

# THE ST. JAMES'S GAZETTE

An Evening Review and Record of News.

No. 2088.—VOL. XIV.

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

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

**ADELPHI.**  
**ADELPHI THEATRE.—Messrs. A. and S. GATTI, Sole Proprietors and Managers.** **THIS EVENING, at 8 o'clock, THE HARBOUR LIGHTS (30th time).** Mr. William Terriss, Messrs. Garden, Maclean, Lyndal, Boleyn, Campbell, Russell, Wentworth, Travers, &c.; Messdames Millward, Achurch, C. Jecks, Leigh, Brennan, Carter, &c. **At 7.15, FAMILY JARS. MORNING PERFORMANCE To-day (Saturday), at 2.**

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

**MORNING PERFORMANCE TO-DAY and every SATURDAY, at 2. Doors open 1.30.—GAIETY THEATRE.**

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

**PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.**  
**ALICE IN WONDERLAND.—MR. EDGAR BRUCE'S MATINEES.—TO-DAY, 2.30, and EVERY DAY, a Musical Dream-play in two acts, by Savile Clarke, founded on Lewis Carroll's delightful Stories. Music by Walter Slaughter. New Scenery, Properties, and Dresses. Doors open 2.15, commence 2.30. Box-office 10 to 5 daily. Special reduced prices of admission for children under 12. Notwithstanding its great success, this delightful play CANNOT BE PERFORMED after Feb. 26.**

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

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

**THE LODGERS.—Special Matinée, WEDNESDAY, Feb. 16, at 3.—GLOBE THEATRE.**

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

**ST. JAMES'S.**  
**ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Managers, Mr. HARE and Mr. KENDAL. THIS EVENING, at 8.20, will be performed a New and Original Comedy in Three Acts, written by A. W. PINERO, called THE HOBBY-HORSE. The characters by Mr. Hare, Mr. Waring, Mr. Mackintosh, Mr. B. Gould, Mr. A. Sims, Mr. C. W. Somerset, Mr. Hendrie, Mrs. Gaston Murray, Mrs. Free, Miss Webster, Miss Huntly, and Mrs. Kendal. Preceded by, at 8, A CASE FOR EVICTION. Misses Webster, Huntley; Mr. Waring.—Box-office to till 5. Doors open 7.30. Acting-Manager, Mr. Huy.**

**CRITERION.**  
**CRITERION THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. CHARLES WYNDHAM. At 9, DAVID GARRICK. Mr. CHARLES WYNDHAM; Messrs. G. Giddens, W. Blakeley, and David James; Mesdames Rose Saker, F. Paget, E. Miller, and Mary Moore. Preceded by, at 8, "WHO KILLED COCK ROBIN?" Doors open at 7.30. N.B.—MATINEE OF DAVID GARRICK TO-DAY, at 3 o'clock. Doors open 2.30.**

**VAUDEVILLE.**  
**VAUDEVILLE.—THIS EVENING, at 8.30, SOPHIA (28th time), by Robert Buchanan. Messrs. THOMAS THORNE, Carleton, Thorne, Farquhar, Mellish, Grove, Wheatman, and LEONARD BOYNE; Mesdames Larkin, Leclercq, Venne, Forsyth, and K. Rorke. At 7.45, NEARLY SEVERED. MATINEE TO-DAY and every SATURDAY, at 3.30.**

**COMEDY.**  
**COMEDY THEATRE.—Sole Lessee, Miss MELNOTTE.—LAST NIGHT.—THIS EVENING, at 8 o'clock, THE BEGGAR STUDENT, an Original Comic Opera, in Three Acts. Music by Carl Millocker. English version by W. Beatty-Kingston. Seats may be secured at the Box-office (open 10.0 to 5.0) and at all Libraries.**

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

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

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

**COURT.**  
**COURT THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. JOHN CLAYTON and Mr. ARTHUR CECIL.—TO-NIGHT will be acted, at 8.30 punctually, a New and Original Farce in Three Acts by A. W. Pinero, entitled DANDY DICK, in which Messrs. Arthur Cecil, H. Eversfield, F. Kerr, E. Maurice, W. H. Denny, W. Lugg, and John Clayton; Misses Norreys, Laura Linden, Marie Lewis, and Mrs. John Wood will appear. Preceded, at 8 o'clock, by THE NETTLE. Box-office open daily from 11 to 5. No fees.**

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

**MATINEE OF DANDY DICK, TO-DAY and every SATURDAY, at 2.30.—COURT THEATRE.**

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

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

**OPERA COMIQUE.**  
**OPERA COMIQUE.—Lessee and Manager, F. J. HARRIS.—Miss Kate Vaughan's Comedy Company.—THIS EVENING, at 8.15, THE RIVALS.—Mr. J. Forbes Robertson as Captain Absolute; Mr. James Fernandez as Sir Anthony Absolute; Mr. Lionel Brough as Bob Acres; Mrs. John Billington as Mrs. Malaprop; and Miss Kate Vaughan as Lydia Languish. "In Act 2, Scene 3, a Gavotte will be danced. At 7.45 a farce, entitled NED KNOWLES. Doors open 7.15.**

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

**OLYMPIC.**  
**OLYMPIC.—MR. EDWARD TERRY'S SEASON.—At 9.15, THE CHURCHWARDEN; at 8, THE TWO BLINDS; at 8.25, HOME RULE. Doors open at 7.30; carriages 10.45. Seats can be booked at the Box-office (no extra fee) from 10 to 5, and at the principal libraries.—MATINEE at 2.30 TO-DAY (Saturday). Acting Manager, Mr. H. T. Brickwell.**

**OLYMPIC MATINEES.—Lessee, Miss GRACE HAWTHORNE. Wednesday, Feb. 16, and every Wednesday. HEARTSEASE, Miss Grace Hawthorne as Marguerite Gautier. Doors, 1.30. Commence 2. At BRIGHTON next Thursday Morning.**

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**TO-DAY, 2.30; TO-NIGHT, 8.0.—Private Boxes, £2 2s. and £1 1s.; Stalls or First Promenade, 5s.; Grand Circle or Second Promenade, 2s. 6d.; Amphitheatre, 1s. Children under twelve to Stalls, 2s. 6d.; Grand Circle, 1s. 6d., upon payment at the doors. Tickets at the Box-office (Mr. H. L. Boss), 10 to 5, and at the principal agents.**

**PROMENADE 5s.—The Fashionable Rendezvous for AFTERNOON TEA at OLYMPIA.**

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**HENGLER'S.—The Season Drawing to a Close.—EVERY EVENING, the Hippo-dramatic Spectacle, TURPIN'S RIDE TO YORK, introducing all the very attractive incidents, including Turpin stopping the York Mail and the Death of Black Bess, the best trained Mare in the World. Dick Turpin, Mr. EDWIN CROUETTE. Every Evening at 7.45. The season will terminate on Saturday, Feb. 26th.**

**EASTER at JERUSALEM.—COOK'S SELECT CONDUCTED TOUR, visiting Alexandria, Cairo, Ghizeh, Suez, Jaffa, Jerusalem (for Easter Ceremonies), Bethlehem, Jordan, Mount of Olives, &c., leaving London March 21. Programme for stamp.—THOS. COOK and SON, Ludgate-circus; 99, Gracechurch-street; 35, Piccadilly; 445, West Strand, &c.**

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"THE MOSLEM."

"AU SOLEIL."

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## THE ST. JAMES'S GAZETTE.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1887.

### THE MOVEMENT TOWARDS CONSERVATISM.

THE two last elections in which the Chancellor of the Exchequer has been the principal figure have a great deal more interest than is given to them by the fact that at Liverpool Mr. GOSCHEN reduced the adverse majority to seven, and that in St. George's, Hanover-square, he had nearly the largest majority obtained by any member of the present Parliament whose seat was contested. These elections compel us to ask ourselves the question, Which is the English party which is really gaining, and from what causes is it gaining? The gentlemen gathered about the Round Table must make the assumption that the Conservative Government is maintained in power solely by the dissensions of the Liberals. If the two sections of the Liberal party will only shake hands, they can displace the Conservatives at any moment and occupy their seats. A certain small number of timid spirits among the Conservatives appear to share this opinion. The party, they fear, which is really popular in the country is the Radical-Liberal. If its members once cease to dispute among themselves, the crutch which supports the Government will be knocked away and the Government will topple down. Hence the proper course for a Conservative Administration is to appropriate some portion of Liberal principles and Liberal policy, and thus transfer to itself a great amount of the popularity which is associated with Liberalism. Democracy is popular, therefore be Tory Democrats; retrenchment at all hazards and peace at any price are ancient articles of the Liberal creed, let them be inscribed in a new creed of the Conservatives.

The Conservative cause is prospering; numbers of former Liberals are rallying to it; but it is extremely doubtful whether these converts have any love for democratic principles, and whether they vote in such majorities as Mr. GOSCHEN'S simply because they are Unionists. The fact is, that a movement towards Conservatism, of which all men were conscious, had begun even before Mr. GLADSTONE went over to Home Rule. Appeals by Conservative leaders to Liberals who openly or secretly sympathized with them had become common. "Come over and help us," said even Lord RANDOLPH CHURCHILL. There had begun what some people called a Whig revolt; or, in words which best describe it, a Party of Commonsense had begun to form itself out of Conservatives, Whigs, and Liberals. All reasonable and moderate Englishmen had begun to band together. The general election of 1885 placed the matter beyond doubt. It showed that the English boroughs were Conservative and the metropolitan boroughs intensely Conservative. The Conservative party, as such, did not obtain a majority, nor did it in 1886. But what the election of 1886 established was something of the highest importance. The ties of party allegiance, the belief that Mr. GLADSTONE was born to command success, were shattered by the inconceivable folly of the Home Rule measures; and the result, as we are persuaded, was to accelerate and consolidate the movement which had already set in before the insane coalition with Mr. PARNELL was effected. We have not the slightest doubt that Unionism, while it proves a strong and sincere determination to preserve the integrity of the empire, marks the steady progress of very large and powerful classes towards Conservatism. These classes in a certain sense were Conservative before the Union was in danger, but old party watchwords kept many of them to their old alliances. These, however, are now finally destroyed. There is a talk of reconstructing the Liberal party; but how many of those who voted for the Chancellor of the Exchequer in London or Liverpool will ever again vote for the candidate of a party led by Mr. GLADSTONE, or—if he disappears from public life—by Sir WILLIAM HARCOURT or Mr. LABOUCHERE? That the Conservative party has been enormously increased on purely Conservative grounds is certain, and a fact of the highest importance.

It ought not to escape the notice of Conservatives, even of those who naturally regret the secession of Lord RANDOLPH CHURCHILL, that all the new proposals for altering the policy of the Conservative Government involve an abandonment of Conservative principles and, as we think, of the true sources of new Conservative strength. We put aside the question of the morality and even of the meaning of these proposals. Indeed, we have at most a suspicion of the meaning of "Tory democracy;" and if it implies more than that every English party should accept the basis of English institutions when it is once settled, we should say that it is sheer nonsense. But the question we wish to put to Conservatives is, Are these proposals in any sort of way expedient? Is it for a moment supposed that the Conservatives could dispense with the support of men who have no objection to a large public expenditure, if it be necessary for the sure defence of the nation? Could they do without supporters who are revolted by

the notion that England ought to have no foreign policy which is not before all things cheap? Could they with any prospect of advantage transfer themselves into a Tory Democratic party—that is, a party ready to use any language and make any promises to the most ignorant portion of the electors? Do they not see that the reason why so many Liberals are joining them is that they are believed to dislike the coarser exigencies of politics, even though they are occasionally compelled to submit to them? It is a party of intelligence and good sense which is forming itself, not one ready to talk unscrupulous nonsense to uneducated men.

Whatever history the new policy pressed by some upon Conservatives has is not in the least favourable to its wisdom or to its capacity for bringing success with it. Mr. JOHN MORLEY pointed out with justice that perhaps the most unfortunate argument ever used in the House of Commons took the form of a prediction that, if household suffrage were introduced into Ireland, it would bring a mass of Conservatism to the front. The author of the argument was the parent of Tory democracy, and this is the only part of his system that has ever been tried. To say that it has failed is to give a very inadequate description of its effect. It is the very beginning and origin of all our misfortunes. If the Conservative Opposition had heartily supported a view which was known to prevail extensively in Mr. GLADSTONE'S own Cabinet, and had insisted on limiting the Irish suffrage, the Irish representation would not have fallen into Mr. PARNELL'S hands, and Ireland might still be capable of government. But this was one of the occasions on which the "Fourth Party" revolted against its leaders and neutralized counsels which were indubitably wise. It may be taken as furnishing the measure of the statesmanship in which they followed their leader, and which in all probability neither they nor he fully understood. No folly of the Conservative party could be greater than in allowing itself to be betrayed into similar experiments, with the certain result of repelling numbers of would-be allies.

### THE END OF MR. PARNELL'S AMENDMENT.

AT length the debate on Mr. Parnell's amendment to the Address has come to an end, and the House of Commons has rejected it by a majority of 352 to 246. The result of the division is very satisfactory. The amendment was drawn with exceeding ingenuity, so as to bring to its support every waverer, every man whose zeal for the Union had cooled or whose mind had been attuned to compromise. As a matter of fact, the amendment was supported by the whole of the Separatist forces in combination; and the result is to show that, as Lord Hartington said the other day, there is a solid barrier of a hundred votes between Messrs. Gladstone and Parnell and the destruction of the Union.

