ditto 4½ per Cent. of 1883	92¼	91¼
Buenos Ayres Six per Cent. of 1871	92¼	91¼
Ditto Six per Cents. of 1873	97¼	98¼
Chilian 4½ per Cent. Conversion	97¼	98¼
Chinese Six p. C. of 1895, March	108	110
Ditto Six p. C. of 1895, June	107	109
Costa Rica 5 per Cent. Bonds A	63	67
Ditto B 4 p. C. now 5 p. C. 1888	57	59
Egyptian Three p. C. Guaranteed	98¼	99¼
Ditto Five p. C. State Domain	89¼	90¼
Ditto Four per Cent. Unified	70	72¼
Ditto Five per Cent. Preference	93¼	93½
Ditto Four p. C. Daira Sanieh	66¼	67¼
Entre Rios 6 p. C. 1886	89	90
Ditto 6 p. C. Ry. Mortgage	92	94
French Three per Cent. Rentes	76	77
Ditto 4½ per Cent. of 1872	105	105½
Greek Five per Cent. of 1879	77¼	78¼
Ditto Five per Cent. of 1881	58	59
Ditto Five per Cent. of 1884	57¼	58¼
Hungarian Gold Rentes of 1885	75¼	75½
Italian Five per Cent. of 1861	91¼	91½
Mexican Old Three per Cent.	26	26¼
Ditto of 1864	11¼	11½
Norwegian Four per Cent. of 1888	102	104
Peruvian Six per Cent. of 1870	13¼	14
Ditto Five per Cent. of 1872	10¼	11¼
Portuguese Three per Cent.	51¼	51½
Russian Five per Cent. of 1871	92	93
Ditto Five per Cent. of 1873	91¼	92¼
Ditto Five per Cent. of 1875	91¼	91½
Ditto 4½ per Cent. of 1875	86¼	87¼
Santa Fé 5 p. C. N. C. Ry. Mort	95	97
Ditto 5 p. C. Extensions Mort	88	90
Spanish Four per Cent.	65¼	66¼
Ditto Two per Cent.	46¼	46½
Swedish Four per Cent. of 1880	101	103
Turkish Six per Cent. Group 1	19¼	20¼
Ditto Nine per Cent.	13	13½
Ditto Six & Five per Cent. 3¼	13 13-16	13 13-16
Ditto 4½ p. C. Tribute Loan of 1871	68¼	69¼
Ditto Five per Cent. of 1854	91	93
Ditto Five per Cent. Defence	79¼	79½
Uruguay Unified Five p. C. of 1863	46¼	47

BANKS.

Anglo-Egyptian	14¼	15¼
City	18¼	19¼ xd
Colonial	32	34
Consolidated	7	7½ xd
Imperial Ottoman	9¼	9½
London and County	83	84
London and Westminster	62¼	63¼ xd
London Joint Stock	36	37 xd
National Provincial (612 paid)	49	50
Union of London	35	36

MINING SHARES.

Cape Copper	21	23
Indian Consolidated	15-16	17-16
Mason and Barry	7¼	7½
Montana	7¼	8¼
Mysore Gold	6¼	6½
Oreogum Gold	3¼	3½
Richmond Consolidated	4¼	4½
Rio Tinto	10¼	10½
St. John del Rey	30	33
Tharsis Sulphur	3¼	4
United Mexican	2¼	3¼

TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE SECURITIES.

Anglo-American	32¼	33
Brazilian Submarine	10¼	10½
Consolidated Telephone	3¼	3½
Direct United States	7¼	8
Eastern	10¼	10½
Eastern Extension	10¼	10½
Globe Ordinary	4¼	4½
Ditto Preference	11¼	11½
India-rubber, Gutta-percha, and Telegraph Works	23	24
Oriental Telephone	3-16	5-16
Telegraph Construction	38	39
United Telephone	12¼	12½
Western and Brazilian	7¼	7½

TRAMWAY SHARES.

Dublin	10¼	11
Glasgow	13¼	13½
Liverpool Un. Tram. and Omnibus	11¼	11½
London	18	18½
London Street	20	20¼
North Metropolitan	20¼	21

THE EUROPEAN SITUATION.

The unanimous vote of 86,000,000 fr. by the French Chamber is discussed very calmly by the German press. The *Berlin Post*, however, publishes the following significant paragraph, alleged to be a communication from Paris, which thus characterizes the present state of the political atmosphere:—

It cannot be called reassuring, as it seems to be a calm before a storm, a general expectant waiting for the hour when the chosen man will give the sign. This man is Boulanger, and the French public are said to be remaining quiet because they are consoled by the thought that the world will soon be surprised in a very colossal way. Another circumstance must be taken into account, which has materially contributed to the maturing of this determination for war in all classes. That is the attitude of the Russian press. It is certainly true that the Czar does not share the hostile feeling against Germany. But people count on the Panslavists' and Katkoff's hatred of the Germans. They calculate that these circles, whose influence would be irresistible at the given moment, will carry the Czar with them. It is unnecessary to add that armaments are continuing with the greatest zeal, and that the utmost that can be said is, that more efforts are being made now than a little while ago to avoid all noise.

The Vienna *Political Correspondence* publishes the following telegram from Berlin:—

The truth concerning the present situation between France and Germany corresponds neither to an anxious apprehension of war nor to an optimistic belief in peace, but lies between these two extremes. The fact that in official circles here earnest efforts are being made to avert the threatening danger affords ground for the hope that peace will be maintained. But it is nevertheless indisputable that great danger exists, inasmuch as the possibility of war has been brought appreciably nearer. The sudden cessation of agitation on the part of the French "Revanche" press is regarded here as only temporary, it being pointed out that the effect of sixteen years' agitation cannot be dispelled by a brief silence. Germany's whole interest is concentrated upon preserving present possessions, and the empire will only take up arms if constrained to do so in defence of them. Whoever in France desires peace must tell the people to relinquish all efforts to restore the frontiers of 1871, since on this point turns the question of peace or war. The preparations now being made in Germany are in order to place the country in readiness to meet every contingency.

At the dinner given last night by Prince Hohenlohe, the Governor-General of Alsace-Lorraine, to the members of the Provincial Committee, the Prince delivered a speech in which he said that the times would continue serious, even though war were not absolutely impending, so long as the general feeling in France was not such as to recognize without reservation the situation created by international treaties. The people of Alsace-Lorraine, added the Prince, had at the present moment in the elections the best opportunity of working for peace. Until the Federal Governments and the German people had become perfectly convinced that Alsace-Lorraine fully recognized the effects of the Treaty of Frankfurt, the province could not hope to be placed on the same footing as the other German States.

In the Spanish Senate yesterday General Salamanca asked the Government whether precautions had been taken to defend the coasts of Spain and her possessions in case war broke out in Europe. The Minister for War, General Castillo, stated that he had ordered an increase in the armaments and fortifications, but he considered it unadvisable to enter into details.

RESIGNATION OF LORD DUNRAVEN.

Lord Dunraven wrote on Thursday last to the Prime Minister tendering his resignation of his office of Under-Secretary for the Colonial Department. Yesterday Lord Dunraven had an interview with Lord Salisbury, at which that resignation was accepted. Lord Dunraven has addressed the following letter to Sir Henry Holland, Secretary of State for the Colonies:—

46, Upper Grosvenor-street, W., Feb. 9.

Dear Sir Henry Holland,—I should be exceedingly sorry if any misapprehension arose as to the motives for my resignation, and I therefore hasten to say that I resigned on financial and general grounds, and not on any point connected with the Colonial Department. I am strongly impressed with the necessity of making some distinct effort in the direction of financial reform. Retrenchment ought, I think, to be raised from the condition of a mere abstract idea into the region of practical politics. There are certain great principles which I have always advocated to the best of my ability. I believe that the strength of the Tory party depends in the future upon the due recognition of those principles, and I am sure that the maintenance of the Union depends upon the strength of the Tory party. I cannot but feel that in the legislation to be proposed to Parliament those principles are not sufficiently recognized. I became convinced, therefore, that it would be impossible for me to give the Government that unqualified support that is due from a member of the Government; and I desired, for my own sake, to assume a position in the party in which, while supporting the Government as far as possible, I should be free to express my opinion and free to abstain from taking any active part in legislation with which I might not wish to be identified.—Yours very truly,

DUNRAVEN.

THE STATE OF IRELAND.

A correspondent writes to the *Times*:—As Englishmen seem to understand so little of the real state of Ireland, I send you extracts from two letters written by a near relative of my own—one received last Saturday night, the other a few weeks before. The place referred to is a nice compact little estate, where the landlord has always resided among his people and looked after them in every way. It is now two years since he has received a shilling of rents, as the Land League is in full force. The following is an extract from the earlier letter:—

We live in constant excitement here from day to day, not knowing what may occur. Last week there were large crowds of people from far distances on the farms of the three tenants that are to be turned out; sixty ploughs ploughing up all the grass lands in order to prevent us from putting cattle to graze on them when they are vacated, and 150 carts drawing away all the farm produce, bands playing to encourage the people in their wrongdoing. We are greatly encouraged the last few days by the steps the Government are at last taking. They have been slow enough, and I am sure it will take a good while of unflinching determination before they get things into any sort of order here.

February 4, 1887.—I could not give you by words any adequate idea of the awful pass things have come to here and the insufficiency of the law or law officers to protect us. Our dear X and Z carried out our first eviction last week, and by the mercy of God were preserved; but the danger they were in was fearful, owing to the small force of police. Thirty-five the officials considered enough, though we had petitioned for 100. There was a mob several thousand strong of able men. The police were hustled about among the crowd, the vilest language used, and Canon Y, of renown, was there inciting almost to open bloodshed. . . . The police officers had to promise not to proceed with any more evictions that day before the crowd would let X and Z and the sheriff and police go. Yesterday I had a friendly hint that if we went on with the evictions the intention was to burn our house, and they would do it. The spirit abroad is awful. We alone of our immediate neighbours have stood firm, and the League is furious and determined to crush us. Destruction stares us in the face. It would take 500 men to protect us. God knows what will be the end of it all. A, B, and C are poorly, and all the helpless ones at —. Such a set to make a run for life! Is it not hard to be left by our own Government to be swallowed up by bitter foes?