With this result we may be content, even though we have had to wade through a week of useless discussion to arrive at it. We know for certain that now, to-day, the Unionists are as strong and as resolute as ever they were; and after all the washy talk through which they have been dragged, after all the delays and hesitations which were so very likely to dishearten them, this is a gratifying discovery. As to the speeches that ended the discussion little need be said. Mr. Sexton is in one respect a useful person. Whenever he turns on the tap of his oratory he adds to the fast-growing number of men who are wearying and sickening of mile-long "brilliant" speeches, without common-sense and without principle. Sir William Harcourt's harangue will do much in the same direction and more in others. That the Sextons and Redmonds should talk as they do talk is always expected of them; but when a man in Sir William Harcourt's position, with his pretensions and with his "record," holds forth as the member for Derby did last night, a sharper feeling of revolt is bred in the mind of all who listen to him. He cannot suppose, we imagine, that even the Conybeares amongst English disruptionists, or the Egans and Healys in the Irish conspiracy, think him any the more respectable in his new rôle than in the one he has abandoned; while as for those who were once his friends and admirers, he must know that such a speech as he delivered last night must sink him yet lower in their esteem. In saying this, we are thinking more particularly of that part of his speech where he compared the Plan of Campaign with Hampden's refusal to pay ship-money and the revolt of the Bostonians against the tea duties. Obviously, if these examples of resistance justify the Plan of Campaign, which is nothing but a conspiracy to rob certain private citizens of their rent or their land, the members of the Long Firm may also boast of patriotic motive, and claim from the Liberal party a share of the enthusiastic admiration they accord to Hampden. All that part of Sir William Harcourt's speech was most deplorable; and when we remember how he used to talk of the Irish conspiracy only a little while ago, its hardihood appears even more striking than its injustice and its immorality. However, it is needless to dwell upon the part that Sir William Harcourt has chosen to play in politics. Its desperation is clear to everybody. But we suppose he was not in a position to imitate the conduct of his chief, who, unable to stand up and justify the Plan of Campaign, and yet unwilling or not daring to condemn it, stayed away from the debate altogether.

## NOTES.

"The European situation" continues pretty much what it has been for some time past. The anxiety for peace everywhere is reported to be as great as ever; meanwhile, there is no break in the ceaseless activity with which war preparations are being pushed on. Germany and Austria being apparently almost ready, we do not hear so much from these countries; but in Russia the armaments are going on apace. A hundred thousand men of the reserves are said to have been called out; and all over Southern Russia troops are being moved and stores accumulated. From France, in spite of the prevailing desire for peace, we have more reports of barracks built and fortresses armed and equipped. Belgium, too, seems making its war preparations on a scale which so small a country would hardly attempt unless there was supposed to be urgent need for them.

The Belgian movements are certainly very significant; none the less so since the organ of the Austrian Foreign Office points out that, in order to preserve her neutrality, Belgium ought to be in a condition to guard her own territories. It is obvious that if Belgium is able to put an army on either her eastern or her western frontiers, her position becomes very different from what it was in 1870. To quietly march through Belgium is one thing; to force a way after a battle and the defeat of a Belgian army is another. The latter alternative is probably one that neither France nor Germany would care to face. If either of them did so the Belgians would have a claim upon the assistance of the other belligerent in its capacity of a guaranteeing Power, and the appeal would scarcely be disregarded. What is more, it might not be easy in such circumstances for certain of the other guaranteeing States to refuse help to the Belgians when fighting to preserve their kingdom from foreign invasion. Consequently, the Belgians may reasonably conclude that to prepare for war as vigorously as possible is the most effectual way to prevent their country becoming a European cockpit once again.

The answers of Sir James Fergusson about Bulgaria are perfectly satisfactory. There is no occasion to go into further explanations of the Government action in Bulgarian matters, or to apologize for it. The policy of the Cabinet is before the country, and the country is entirely satisfied with it. The ridiculous charge that Lord Salisbury has been telling wholesale lies, while the Queen has been false to all constitutional practice, collapses with the publication of the Bulgarian Blue Book. The inventors of the charge have taken out the cream of that publication to support their case, and they can make nothing of it. Their original accusation was that the Prime Minister, in deference to the Queen's wishes, dragged the country to the verge of war to restore Prince Alexander after his abdication. Now they can only insist that Lord Iddesleigh refused to consider that the kidnapping of the Prince by a gang of ruffians constituted his legal deposition from the throne on which he had been placed by Europe. Lord Iddesleigh's conduct needs no defence. The belief that corruption and abduction is a legitimate mode of promoting political movements has no footing in England.

The chairman of the Gas Light and Coke Company told his shareholders yesterday what would happen to his company if the £90,000 which it at present pays in the form of coal dues were remitted. £10,000, he thought, would be paid in the direct taxation which would replace these dues, £50,000 would go in reducing the price of coke 6d. per chaldron, and the company would be left with £30,000. "This would not enable them to reduce the price of gas," apparently being too small an amount to balance even a reduction of one penny per thousand feet. The company, on the whole, "would not be appreciably affected." If the largest coal consumers in London would not be benefited, is it likely the purchaser of seven pounds for one penny would gain great advantage? It has not been noticed hitherto, as far as we are aware, that the expenses of the Metropolitan Board of Works must be considerably increased from and after this year, as the cost of maintenance of many of the parks, including Battersea and Victoria, is to be transferred to them for the future. This, then, seems hardly the time to deprive them of a steady and growing source of income.

The worst of the system of reforming social wrongs by dynamite is, that there is always a danger of dynamiting the wrong person. In your righteous wrath against all Governments, you desire, it may be, to blow up a Home Secretary; but the chances are that you only slay a door-keeper—perhaps a member of the Social Democratic Federation himself. To destroy the factory of a profit-grabber is, no doubt, an honourable achievement; but the odds are in favour of letting the bloated capitalist escape and killing a large number of the downtrodden slaves of labour in his employ. This want of precision about the new method in politics is exemplified in the case of Mr. Hodges, who exploded a bomb in the San Francisco theatre while Mdme. Patti was singing. It appears that the real object of his plan of campaign was to destroy one Flood, convicted of the crime of being a rich man. But it is not easy for anybody to aim a bombshell straight at its mark in a crowded theatre; and the missile.

if it had been thrown, would probably have killed the prima donna, or the first violin, or some casual spectator in the stalls. Fortunately, the machine exploded too soon, and damaged nobody but its spirited proprietor.

Whenever we do get involved in a naval war, the question of privateering and the capture of merchant shipping will become a matter of the most urgent importance. It does no harm to bestow some thought upon it while we are at peace. Mr. Watts, the president of the Chamber of Shipping, dwelt upon the subject at some length in his inaugural address yesterday. His suggestion that the Government in war-time should indemnify shipowners against capture, receiving in return a "moderate war premium," is worth considering. It might be expensive, but it would at least avert the wholesale transfer of British vessels to neutral flags, which is to be dreaded in case of a maritime war. Mr. Watts's other proposal is that we should "denounce" the Declaration of Paris. He is afraid that otherwise we shall be exposed to "one-sided privateering." But surely there is not much danger of that. If the enemy breaks the Paris agreement and takes to privateering, we should, of course, follow suit, and probably play the game rather better than he.

The Plan of Campaign, which is spoken of so tenderly by the leaders of the Gladstonian party, is regarded in a very different light by the highest judicial authorities in Ireland. The full Court of Appeal, consisting of Lord Justices Fitzgerald and Barry, the Lord Chief Justice, the Lord Chief Baron, the Master of the Rolls, and the Lord Chancellor, has pronounced judgment on appeal in the case of Moroney, the tenant who adopted the Plan of Campaign and was then made bankrupt. The court upheld the decision of Judge Boyd, and decided that Moroney, in transferring his rent to the "trustees" instead of paying it to his landlord, was a fraudulent debtor under the statute. We have, therefore, the best authority for stating that Mr. Dillon and Mr. Harrington are inciting the Irish tenants to commit frauds, and the English Gladstonian party are making themselves accessories and accomplices in the swindle. It is as well to call things by their right names.

A correspondent says:—Why doesn't somebody explain to Mdme. de Novikoff that she ought not to talk about "the Battenberg" in her leading articles. To allude to Prince Alexander in this fashion is no doubt insulting; but it is not "English, you know." It is not our practice to speak of a prince or a nobleman who takes his title from a place in this way. Even if we wished to be rude we should not call the Earl of Derby "the Derby," the King of Bavaria "the Bavaria," or the Czar of Russia "the Russia." "The Battenberger" is equally abusive and unpleasant in sound; but it would be, at any rate, more grammatical. The most accomplished of female Russian—shall I say agents?—cannot be expected to understand all these little niceties of our language; but her own private editor ought to put her up to them.

The Great Western Railway's report makes it still clearer that to travel third class is the fashion. In the half-year there was a decrease in first-class passengers, and a decrease in second; but in the third there was an increase of three parts of a million. The directors do not attribute these facts to hard times but to soft seats. Third-class travellers, they say, are provided with accommodation and comfort far beyond what they are entitled to, and when people discover that they can travel with almost equal ease and just as fast in the lowest-class carriage as in the others, they naturally make use of it. That is, no doubt, partly the reason; but much more so is the ridiculous disparity of rates, which are out of all proportion to the different varieties of accommodation. Let the companies once follow the example of the Midland in abolishing second class, and then reduce the first-class fares by something like one-half, and they will find that a great number of those who now travel on what used to be, and still is on some lines, "the plank" will return to the more select carriages.

Among the minor blessings which landlord-exterminating has brought to Ireland is relief from the purse patronage formerly bestowed by landlords on the elementary schools of the country. The Grocers' Company some time ago sold their estate in Londonderry; and their donations to the schools of the district consequently came to an end. The Fishmongers' Company, although only in process of disposing of their Irish property, have already withdrawn their donations to the schools. To four schools they used to pay the class salaries of the entire teaching staff, with £20 additional to each of the principal teachers; and they also supplied books and all school requisites to the pupils free of charge. Now they decline to contribute anything. Two first-class teachers have consequently abandoned their schools, and a third is looking for another situation; the emoluments being reduced to beggarly proportions. Could not the treasurer of the National League see his way to making up the loss?

The "illiterate voters" return is a remarkable and interesting document. The total number of illiterate voters at the last election was 80,000, out of three millions. Ireland, with less than one-fifteenth of the total votes, has nearly 37,000, or slightly less than half the illiterates. When we remember that there are many Irishmen of the lowest class in England and Scotland (Liverpool and Glasgow could furnish a quarter of a million

between them), while there are no "Britons" of the lowest class in Ireland, we may fairly say that considerably more than half the entire number of illiterates are Irish. In a single constituency, that of East Cork, out of 5,000 votes recorded 2,000 were by voters who could not make their own crosses. Seeing that secret voting is the law of the land, and that no illiterate can vote secretly, is it not time that these 80,000 voters should be disfranchised? We regret to observe that the number of illiterates in poor little Wales is far greater than its due proportion. Altogether it must be gratifying to the party of progress and enlightenment to know that probably nine out of ten of the voters who cannot write their own names recorded their votes against that "stupid" party which happens to have the monopoly of the university representation, and sends in most of the members for such abodes of ignorance as London and Lancashire.

It was lately pointed out that character can be read in the eyes. Now some one has published a pamphlet which holds that it may also be read in the hair: curly hair denoting good nature, red hair vanity, golden hair caprice, and so on. But character can be read in other ways than these. One of Mr. Howells's heroes reads the heroine's character in her hat and gloves. Miss Rhoda Broughton thinks she has given a man's character when she says that he turns up his trousers at the foot. Another novelist says he always knows a bachelor by his umbrella. There is a story of a gentleman who chose a lady for his wife because he liked her way of eating cheese. Hall, the preacher, offered his hand to a maid-servant the first time he saw her, because she put coals on the fire precisely as he would have done it himself. There is not a "smart" reporter in the House of Commons who does not think he can "hit off" a new member by his necktie or his eye-glass or the way he puts his fingers through his hair. Indeed, it is in this way biographies are mostly written nowadays.

At the meeting of the Great Northern Railway Company yesterday the chairman, Lord Colville, gave a touching account of the loss sustained by the company owing to the accident that took place at Finsbury Park two years ago. The company paid by way of compensation for this disaster no less a sum than £33,000, which was equal to a half per cent. dividend. The accident in question occurred in a fog so thick that the signalman could not see the train although it was immediately under the signal box. "None," said the chairman, "but those responsible for it knew what it was to work trains freighted with thousands of persons in a fog so dense that objects a yard off cannot be seen." The responsibility of working a train under such circumstances is, no doubt, great; but railway passengers have as much right to be protected from injury when travelling in a fog as when travelling in a clear atmosphere. London is, unfortunately, liable to be visited by dense fogs; and railway companies should so manage their arrangements on these occasions as to meet the emergencies of the situation.