THE MINISTERIAL CRISIS IN ITALY.

The Italian Ministerial crisis continues. The King yesterday received the principal politicians to discuss the situation, but nothing was decided with regard to the formation of a new Ministry. There is a strong party, which it is said, faithfully represents the feelings of a great part of the country, that wishes Count Robilant to form a Ministry, as he is considered the most capable statesman Italy now possesses. It is feared, however, that he will not accept office.

MILITARY STUDENTS' CONSPIRACY IN RUSSIA.

Another conspiracy has just been discovered in St. Petersburg, this time among the military students. It is difficult as yet (the *Times*' correspondent says) to get at the details of the affair; but, however stupid or serious the plot may be, or however exaggerated may be the reports which are now being circulated here about it, there is no doubt that something wrong has again been brought to light by the authorities. On Saturday last a young Prince, a cadet in one of the military schools, attempted to commit suicide by shooting himself. For this fact I can vouch; but no reason of any kind was given for the act, and the matter was hushed up as much as possible. What, however, I cannot absolutely vouch for as yet is the report that the young Prince was led to the act by complicity in some plot or the other, which he believed had been discovered. This is the report, and it is further stated that a searching inquiry into the matter in one or two of the military and naval schools has resulted in the arrest of a large number of young men, as well as of two or three naval officers. The real truth will probably only be known after some days. The arrests are stated by some persons to number already 100.

THE HOXTON MURDER.

It has been ascertained by the detectives engaged in the investigation of the murder of Lydia Green that Currell, the man who is "wanted" for the crime, was at Hampstead on Saturday night, at about eight o'clock. An aunt on his mother's side, an elderly woman, getting her living as a dressmaker, resides not far from the Heath. She states that her nephew paid her an unexpected visit, and appeared in a condition which suggested that he had been drinking heavily. They talked together on general subjects for about an hour, and in the course of conversation he said that he intended bringing Lydia (the deceased woman) to see her shortly. No reference was made by him to pecuniary matters, and nothing was disclosed to excite his relative's suspicions or alarm. He left soon after eight. The Hampstead ponds are within a short distance of the house, and the suggestion that the man has committed suicide is now strongly entertained. It was feared at first that he had taken a train for some place away from London at Dalston Junction on Saturday afternoon, but by postponing his departure from the metropolis he allowed the police cautions to reach the provinces and seaports before he could arrive. Currell has a relative also at Baldock, Herts.

LORD CADOGAN AT SAFFRON WALDEN.

Lord Cadogan last night addressed a Conservative meeting in the Town Hall, Saffron Walden. In the afternoon he opened new buildings connected with the local Conservative club, and in the course of his remarks expressed the opinion that the old lines of demarcation between Liberals and Conservatives were being obliterated, and he advised Conservatives to welcome into their ranks all Liberals who would join them in support of the Union. Addressing the evening meeting Lord Cadogan said, in reference to foreign affairs, there was no doubt that the situation had in it elements not only critical but highly combustible; but there was no reason to despair, and he believed they all felt that, at a moment of perhaps unparalleled anxiety in the affairs of Europe, the foreign affairs of this country were managed by the one man in the country in whom the people had confidence. The present position of the Government must be admitted to be one of exceptional difficulty. They had at the outset of the session sustained losses which would shake a party less firmly implanted in the affections of the people. It was impossible not to refer to the loss sustained by the death of Lord Iddesleigh, who was at all times entirely in sympathy with the best aspirations of the Conservative party. Within the past few weeks the Conservative party had also lost one of its most able and brilliant leaders in Lord Randolph Churchill. Before passing his judgment on Lord Randolph Churchill's resignation, he had felt it to be his duty to wait for his explanation, and he now felt bound to say that he did not think Lord Randolph Churchill's explanation was such as would commend itself to the more thinking of those who had at heart the interests of the Conservative party. In conclusion, he appealed to them to give their support to the Government. A vote of confidence in the Government was then passed.

THE DOCK LABOURERS AND THE SOCIALISTS.

A meeting of representative working men connected with the riverside, shipping, and dock trades of East London was held yesterday at the Trafalgar Hotel, Leman-street, Whitechapel, to consider the question of promoting better means of communication across the River Thames for the wage-earning classes below London Bridge. Mr. T. M. Kelly, the organizing secretary to the Dock and Riverside Labourers' Council, who occupied the chair, claimed the indulgence of the delegates to say a few words with respect to the disgraceful scenes which occurred on the preceding night through the action of the Socialist marauders in the Clerkenwell district. The public and the authorities should be at once made acquainted with the fact that these shop-looters were in no way connected or identified with the *bona fide* labouring classes of London, whether employed or unemployed. In the name of the general body of hard-working men in the metropolis he ventured to denounce these shoplifters and repudiate them in every sense of the word. Mr. George Hooper (West Ham Labourers) then moved the following resolution: "That this meeting regards with disgust and abhorrence the thievish acts which disgraced the cause of the working classes, promoted by Socialist agitators, last night in the Clerkenwell district, and, whilst deploring that such conduct has greatly damaged the cause of unemployed labour, most earnestly repudiate these acts as being in any way committed by the *bona fide* working men of the metropolis." The motion was seconded by Mr. W. P. Lind (Seamen's Society), and was adopted amidst loud cheering.

THE IDDESLEIGH MEMORIAL.

The proposed national memorial to the late Earl of Iddesleigh has been everywhere favourably received. The committee which will determine upon the form of the memorial will hold a preliminary meeting in a few days. The committee, which is almost complete, will include many members of the Cabinets, both Liberal and Conservative, which have been formed since the late Lord Iddesleigh first took Cabinet rank, besides a number of other prominent political personages of both parties.

"CLEANING SILVER."—All difficulty in keeping silver, electro-plate, etc., untarnished and with a brilliant polish may be obviated by using GODDARD'S NON-MERCURIAL PLATE POWDER. Sold every where, in boxes 1s., 2s. 6d., and 4s. 6d. Four Gold Medals awarded.—[ADVT.]

THE BULGARIAN QUESTION.

A Constantinople telegram says that private information received there states that Russia will make the nomination of a Russian general as Minister of War and the acceptance of M. Zankoff's demand for the reinstatement of the Bulgarian refugee officers as a *sine qua non* for the settlement of the Bulgarian question. It is expected in Turkish diplomatic circles that these proposals would be positively rejected by the Bulgarian delegates, in which case the negotiations would be broken off and the deputation would leave Constantinople. The assembly of a conference would then be doubtful. Another report from the Turkish capital is to the effect that M. Zankoff is seeking to forward his purposes by intrigue at the Palace. He has pointed out to the Sultan that numerous well-organized committees adverse to the Regency exist throughout Bulgaria, and that these only await the summons to action to do away with the principal men of the party in power. Such action, says M. Zankoff, would be certain to bring these committees into conflict, and civil war will ensue, furnishing Russia with her long-sought-for excuse to occupy the country and restore order. This picture, it is stated, has made an impression upon the mind of Abdul Hamid, who is now quite ready to call for the resignation of the Regency.

It is reported from Philippopolis that the adherents of the Zankoff party are redoubling their efforts to throw the entire province of Eastern Roumelia into a state of disorder, in the hope by this means to compromise the Bulgarian mission and delegation now in Constantinople. From Adrianople these malcontents have addressed two letters, one to the deputies and the other, a so-called "open letter," to the population generally, calling on them to demand the establishment of good relations with Russia, and to remove the Regents and Ministers. "Do this or you will answer for it by your lives!" The police at Sophia have arrested a lady who is reported to have admitted that she was sent there by Russians in Constantinople in order to induce the superior officers of the army by bribery to issue a *pronunciamento* and overthrow the Regents and the Government. The report that General Kaulbars is about to return to Bulgaria is discredited both in Berlin and Vienna. Vigilance committees are being organized all over Bulgaria. The object of the committees will be to maintain Bulgarian independence and to deal summarily with persons who accept Russian bribes to work against their country.

THE FIGHTING IN ABYSSINIA.

The latest reports received in Rome from Massowa confirm what has been stated as to the severity of the engagements of the 25th and 26th of January between the Italian and Abyssinian forces at Saati. It appears that the Italian column was not exactly surrounded and destroyed, but continued fighting against the whole army of Ras Aloola until ammunition failed, when the soldiers took to the bayonet. Four hundred Italians were killed. The Abyssinians lost more than 2,000, and they have retreated to the interior. The *Riforma* publishes some interesting particulars respecting Ras Aloola. He is the son of a poor peasant. When young he was in the service of Ras Area, uncle of King John. Through Ras Area he obtained employment at the Court, where he managed by degrees to gain the favour of the King, who promoted him to various offices in his household, and finally made him Ras. He is Governor of the Tigre. He married the daughter of Ras Area, by whom he has a daughter. It is said that Count Salinbeni, the Italian traveller, at present a prisoner of Ras Aloola, owes his life to her protection.

The St. Petersburg correspondent of the *Times* quotes the following remarkable paragraph from the conclusion of a leading article in the *Moscow Gazette* on the rout of the Italian troops at Massowa, merely premising that reference is here made to the voluntary Cossack mission to the Abyssinian Negus last year, and the head of which, the Ataman Ashinoff, now in St. Petersburg, was publicly elected a member of the Slavonic Society at its great meeting on the Bulgarian question two or three months ago:—"Last year not a little was written about the Ataman Ashinoff and his companions, as the guests of the Abyssinian King, and of his Viceroy, Ras Aloola, who gave them the heartiest welcome. They took part in the operations against the English in the Soudan; and precisely on those occasions when the English had the worst of it. When Ashinoff departed he left a small party of his volunteers in Abyssinia, under Captain Yastreb, who is now with Ras Aloola. In all probability the capture of Massowa is the work of this Cossack captain."

THE IRISH EVICTIONS.

A demonstration on the Irish question and the recent evictions was held last night at the Connaught Hall of the Albert Palace. The meeting was organized by the Liberal and Radical Association of the borough of Battersea and Clapham Division. It was announced on the bills that Sir Charles Russell, Q.C., M.P. (late Attorney-General), would preside, and would be supported, among others, by Mr. Shaw Lefevre, M.P., Professor Stuart, M.P., and Mr. R. Neville, M.P. (Mr. Goschen's recent opponent at Liverpool); but none of these gentlemen were present. Mr. O. V. Morgan, M.P., was voted to the chair, and among those on the platform were Mr. John Dillon, M.P., Mr. Michael Davitt, and Mr. Theodore Fry, M.P. The large hall was crowded to its utmost limits. Mr. T. Fry, M.P., gave a long account of what he had seen at Glenbeigh, and said that while not blaming on that occasion any particular Government for the present state of things, he believed the people of this country when they came to know what was being done in Ireland and with their money would soon put an end to such cruelties. Mr. John Dillon, M.P., who on rising was enthusiastically cheered, said the Plan of Campaign had secured the moral support of at least four-fifths of the population in Ireland, and five-sixths of the legally elected representatives of the Irish people. He stood there in the eyes of the Government as a criminal committed to stand his trial for taking his countrymen's part against tyranny and cruelty. Had it not been for the advice given by himself and others to the tenants of Ireland, the land of Ireland would this winter probably have been soaked by the blood of Irish landlords. His only anxiety was that if their open, constitutional, and moral action was broken up by law and the protection which they had afforded to the people were withdrawn, they would be driven back into the paths from which they had been taken, and they would have recourse to means—nobody could blame them much under the circumstances—which would be fatal to their prosperity and could end in no good. Mr. Cunningham Graham, M.P., moved a resolution protesting against the system of government in Ireland under which such cruelties were possible and demanding the withdrawal of our costly military forces now in that country. Mr. William Saunders seconded the motion. Mr. Michael Davitt, who was loudly cheered, said the enthusiasm of the meeting would give courage to the people of Ireland. It was but another manifestation of the kindly sentiment which was being manifested everywhere in England and Scotland for the people of Ireland. He was satisfied that before another general election came

along an eviction would take place in London in the vicinity of Downing-street which would give as widespread satisfaction throughout the three countries as the horrors committed recently had caused disgust and disapprobation. The resolution was carried amidst cheers, and the proceedings closed with a vote of thanks to the chairman and cheers for Mr. Gladstone.

MR. BRIGHT ON IMPERIAL FEDERATION.

The New South Wales labour delegate (Mr. John Norton) recently wrote to Mr. John Bright thanking him on behalf of the Australian working classes for the condemnation of imperial federation which he sent in reply to an invitation to attend a federation meeting at Manchester. In his letter Mr. Norton condemned the sending of the New South Wales contingent to the Soudan. Mr. Bright has sent the following reply:—

Rochdale, Feb. 7, 1887.

Dear Sir,—I thank you for your interesting letter. I believe, with you, that the ideas of the Federation people are impracticable and absurd. How can the colonies embark in the wild political ventures of the mother-country? What would the American colonies have done as partners with England in her wars during the last hundred years? New South Wales has, again, a free-trade and Liberal Minister, who condemned the Soudan expedition. I hope that is the first and last expedition in which Australia will take part in any contest in which she has no interest.—I am, very truly yours,

JOHN BRIGHT.

LORD GRANVILLE ON THE IRISH QUESTION.

Lord Granville was present last night at a Liberal meeting in Grantham, at which an illuminated address was presented to Mr. Mellor, late member for the borough. Lord Granville entered into an elaborate defence of the Irish proposals of Mr. Gladstone's Government, arguing that they were in accord with all Liberal policy and tradition. If adopted, they would have made Ireland an ornament and a strength to the empire, instead of a disgrace. The edifice of the present Government had its façade ornamented by a figure formerly in the Liberal edifice, but which was no use there. Lord Salisbury had thought to strengthen this Government by assuming the duties of both Prime Minister and Foreign Secretary. He would probably only the sooner succeed in bringing it to the ground. The Government was already greatly shaken, for it had pleased nobody. He then went on to say that her Majesty's Government promised its supporters to govern Ireland firmly and resolutely. Had it done so? Up to this day no Minister had repudiated the incitements offered by colleagues and supporters to Orangemen to break the law. For weeks it abstained from any official contradiction of the widespread report that its Attorney-General had declared the Plan of Campaign to be legal. For two months it remained perfectly quiescent in the face of that system. Her Majesty's Government had pledged themselves to Parliament that there should be simultaneity in the introduction of measures for local government in Great Britain and in Ireland, and they fulfilled their pledge by relegating the Irish measure to the Greek Kalends. On the other hand, what were the feelings of the majority of Liberal members in the House of Commons? He hoped those present would at once contradict him if he was wrong in saying that confidence in themselves, confidence in their great leader, Mr. Gladstone, was the absorbing sentiment which animated them at the present moment, and a firm belief, without bitterness and without impatience, that, either by themselves or else probably by others, this great imperial question of the relations between Great Britain and Ireland would be settled in the only possible way which would secure the safety and happiness of both countries.

THE MURDER OF BAZAN KHAN.

The St. Petersburg *Government Messenger* gives the following account of the assassination of Bazan or Gazan Khan, of Koundjut, on the north-eastern frontiers of Afghanistan, in the form of a letter from Kashgar, dated the 19th of last December. It will be remembered that the first Russian report declared the deed to have been the result of the Khan's English proclivities:—

Bazan Khan was murdered by the orders of Madou, the eldest son of the Khan's late Grand Vizier, out of revenge for the appointment of his younger brother to the position of Grand Vizier. Madou was a friend and partisan of Bazan Khan's son, Saoudar Khan; who, although not directly implicated, must have been privy to the conspiracy, as, on succeeding to the throne, instead of punishing Madou, he made him his Vizier, in place of Mayoun, who fled to Chitral. Bazan Khan was fired at several times in his garden by hired assassins, and received the *coup de grâce* from Madou himself. The Khan's suite, having been previously bribed, all ran away. Saoudar Khan sent news of the event to the British Commissioner at Ladakh, and the envoy received 100 rupees for himself and 500 for his Khan. Having thus propitiated the English, who had been paying Bazan Khan 11,000 rupees a year, Saoudar Khan hastened to express his homage to the Kashgar authorities, to whom he announced that Bazan Khan had been murdered in the interest of China, in consequence of his intention to permit the English to enter the country.

CONVOCATION OF CANTERBURY.

The Lower House of Convocation yesterday considered and adopted a proposal in favour of altering the law so as to enable tithe rent-charge owners to sue defaulters in the county court, which would then levy any distraint to which it might be necessary to resort. The House of Laymen yesterday, after discussion, adopted, by 34 votes to 18, a motion in favour of Mr. Gedge's Bill to repeal the law which prevents deacons from engaging in secular occupations.

THE IRISH SPIRIT TRADE.

A deputation representing the Irish spirit trade, and having the sympathy and support of the spirit trade of Great Britain, waited upon the chairman of the Inland Revenue Board yesterday to urge the restoration of the custom under which every transfer of spirits in bond was registered by the Excise authorities. The discontinuance of this custom has, according to the evidence furnished by the deputation, enabled unscrupulous holders of bonded spirits to effect fraudulently repeated sales, to the serious injury of licensed victuallers and the trade generally. Sir Algernon West promised to bring the views of the deputation favourably under the notice of the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

FLORILINE—For the Teeth and Breath—Is the best Liquid Dentifrice in the world; it thoroughly cleanses partially decayed teeth from all parasites or living "animalcules," leaving them pearly white, imparting a delightful fragrance to the breath. The Fragrant Floriline removes instantly all odours arising from a foul stomach or tobacco-smoke; being partly composed of honey, soda, and extracts of sweet herbs and plants, it is perfectly delicious to the taste, and as harmless as sherry. Sold by Chemists and Perfumers everywhere, 1 sh. 6d. per bottle.

DISEASES of the VEINS, more especially of Venosity, Varicose, Hemorrhoids, and Varicose Veins, and their Medical Treatment. By J. COMPTON BURNETT, M.D. Price 2s. 6d., post free. London: J. Epps and Co., 170, Piccadilly, and 48, Threadneedle-street.

The ST. JAMES'S GAZETTE may be ordered of all News-vendors and Booksellers in Town and Country. Terms:—Three Months, 9s. 9d.; Six Months, 19s. 6d.; Twelve Months, 39s.

THE POPE AND GERMANY.

The full text of Cardinal Jacobini's letter to the Papal Nuncio at Munich on the attitude of the Centre party to the German Army Bill has been published in the *Allgemeine Zeitung*. The most important passage is the following:—

In view of the approaching revision of the ecclesiastical laws, which there is reason to believe will prove satisfactory, the Holy Father desires the Centre to countenance the Military Septennate Bill in every possible way. It is well known that the Government attaches great importance to the acceptance of this measure. If it should result in removing the danger of an early war, the Centre will have deserved well of the Fatherland, of humanity, and of Europe. On the other hand, the hostile attitude of the Centre could not fail to be regarded as unpatriotic, and the dissolution of the Reichstag would cause the Centre considerable embarrassments and uncertainties. The assent of the Centre to the Septennate Bill would, moreover, make the Government still more friendly disposed towards both the Catholics and the Holy See, which places no small value on the continuance of peaceful and mutually trustful relations with the Berlin Government.