A case that came before the Clerkenwell County Court possesses features of more than ordinary interest. The plaintiff was churchwarden of the parish of Clerkenwell, and claimed from the defendants, the United Telephone Company, the sum of £1 1s., being the cost of a new hat irreparably damaged by the fall of a telephone-wire. The distressing incident occurred near the King's-cross Railway Station. The plaintiff was talking to a brother-vestryman, when the telephone-wire without warning fell upon him and, according to his evidence, "entirely smashed his hat." The company admitted their liability by paying 10s. 6d. into court; but this the plaintiff's solicitor "considered an insult to a churchwarden." It is hardly credible that the Telephone—or, indeed, any other—Company could seriously imagine that a churchwarden would wear a hat worth only ten-and-six; and the defendants' solicitor excused, as far as it was possible, the apparent insult by explaining that "his clients had only been sued for damage to a hat." A verdict was given for the plaintiff, with costs; and the company may esteem itself fortunate that they got off so cheaply. Had their wire cut off a churchwarden's head instead of merely injuring his hat, they would have found themselves in an awkward position.

There was a first-rate unknown song by Schubert given at Mr. and Mrs. Henschel's recital yesterday! known probably well enough to the initiated but absolutely new to the concert public. It is a setting of Goethe's little poem of "Ganymede;" dates from 1817, Schubert's twentieth year; and is as different from the "Waldesnacht," lately described, as possible. It is one of the three which the bashful awkward lad took courage to send to the great Jupiter at Weimar, and for which he appears to have had not even a word of reply. The connection between this "Ganymede" and Jove's cup-bearer of Lemprière is slight and mystical. Goethe's poem is an attempt to show how a man may become identified with the nature around him; how completely it may permeate and impregnate his entire being, until he shall seem to rise with it through the clouds to the all-loving Father of the universe. The circumstances are simple enough. A warm spring morning, the fresh turf and flowers of May, the birds calling around, the breeze moderating the heat of the sun, the clouds bending and beckoning the yearning child of earth to his upward path. All this Schubert produces so perfectly that the slightest clues are sufficient to give the effect, and more than the effect, of Goethe's poem. Mr. Henschel's voice might by nature be sweeter, but nothing can be more artistic than his conduct of it; while his accompaniment absolutely leaves nothing to be desired. It was a perfect gem. We can only regret that Schumann's grand and gloomy inspiration

"Ich grolle nicht" was allowed, like a thick November fog, to blot out Schubert's delicious spring lights and tints. It was cruel. It is astonishing to reflect how many of these noble creations of Schubert's there are of which many an eager amateur—aye and many a ripe musician knows nothing. Mr. Henschel has announced several for his remaining Recitals; but he has not put down the "Gruppe aus dem Tartarus," the "Schwager Kronos," the "Fahrt zum Hades"—all which would exactly suit him; while for Mrs. Henschel what could be more perfectly fitting than the "Geheimes" or the "Dass Sie hier gewesen." And all these are absolutely new to the London public! They would be revelations.

Monday is the 14th of February; but the day is no longer consecrated to St. Valentine. Christmas card seems to have proved an Aaron's rod, swallowing up the cards that used to be so popular on St. Valentine's Day, New Year's Day, and at Easter. Thus the great card firm of Marcus Ward and Co. are not issuing any "valentines" this year, and other firms are following suit. A few adhere to the old custom; but most of the valentines exhibited in the windows this year are merely "old stock." In an American story published not long ago in "Harper's," a young lady nearly broke off her engagement because her lover was so far behind the times as to send her a valentine. St. Valentine never rightly recovered from the shock of being made a comic divinity. His death will be chiefly mourned by the artists who drew the pictures of Cupid showing a red gentleman and a yellow lady into a blue church, and the workwomen who prepared the satin surfaces and lace frilling. There used to be a great trade in valentine-making.

#### THE POVERTY OF THE CLERGY.

A PAMPHLET recently published by Mr. R. E. Prothero, under the title of "The Agricultural Depression and the Sufferings of the Clergy," contains some very interesting information as to the position of tithe-owning and glebe-owning clergymen, especially in Northampton, Huntingdon, Essex, and parts of adjoining counties. The pamphlet is a reprint of five articles contributed by Mr. Prothero to the *Guardian*, and is the result of personal investigation and inquiry. The picture drawn by Mr. Prothero is a most melancholy one. He found that many clergymen who were contriving to keep up the outward appearance of decency and comfort were in fact in a condition of absolute penury. Some of them were living "without servants, without fires, without books, and on the food of an ordinary labourer." In speaking of clergymen whose professional income is derived exclusively from glebe-lands which they have had to take into their own hands, Mr. Prothero says that he only found one member of that class who could have escaped from absolute starvation, except by the assistance of charitable friends or the possession of private means. And it is by no means an uncommon thing in the present time of depression for glebe-owning clergymen to be forced to choose between letting their land at a nominal rent, letting it go out of cultivation altogether, or farming it themselves. The pamphlet is written in a tone of great moderation, and with a careful avoidance of highflown or sensational language. Many of the clergymen seen by Mr. Prothero were reluctant to admit the full extent of their misfortunes, and only did so upon an absolute promise of secrecy. But the facts which he is able to present stand in no need of rhetorical description. The figures and statistics which he gives in a few cases, chosen at random from particular classes, are eloquent enough; and his plain statements of cause and effect are enough to prove that many of our rural clergy, including those who have been promoted to benefices of great nominal value, are suffering from a real and grinding poverty which renders it impossible for them to give proper food, clothes, or education to their children, forces them to incur debts for the necessaries of life, and to live in constant fear of creditors whom they are unable to satisfy. These evils, incurred through no fault of the sufferers, are for the most part bravely and uncomplainingly borne.

The agricultural depression has acted differently on the owners of tithe and the owners of glebe-land. The sufferings of the tithe-owners are, according to Mr. Prothero, the less acute of the two. It is probable that, owing to the computation of tithes on the average value of corn for seven years, such tithe-owners as are paid punctually and without abatement are receiving more than one-tenth part of the actual produce of the land. But when this is the case the tithe-owner is no more than compensated, from the fact that the same cause which now saves him from feeling at once the whole loss of a bad year formerly prevented him from feeling at once the whole gain of a good year. By the septennial system he is still entitled to receive some part of his share in the abundance of past years. But most tithe-owners are not paid in full. They are now forced to forego the benefits which they were formerly forced to postpone. They are compelled to give large abatements by threats of an absolute refusal to pay. They hesitate to adopt a course so fatal to their own popularity and to that of the Church, and apparently so much at variance with the tenor of their religious teaching, as to take legal means for the enforcement of their rights. The agitation against the payment of tithes is spreading in many counties; and the agitators, actuated by a desire to damage the Church by any means, and working on the poverty or the cupidity of those from whom tithes are due, leave no stone unturned to rob the parson. Arrears accumulate, and are eventually lost by the operation of the Statute of Limitations; small instalments of the tithe are paid; and the most conscientious clergymen are those who suffer most because they devote what

they do receive to public and ecclesiastical expenses, and allow the whole of the loss to fall upon their personal revenue.

Mr. Prothero attributes the greater part of the sufferings of the tithing clergy to the arrangement by which the rent-charge, given by the Act of 1886 as a commutation for tithes paid in kind, is generally paid by the tenant instead of being paid, as was intended, by the landlord. Tenants, having a brief and transient interest in the land, suffer from the system of a seven years' average, and often fail to perceive that, if they were freed from the tithe rent-charge, they must pay a proportionately higher rent to the landlord. Mr. Prothero desires to see the direct payment of the tithe rent-charge by landowners made compulsory as a first step for the relief of the clergy. He believes that the only permanent remedy lies in the redemption of the tithe at about twenty years' purchase of its present value. While admitting the difficulties attending such a scheme, he believes that they might be overcome by the co-operation of the landowners and the Government.

When tithes were commuted, many livings received the complete ownership of certain parts of the tithe-paying land formerly subject to tithe, instead of a rent-charge. The holders of these livings, or glebe-owning clergymen, were in the days of agricultural prosperity better off than their brethren who received rent charges. Their position is now far worse; and it is among them that the worst cases of poverty, sometimes approaching starvation, are to be found. Since the days of agricultural depression glebe-owners have had a difficulty in finding tenants. They have been compelled to accept bad tenants; who did what they could with the land for a year or two, and returned it to the owner spoiled and impoverished and in a condition which was unlikely to attract new tenants. When driven to farm his land himself the glebe-owner is almost certain to fail. Even if he happens to possess special knowledge and experience, he cannot have the leisure necessary for such constant personal supervision as is required for successful farming in bad times. His clerical position puts him in a bad position for dealing with refractory tenants or idle labourers. If he invests his private capital in his land, his precarious tenure gives him no real security for the investment. If he borrows money to make the improvements necessary to secure new tenants, to repair the effects of the bad farming of old ones, or to work the farm himself with a fair prospect of profit, the payment of interest takes away a part of his dwindling income and threatens him with lasting poverty. Of all life-tenants a parson is the most unfortunate. The Agricultural Holdings Act gives him no tenant-right and no right to claim compensation for unexhausted improvements at the end of his tenancy. After a powerful sketch of the disadvantages under which the glebe-owner lies as compared with other landowners, Mr. Prothero recommends that the ultimate object of any efforts for his relief should be to give up land as a source of clerical income. Sales of glebes should be encouraged when they can be made on reasonable terms; though a compulsory and general sale would have disastrous effects. Meanwhile it is most desirable to raise a fund for the purpose of spreading the payments due for money borrowed to improve the glebes over a long period, of compensating clergymen or their representatives for unexhausted improvements, and of developing the resources of such glebe-lands as are really valuable by reason of the presence of ironstone or some other source of wealth which poverty or the dissensions of patrons and the Ecclesiastical Commissioners have rendered unavailable. Time will show whether the remedies suggested by Mr. Prothero are practicable and would be effective. In any case, he has deserved well of all friends of the Church by calling attention to a real and very serious grievance for which the Legislature is in part responsible.

#### NEWSPAPER MARKET.

Using the term in its popular sense, I should say that the nearest approach we have to midnight in London is between the hours of 3 and 4 A.M. Then great part of the metropolis is sunk in as solemn silence as an Essex village, and London is a drowsy man whose heart is Fleet-street. I am frequently in this thoroughfare during the London midnight, and the scene this (Wednesday) morning may be taken as typical of Fleet-street between 3 and 4 A.M. all the year round.

At three o'clock Holborn was almost entirely given up to street-lamps and policemen. I traversed the greater part of it without meeting a single wayfarer, and only one cab passed me—an empty hansom on its way home. It was a clear frosty morning and the footsteps of the police echoed in the narrow streets of Bloomsbury. Night is the time for the humourist, whose joke is the scarcity of the police, to learn how many of them there really are. I often passed two at a street-corner, and there was nearly always one within sight moving heavily along on the inner side of the pavement. Chancery-lane was absolutely deserted, however, but for a postal van that clattered by.

It was half-past three when I turned into Fleet-street. One not accustomed to be in the streets so late would have been struck by the change at once. Lights showed in the windows on the upper floors; there was a dull sound of machinery in the distance and of rolling carts; a great cloud of smoke hovered over the street, suggesting a chimney on fire, though it really came from a great newspaper office; men walked quickly by; boys were running in both directions; and half a dozen night cabs had made a stand for themselves at the foot of Fetter-lane. The coffee-rooms here were open and doing a roaring trade. The gathering inside was of a very mixed character. There were cabbies "killing the time," street-urchins who would shortly be staggering under a load of damp newspapers, reporters loth to leave the cosy comforts of the coffee-house for the frosty streets, and others—all more or less connected with the press, making their living off it, if not by it. Earlier in the night the taverns are thronged with newspaper-men of every grade; the wise ones who have "head-work" before them contenting themselves with a sandwich, though there is also a great consumption of beer and stout. In most of the offices tea and cocoa are provided to the rank-and-file; and it is something to marvel over the way a compositor can take down

a cup of boiling-hot cocoa "without hindrance to present employment." This morning every one in the street was intent on business; but there is an occasional jovial spirit to relieve the monotony. One morning last week, when the streets were running mud and there was a drizzling rain falling, I came upon three belated reporters solemnly trying which could fling his hat highest in the air.

The west end of Fleet-street was this morning, as ever, the less animated. None of the great morning newspapers are published here; and the lights on both sides of the street are in the London offices of the more important provincial papers. The "London Letters," of course, were despatched hours ago. Some fun has been made out of "Our Special London Correspondence's" being written in the provincial editor's back-parlour. If that was ever the case with reputable journals, it has ceased to be so now. The London Letter is usually composed of information gathered in the lobby of the House of Commons and elsewhere; and it is telegraphed in paragraphs, as they come in, up to two and even three o'clock in the morning. When I reached Fleet-street this morning the London correspondent's work for the night was in many cases not yet over. Many of the provincial morning papers—especially those that have private wires—publish second editions containing tit-bits or "press opinions" from the London morning journals; so that the London office is not closed until early copies of these have been obtained.