The German Catholic episcopate appears to have received the necessary hint from the Vatican, for the Bishop of Limburg leads off with a circular to his clergy enjoining them to abstain from encouraging opposition to the Army Bill among their flocks. Other Bishops are expected to follow his example. The Roman correspondent of the *Times* foresees troubles from Cardinal Jacobini's letter, which, he says, will no doubt be the signal for a new storm in the Italian Chamber of Deputies and an attack on the German alliance.

The passage of the letter which says that the Holy See, in view of its own interests, which are identical with those of the Catholics, cannot lose an opportunity of winning the favour of the powerful German Empire for the bettering of its future situation, is, there is good reason to believe, the subject of serious official consideration here to-day, having been printed in italics by the official journal. If by this "bettering" is intended any result of pressure by Germany on Italy to yield to the desires of the Vatican, such hopes have no chance of fulfilment, and the public expression of them must be regarded as a proof that the advisers of his Holiness have blundered disastrously in their views of the crisis.

PARLIAMENTARY NOTES.

A four-line whip is issued this morning to Ministerialists stating that a division may be taken on Mr. Parnell's amendment to-night.

The following whip has been issued to members of the Liberal Unionist party:—"The division on Mr. Parnell's amendment to the Address is expected on Thursday, the 10th; if not, it will certainly take place on Friday. Your attendance is particularly requested."

It is understood that communications were addressed to Mr. Gladstone yesterday by several prominent Home Rule Liberals, strongly urging him to return to town and take part in the debate on Mr. Parnell's amendment.

Among the notices given in the House of Commons yesterday is one relating to the crofter disputes; but the name of the member seeking information could not be deciphered by the clerk, and the question appears on the paper with a dash in place of the member's name.

Mr. Chamberlain had an interview with Lord Hartington at Devonshire House yesterday.

Mr. W. S. Caine intends, when the rules of procedure come up for debate, to move that all speeches be limited to twenty minutes' duration, except those of members of the Government or members whose names are attached to new Bills.

THE IRISH PROSECUTIONS.

The business of the Commission of Oyer and Terminer was resumed at Dublin yesterday, Mr. Justice Murphy presiding. None of the defendants in the conspiracy prosecutions were present. Judge Murphy charged the grand jury and fully defined the law of conspiracy. The counts of the indictments occupied a roll of parchment thirty-six feet in length. The grand jury had the bill under consideration during the greater part of the day, and when they returned into court the foreman announced that a true bill had been found on all the counts except the fifth, which charged the defendants with "conspiring by soliciting tenants in consideration of payment of rent to refuse to pay rent which they were lawfully bound to pay, and by soliciting the said tenants to conspire to obstruct and defeat the execution of lawful writs of *fi. fa.* and writs of possession, and by soliciting the said tenants to refuse costs and to compel owners to accept less than the lawful rents." The trial will commence on Monday.

THE WEATHER.

Four degrees of frost and a biting north-east wind made the weather bitterly cold in London this morning. Yesterday the highest register of the thermometer in Hyde Park was 37 deg.; during the night the mercury fell to 28 deg. (4 deg. of frost), and there was no alteration between nine and ten o'clock this morning. The wind continues in the same quarter (the north-east); but the barometer has fallen from 30.65 to 30.48. Notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, there were twenty bathers in the Serpentine this morning. No ice has formed there, by reason of the wind being sufficiently high to keep the surface in a continual ripple. In the more sheltered portions of the Long Water and Round Pond, in Kensington Gardens, a thin coating of ice has appeared. The sun shone with tolerable brilliancy throughout the metropolis this morning, and this to some extent counteracted the influence of the bitter wind.

The weather forecast issued from the Meteorological Office for the twenty-four hours ending at noon to-morrow says that in the south of England, including London and the Channel, we may expect easterly winds, fresh; fair generally.

LONDON CLUBS AND GLADSTONIANS.

The London correspondent of the *Leeds Mercury* writes:—Brooks's Club is in a state of ferment over the blackballing of Sir Horace Davey. Brooks's Club, however, is not the only London club in which the Home Rule question has proved an apple of discord. So bitter is the feeling on the part of those who represent the Unionist party that there is grave danger of all Gladstonian candidates at some of the chief Liberal clubs in London being blackballed. Naturally reprisals on the part of the Gladstonian members will follow; and it is just within the bounds of possibility, unless wiser counsels should prevail, that the split in the Liberal party will be followed by the destruction of some of the most famous of our London clubs. The remedy proposed at Brooks's is a suspension of all ballots for some months. This remedy was adopted by the committee of the Reform Club last year.

FATAL ACCIDENT TO A JOCKEY.

A Doncaster correspondent telegraphs that J. Sly, the jockey who was so severely injured at Four Oaks on Tuesday by being thrown from Coercion, his mount in the Harrington Hunters' Steeplechase, died last night at the Three Tuns Hotel, Sutton Coldfield.

ST. GEORGE'S ELECTION.—RETURN OF MR. GOSCHEN.

The result of the polling in St. George's, Hanover-square, yesterday, was the return of Mr. Goschen by a majority of 4,157 votes. The declaration of the poll was made at a quarter past ten o'clock, the numbers being—for Mr. Goschen, 5,702; for Mr. Haysman, 1,545. At the last contested election in the constituency, in Nov., 1885, the numbers polled were—Lord A. Percy (C) 5,256; Sir W. Phillimore (L), 2,503. The Unionist vote has thus increased by 484, whilst the Liberal vote has diminished by 1,003. The Unionist victory was received with loud cheers by the small crowd outside, and there was also some slight hissing. After the declaration of the poll, Mr. Haysman addressed a few words to a group of his supporters outside the St. George's Institute. He remarked that the fight had been a fair one, and he attributed the comparative smallness of his vote partly to the fact that he was unable to obtain rooms in which to address his supporters. He said he had entered the contest to show that a constituency should not be handed over to any one. Mr. Goschen was not present to hear the announcement of the returning officer, being kept at home by a cold.

FIRE AT THE FOUR COURTS, DUBLIN.

The Four Courts, in Dublin, were discovered to be on fire this morning. The whole pile of buildings was enveloped in smoke, and flames were issuing from the windows. The fire-brigade effected an entrance, and directed their efforts to the centre of the blaze, the Vice-Chancellor's court, in the west wing, which was entirely burned out, the books and furniture being destroyed. After two hours' exertions the fire was subdued; but the firemen were still playing upon the smouldering ruins. Though the fire was prevented from extending to other parts of the building, the damage is estimated at thousands of pounds. The absence of wind and the thickness of the walls favoured the efforts of the fire-brigade. The fire originated in the passage to the Vice-Chancellor's court; but the cause has not yet been ascertained.

THE LOSS OF THE "KAPUNDA."

Messrs. Trinder, Anderson, and Co., received a telegram this morning from Bahia, in reply to their inquiry, stating that the survivors from the *Kapunda* had sailed by the steamship *Patagonia* for home yesterday.

THE MURDER OF A PEARL SHIP'S CREW.

A Reuter's telegram from Brisbane states that advices from New Guinea report that the expedition which was sent to Jeannet Island to inquire into and avenge the murder of Captain Craig, of the ketch *Emily*, and a party of pearl-divers, who were killed there in October last, has accomplished its task. The murderer of the captain was caught and beheaded, and several villages were burned. The other natives who were implicated in the crime escaped.

FATAL FIRE IN BETHNAL-GREEN.

William Scotcher, aged twenty-seven, who was injured at a fire which occurred at 23, Orange-street, Bethnal-green, last night, through the upsetting of a paraffin lamp, died this morning, at twenty minutes past six at the London Hospital, from the effects of the injuries he sustained.

LONDON TRAMWAY EXTENSION.

This morning the House of Lords' Select Committee, presided over by Lord Northbrook, had under consideration the Bill promoted by the London Street Tramways Company. The principal new lines proposed are one along the Gray's-inn-road and a line to the Duke of St. Albans public-house, Highgate. There are also various additions for the purpose of doubling, at certain points, the lines already existing.

The Prince of Wales arrived at Cannes yesterday afternoon. He will open the chapel which has been erected as a memorial of the late Duke of Albany on Saturday afternoon.

A Reuter's telegram from Cairo states that the Crown Prince of Italy has left that place for the Suez Canal and Palestine. During his Royal Highness's stay in Cairo marked courtesy has been shown him by the British military authorities.

Sir Walter Barttelot, M.P., is prevented by severe illness from attending to his parliamentary duties. The honourable baronet is now at his seat, Stopham House, Pulborough.

The Hornsey School Board has almost unanimously resolved that "if any female teacher shall marry while in the service of the Board she must resign her position."

The Congo Company for Commerce and Industry was definitely constituted at Brussels yesterday, under the presidency of M. Sabatier, a member of the Chamber of Representatives. The chief object of the company is to study the country and construct railways in the Congo territory.

The execution of Richard Insole for the murder of his wife at Grimsby will take place on Monday week, the 21st inst.

The whole of the boys belonging to the Masonic School at Wood-green were invited by Mr. Augustus Harris to witness the performance of "The Forty Thieves" at Drury Lane Theatre yesterday morning. The children (250 in number) were regaled with cakes and oranges at the expense of Lord Londesborough. The teachers and most of the members of the house committee were also present.

The committee of the Sunday Society announce that, through the liberality of the council of the Institute of Painters in Oil Colours, the exhibition of the Institute at the Piccadilly Galleries will be open to the members of the Sunday Society next Sunday, and on Sunday, the 20th of February, the public will be admitted by tickets.

At a meeting of the council of the National Rifle Association held yesterday, Sir Henry Wilmot in the chair, it was decided that the Revolver Competition shall in future be thrown open to all members of the Association.

Colonel G. N. Channer, V.C., has been appointed to the command of the Rawul Pindee brigade of the Indian army, with the rank of brigadier-general.

A Reuter's telegram from New York states that the Nevada Legislature has passed a resolution for the disfranchisement of the Mormons.

It is proposed to hold in London next autumn an international congress of shorthand-writers of all systems, and of persons interested in shorthand, to celebrate the jubilee of Pitman's system of phonography, published in 1837; and the tercentenary of modern shorthand, which was originated by Dr. Timothy Bright about 1587.

A Reuter's telegram from Bucharest states that owing to the ice on the Danube the Eastern express mails have not yet arrived there.

SOME AUTHORITIES ON BUTTERINE.

Messrs. Lovell and Christmas, of West Smithfield, the English agents of the great Dutch firm of Jurgens, the largest butterine makers in the world, write to us to vindicate the character of this important article of trade. They state that the respectable manufacturers do not sell butterine as butter, but invariably brand the name "butterine" in legible characters on their casks, cases, and packages. Further, they quote the opinions of several eminent chemists and others to show that well-made butterine, though an entirely different thing from butter, is a healthy and nutritious article of diet. They object to the attempt of the Dairy Farmers' Association to prohibit the import or manufacture of butterine, though they agree that all traders selling it as butter should be severely punished.

Much information about butterine and its manufacture may be obtained from a pamphlet published by Professor Sheldon, as well as from a paper read before the Society of Arts in December, 1884, by Mr. Anton Jurgens, of the great Dutch firm, and from the discussion which followed it.

BOSH BUTTER.

The article now known to commerce under the name of "butterine" was first of all termed "bosh butter" by the public in this country, and some persons know it still by the latter name. It is now designated by the former in the Board of Trade Returns; but up to the end of 1884 it had no separate designation and was entered under the heading of butter. The term "bosh" is merely the ultimate syllable of the noun "S'Hertogenbosch," the meaning of which is "the Duke's Wood;" and it refers to a locality in Holland in which, or near to which, a large quantity of butterine is now made, and from which in the old days a considerable export of butter took place. This butter at the time was termed "bosh butter," and the new product of the district which displaced it merely succeeded to the term at the outset, changing after a time into "butterine." The name of the little town in which butterine was first made on a commercial scale is Osch, the etymology of which has, no doubt, in the Dutch language, some connection with the Duke's Wood.

OLEOMARGARINE.

The chief constituent of butterine is this article of awkward name and evil reputation. Yet it is nothing but the fat of beef carefully treated. Says Mr. Jurgens:—

Oleomargarine, the chief constituent, is prepared as follows. From the freshly slaughtered carcasses of cattle in the abattoirs of large cities, the superfluous portions of suet are taken, and carted in vans specially fitted to the factories of manufacturers of repute, where the fat is carefully sorted, and the very finest, cleanest, and sweetest portions selected for the manufacture of oleomargarine. Fat forms about one-twentieth of the weight of a healthy animal; only a small portion of this can be consumed as food in the ordinary way; the rest used to find its way to the tallow-melter. But to attain a satisfactory result the greatest care and attention must be used to select only those pieces of fat which are perfectly sweet; the smallest quantity of tainted fat would contaminate the whole mass, would render it useless for our purpose, and entail serious loss upon the manufacturer. The fat, when selected, is passed into a machine which reduces it to a pulp about the consistency of real cream. Thus brought to an even texture, the fat is now put into wooden vats and heated by steam or hot water at a moderate temperature—not too hot, because too high a degree of heat imparts to the fat a flavour of roasting and detracts seriously from its value as a substitute for butter. When melted, the fat is run into jacketed vats to cool and slowly clarify. After some hours the stearine, or harder portion, begins to solidify, its white colour contrasting conspicuously with the bright yellow of the oleo. When the material has acquired sufficient consistency it is wrapped, in small quantities, in clean white cloths and subjected to hydraulic pressure of about 100 tons, in order that as much as possible of the oleo should be extracted. The stearine still finds its way to the tallow-melter and is utilized in the manufacture of candles, night-lights, etc.; but the pure oleo is destined for a better application.

A FURTHER STAGE.

The oleomargarine, with a proportion of butter and milk, and with the finest and sweetest vegetable oil, are churned together for some time, after which the churned mixture is cooled by coming into contact with ice-cold water, and is then passed between large fluted rollers, during which process a proportion of salt is incorporated with it. It is delivered by these rollers on to a large table on rollers, which passes it on to the packers, who in turn pack it into quantities according to the requirements of the trade, and the manufacture is completed and the product is then ready for sale.

IS IT BUTTER?

On this point Professor Sheldon says:—

It is claimed for butterine that as butter comes from the fat of the cow that produces it, so that fat taken from a slaughtered animal, may be fairly said to be worked up in butterine as a close copy of the natural process. This view, however, cannot be sustained; for butterine, pure and simple—oleo, that is—does not fully represent butter. There are in butter various flavouring oils or glycerides wholly absent from oleo. The solid fats of butter are myristine, palmitine, stearine, and butine; and the liquid fats are butyric, caproic, caprylic, caprynic, and oleic; and as oleo is simply oleine, it is obvious that butterine is not butter, and that the artificial process differs considerably in result, and still more so in method, from the original one. Butterine may, however, when properly made and of good materials, be regarded as a wholesome and useful article of food, and as supplying a want among the poorer classes of this country. It may be said, in fact, that if no butterine had been made, butter would have been beyond the reach of a large proportion of the population; and that if we must have a substitute at all for butter, butterine is about as good as anything we can get.

THE MORALITY OF THE BUTTERINE TRADE.

Here we may again quote Professor Sheldon:—

I am forced to admit that it is a good thing in itself, as an article of food; but I am bound to say that as an article of commerce it is the cause of great wrong-doing. This wrong-doing, however, is indirectly chargeable on butterine, while it is directly chargeable on those who sell it as butter. The temptation is too strong for many men, and we constantly see that convictions have been obtained against retail dealers. It is against themselves that we wish to protect these men, almost as much as we wish to protect the public against them. It may be said once for all that no first-class dealer, either wholesale or retail, will ever sell butterine for butter, and these require to be protected against the others. All the best butterine-makers brand their casks with the word, and the wholesale dealers sell the article as such; but there are makers who do not brand their casks, and there are wholesale men who sell butterine as butter. Butterine is sold all over the country, and in numberless cases as butter. There are butter-makers to be found, even in England, who adulterate their butter with butterine, so widely has the contagious immorality spread. In Holland there are many such. In France there are wholesale exporters who do the same thing. Highly respectable butter-exporting firms in France, such as Bretel Frères, and M. Lepelletier, who guarantee their butter to be genuine, are suffering a serious injustice at the hands of other men who cannot guarantee any such thing; and the British public at the same time are being cheated when, in buying certain brands of French butter, they are buying an adulterated article. It would not be difficult to supply information on

these points. We could, in fact, point to a large London market, in which wholesale men sell butterine as butter, retail, on Saturday afternoons. Many retail dealers sell butterine without saying what it is, leaving their customers to use their own judgment; and as butterine so closely resembles butter, that judgment is commonly deceived. Others, again, unblushingly sell it as butter, deliberately and intentionally cheating their customers.

AN IMITATION?

On this point Mr. Otto Hehner said in the discussion on Mr. Jurgens' paper at the Society of Arts:—

In fact, it was prepared and put up with the view, not only that it should be a nourishing article of food, but that it should be an imitation of butter. Why was that? There was no need for it. Oleomargarine, as it came from the press, was as nourishing, in fact, more so, than as it was sold. Why was it mixed with milk and a little butter except to mislead the public? Then came the question how far this could be a substitute for butter; in what did it resemble it? Any one listening to the paper would gather the impression that this was practically butter, except for a little butyric acid. He asserted, on the other hand, that it only resembled butter in its consistency; in every other respect it was totally unlike it. Butter had an absolutely unique composition amongst fats, and there was no other analogous to it. It was very easily saponified, and, saponification being one of the processes of digestion, it was, therefore, easily digested, far easier than any other fat, with the exception of cod-liver oil. That was one of its great advantages, and it could be absorbed in almost unlimited quantity. No one ever felt sick from eating butter; but you might feel very sick from eating any other fat. In articles of food the effect should be looked to, not the physical resemblance. Some authorities said there was hardly any difference; in fact, M. Mège had attempted to make ordinary fat into butter. It was said, what difference could there be between cow's or ox fat taken from one place and taken from another. All the difference in the world. The ordinary fat was deposited in the body from the carbo-hydrates, or the fat which the animal took in its food, but butter was not so formed; it was conclusively proved that every fat granule in milk was due to the decomposition of protoplasm in the cells of the udder. Every animal which secreted milk secreted butter of the same composition, so far as they had been examined.

Perhaps we may agree, on the whole, with this gentleman: If it were sold under its true colours, it was a legitimate article of food; but the temptation was exceedingly strong to sell it as butter. This temptation is what, in the interests of honest butterine-dealers as well as of honest buttermen, should be counteracted by severe penalties for fraud and adulteration.

IN THE ENEMY'S CAMP.