As you make your way down the street, which so far has been very quiet, there is more bustling to and fro. Mr. W. H. Smith and Son's red vans drive swiftly past, and the number of hansoms increases. There was not a four-wheeler in Fleet-street between three and four this morning, nor a solitary representative of the softer sex. A cab waits for some regular fare at the brilliantly lighted offices of the *Daily Telegraph*; but all the newspaper-carts clatter out of Fleet-street into the narrow lanes off which the "machinery departments" open. The first editions were all out by this time, and half a dozen carts stood waiting to be loaded at each of the great offices. The papers are done up in bales, one of which is a heavy load for a man; and as many men are employed to carry these bales to the carts, the latter are soon loaded and sent off to some distant destination, or drawn to a publishing agent's in Fleet-street where they are "sorted" much in the manner of letters. This agent's warehouse is perhaps the most interesting scene in Fleet-street now. Some forty men are hard at work inside, fighting with time. Each has his own parcels to make up, and woe betide him if he misses the early trains. News-carts, barrows, and vans, waiting to be loaded, stand outside, and men rush in and out in answer to shouts of "*Chronicles wanted*," "*Daily News*," etc. When a parcel containing so many copies of each paper is made up, a brown paper is flung round it, with a printed card thereon bearing the name of the place to which the parcel has to be forwarded. The lot is then flung into a van, or piled alongside others on the pavement. The sorter takes advantage of every doorway in the neighbourhood to ply his vocation, and the mouths of passages are frequently choked with newspapers addressed to the various suburban stations and news agents.

While the workers in the streets were all astir some of the labourers inside had finished their night's work, and were appearing in ones and twos at the office-doors. These were mostly connected with the editorial or sub-editorial departments, for it was still too early for the compositors. The rooms of the Press Club are at the east end of Fleet-street, and the door stood invitingly open. A number of journalists betook themselves thither—some to wait for the "Underground" trains, others for a talk over the news of the night before they go off to Brixton (their favourite home), and the remainder to "make a morning" of it at the club. Some, again, were borne home in cabs; others set off to walk long distances. I know a journalist living at Shepherd's-bush, who never leaves his office before 3 A.M., yet has not missed walking home, generally alone, for years. On reaching his house he reads for several hours, takes dinner when the rest of the family are at breakfast, and then goes to bed. As he is back in the office at seven in the evening, he almost exactly reverses the ordinary mode of living. Another man engaged on the same journal cannot sleep until he has compared his own paper with the others to see which is the better sub-edited. Four o'clock is too early to get the newspapers for sale in the streets; but they may be obtained at the offices by "outsiders," as well as by the staff and certain other privileged persons—such as the local policemen—who do not have to pay for their copies.

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

##### A NEW PLAN OF CAMPAIGN.

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

SIR,—Several firms of solicitors, with one of which I am connected, owe considerable sums for professional fees to the Honourable Bernard Coleridge, M.P. Times are hard, and our clients are many of them persons who can ill afford to discharge the liabilities—binding in honour, but not in law—which they have incurred towards the learned gentleman. We have therefore hit upon the following plan, which although it cannot strictly be called illegal, will, we feel assured, command Mr. Coleridge's moral approbation.

We propose to pay two-thirds (or perhaps one-third, but that is a detail) of the fees due into a bank in the names of trustees. Whenever Mr. Coleridge declares himself willing to accept the amount thus reduced in full discharge of his claims, the money will be paid over to him. Should he not accept it, he will get nothing.

The justice of this is obvious, because, owing to circumstances which have occurred since Mr. Coleridge did the work in respect of which the fees are nominally due, it has become much more difficult to us and to our clients to pay him the stipulated amounts.

I may add that our design is ultimately to exterminate the harpy race of barristers: in which we shall probably succeed.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

February 11

S. P.

## THE FRENCH CONSCRIPT.

THE annual conscription in France, which takes place at about this season, always causes a certain ferment throughout the country. This year, for obvious reasons, it has been greater than usual. The family perturbation produced by the drawing away of so many young men from their homes is necessarily great; and the conscripts themselves, from the time that they have gone through the operation called *tirage au sort* until they enter their barracks, make such a boisterous use of their remaining hours of freedom that those who are not immediately interested in this annual effervescence of young blood cannot remain absolutely indifferent to it. It is the custom of conscripts when they have drawn their numbers to exhibit these to the world, whether they are "lucky" or "unlucky," on pieces of cardboard which they fasten to their hats; and they frequently deck themselves out with many-coloured ribbons as well. Then those who have been drawn from the same localities form themselves into bands of twenty, thirty, or more, and parade the towns and villages, singing, shouting, and making as much commotion as the public will endure. So long as they do not fight among themselves or assault other people, they are allowed to do pretty much as they please. Everybody knows that they will shortly be put into uniform, and that then they will have to behave with the utmost circumspection in public. During these last few days of blessed liberty, the conscripts pay frequent visits to the wine-shops and smoke a great many cigars; for those who have money spend it freely, not only upon themselves, but upon their comrades who have none. All parents, moreover, unless they are abjectly poor, put something into their boys' purses when they are leaving home to join the army.

When the festive interval is passed, and the conscript is under military discipline, a great change comes over him. Unless he is exceptionally bright, he has to put up with much abuse from those whose duty it is to make a soldier of him. In France, no officer or sub-officer is allowed to inflict corporal punishment upon a soldier; but the language commonly used to stimulate the intelligence of the novice could not be printed even in a French paper without many asterisks. Of all conscripts, the Breton is said to be the most stupid and the most stubborn; but it is not always remembered that he comes from a district where the dialect of the people offers no analogy to the French language, and that when he is drawn into the army the words of command often sound to his ears like those of a foreign tongue. By far the greater number of French peasants are accustomed to speak *patois* from their childhood, and this circumstance adds not a little to the troubles upon which they enter when they leave the plough to join the army. The French conscript has not been a week in barracks before his face shows that the cares of life have begun to settle upon him. When the first trials of soldiering, however, are over, he generally becomes resigned and cheerful.

Every Frenchman who has completed his twentieth year is theoretically liable to serve five years in the army. There are, however, some exemptions from the rule and various mitigations as regards its application. Most of these will be done away with if the measure which General Boulanger proposes to lay before Parliament this session is adopted. Circumstances, however, may arise which will cause this much-talked-of Bill to become a dead letter. The law which still holds good was adopted in 1872, when the country, still bleeding from its deep wounds, demanded with one voice a new military organization based upon the German system. This law declares that every Frenchman capable of military service may be called upon between the ages of twenty and forty to do duty in the active army and the reserves. The exemptions are almost exclusively enjoyed by clerical students and young men who by the death or infirmity of their fathers have become the mainstay of the family. This law also declares five years to be the period of service in the active army, four years in the reserve of the active army, five years in the territorial army, and six years in the reserve of the territorial army. With regard to the five years' service in the active army, there are some important mitigations. As a matter of fact, the proportion of men who remain in the regiments during the whole of this period is small. Special provision has been made for young men aspiring to the higher professions, such as law and medicine, by what is termed the *volontariat d'un an*. Without waiting to be called upon to serve as ordinary conscripts, they come forward as volunteers for one year only. It is sufficient for them to have obtained a degree of *bachelier-ès-lettres* or *bachelier-ès-sciences* for them to serve as volunteers for a year; and if at the end of that time they pass their military examination, they are considered to have served their full period with the active army.

In this system there is obvious inequality before the law—an injustice that even Republicans admit to be necessary in the interest of society. But something is done to keep up an appearance of equality. Jacques Bonhomme, who is debarred by his lot from becoming a *bachelier-ès-lettres*, is permitted to cherish the hope that at the *tirage au sort* he will draw a lucky number which will reduce to one year the five years' service which he knows his country has a right to expect from him. A lottery is sometimes a very convenient way of getting out of a moral difficulty. The French manage to invest this drawing of numbers for the period of military service with a great deal of solemnity. Every year in each canton a list is drawn up of all the young men between twenty and twenty one years of age; and on a certain day they are summoned to the *mairie* of the chief town to draw their numbers. The prefect of the department presides, and the mayors of the different communes forming the canton are also present. In large cities each *arrondissement* is considered equivalent to a canton. The numbers to be drawn are enclosed in little cases and put into an urn. Then, as each person's name is called out, he draws a number, or he can depute another to draw for him. It often happens that when a name is called out a woman comes forward and, trembling with excitement, puts her hand into the urn. She is the mother of the young man who stands behind her, holding his breath until the number she has drawn has been read out. It is believed that if there is something beyond chance in such a lottery, there

must be virtue in a mother's agency. Those who obtain high numbers have a right to expect that they will return to their homes after one or two years of military life; but the proportion of conscripts so favoured in each canton or *arrondissement* is regulated to a large extent by regimental requirements. The average length of service is from three to four years.

The anxiety of the French conscript to draw a lucky number indicates the measure of his enthusiasm for a military life. The law of 1872, if it has made the French a nation of soldiers, has lowered their martial spirit. The inconveniences arising from general compulsory service without pay are so galling to the greater number of those who are affected by it, that they have wrought a marked change in the popular mind with regard to the army. But although the French people are no longer ready to take fire at the merest prospect of war, they would quickly find their martial enthusiasm again if their country were invaded.

## TRADE AND FINANCE.

The revenue payments are beginning to tell upon the supply of loanable capital in the outside market. We remarked yesterday upon the very considerable reduction effected in the week ended Wednesday night in the "other deposits," and it is evident that the reduction will go on till nearly the end of March. Already this is beginning to affect the quotations for short loans, which yesterday ranged from  $2\frac{1}{2}$  to 3 per cent. The discount rate was  $2\frac{3}{4}$ . It is evident, then, that a little assistance to the Bank would give it control over the outside market, and possibly enable it to attract gold. In the meantime, it is not being materially strengthened. It is still expected, indeed, that a large sum will be received from Egypt; but there is little probability of any considerable amount arriving from New York, and the arrivals from the Continent are nearly neutralized by the withdrawals for different destinations. Yesterday, for example, a sum of £5,000 was sent into the Bank, but a sum of £25,000 was withdrawn for Copenhagen; the net result being that the Bank had a loss in gold of £20,000. It is much to be wished that the directors would use to good advantage control they are now about to acquire over the outside market, and strengthen themselves against all eventualities.

The stock markets were dull all yesterday. The Continental Bourses were all weak; and, although there was actually no bad political news, the impression was less favourable than on the day before. The proposal for the neutralization of Egypt was unfavourably received; and altogether the feeling was less optimistic than on the day before. Perhaps, however, the most powerful influence acting on markets was the diminution of the account open for the fall. During the panic in Paris, aggravated by the quarrel between the official and the outside market, there was very heavy selling by the speculators for the fall. Here in London the fortnightly Settlement this week showed that the account open for the fall in Foreign Government bonds was very large indeed, and that there was a considerable account open for the fall in other departments; while it is known that there is a large account open for the fall in Consols likewise. On Thursday the speculators came to the conclusion that it was time to buy back. They had not expected that the account was quite so large as it was shown to be by the Settlement; and, then, the first report as to Sir Drummond Wolff's proposals was favourably received, as it was rumoured that it included a conversion of at least a portion of the Egyptian debt with a guarantee. The buying throughout Thursday was very active, and the sudden rise of prices shows that it was very large also. Yesterday the speculators paused. Many of them began to think that they had acted too hastily, and, as they interpreted the political news less favourably than they had done the day before, the buying stopped, while some selling was again begun. It was also recollected that we are still more than a week from the German elections, and as it is anticipated that there may be further alarmist rumours set afoot before the elections are over, speculators are taking courage to sell again.

Although the New York Stock Exchange was strong and active on Thursday, the London market for American Railroad securities was dull all day yesterday, and the dulness here seems to have reacted upon the New York Stock Exchange, for the opening prices there were reported to be decidedly lower than the closing prices of the day before; consequently Central Pacific shares and Wabash Preference shares closed yesterday  $1\frac{1}{4}$  each lower than on the day before, Union Pacific 1, Milwaukee and Denver shares  $\frac{1}{2}$  each; Oregon and California, Ohio and Mississippi, and Ontario shares  $\frac{1}{2}$  each. For the moment this market has fallen under the influence of politics. For more than a year and a half New York has led all departments of the Stock Exchange here; but during the past few weeks apprehensions of war have affected the American Railroad market, like all other departments, and New York appears to be influenced by Continental politics very largely. There is a strong impression, nevertheless, that, whether a war breaks out or not, there will be a rise in American Railroad securities. Immediately on the outbreak of war there would probably be a fall; but the general belief is that a recovery would very soon set in and that prices would be carried higher than the highest point they reached last year.

After the rise of Thursday there was a general decline in Home Railway stocks yesterday. Mainly this was due, as we have said above, to the closing of so many accounts open for the fall, and to the recommencement of speculative selling yesterday. The heaviest fall was in Brighton A, amounting to  $1\frac{1}{2}$ , while District, Chatham Preference, Great Western, and Great Eastern, all declined  $\frac{3}{4}$ , Great Northern A  $\frac{1}{2}$ , and North-Eastern  $\frac{3}{4}$ . Grand Trunk of Canada stocks fell from  $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $1\frac{1}{4}$ , Canadian Pacific shares  $\frac{1}{4}$ , and Mexican Railway stocks from  $\frac{3}{4}$  to  $1\frac{1}{4}$ . In the Foreign market the decline was still more marked. There is reason for believing that Continental holders were selling stock induced by the rise that took place the day before, and that likewise there was a resumption of speculative sales. Egyptian bonds fell from 1 to  $1\frac{1}{2}$ , French from  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 1, Russians of 1873  $1\frac{1}{4}$ , Turkish bonds from 1-16 to 1, Portuguese  $\frac{1}{4}$ , Spanish  $\frac{1}{2}$ , Hungarian Gold Rentes  $\frac{3}{4}$ , Italian  $\frac{3}{4}$ , and Greek  $\frac{1}{2}$ . Consols fell from  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 3-16, and New and Reduced  $\frac{1}{4}$ ; but it is understood that this particular movement was less in accordance with the downward movement in Foreign Government bonds and Home Railway stocks than because a new Queensland loan was announced for two millions and a half.

THE ST. JAMES'S GAZETTE.  
THIRD EDITION.

THE PEACE OF EUROPE.—MEDIATION OFFERED BY THE POPE.

(EXCHANGE COMPANY'S TELEGRAM.)

PARIS, Saturday.—According to a telegram published in to-day's *Matin*, the Pope says he should be happy to act as mediator on the Russo-Bulgarian and Franco-German questions.

DISASTROUS CYCLONE IN AMERICA.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

NEW YORK, Feb. 12.—Severe storms and floods are reported from the western States. A cyclone has swept over eastern Ohio, causing great destruction. At Louisville, Ohio, several churches and houses were demolished, and it is reported that there has been some loss of life.

THE MINISTERIAL CRISIS IN ITALY.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

ROME, Feb. 12.—The *Opinione* this morning publishes a paragraph stating that Count di Robilant will to-day be charged by the King with the formation of a new Cabinet, but making no mention of Signor Depretis. It is considered very doubtful whether Count di Robilant will undertake the task, and it is regarded as more probable that Signor Depretis will again be entrusted with the formation of a Ministry. The *Opinione*, in an article discussing the crisis, advocates a Ministerial combination comprising Signor Depretis, Count di Robilant, and Signor Rudini. Most of to-day's journals violently attack Count di Robilant, especially in view of the recent articles in the Austrian and German newspapers.

THE ATTACK ON A MISSIONARY IN THE FRIENDLY ISLANDS.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

WELLINGTON, Feb. 12.—Rear-Admiral Tryon, Commander-in-Chief on the Australian station, in reply to the Honourable Robert Stout, the Premier, requesting him to despatch a war-vessel to Tonga Island, states that he will cause inquiries to be made into the recent attack on the Honourable Shirley Baker when a war-vessel proceeds thither; but that he sees no necessity for specially despatching one.

THE KNIGHTS OF LABOUR.

(CENTRAL NEWS TELEGRAM.)

NEW YORK, Saturday.—The Knights of Labour have been beaten. They have declared the strike at an end, owing to a concession made to the coal-handlers by the Reading Railroad.

THE ALBANY MEMORIAL CHURCH AT CANNES.

The Church of St. George, erected at Cannes as a memorial to the late Duke of Albany, from the designs of Mr. Blomfield, was to-day consecrated by the Bishop of Gibraltar, in presence of the Prince of Wales, Prince George of Wales, and many distinguished English visitors now staying at Cannes. The church, built of stone from the neighbourhood of Grasse, consists of four bays and a north and south aisle, the footpaces of the aisles being laid in mosaic. On the north side are an organ chapel and vestry, and on the south the memorial chapel, on the decoration of which the skill of the architect has been lavished. The roof of the nave is of pitch pine, and the altar steps are of white Carrara marble. There are triple lancet windows above the altar, which are filled with memorial offerings, the gift of two English ladies. The piscina and sedilia are of ancient design. A screen of iron, painted black and gold, separates the chancel from the memorial chapel, in which there is a second altar and the chapel to be used only for early communion and weekday service.

THE "FREEMAN'S JOURNAL" ON THE GOVERNMENT POLICY IN IRELAND.

In an article on last night's division on Mr. Parnell's amendment, the *Freeman's Journal* says:—The Government seem to think that their petty Cromwellianism can not only block Ireland's progress towards Home Rule, but that it can at once bend the tenants of Ireland and force them to submit to wholesale eviction at the will of the landlords. Long ago Edmund Burke indignantly declared that English Governments yield concessions only when wrung from them by the cruel gripe of a rigid necessity. And now what has not been granted to the pleadings of justice will, if we mistake not, be obtained with compulsion, and given with disgrace. We trust that there will be no outbreak of crime in Ireland, let the Government do what they may. But we cannot ignore the proven connection between evictions and outrages, nor have we forgotten—Englishmen cannot have forgotten—the impressive warning of Mr. Gladstone that, when oppression on the one hand is married to misery on the other, there springs from the union a fatal and hideous progeny of crime. We have no doubt that the landlords, with the exception of a few far-seeing ones among them, will be jubilant. To our thinking it is to them a disaster out of all proportion in the possible gravity of its consequences to the trials that may be forced upon the Irish tenants. It will encourage them to go blindly along the road to destruction. They will take it to be an endorsement of all that they have done—a vote of confidence and a promise of all needed support accorded them by the Imperial Parliament. Their acts will intensify the popular exasperation and resentment. That will be the greatest obstacle in the way of an equitable settlement of the land question.

A NATIONALIST MEETING PROCLAIMED.

The Government have proclaimed the Nationalist meeting announced for to-morrow in Loughrea.

THE DIVISION ON MR. PARNELL'S AMENDMENT.

In the division last night on Mr. Parnell's amendment to the Address the minority was composed of 165 Gladstonian Liberals—including Mr. Henry Broadhurst, Mr. Campbell-Bannerman, Mr. Childers, Mr. Duff, Mr. H. H. Fowler, Sir William Harcourt, Sir Ughtred Kay-Shuttleworth, Mr. Shaw-Lefevre, Mr. G. Osborne Morgan, Mr. Arnold Morley, Mr. John Morley, Mr. Mundella, Sir Lyon Playfair, Sir E. Reed, Sir Charles Russell, Mr. Stansfeld, and the Hon. C. R. Spencer—and 81 Nationalists. The majority was composed of 286 Conservatives and the following 68 Liberal Unionists:—Lord Hartington, Mr. Chamberlain, Mr. Goschen, Mr. Bright, Sir Henry James, Viscounts Baring, Ebrington, Lynton, Wolmer, Baron Rothschild, Messrs. Anstruther, Barnes, Hamar Bass, Beaumont, Bickford-Smith, Biddulph, A. H. Brown, T. R. Buchanan, Caine, Caldwell, Richard Campbell, R. Chamberlain, Coghill, Jesse Collings, Archibald Corbett, Courtney, Sir Savile Crossley, Sir William Crossman, Sir Donald Currie, Messrs. George Dixon, Arthur Elliot, Hugh Elliot, Finlay, Fitzwilliam, Fry, Sir Thomas Grove, Sir Henry Havelock-Allan, Messrs. Gurdon, Heneage, Hingley, Hobhouse, Sir Robert Jardine, Sir John Lubbock, Messrs. Kendrick, T. Tea, F. W. Maclean, Story-Maskelyne, Mildmay, More, Morrison, Pitt-Lewis, Quilter, Thomas, Richardson, T. W. Russell, Sir John St. Aubyn, Messrs. Craig-Sellar, Sinclair, Sutherland, Christopher Talbot, Francis Taylor, Thorburn, Verdin, Vernon, West, Wiggin, Joseph Powell, Williams, Winterbotham, and Wodehouse. Not a single Gladstonian Liberal voted with the majority. Thirty-four members paired.

The figures on the division list appear as "Ayes 246, Noes 352;" but the minority, excluding the tellers, only numbers 244 names. The Government majority is thus increased by 2, and is therefore 108, not 106.

THE HOXTON MURDER.

This morning the various police-stations in the metropolis received a telegraph message from Brixton police-station that a man answering the description of the man Currell, who is suspected of and "wanted" for the murder of Lydia Green, was seen at half-past three o'clock this morning in the Millbrook-road, Brixton, when he asked the way to Kensington. The person who was asked the question had his suspicions, and gave information to the police, the description given by him being identical with that of Currell. The police authorities immediately sent round the neighbourhood; but the man had had time to get clear away.

The Central News learns that Currell engaged lodgings at 22, Flask-walk, Hampstead, on the night of the 5th inst.—i.e. the night of the murder—in the name of Thomas Cole. He remained there until twenty minutes past one on Thursday, when he left, saying that he would be back in about two hours. He left his lodgings unpaid for, and did not return. He stole from a fellow-lodger a tight-fitting diagonal undercoat, which he has since endeavoured to pledge. His correct description is as follows:—Small side whiskers, dark clean shaven face. Black overcoat, with velvet collar, rather seedy at seams, brown mixture tweed undercoat, with black mourning band on the left arm, black diagonal trousers and vest, with a white shirt, with an Oxford shirt under it, turn-down collar, black and yellow (or red) scarf, black felt hat, with mourning band, and laced-up boots. He has a mark on the right ear. The police will be glad to hear from any person to whom application may be made by a man of his description for lodgings. He would probably take lodging in a poor neighbourhood, as he has no money.

REPORTED FRACAS IN A LONDON THEATRE.

The London correspondent of the *Birmingham Gazette* writes:—"The clubs are ringing with the story of a fracas which took place at the Gaiety Theatre a couple of evenings ago. At the end of the second act a peer, who occupied one of the private boxes with a party of friends, descended with one of the latter to the stalls. Among the occupants of these seats was the heir to an earldom. He was called out by the peer's friend, and charged by the nobleman with having made some improper or untruthful reference with regard to some person not then present. Angry words were exchanged. From words they came to blows, and there was a serious scuffle. One of the combatants received an ugly black eye before they could be separated. Rumour has it that had not friends intervened the affair might have assumed a very ugly aspect indeed. A duel is now talked of, but it is hoped that by the interposition of friends further scandal will be averted.

A SINGULAR DRINKING BOUT.

The *Leeds Mercury* points out that a curious illustration of the manners prevalent in Eastern Europe is supplied in the Blue Book on Bulgaria lately published. A young Russian officer of the name of Nabokoff, who had served in the Roumelian army, and who was staying at Bourgas in June last, was accused of being concerned in a conspiracy against the life of Prince Alexander. In a conversation which took place between M. de Giers and Sir Robert Morier on the subject, the Russian Foreign Minister, who expressed his entire disbelief in the guilt of M. Nabokoff, who, he said, was a nephew of one of his own most intimate friends, read to the British Ambassador a letter from the accused officer describing the incident out of which the charge against him had been, as he alleged, manufactured. According to this letter, a number of persons, including the Archimandrite, dropped in upon him one evening, and when they were proposing to leave M. Nabokoff invited them to stay to supper. The Archimandrite pleaded a fearful headache, and wished to retire. M. Nabokoff, however, persuaded him to stay. "Do," he said, "as we do in Russia. With us we consider there is no cure for a headache like a good drinking-bout." The Archimandrite stayed, and there was a good drinking-bout, in which M. Nabokoff fully admitted that he spoke with warmth on the political situation and declaimed against the ingratitude of Bulgaria towards Russia; and that, he maintained, was the sole basis for the infamous accusation brought against him.

OUR COMMERCIAL RELATIONS WITH SPAIN.

The Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs has received an intimation from her Majesty's Consul at Porto Rico to the effect that British vessels conveying goods from British ports to that island direct are not required to produce certificates of origin. Her Majesty's Consul-General at Havana further states that both British and American vessels will pay the same tonnage and navigation dues as Spanish ships until the end of March, and that British vessels can enter goods, both from British ports and from ports of countries enjoying favoured-nation treatment with Spain, under the third column of the Cuban tariff, up to the same date.

NORTH ANTRIM ELECTION.

The result of the polling at North Antrim yesterday was this morning declared as follows:—

Table with 2 columns: Candidate Name and Votes. Mr. C. Lewis (C) 3858, Mr. S. C. McElroy (G) 2526, Mr. Traill (I) 424. Majority for Mr. Lewis 1332.

At the general election the figures were: Macnaughten (C), 4,429; McElroy (G), 1,910.

THE WEATHER.

Notwithstanding that the wind remains in the north-east, the temperature, as indicated by the thermometer, is considerably milder this morning; while a comparatively bright sun shines over the metropolis.

The Queen's Stag-hounds were to have met at Holyport Green yesterday; but were unable to hunt in consequence of the frost.

Skating is again general in the Lake District for the first time for a number of years. The principal lakes—Rydal, Grasmere, Esthwaite, and Derwent—are all covered with thick ice, but there were signs of a thaw this morning.

Severe weather is reported from the Continent. Sharp frost prevails in Paris and Vienna, and the weather is intensely cold all over Spain. Snow has been falling heavily in the Balearic Islands and on the Mediterranean coasts from Catalonia to the neighbourhood of Valentia, stopping the trains between Castellon and Tarragona.

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 and north-easterly winds, fresh; fair generally.

A Cabinet Council was held at the Foreign Office at eleven o'clock to-day.

At a meeting in Bristol last night it was resolved to erect a statue to the late Mr. Samuel Morley near Bristol Bridge, and to ask Mr. Gladstone to unveil it. It was also decided to collect funds for establishing a scholarship at the University College for the benefit of scholars in elementary schools.

At the request of Mr. Parnell and other members of the Nationalist party, Mr. Richard Power has consented to withdraw his resignation as representative of the City of Waterford.

Major-General G. L. M. Tupper, R.A., who has been appointed to the command of the Woolwich District, will take over that position on the 1st of April.

The Queen has conferred the Albert Medal of the Second Class upon Mr. William E. Yaldwyn, accountant of the Queensland National Bank at Charleville, in the colony of Queensland, in recognition of the conspicuous gallantry displayed by him in rescuing six persons from a flood at Charleville on the 26th of July, 1886.