A correspondent writes:—Last night I attended a meeting in North Kensington which was announced to celebrate the opening of a Liberal club for this constituency, which at the last election proved so disastrous to the Radical cause. Mr. Labouchere and other "leading Liberals" were announced to speak, and I anticipated an entertaining evening. I was not disappointed; but I would desire no greater satire than the publication of an impartial and verbatim report of the speeches I listened to. The chairman (the defeated candidate) began by saying how grateful and how rejoiced he was that this club, the promotion of which had dropped for a time, had been so triumphantly launched. It was intended to be successful commercially as well as politically; and though he had been told that not 150 shares would be subscribed for, he was proud to be in a position to inform them that evening that no fewer than 350 shares, value £1 each, had been subscribed, and that the members of the new club were over one hundred in number. These statements, which in plain language means that a wealthy publisher and his friends have actually managed to raise £350 sterling in support of their cause, and that a noble lord (Lord Kensington) had subscribed £20 towards the furnishing fund, appeared to give great satisfaction to the enthusiastic Liberals present. The joke of the evening, however, was in the moving and support of the chief resolution of the meeting, which added a rider to the wish for the welfare of the new club, "and that the Liberal leaders do all in their power to promote the union of the Liberal party." Mr. Anderson, Q.C., M.P., proposed this resolution, chiefly by a discussion of the difference between the diet and favourite beverage of his own constituents and those of his hearers; a Mr. Riddell did his part to promote harmony amongst the disunited by finding fault with "our great leader" for not consulting his colleagues, and by stating that although he did not doubt Mr. Labouchere meant to bring back wanderers to the fold by his hard and bitter sayings, he did not agree with him for so doing; and the senior member for Northampton, who followed this gentleman, commenced by expressing his surprise that the last speaker should make such an accusation against him: he was a man of peace and a Christian; and though many would have said it was wrong for Liberals to sit on their side of the House and support the Conservatives by their votes, he never did so—all he did was to offer them "forgiveness for their sins provided they repented in dust and ashes." Having administered a rebuke to erring Mr. Riddell, he contributed to the compromising and friendly spirit of the resolution by accusing Lord Hartington of "backstairs" influence; and, considering the profession of the member for Elgin and Nairn (Mr. Anderson), he with eccentric taste denounced "lawyers' law." He then moved a resolution condemning the system which legalized such "atrocities" as the Glenbeigh evictions, and reiterated his favourite theory that "the first charge on land was to enable the cultivator to live and thrive;" and, with regard to the packing of juries, he told his audience that the Government selected "the twelve most abject flunkies" they could find and insulted the people by calling this system a trial by jury. Mr. Biggar followed, and, by way of adding his quota towards the conciliation and reunion of the Liberal party, questioned the wisdom of retaining "the stamp of men" of Lord Hartington and Mr. Chamberlain in their ranks. The former never forwarded a Liberal measure in his life, but placed every obstacle in its way; and the latter was influenced by private motives, and not by principle. Mr. Biggar's style of oratory is not fascinating; and I left the hall wondering what effect the speeches I had heard had upon the minds and political opinions of the audience. Mr. Biggar was received very coldly. Mr. Labouchere's diatribes elicited but feeble response; the only hearty applause being given to his allusion to the Leasehold Enfranchisement Bill—a measure which, it is well known, members of both parties are pledged to support; and the chairman's jubilate over the receipt of a £20 note towards the furniture of a club, and the raising of a small sum which it required the stimulus of the promise of a fair interest to produce: all these left in my mind a feeling akin to pity for "the house divided against itself."

FOOD ADULTERATION.—Mr. Cassell lecturing at the Health Exhibition said: "Homœopathic Cocos are well-named, as they contain the smallest quantity of Cocoa." CADBURY'S COCOA is guaranteed pure, and we recommend the public to buy no other. —[ADVT.]

THE MORNING PAPERS.

THE NEUTRALIZATION OF EGYPT.

The *Times*, remarking on Sir Henry Wolff's proposal for the settlement of pending questions in Egypt on the basis of the neutralization of Egypt and the defence of the Suez Canal, says that if words could take the place of facts, it might be as easy to neutralize Egypt as it was to neutralize Belgium. But facts are stubborn things, and there is in fact hardly a single point in which the political condition of Egypt resembles that of Belgium. There are no Capitulations in Belgium. Civilization in Belgium marches in the same path as that of European civilization in general. The people of Belgium possess traditions of freedom and habits of self-government. It is, perhaps, premature to assume that the analogy of Belgium forms the basis of Sir Henry Wolff's proposal. But if it does not, the proposal is only rendered still more obscure. Neutralization at least implies something in the nature of an international guarantee. The value of such a guarantee lies less in the instrument establishing it than in the interests which the signatory Powers have in maintaining it. The difficulty is to bring about such a consensus of interest and policy among the Powers concerned as to render the guarantee effective and durable. Even if this difficulty were surmounted, there would remain the still greater difficulty of endowing Egypt with such a form of government and polity as would lead to the attainment of permanent tranquillity and order in the country and secure the welfare and prosperity of the people. There is some danger that the proposals made by Sir Henry Wolff may tend in an opposite direction; that by disturbing men's minds in Egypt and rendering the future uncertain they may arrest that slow but steady progress towards stable and orderly government which Egypt has certainly been making during the last two years. The *Times* is ready to hope for the best and to suspend its judgment in default of more precise information; but *prima facie* it is not disposed to look with much favour on the negotiations now opened by Sir Henry Wolff at Constantinople.

The *Standard* considers the proposal, if it has been really made, one of more than doubtful wisdom. Indeed, it is not easy to see how Egypt can be neutralized in any real and extensive sense of the term. In order to obtain for a country the benefit of what is called neutrality, all the Powers and persons that are likely, are tempted, or are able to violate it, must agree to respect it. Now, we have only to turn to the recent annals of Egypt to discover that there is a Power which will not only not agree to the neutrality of the country, but with which the other Powers cannot even treat on the subject. The Arabs of the Soudan, even if we accept them as a political and military entity, would be unwilling as well as unable to enter into such an arrangement; and it is from the Arabs of the Soudan that all the recent difficulties have flowed. The foe Egypt has to fear is not a foe against whom neutralization would be any precaution. The menace to the peace of the country is in the country itself, and in the upper reaches of the Nile. Against this danger neutralization can do nothing. Indeed, it might increase the peril in no small degree, and would probably do so. Unless something can be urged for this strange suggestion which does not appear on the surface, it will assuredly be regarded by Englishmen as nothing else but an unfortunate device either for destroying our influence in Egypt, or for relieving England from a responsibility of which we are growing tired and alarmed. In the one case, the godfathers of the arrangement would be the enemies of this country; in the other case, we should be the parents of our own humiliation.

THE RETURN OF MR. GOSCHEN.

The *Times* says that the hopeless failure of the tactics of Mr. Goschen's opponents is matter for profound satisfaction to all those who care for the well-being of their country. The *Times* rejoices at it for Mr. Goschen's sake, for the sake of the Unionist cause, and for the sake of all the interests involved in sound finance and stable government. Some striking testimony to the opinion in which he is held was due to Mr. Goschen after his ill-fortune at Edinburgh and Liverpool; and he has received it in this remarkable vote. The Unionists, again, though they have never for one moment doubted that their cause was gaining and not losing ground, were in need of some telling and ready answer to the boasts of those who kept asserting the contrary. They will have it now.

The *Standard* remarks that Mr. Goschen's majority puts to the rout all those speculations and predictions in which the Separatists have so freely been indulging, and entirely substantiates the contention of Lord Hartington that the more the question of Home Rule is considered by the English people, the more confirmed will they become in their aversion to it. So far from Home Rule making any progress in the country, whatever little popularity it may at any time have boasted is evidently on the wane.

The *Morning Post* presumes that every Home Ruler, from Mr. Gladstone downwards, must be wishing that they had let Mr. Goschen alone. The election at St. George's must be taken as a great vote of confidence in Lord Salisbury, and as indicating that the country is in no mood for allowing minor differences to hinder the great work which the present Parliament was elected to fulfil.

The *Morning Advertiser*, remarking that one fact is worth a hundred allegations, says that Mr. Morley's declaration that the tide is flowing in favour of Home Rule may be profitably read in association with the result of the St. George's election.

The *Glasgow Herald* asks—What has become of the strong Liberal minority which existed rather more than a year ago in St. George's, Hanover-square? It has partly gone over to the other side, and partly it has held aloof; but why has it done so? Because the attack on the Union has been made in the interval. This was the cause of the diminution of the Gladstonian majority in the Exchange Division of Liverpool, though the movement was not strong enough to give Mr. Goschen the seat. This is the reason why St. George's, Hanover-square, has not only given Mr. Goschen the seat, but has swollen the majority so enormously.

A DESPERATE EFFORT AT PERSUASION.

The *Daily Telegraph* considers it significant that both Mr. Morley and Lord Granville assert that "the tide is running" in favour of Gladstonian Home Rule. They are evidently trying desperately hard to persuade themselves that this is the fact; but only the power of divination could arrive at any knowledge that the constituencies were inclined to alter the emphatic verdict given last year. Neither the result of the Hanover-square election nor the reduced Home Rule majority at Liverpool points in that direction.

THE RESIGNATION OF LORD DUNRAVEN.

The *Daily News* believes that both political parties will regret the loss of the services of so able and honest a Minister as Lord Dunraven. But by his resignation Lord Dunraven has, at some considerable personal sacrifice, added to his public services by concentrating attention upon a crucial question of the policy of the Government. When two conspicuously able Ministers decline to be responsible for making provision for a policy which outsiders can, from their position, only vaguely distrust, it is high time for the House of Commons to be on the alert.

LITERARY NOTES.

Professor J. P. Mahaffy's brief history of "Alexander's Empire," written for "The Story of the Nations" series, will be ready next week. For the same series we understand that Professor Freeman has undertaken to write a volume on "Sicily."

Dr. D. G. Hoskins, a cousin of Ralph Waldo Emerson, is at work on a volume of reminiscences of the American philosopher, including an account of his maternal ancestors. A letter by Madam Bradford, of Cambridge, U.S., now ninety years of age, describing Mr. Emerson's parents and home-life, is to appear in the book.