A Limerick telegram states that Colonel O'Callaghan's agent has settled with 100 of the 131 tenants on the Bodyke estate. The evictions of the other tenants are not expected to be carried out before the beginning of March.

The "Noble Vagabond" has been so successful at the Princess's Theatre that the present management has signed for a twenty-one weeks' longer tenancy of the theatre.

THIS DAY'S MONEY MARKET.

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

The Stock Markets opened dull this morning. The political news is considered less satisfactory, especially the reported concentration of Russian troops on the Galician frontier and in the south, and the approaching expiry of the treaties between Italy and the German Powers.

Money is in better request in the open market at 2 1/2 to 2 3/4 per cent. for short loans, and 2 1/2 to 2 3/4 per cent. for discount.

The Stock Markets continue to show dullness; but the fall in prices is not generally important. Consols and New and Reduced are 1-16 to 1/8 per cent. easier, and some of the Home Railways show a fractional reduction.

The following are the changes as compared with yesterday's closing prices:— In the English Funds, Consols have fallen 1/8 for money to 100 1/2 to 100 3/4, the account 1-16 to 100 9-16 to 100 11-16, and Reduced and New Three per Cents. 1/8 to 101 to 101 1/4; but New Two-and-a-Half per Cents. are unchanged at 88 3/4 to 88 1/2.

In Home Railways, Great Eastern has fallen 1/8, Brighton A 1/4, Sheffield A 1/4, Midland 1/4, North-Eastern 1/4, and South-Eastern Deferred 1/4; but District has risen 1/4. In Canadian and Foreign Railways, Grand Trunk Ordinary has fallen 1/4, the First Preference 1/4, the Second 1/2, the Third 1/2, Canadian Pacific shares 1/4, Mexican Ordinary 1/2, and the First Preference 1/4.

In Foreign Government Bonds, Egyptian Unified has fallen 1/4, the Preference 1/2, the Daira Sanieh 1/4, French Three per Cent. Rentes 1/2, Hungarian Gold Rentes 3/4, Italian Five per Cents. 1/4, Mexican Old 1/4, Peruvian of 1870 1/4, Portuguese Three per Cents. 1/8, Russian of 1873 1/2, Spanish Four per Cents. 3/8, Turkish Groups III. and IV. 1-16, and the Defence 1/2.

In American Securities, Atlantic First Mortgage Bonds have fallen 1/4, Central Pacific shares 1 1/4, Milwaukee 3/8, Denver 3/8, Lake Shore 3/4, Louisville and Nashville 3/8, New York Central 1/4, Erie Preference 1/4, Reading 1/4, Wabash Ordinary 1/4, and the Preference 3/8; but Pennsylvania shares have risen 1/4, Erie Second Mortgage 1/2, and the Ordinary 1/4.

The report and the accounts of the Midland Railway Company for the half-year ending the 31st of December, 1886, shows that the gross receipts amounted to £3,756,826, against £3,846,050 in 1885; the expenditure to £1,938,352, against £2,003,213 in 1885. After payment of first charges, etc., the balance available for dividend is £1,411,598. The directors recommend the following dividend (free of income tax):—£2 12s. 6d. on

the Consolidated Ordinary stock, £2 on the Four per Cent. Consolidated stock £2 on the Four per Cent. Perpetual Preference stock, and 4s. per share on each £10 per cent. Preference share, 1880, being at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum, carrying forward £50,840.

The Bank of England invite tenders before two o'clock on Friday, the 18th inst., for an issue of Queensland Government £4 per cent. inscribed stock for £2,500,000, at a minimum price of £100 per cent., payable £5 per cent. on application, and the balance in instalment extending to the 22nd of August, 1887. These instalments may be paid in full on or after the 3rd of March, 1887, under discount at the rate of 3 per cent. per annum. This stock will be in addition to and rank pari passu with the Queensland Government Four per Cent. stock previously created. The first half year's dividend will be payable on the 1st of July next.

We have received a statement of the assets and liabilities of Messrs. Glyn, Mills, Currie and Co., to the 31st of January last, which shows the principal items among the liabilities in addition to the capital of £1,000,000 and reserve fund £500,000. The current account stands at £8,216,005, and deposits £1,998,232. The liabilities on account of acceptance, etc. (covered by securities) not included in the balance-sheet, are £1,350,805. The assets comprise—cash, £1,576,803; money at call and short notice, £1,732,500; investments, £2,571,830; and bills discounted, loans, etc., £5,733,104.

Thursday's Bank of France return shows an increase of £25,920 in the gold, which now just exceeds 48 1/4 millions sterling, and a decrease of £58,320 in the silver, which considerably exceeds 45 1/2 millions sterling. The coin and bullion thus decreased £32,400, but still approach 94 1/2 millions sterling. The discounts decreased £1,357,440, while the advances increased £255,800. The "other securities" thus decreased over £1,100,000. Notes returned amounting to £2,871,320. The public deposits decreased £95,120; but the private increased as much as £2,770,040.

ENGLISH GOVERNMENT SECURITIES. Table with 2 columns: Security Name and Price. Includes Consols, Ditto Account (March), Reduced Three per Cents, New Three per Cents, etc.

AMERICAN SECURITIES. Table with 2 columns: Security Name and Price. Includes United States 4 1/2 per Cent. Bonds, Ditto Four per Cent., Virginia Funded Bonds, etc.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN RAILWAY STOCKS. Table with 2 columns: Railway Name and Price. Includes Caledonian, Great Eastern, Great Northern Ordinary, etc.

MISCELLANEOUS SHARES. Table with 2 columns: Share Name and Price. Includes Australian Agricultural, Anglo-Am. Brush Light, Hudson's Bay, etc.

FOREIGN STOCK MARKETS. Table with 2 columns: Foreign Security Name and Price. Includes Argentine Six per Cent. of 1868, Ditto Six per Cent. of 1871, etc.

BANKS. Table with 2 columns: Bank Name and Price. Includes Anglo-Egyptian, City, Colonial, Consolidated, etc.

TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE SECURITIES. Table with 2 columns: Security Name and Price. Includes Anglo-American, Brazilian Submarine, Consolidated Telephone, etc.

TRAMWAY SHARES. Table with 2 columns: Tramway Name and Price. Includes Dublin, Glasgow, Liverpool Un. Tram. and Omnibus, etc.

The Stock Markets are rather better for Home stocks than at the opening; but weaker for Foreign descriptions. Compared with the above quotations, Great Eastern has advanced 1/4 to 65 1/2, Metropolitan District 1/4 to 108 3/4, North-Eastern 1/4 to 151, Mexican Railway Ordinary 1/4 to 50 3/4, the First Preference 1/4 to 114 1/2, and the Second Preference 3/8 to 72 1/2; but Egyptian Unified has declined 1/4 to 70, Portuguese 1/4 to 51, Russian of 1873 1/4 to 90 1/4, Spanish Four per Cents. 1-16 to 60, Ontario 1/4 to 17 1/4, Pennsylvania 1/2 to 57 1/2, and Reading shares 1/4 to 19 1/4.

## THE DEBATE ON MR. PARNELL'S AMENDMENT. SPECIAL REPORT.

In a Chamber in which there were over six hundred members present when the division was taken, and from which there were only sixty-seven absentees (including Mr. Gladstone and Lord Randolph Churchill), the House of Commons rejected Mr. Parnell's amendment to the Address last night by the substantial majority of 106. The fact that the debate was felt to be unreal and of no practical use had its effect in keeping down the attendance of honourable members while the discussion was for the last time in progress; but the desire to defeat the amendment by a heavy majority brought together a large muster when the division was called.

The debate was started for the night by Mr. Sexton, who, in the course of a speech which lasted for nearly two hours, assailed the Home Secretary, attacked Colonel Saunderson, sneered at Lord Hartington, denounced the Government, and defended the Plan of Campaign with unflagging vivacity and spirit, but without contributing much to the profit of debate. He trod the old path, every foot of which had been minutely explored during the previous four nights of discussion: justifying the Plan, protesting against the prohibition of the Sligo meeting, and strenuously objecting to "jury packing" with as much freshness and vigour as though the House had never heard of these things before. When he had done, the Home Secretary spoke for an hour, but somehow failed to score anything in the shape of a brilliant success. This was not wholly his fault, for from beginning to end he was subjected to a galling fire of interruptions and outcry from the Parnellite ranks. But apart from this, and making every allowance for so heavy a disadvantage, the right honourable gentleman's style was not quite the style to which the House of Commons is accustomed, and suggested more of the fluent advocate than of the grave Minister of State. Mr. Matthews has great merits as a speaker; he has a felicity of diction such as few men possess, and great readiness of resource when attacked; but his very readiness to answer every interrupter only leads him away from his main point and chops his rhetoric into jerky incohesive sections; a fact of which the more astute of Mr. Parnell's followers do not fail to take advantage. Mr. Matthews was loudly cheered when he emphatically declared that the Government held themselves as "pledged and commissioned to resist Home Rule," and he carried with him the sympathies of the bulk of the House when he dwelt with deserved severity upon the extraordinary declarations of Mr. Henry Fowler as to the approaching trial of Mr. Dillon and his associates. Mr. Fowler's "attack by anticipation" upon a jury which had not yet been summoned was grievous, and was difficult to understand by those who remembered the indignation with which Sir William Harcourt reproached the Government on a memorable occasion for not defending Irish jurors from "unfounded charges." Mr. Matthews owned that the panel had been enlarged for the trial of Mr. Dillon; but he pointed out, fairly enough, that while a small panel is sufficient for the trial of "a couple of pickpockets," a different arrangement must necessarily be made when important persons are to be tried on a serious charge which creates much feeling, when absentee jurors are likely to be numerous, and when the sheriff who has charge of the panel is a notorious leader of the Nationalist party. The right honourable gentleman declared the Plan of Campaign to be immoral, for by it the tenants are "coerced against following their honest instincts." He protested against the "petty pilferers" of the Plan of Campaign, who ran away with money which admittedly belonged to the landlord, being called "political opponents," for their action was not political—they were simply engaged in a ring to "bear" the land; and the question was not one of politics but one of "honesty in common life."

After a weary period of dull discussion, Sir William Harcourt rose just before half-past ten, and gave renewed animation to the debate by the customary series of ponderous jokes, delivered in the usual majestic and oracular manner. He taunted the Government with having defended themselves entirely through the mouths of their law officers, and when reminded that the Home Secretary had spoken, he declared that Mr. Matthews was "not so familiar with his new office as to have forgotten the duties of his ancient profession, and his defence was much more professional than political," with the added disadvantage that it was delivered from "a very bad brief, extremely ill drawn up." Mr. Goschen next came under the lash for having said a few weeks ago that "Lord Salisbury is in office, but Lord Hartington is in power;" though the right honourable gentleman had since "left the party in power to join the party in office." Sir William went on to make his usual appeals to "the great traditions of the Liberal party," and, thus fortified, he declared that at the present moment the Government of Ireland by England is "the worst Government in the world." From a lofty height he censured the Liberal Unionists, and next he aroused a breathless expectation by the brief but striking announcement, "Now, I come to the Plan of Campaign." But expectation was doomed to disappointment; for all he had to say of the Plan was in effect to justify it by a comparison which he sought to turn into identity with Hampden's refusal to pay ship-money, and with the spilling by the American colonists of the tea in Boston Harbour. All these acts, he declared with a smile, amid the rapturous cheers of the Parnellites and Gladstonians, were "lawless and illegal;" and, so far as the tea at Boston was concerned, "thoroughly to be condemned." Here the right honourable gentleman made a dramatic pause, proceeding then, amid a fresh burst of cheering, "And I condemn it;" but if ever a man's tone and manner could be cited as justifying the provocation of civil war, certainly Sir William's tone and manner may be so cited. To the extent to which Hampden and the people of Boston were to be condemned, the right honourable gentleman condemned the Plan of Campaign, and further than this he would not go. But the whole business was a piece of elaborate tongue-in-the-cheek farce, altogether unworthy of a statesman. On the charge of jury-packing, Sir William grew most solemn, warning the Government that what they had already done had "greatly shaken" the administration of the law, and that the trial of Mr. Dillon next week must be a fair trial, with "no excep-

tional treatment." About the suggested remedies, other than Home Rule, for the condition of Ireland he condescended to be merry, and his humorous description of land purchase plus emigration as "a proposal to expropriate the aristocracy and then to deport the rest of the people" was not bad. But this led him to the conclusion that, if we could not offer Ireland anything better, we should let her try what she could do for herself. He made merry over the "resolute government" of the present Ministry, which was not resolute yet, but was only going to be; and he compared the Chief Secretary for Ireland to a man going into a cold bath, who "first put in one foot and then took it out again." Just before he finished a burst of incredulous laughter, which fairly startled him, greeted his announcement, given with becoming solemnity, that he would "never again" be a party to any policy of coercion; and this irreverent laughter sadly marred the symmetry of the concluding tag in which "the great traditions of the Liberal party" were once more made to do duty.

Sir Michael Hicks-Beach spoke for three-quarters of an hour in vigorous defence of the Government, and with a resolute determination which greatly pleased his audience. The frothy rhetoric of Sir William Harcourt suggested to him that the right honourable gentleman had had "so complete a bath of Parnellite juice that he had not only changed his principles, but absolutely forgotten those he formerly professed." Sir Michael owned that, like the rest of the House, he had been wrought to a high pitch of expectation by Sir William's promise that he would "say a good deal about the Plan of Campaign;" but, unfortunately, the right honourable gentleman did not keep his word, and what little he did say was "an apology" for the Plan. The Chief Secretary went on to taunt the occupants of the front Opposition bench with the absence of their chief, Mr. Gladstone, who "had not thought it worth his while to come and take part in the debate;" and Sir Michael declared that the whole speech of Sir William Harcourt had been animated, not by a desire to turn out the Government, but by a wish to embarrass them and "to render impossible as difficult a task as ever fell to the lot of any Administration." After dealing with the Plan of Campaign, the Chief Secretary touched upon the trial of Mr. Dillon and his friends, and, in reply to the demands of Sir William Harcourt, declared that the trial would be a fair one, and in accordance with the ordinary course—the course pursued for years past in Ireland, and pursued, moreover, when Sir William was a member of the Government. Those who conducted the prosecution on behalf of the Crown would have no hesitation in directing every juror to stand by who they had reason to believe would not give a verdict according to his conscience. This emphatic declaration was loudly cheered. Sir Michael then turned again to Sir William Harcourt, upon whom he inflicted a good deal more damaging criticism, and finally announced to the House the Irish policy of the Government—first to amend the criminal procedure so as to provide for the efficient administration of the law and the effectual punishment of those who break it; and to ensure that the remedial measures adopted by Parliament for Ireland shall be free to work there. Next, a Bill will be brought in based upon the recommendations of Lord Cowper's Commission to amend the law relating to the tenure of land; and, further, the Government will propose measures for developing the industrial resources of the country.

Mr. Timothy Healy closed the debate by a speech half an hour in length, and then at one o'clock this morning the division was taken, with the result that Mr. Parnell's amendment was rejected by 352 votes to 246. The debate was then adjourned once more until Monday, when a fresh amendment to the Address will be moved.

## THE HORSE ARTILLERY.

The *Saturday Review* says:—We have commented more than once in these columns on the reduction lately announced as to be made in the Horse Artillery, the arm of the service which is before all others important in a small army. This reduction has lately been "explained away" in an unofficial channel, and in a fashion so singular that it is worth while to take some of the statements which have been put forth *seriatim*. It has been stated that the gun in use in the Horse Artillery was a four-pounder, lately replaced by a thirteen-pounder. This is not so. The gun superseded was not a four-pounder, and the thirteen-pounder now exists in one Horse Artillery battery only, in which battery it will be replaced as soon as possible by the twelve-pounder, which is now the Horse Artillery gun. It has been said also that, on account of the increased weight of the guns, the Horse Artillery has become obsolete and useless. The writer who made this statement does not appear to be aware of the facts concerning the new gun introduced for the Horse Artillery. This gun is a breech-loader, and is universally admitted to be the most accurate and powerful field-gun that has yet been constructed. It fires a shell weighing 12½ lb. and is sighted up to 5,400 yards, and still the weight behind the horses is hardly heavier than "the galloping and prancing toy" which is said so to delight the Duke and foreign potentates. In the opinion of Continental nations the horse artillery has of late years become more and more important. Five batteries of our Horse Artillery are being wiped out. Have the authorities fully considered the time it takes to thoroughly train a horse artilleryman in all his duties? To recompense the nation for this loss Lord Harris tells us that eighty-four field-guns will be supplied to the volunteers. Of course we all know that the volunteers cannot be forced to accept this offer. The first question is, how many will accept it? Then, one may ask, how will those who do accept it manage the difficult task of obtaining and training horses for the guns, and also of finding animals to fill up the vacancies that must frequently occur in a force so constituted? It must be remembered that they are still without any transport, although that question has been seriously under consideration for some considerable time. In any case it would have been, to say the least, prudent to wait until it was ascertained whether volunteer field artillery are forthcoming. The sweeping away of five batteries of Horse Artillery may lead to our having to replace guns, trained men, and trained horses at short notice, at great trouble and expense, and with too probable want of success.

FOOD ADULTERATION.—Mr. Cassall lecturing at the Health Exhibition said: "Homoeopathic 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.—[Advr.]

## THE NEUTRALIZATION OF EGYPT.

## FOREIGN OPINION.

It is useless to disguise the fact (the Paris correspondent of the *Daily Chronicle* says) that the neutralization of Egypt, as reported to have been proposed by Sir H. D. Wolff, is looked upon as something very like a masked protectorate. With English functionaries in the Civil Service and English officers in the Egyptian army, it will, it is felt, never be difficult to raise up conditions necessitating the presence of a contingent of British troops.

*La France*, in an article not quite so full as usual of unreasoning Anglophobia, says that Egyptian neutrality would be like that of Switzerland supposing that the Swiss army were commanded by German officers and Germany had a right, in case of trouble, to pass the Swiss frontier. Egypt by such an arrangement, argues *La France*, will gradually become as English as Malta or Gibraltar. The *Liberté* says that the Cabinet of St. James's keeps everything, and grants nothing. It would remain master of Egypt by the right to reoccupy it when it might think fit. It would continue to govern the country by the Ministers and functionaries whom it would impose on the Khedive as well as by the English officers whom it would place in the Egyptian army. Nothing would be changed in the present situation, if it is not that Great Britain would find herself freed both from the cost of the occupation and of the embarrassments which that occupation is now constantly causing her; but she would not on that account cease to act in the Valley of the Nile as she might think fit and as absolute Sovereign. The London Cabinet re-seizes with one hand what it grants with the other, and it hopes that the States interested in the settlement of the question will be satisfied. We are most certainly convinced that the reality will shortly prove that it is a mistake on its part. The English will never be masters of Egypt with the consent of Europe, and rather than give that country to her, Europe will infinitely prefer the maintenance of the *status quo*, which has the advantage of not binding Europe to anything, and of reserving the future. The *Debats* takes quite the same view; but, after comparing the proposed neutralization of Belgium, which would give either France or Germany the right by a solemn treaty to command King Leopold's troops, to send an army corps across the country to occupy Antwerp, Brussels, and Liège in case of disturbances, it says it refrains for the moment from discussing "the strange proposals the analysis of which has reached us by telegraph." It affirms—"If choice had to be made between the existing régime—between the irregular provisional occupation of to-day, which leaves in force the guarantees resulting from international treaties, and the strange neutralization now offered to Turkey—we suppose the Porte's choice would soon be made. It would prefer the *status quo*, which at least leaves its hands free, ratifies nothing, and engages to nothing."

The reports as to England's intentions concerning Egypt are received in Berlin with considerable scepticism. Public opinion sides with England on the question, and is reluctant to believe that she intends to throw away the results of all her efforts. Even the Radical *Vossische* chides the Paris papers for the tone of irritation they assume about Egypt, and the Berlin *Tageblatt* says that England is quite right to remind the world that she continues her efforts to solve the Egyptian question, but that meanwhile she must keep the excellent position she has acquired there.

## FRANCE AND MADAGASCAR.

News has been received at Durban that the evacuation of Tamatave was quietly completed on the evening of the 25th ult. The Hova flag was hoisted on the following morning under a salute from the French guns. The native bank is collecting the Customs.

M. Goblet, the French Premier, yesterday received in audience the Malagasy Mission, the chief of which assured the Premier that Queen Ranavalona desired the development of friendly relations between the Hovas and France. M. Goblet, in reply, expressed similar wishes, and hoped that the stay of the Mission in France would materially contribute to bring about this result. He also spoke of the cordial relations existing between the two Governments and of the increased prosperity to be expected from the French protectorate. What particularly pleased him was that the Mission had brought with them several youths to be educated in French schools. The more they knew of the French, their manners, arts, and laws, the more, he said, they would become attached to France. The head member of the Mission replied that it was precisely in this hope that the young men were brought there.

## DEATH OF THE PRINCE OF WAGRAM.

The death is announced of Alexander Napoleon Louis Joseph Berthier, Prince de Neuchâtel and Prince de Wagram. He was the eldest son of Marshal Berthier, whom the first Napoleon created a Prince and Duke, and was born in 1810. His mother was the Princess Mary Elisabeth of Bavaria. The late Duke, who in his youth was brought up with the ill-fated son of Napoleon and Marie Louise, the King of Rome, married, in 1831, the niece of Bernadotte King of Sweden, and of Joseph Napoleon. One of his sons married the daughter of Baron Charles de Rothschild. The Duke died in his Paris house in the Rue de Balzac, where he had lived with his daughter the Comtesse de Turenne. Among the many souvenirs which the Duke had collected at Gros Bois were the bed on which Napoleon died at St. Helena, two guns made by Louis XVI., and two sabres supposed to have belonged to Jenghis Khan and to Tamerlane. The Duke had also a model farm at his estate called Gros Bois, in which he took a great interest.

## LEGACIES TO SIR CHARLES DILKE.

The following statement has reached the *Times* respecting a fortune which Sir Charles Dilke has just inherited. In 1804 Sir Charles Dilke's great-aunt married Mr. John Snooke. That gentleman left two sons, the elder of whom died eight years ago and the other only a few weeks since, the wives and children of both having predeceased them. By the elder brother's will his fortune was to be divided at the death of his brother between Sir Charles Dilke and Mr. Ashton Dilke, unless the survivor should have previously altered the will. No alteration was made, and the original will, under which Sir Charles Dilke will take over £100,000, therefore holds good. The younger of the brothers Snooke also leaves the bulk of his property to Sir Charles Dilke. The statement that these legacies were conditional upon Sir Charles Dilke taking the name of Snooke is entirely without foundation.

## A HAWAIIAN VOLCANO.

The Hawaiian volcano Mauna-Loa began to discharge on the 15th of January, when frequent shocks of earthquake also began to be felt. A letter written on the 19th of January says:—"There have been thirty-six hours' continuous earthquakes. The lava flows down the south slope, and if its course be unchanged it will flow into the sea without doing much damage."

## AGITATION IN THE BALKANS.

The Vienna correspondent of the *Standard* has received from a friend who is just now in the Balkan Peninsula a letter in which he speaks of the prospect in that quarter as very threatening, an outbreak of some sort being regarded as inevitable in the spring. The following are some passages from his account of the situation:—

M. Stojanoff, a well-known influential member of the Sobranje, has been for several days at Bucharest. I do not know the main object of his journey; but I know that the Roumanian Bank paid him 15,000 marks. On leaving Bucharest M. Stojanoff did not return direct to Rustchuk, his usual residence, but went via Belgrade to Sophia. At Belgrade he endeavoured to obtain from the King permission for M. Paccics, chief of the Servian Radicals, who lives in exile in Bulgaria, to return to Belgrade, and I am told succeeded in the effort. It is even added that M. Paccics was informed of the royal clemency by an autograph letter from King Milan. Regarding Bulgaria there is very little prospect of the present negotiations at Constantinople succeeding. The Bulgarian Regency, urged on by the military party, can scarcely abandon its attitude of resistance, and so may easily be driven to adopt an extravagant policy. There is reason to believe that the Bulgarians are preparing a movement in Macedonia which may break out before long. This would be very inopportune, as it would be a sign for Russia to enter Bulgaria and for Turkey to occupy Roumelia.

News from various quarters arrives, the correspondent adds, to confirm the statements in this letter. The *Frankfurter Zeitung* has information that there is great agitation in Albania and Macedonia, which will probably result next spring in a proclamation of the independence of the whole of Albania. Even the peace-loving *National Zeitung* says that the negotiations at Constantinople are being protracted merely till a fresh crisis occurs.

## THE REPORTED MASSACRE OF AFRICAN EXPLORERS.

The reported assassination of the Austrian explorer, Dr. Emil Holub and his party in South Africa has caused a most painful impression in Vienna. A telegram was, however, received there yesterday throwing doubt on the story. An extract from one of the Cape newspapers, dated the 20th of December, represented the territory north of the Zambesi to be very unsafe. It was added that no news had been received from Dr. Holub, and that if anything more were heard of him it was feared it would be that he and his party had been murdered. The last direct news from Dr. Holub received in Vienna was contained in a letter to one of his friends, a publisher, named Hoelder. It arrived last month, and was written in October from the Trans-Zambesian district. He gives an account of his journey thither, and, without manifesting any particular apprehension for his further safety, observes that the tribe of Maschkulumbé is not friendly to strangers. The letter also contains certain testamentary dispositions in case anything should happen to him. In a previous letter he reported sickness among his party, and said that nothing would be heard of him for some time, as he was going to explore the interior of the country. Dr. Holub was married just before he left Vienna, and his wife accompanied him on his journey. He started in November, 1883.

THE SUPPOSED ATTEMPT UPON M<sup>RS</sup>. PATTI.

A San Francisco telegram says that it now appears tolerably certain that it was the intention of the man Hodges to injure, not M<sup>rs</sup>. Patti, but a millionaire, Mr. Flood, who occupied a box at the concert. Hodges has been identified as a local Anarchist and a hater of capitalists.

## THE NEW YORK BRIBERY CASE.

Ex-Alderman O'Neill, who was convicted of bribery in connection with the New York Broadway Railway case, has been sentenced to four and a half years' imprisonment and a fine of 2,000 dols. He now joins the other convicted aldermen at Sing-sing.