Dr. J. Jolly is writing "Nanava-Dharma-Castra: The Code of Manu." The text will be in the original Sanskrit, with notes. The date assigned by Sir William Jones to this code—the well-known great law-book of the Hindoos—is 1250—500 B.C., although the rules and precepts contained in it had probably existed as tradition for ages before. It is many years since a reliable edition of the book has been prepared.

Colonel Frank Russell's "Memoirs of Charles Mordaunt, Earl of Peterborough," will be published immediately by Messrs. Chapman and Hall. The same publishers have just ready Mr. W. Beatty-Kington's long-promised work, "Music and Manners: Personal Reminiscences and Sketches of Character."

Messrs. George Bell and Sons are about to issue a cheap reprint of Mr. Coventry Patmore's poems.

Mr. W. A. Clouston's contribution to Folk-lore, "Popular Tales and Fictions: Their Migrations and Transformations," is being issued by Messrs. Blackwood this week.

In the book "Antiqua Mater: a Study of Christian Origins," which Messrs. Trübner and Co. are about to publish, the writer has made an attempt to discover "what light is thrown upon the origin of Christianity by the Græco-Roman literature of the second century, and by the early Christian literature, independently of the New Testament," the conclusions arrived at "being in the historical sense mainly negative," and promoting, according to the author's views, "an entirely unreal conception of the first four centuries of our era."

The English edition of the late Count Beust's Memoirs, edited by Baron Henry de Worms, will be published by Messrs. Remington next month. We understand that the editor intends to add to the work some interesting reminiscences of the deceased statesman, together with a number of letters written by Count Beust, and now for the first time presented to the public.

A correspondent says that a new book by Dr. Rigg on Church organizations will create some flutter, and possibly considerable controversy, in the religious world.

The American Cardinal Gibbon is engaged upon a work dealing with the various labour problems of the time. A large part of the volume will be devoted to a defence of private property in land.

The Goethe Society at Weimar has just published Goethe's Italian diaries and letters to Frau von Stein and Herder, with an introduction by Dr. Erich Schmidt. The latter is shortly going to Berlin as successor to the late Professor Scherer, in the chair of German Literature in the university there.

The relatives of the late Baron Carl Rothschild are, in honour of his memory, founding a public library at Frankfurt on the model of the English free libraries.

Mr. T. Fisher Unwin will publish immediately a work entitled "Modern Hinduism," which will deal in a popular manner with every-day life among the Hindoos in Northern India. The author is W. J. Wilkins.

Mr. W. G. Kingsland has written and is printing an essay entitled "Robert Browning, Chief Poet of the Age: an Essay Addressed Primarily to Beginners in the Study of Browning's Poems." Thirty copies are to be printed on large paper. Messrs. Jarvis and Son are to be the publishers.

A New York editor, being in doubt as to the meaning intended to be conveyed in one of Mr. Robert Browning's earlier poems—that entitled "In a Year"—has written to Mr. Browning to ask:—"Is the speaker a wife outraged by neglect, or only a woman whose heart has been thrown away upon an unfeeling lover? and does the speaker allude to a dead man or one only dead in feeling toward herself?" Mr. Browning's explanation is that "the little poem is meant to express the feeling of a woman toward a hopelessly alienated lover—husband, if you will. The summing up of the account between much endeavour and as constant a resistance to it, leaves the result a mere 'clay-cold clod' in the shape of a heart—to be 'left' finally and altogether; when 'what comes next?' as something must" . . .

Mr. M. Gaster is about to publish his "Ilchester Lectures." The subject discussed is "Græco-Slavonic Literature and Its Relation to the Folk-Lore of Europe During the Middle Ages." Two appendices will be added to the lectures—the first of which will deal with the two Slavonic alphabets, the Cyrillic and the Glagolitic; the second with the "Bible Historiale" and the "Bible of the Poor."

Mr. Charles Worthy is editing a work on "Devonshire Parishes," dealing with the various churches, landmarks, genealogical particulars, and other matters of antiquarian and general interest relating to that county. The chronicle will be in two volumes of about 350 pages each. Messrs. William Pollard and Co., of Exeter, are to issue it.

The library of the late Leopold von Ranke, the historian, has been acquired by the Royal Library in Berlin. The collection contains about twenty thousand volumes, among them being many unique books. It is said that Von Ranke during his lifetime insured his library for a hundred thousand thalers.

Among the out-of-the-way things included in Mr. W. C. Borlase's library, to be sold at Sotheby's on the 21st inst., is a unique Chinese manuscript, once held as a treasure by Mr. Ruskin. It consists of a translation of a Sanskrit Buddhist Sutra; the Chinese ideograms being written in silver and gold on a dark-blue ground; and there are thirty illustrations painted on leaves of trees, in very vivid colours, by a Chinese artist, representing "five hundred pictures of holy sages." It is said of the work that it is finer than anything of the kind in the British Museum. Another lot consists of a hundred drawings by a native artist, illustrating Chinese mythology. The Hindoo drawings are also of some interest. One batch consists of eighty-four original water-colour drawings of costumes, portraits, and ceremonies by a native; and another lot of twenty drawings executed in gold and colours on cardboard by a Hindoo painter of repute.

A second edition of "The Great Naval War of 1887," which originally appeared in the *St. James's Gazette*, has been called for, and will be issued immediately by Messrs. Hatchards. A French translation of the story is also appearing from week to week in the *Journal de la Marine*, and will shortly be re-published in pamphlet form.

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, 5p. ct. 1903	112	114
Do. ditto 4 p. cent. 1904-5-6-8	103½	104½
Cape of Good Hope 1890-1900	—	—
Do. ditto 1891	—	—
Do. 5 per cent. 1900	107	109
Do. 4½ per cent.	102	104
Do. ditto (June & Dec.)	101	103
Natal 4½ per cent. (Mar. & Sept.)	101	103
Do. 5 per cent. 10-40	104	106
New South Wales, 1888 to 1894	101	107
Do. 5 per cent. 1895 to 1902	105	114
Do. 2 per cent. 1872 to 1893	105	107
New Zealand 6 per cent. 1891	106	108
Do. 5 per cent. 1914	109	111
Do. 5 per cent. Consols	102	104
Do. 6 p. cent., March 15, 1891	107	109
Do. ditto (June & Dec.)	106	108
Do. 4½ p. cent. 5-30, 1879-1900	101	103
Do. ditto 10-40, 1883-1918	101	103
Do. ditto 1889	101	103
Quebec (Province of) 5 p. c. 1904	108	110
Do. ditto 1906	108	110
Queensland 6 per cent. 1891-1896	106	118
Do. 4 per cent. 1913-1915	96	101
South Australian 6 p. c. 1891-1900	—	—
Do. ditto 1901-1918	115	130
Do. 5 per cent. 1911-1920	106	116
Do. 4 per cent. 1929	100	102
Do. ditto 1916	100	102
Straits Settlements Gov. 4½ p. c.	103	105
Tasmanian 6 per cent. 1895	110	115
Do. 4 per cent. 1 July, 1908	99	101
Victoria 6 per cent. 1891	106	108
Do. 5 per cent. 1894	106	108
Do. 4 per cent. 1899-1901	101½	103½
Western Australian 4½ per cent.	105	107
Do. ditto 4 per cent.	102	103

REGISTERED AND INSCRIBED STOCKS.

Canada 4 p. c. Stock Reg., 1904	104	105
Do. Loan for 4,000,000, 1910	103½	104½
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. cent. Stock Ins	94	95
Do. 3½ p. cent. Stock, 1885	—	—
Queensland Stock Ins.	101	102
S. Australia (Loans of 1882-3-4)	101½	102½
Victoria 4 p. cent. Railway Loan	101½	103½
Do. 1881, Inscribed Stock	102½	103½
Victoria 4 p. cent. Loans of 1882, 1883, and 1884, do. 1908	104	105
W. Australia Loan of 4,500,000 Stk.	103½	104½

AMERICAN SECURITIES.

Massachusetts 5 per cent. 1888	101	103
Atlantic First Leased Lines Rental	—	—
Trust	—	—
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	112	117
Denver & Rio Grande Consols	—	—
Lehigh Valley Con. Mortgage	131	135
New York Central and Hudson	—	—
River Seven per Cent. Mort.	133	138
New York, Pennsylvania and	—	—
Ohio Third Mortgage	4½	5½
Norfolk and Western Preferred	48	49
St. Louis Bridge 1st Pref. Stock	104	106
Do. 2nd Preferred Stock	53	54
Do. 1st Mortgage Gold Bonds	130	135
Union Pacific Railway 1st Mort.	116	118
Union Pacific Land Grant	100	105

STERLING BONDS.

Allegheny Valley, 1910	130	132
Atlantic First Leased Lines Rental	—	—
Trust, 4 per cent. Mt. Debs	85	87
Baltimore and Ohio 6 p. c., 1902	120	122
Do. 6 per cent. 1910	123	125
Do. 5 per cent. 1877	110	112
Memphis and Ohio	116	119
N.Y.C. & Hudson River 6 p. cent	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.	139	141
Bombay, Baroda, & Central India	—	—
guaranteed 5 per cent.	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. Guar. Deb. St.	106	108
East Indian, Annuity A	22½	23
Do. Annuity B, 21 per annum	24½	24½
Do. Irredeem. Deb. Stk. 4½ p. c.	116	119
Great Indian Peninsula Guarant	119	121
ted Five per Cent.	144	147
Do. 4 per Cent. Deb. Stock	106	108
Hamilton & N. W. 1st M. 6 p. c.	106	108
Madras guaranteed 5 per cent.	125	127
Ditto ditto 4½ per cent.	120	123
Ditto ditto 4½ per cent.	114	116
Melbourne and Hobson's Bay	—	—
United 5 per cent. Bonds	107	109
M. of Canada Sterling 1st Mort-	—	—
gage (Con.) 5 per cent. 1st Mort	100	102
Nizam's State Railway Guarant-	98	100
eed 5 per cent. Shares	106	108
N. of Canada 6 p. c. Pref. Stock	55	60
Ditto 5 per cent. 1st Mortgage	105	107
Ditto 3rd Pref. Bonds A and B	94	96
Ditto North. Exten. 6 p. c.	104	105
Ditto 4 p. c. Impr. Mort.	104	105
Ditto 4 p. cent. Deb. Stock	83	85
Ont. & Quebec 5 p. c. Perp. Deb. St	109	110
Que. & Robitund 5 p. cent	125	127
Ditto 4 per cent. Deb. Stock	106	108
St. John and Maine	30	32
Scinde, Punjab, & Delhi 5 p. c.	—	—
South Indian guar. 5 per cent.	125	127
Ditto 4½ per cent. Deb. Stock	114	116
S. Mahatma Guar. 4 p. c. till 1899	100	103
Ditto 4 per cent. Deb. Stock	106	107
Tasmanian Main Line Debenture	—	—
4 per cent. Stock	86	85
Toronto, Grey, and Bruce 4 per	—	—
cent. 1st Mortgage	83	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	165	170

RAILWAYS.—DEBENTURE STOCK.

Caledonian 4 per cent.	116	118
East London 6 per cent.	140	160
Ditto 5 per cent.	110	120
Ditto 6 per cent. 1874	90	110
Ditto 6 per cent. 1875	60	90
Glasgow and S. West. 4 per cent	113	115
Great Eastern 4 per cent.	116	118
Ditto A 5 per cent.	142	144
Ditto B 67 redm., 5 p. c.	132	134
Ditto 4½ per cent.	—	—
Great Northern 4 p. c.	115	117
Do. ditto 4 per cent.	118	120
Great Western 4 per cent.	118	120
Ditto 4½ per cent.	132	134
Ditto 4½ per cent.	131	133
Lancashire and York, 4 per cent	145	147
London & Blackwall, 4½ per cent	117	119
London and Brighton, 4 per cent.	115	117
Ditto Perpetual 4½ per cent.	139	141
London & Chatham Arb. ½ p. ct.	134	136
Ditto ditto B 4½ per ct.	133	135
Ditto ditto 4 per cent.	108	110
Ditto ditto 1883	108	110
London & North-Western 4 p. ct.	118	120
Do. ditto 4 p. ct. 1884	118	120
Do. ditto 4 p. ct. 1885	118	120
London, Tilbury & 4 per cent.	114	116
Manch. & Sheffield 4½ per cent.	138	140
Metropolitan 4 per cent.	115	117
Ditto 4½ per cent.	136	138
Metropolitan District 6 per cent.	156	158
Midland 4 per cent	106	108
North British 4 per cent.	118	120
Do. E. P. and D. B. 5 per cent	115	117
North-Eastern 4 per cent.	118	120
Ditto 4½ per cent.	130	132
North London 4½ per cent.	131	133
North Staffordshire 4½ p. cent.	121	123
South-Eastern Perp. 4 per cent.	117	119
Ditto ditto 5 per cent.	142	144
Taff Vale 4 per cent.	110	113

FOREIGN RAILWAYS.

Antwerp and Rotterdam	21	23
Bahia and San Francisco, g. 7 p. c.	20½	23½
Brazilian Imperial Central Bahia	21	22
Ditto 6 p. cent. Debenture Stock	110	112
Buenos Ayres Great Southern	153	160
Ditto Extension	14	14½
Ditto 5 p. cent. Debenture Stock	118	120
Buenos Ayres and Esenada Port	8	9
Ditto 8 p. cent. Preference	13½	14½
Ditto 5 p. cent. Deb. Stock	108	110
Buenos Ayres and Pacific Pref.	23½	24½
Buenos Ayres and Rosario Ord.	140	144
Ditto ditto 7 p. c. Pref.	14½	15
Ditto ditto 5 p. c. Deb. Stock	112	114
Central Argentine Limited	167	169
Ditto 6 per cent. Debent. Stock	137	140
C. Uruguay of Montevideo, Lim	11	11½
Do. Ferret, 6 p. c. Deb. Stock	120	121
Conde d'Eu, Lim., g. 7 per cent	15	16
Copiapó	38	42
Dutch Rhenish	16½	17½
Ditto New	4	6
Ditto ditto 1872	4	6
East Argentine, Lim., g. 7 per ct	100	102
Ditto 6 per cent. Deb. Stock	110	112
Great Western of Brazil g. 7 p. c	18½	19½
Imp. Brazilian, Natal, and N. Cruz	114	116
Lima, Limited	6	7½
Namur and Liège 14½ per annum	11	12
Ditto 6 per cent. Preference	25	27
N.-W. Uruguay 6 p. ct. 1st Pref	67	69
Ottoman (Smyrna to Aidin)	45	47
Prov. Ore. Vitebsk g. 5 per cent.	11½	11½
Recife and Sao Francisco g.	17	18
Riga and Dinaburg	103	105
Royal Sardinian	14½	15½
Ditto Preference	10	10½
Royal Swedish	10½	11½
Ditto Preference	10	10½
Sambre and Meuse	3½	3½
Ditto 5½ per Cent. Preference	9½	10
San Paulo Brazilian guar. 7 p. c.	11½	12
Ditto 5½ p. c. Debenture Stock	39½	40½
Smyrna and Cassaba, Limited	130	132
Ditto 7 per Cent. Preference	22	23
Southern Brazilian Rio Grande	26	26½
Do Sul Guaranteed 7 per cent	21½	22½
Varna	2½	3½
West Flanders	10½	11½
Ditto 5½ per cent. Preference	11	12
West. of Buenos Ayres 6 p. c. Bds	109	111
Do. do. 5 p. c. Mort. Deb.	98½	99½

LAND COMPANIES.

Canada Company	83	86
Canada North-West Land	2½	3
Natal Land and Colonization	4	5
Newfoundland Land	1½	2
Otago and Southland Investment	1½	2
Peel River Land	84	86
Scottish Australian Investment	195	205
South Australian	60	63
S. Austrin. Land Mort. & Agency	2½	3½
Van Diemen's Land	24	26

TELEGRAPH SHARES.

Anglo-American Preferred	52	53
Ditto Deferred	12	12
Cuba, Limited	11½	11½
Ditto 10 per cent. Preference	18	19
Eastern 4 per cent. Debent. Stock	101	103
Eastern Exten. 6 per cent. 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
Ditto Scrip	—	—
West India and Panama 1st Pref.	8½	9
Western Union of U.S. 1st 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
Ditto New Issue at 2 prem.	33½	34½
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	23	24
Bank of Roumania	6	7
Bank of South Australia	26	28
Bank of Victoria	36	38
Central of London, Limited	10½	11½
Chart. of India, Aust., and China	22½	23½
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	12
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	15	16
Lloyds, Barnett's, & Bosanquet, L.	22	23
London and Brazilian, Limited	16½	17½
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	2½	3½
National, Limited	—	—
National Bank of Australasia	9	9½
Nat. Bank of New Zealand, L.	1½	1½
North-Eastern, Limited	5½	6½
Provincial of Ireland, Limited	19½	20½
Queensland National, Limited	12½	13½
Standard of South Africa, Ld.	43½	44½
Union of Australia, Limited	68	70
Union of Spain and England, L	5	5½

GAS COMPANIES.

Commercial, New Stock	205	210
Continental Union Limited	38	40
European, Limited	21½	22½
Gas Light and Coke A., Ordinary	232	236
Imperial Continental	204	209
South Metropolitan A	297	302

CORPORATION STOCKS.

UNITED KINGDOM.		
Met. B. of Works 3 p. c. Stock ..	95	98½
Com. of Sewers City London Scrip ..	100	101
Corp. of London Bonds, 1886-88 ..	99½	100½
Ditto ditto 1891-95 ..	100	101
Ditto 3 p. c. Bonds, 1912 ..	96	98
Birmingham Corp. Stock, 1946 ..	102½	103
Bristol Corp. Deb. 3½ p. c. Stock ..	100½	101½
Cardiff Corporation 3½ per cent. ..	97	97½
Glasgow Corporation 3½ per cent. ..	—	—
Hull Corporation Stock ..	100	101
Leeds, Corp. 4 p. c. Con. Deb. Stock ..	111	112
Liverpool Corp. 3½ p. c. Stock ..	103½	103½
Manchester Corp. 4 per cent ..	116½	117½
Middlesbrough Corpora. 4½ p. c. ..	103	105
Newcastle Corp. 3½ per cent. ..	100	102
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NOTICE OF MEETING.

THE ANGLO-FOREIGN BANKING
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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the Shareholders of The Anglo-Foreign Banking Company (Limited) will be held on Tuesday, 22nd February, 1887, at Twelve o'clock, at the Offices of the Company, No. 2, Bishopsgate-street Within, London, to receive the Report of the Directors and the Accounts for the year ending the 31st December last, to declare a Dividend, to elect Directors in place of those who retire by rotation, to appoint two auditors, and for general purposes.

The Transfer Books will be closed from the 15th to the 22nd February, inclusive.

Holders of Share Warrants claiming to be present or to vote at this meeting must deposit their Warrants with the Secretary seven clear days before the 22nd instant.

By Order of the Board,
WALTER BAXTER, Secretary.
2, Bishopsgate-street Within, E.C.,
9th February, 1887.

PHILADELPHIA AND READING
RAILROAD REORGANIZATION.

Referring to the advertisements which have been published in relation to the above, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the 1st of March is the LAST DAY on which any SECURITIES can be RECEIVED under the scheme of Reorganization.

The General Mortgage Bonds are to be deposited with Messrs. J. S. Morgan and Co., 22, Old Broad-street, E.C., and all the other securities embraced in the plan of reorganization with Messrs. Brown, Shipley, and Co., Founders-court, E.C.

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