## ROMAN CATHOLIC MISSIONS IN CHINA.

It is reported from Rome that in view of the friendly disposition manifested by China towards the Holy See, the Pope has instructed Cardinal Simeoni, Prefect of the Propaganda Fide, to prepare a convention, with a view to ensuring complete liberty and security to the Catholic missions and residents in the Chinese Empire. The proposals will, it is understood, be despatched to Peking on the 22nd inst.

## THE AMERICAN MAILS.

The directors of the North German Lloyd have decided to revert after the end of this month to their former hour of departure on Thursday afternoon from Southampton, instead of waiting for a night mail train from London, as at present. Arrangements have been made by the company's agents with the South-Western Railway Company, by which, commencing with the *EMS* on the 3rd of March, the passengers for the North German Lloyd steamers will be conveyed to Southampton Docks, alongside the company's saloon tenders, by special trains leaving Waterloo Station at 12.25 P.M. every Thursday and every Sunday, arriving in the docks in rather less than two hours.

## DEATH SENTENCES.

A petition is being signed praying that the capital sentence passed upon Richard Insole, the Grimsby murderer, may be commuted to penal servitude for life. Thomas Bloxham, whose execution is fixed for Monday next for the murder of his wife at Leicester, has become very troublesome to the prison authorities by his obstinate refusal either to eat or drink. Before his trial his objections to eat were easily overcome, but since then he has shown great determination neither to eat nor drink, and force has to be used to compel him to eat. His mouth has to be forced open and the food pushed down his throat. No hope is entertained of the sentence being commuted.

## BELGIAN COAL IN ENGLAND.

Mr. Gosselin, our Secretary of Legation at Brussels, reports that "a scheme is now on foot for exporting to England the smokeless Charleroi coal, which, the promoters consider, may compete profitably with the Cardiff coal in the London market. It is proposed to pack the coal in sacks, send it by railroad to Brussels, where it will be put on board small steamers of 300 to 400 tons burden, and reship it off Antwerp into sea-going vessels. By this means the coal will, it is hoped, escape paying the Antwerp port dues and quay charges. The English syndicate who have made this proposal offer to contract for the regular delivery of Belgian coal in London at 3 fr. a ton below the present English prices, provided that the special reduced freightage rate on exported coal actually levied between Charleroi and Antwerp should be applied to the shorter transit from Charleroi to Brussels. It is reported that the company in question has a capital of £5,000,000 sterling, and will also undertake to construct the necessary steamboats in this country, which are all to carry the Belgian flag."

## THE EUROPEAN SITUATION.

## RUSSIAN WAR PREPARATIONS.

Much importance is attached to an article in the *Opinione*, the organ of the Italian Government, which states that the treaty between Italy, Germany, and Austria, one of whose provisions was a mutual territorial guarantee, will expire within a few months if not renewed. "In 1882," the Vienna correspondent of the *Times* remarks, "Count Kalnoky announced to the Delegations that the most friendly disposition towards Austria existed in Italy, and in 1883 he was enabled to say that the friendly feeling aforesaid had produced practical and most satisfactory results. This meant virtually that a five-year offensive and defensive treaty had been concluded between Austria and Italy, while a similar treaty had been signed between Austria-Hungary and Germany. The five-year treaty with Italy expires in the autumn of this year; but it is so manifestly to the interest of Italy to renew it that the Vienna Cabinet has every confidence that the next Minister for Foreign Affairs in Italy, whether he be Count Robilant or another, will allow nothing of the treaty to drop." It is stated that the negotiations between Berlin and Rome had been going on for some time, all parties showing a desire to renew it, when the Italian Ministerial crisis interrupted them, to the regret of Ministers both in Berlin and Vienna.

Anxiety with respect to the political situation is not yet allayed either in Berlin or Paris. The *Kreuzzeitung*, in an article upon the fluctuating character of the war rumours, says:—"The danger of war will not cease to be acute until a stable condition of things has been established in France and the further development of the measures of military organization, the object of which has been declared by General Boulanger, has been stayed. The peaceful assurances of the French Government must not be overestimated, as the governing powers in France have no hold over the nation." A telegram from Nancy in the *Paris Temps* states that there has been another panic at Metz, and that fifty refugees from Lorraine had arrived there.

An article in the Vienna *Fremdenblatt* insists on the necessity for Belgium to arm to the full extent of her might. It says that it is the duty of Belgium to strengthen her army, as the guarantee of the five Powers in 1839 cannot be interpreted as giving her the privilege of remaining in a state of absolute helplessness, as was the case in 1870, when only 241 volunteers offered themselves for the defence of the country. Such neutrality, says the *Fremdenblatt*, is absurd. Belgium must herself make an effort to defend the frontier. This article has all the greater significance, as Austria is one of the five guaranteeing Powers. It is reported from Brussels that the Belgian Ministry will probably make the adoption of the principle of obligatory personal military service a Cabinet question. The arm chosen for the rearmament of the Belgian infantry is a new and specially manufactured repeating-rifle.

Circumstantial and trustworthy reports have been received in Vienna which, it is stated, leave no doubt that in the south-west of Russia concentration of troops and war preparations generally have been going on steadily for some time past. The concentration on the Galician frontier, the uninterrupted pushing forward of troops to the south, and the feverish activity that prevails in the Black Sea dockyards, factories, and arsenals (the *Standard's* correspondent says) point to the conclusion that Russia is quietly preparing to seize not only Bulgaria, but Constantinople also. These preparations are so far advanced that the struggle for the Sick Man's inheritance would seem to be very near, and, corresponding as they do with the continuous efforts of the Bulgarian refugees to bring about another *coup d'état*, and with the mysterious attitude of M. de Nelidoff at Constantinople, they throw a considerable amount of light upon Prince Bismarck's desire to obtain from France a pledge of neutrality. The reported calling out of 100,000 men of the Russian reserves caused a sharp fall on the Vienna Bourse.

## THE BETTING QUESTION IN FRANCE.

The future of betting on horse-races in France is menaced by a proposal recently made by a M. Verséjoux, of the Paris Municipal Council, to pay 600,000 fr. yearly for the exclusive right to let stands to bookmakers on the race-courses at Auteuil and Longchamps. This right, which really belongs to the City of Paris, has hitherto been conceded by the two societies which lease the race courses to a Frenchman named Régimbaud, who is said to have netted from half a million to a million francs annually by his speculation. The stands thus sub-let, which cannot cost more than twenty francs each, bring in a return of ten francs each for every day's racing, and the whole of the sum realized comes indirectly from the pockets of the public. The Municipal Council being of opinion that the arrangement is unjustifiable, as it neither assists the revenues of the city nor encourages horse-breeding, has referred the question to the Budget Committee, who have submitted a report on the subject. The document concludes with the following recommendation, which may or may not be adopted by the Council:—"We propose not only to reject M. Verséjoux's proposed monopoly, but also to interdict betting on all the Paris race-courses. It is said that the suppression of the bookmakers would lead to the disappearance of horse-racing, to the great detriment of the population of Paris. For the honour of the race societies which have contracted with the City of Paris we hope that such an eventuality would not be realized."

## EXTRAORDINARY ADVENTURE WITH A WHALE.

Information has just been received at Liverpool, from Albany, West Australia, of a most exciting adventure with a whale, in which two boats were smashed (one of them being bitten in two by the whale) and two crews had most extraordinary escapes. The two boats belonged to the whaling-barque *John and Winthrop Poole*, and, in the company of a third craft, were endeavouring to secure a large whale. The monster had been struck, and was apparently dying, when it suddenly disappeared, and came up immediately underneath the boat in charge of the second officer. All the occupants were thrown out, as the boat was pitched high up out of the water. The whale then went beneath again and kept bumping the boat until it was smashed in pieces. The boat in charge of the mate was a little distance off. The whale was observed to suddenly disappear again, and the crew of the mate's boat were horrified the next instant to perceive the jaws of the monster on either side of the boat. Closing its mouth the whale crushed the boat in two, all the men being left struggling in the water. Strange to say, the animal did not molest the men in the water, and was, indeed, never afterwards seen. The third boat succeeded in picking up the occupants of the second mate's boat, and another boat from the whaler was put off to the succour of the mate and his comrades. An hour elapsed before all were rescued. During this time the mate had been clinging to a piece of the broken boat. The weather being bad, the further pursuit of the whale could not be persisted in; but it was believed it could not live long. Not only did the men miss the whale, but the latter took with it 375 fathoms of line.

## APPREHENDED RISING IN AFGHANISTAN.

Intelligence has been received at Calcutta from Afghanistan stating that the Mollahs are working actively to excite a general rising of the Ghilzais and other tribes against the Ameer. It is stated that the festival of Nawroz, which takes place next month, has been fixed as the date of the rebellion. The Ameer is consequently sending additional troops to Candahar, Kelat-i-Ghilzai, Ghurnee, Jellalabad, and Gundamak.

## THE CAMPAIGN IN BURMA.

The Burma correspondent of the *Times*, telegraphing from Minbu yesterday, says:—Early on the morning of the 8th inst. Captain Golightly's mounted force surprised the stockaded village of Youchoung, high in the Arracan hills, held by Boshway's men. The insurgents fled, but three were killed and a number were wounded, five guns and a number of dabs and other arms being captured. Boshway is reported to have very few firearms left. Among the property captured at Youchoung were a gold chain and a locket, the property of the late Mr. Phayre, which he was wearing when killed. Boshway is making for the wilds of the Chin country, and is hotly pursued by Captain Golightly.

## THE ARREST OF A RUSSIAN FEMALE AGENT AT SOPHIA.

Some further particulars are given of the arrest at Sophia of a Russian female agent. She is named Stéphanie Papasoglou, the wife of a Zankoffist refugee. It is stated that she is a very handsome woman, and was sent from the Russian Embassy at Constantinople to try and debauch Colonel Nicolaieff, the Bulgarian War Minister. She did her best to induce him to effect a *coup d'état* in the Russian interest. The colonel, however, suspecting her from the first, had her arrested, and she has since confessed that she was acting under the instigation of a Russian at Constantinople who is known to be M. de Nelidoff's right-hand man. A Vienna paper gives the following account of the woman's mission:—

She was to give the Bulgarian Minister of War £T.500, and get him to upset the Regency and put the Russian party in power. He was to be maintained in his post as Minister of War, and to be promoted to the rank of general. But Colonel Nicolaieff forthwith gave information to the police of the offer that had been made to him, and Mdme. X. was arrested at the Hotel de Bulgarie. The telegram adds that the commissary of police seized at Mdme. X.'s rooms a number of ciphered letters addressed to the chief of the Russophil party at Sofia. The merits of Russian diplomacy are really overrated. It has invented nothing new for a century. It proceeds on the same old methods, and finds that as a rule they answer. There are plenty of *gobe-mouches* and innocents who still trust to Russia's assurances. The Russian Government said they wanted to settle the Bulgarian question by agreement with the Powers, and there were quite a number of people who believed it. They never thought of what £500 might have done, if the Bulgarian Minister of War had been what the Russian Embassy at Constantinople hoped he was.

## THE QUEEN'S JUBILEE.

We are asked by the Executive Committee of the Women's Jubilee Offering to state that the disposition of the large surplus which it is believed will be available will not be considered by the Queen until the Executive Committee are able to report on its probable amount, after the limited sum necessary for a replica of the Glasgow statue by Marochetti is set apart for that purpose. Nearly 200 boroughs are now actively at work on the Women's Jubilee Offering.

A deputation from the London Chamber of Commerce having waited upon the Imperial Institute Committee with reference to a City commercial museum in connection with the Institute, it has been practically settled that persons contributing to the Institute fund through the London Chamber of Commerce and the Mansion House can indicate that as much as 30 per cent. of their contribution is to be devoted to the establishment of a commercial museum in the City.

The Lord Mayor has summoned a special meeting of the Court of Common Council for Monday next to consider a report of the committee as to the course desirable to be taken by the Corporation of London to commemorate the Jubilee of her Majesty's reign.

## A TRAINING FARM.

The *Banner* says:—A colonial college and training farm has just been opened at Hollesley Bay, near Woodbridge, Suffolk, for the purpose of training young men for colonial farming. The principal is the Reverend George Gould Ross, M.A., D.C.L. Oxon, late head master of St. Andrew's College, Grahamstown, South Africa. The farms attached to the college consist of 1,331 acres of land suitable for the various branches of farming, and the students will be taught to do everything which they may require to know and to do if settling in the prairie or in the backwoods—namely, all kinds of farm and dairy work, gardening, land-surveying carpentry, smith's work, harness-mending, engine-driving, etc. Most of the time will be spent in outdoor work when the weather is suitable, and indoors they will be instructed in the elements of the sciences connected with agriculture.

## CHARGE OF DAMAGING A PUBLIC MONUMENT.

At the Glamorganshire Assizes yesterday, before Mr. Justice Wills, William Thorne, a prominent Cardiff Conservative, was indicted for wilfully damaging a public monument erected by the Liberal party in Cardiff to the memory of the late John Batchelor. The prisoner pleaded guilty, and his lordship fined him £15, to be paid to a local charity, expressing a hope that the bitter feeling which had been raised in the town would now cool down. The case has caused intense excitement in Cardiff.

## RECENTLY PROVED WILLS.

The *Illustrated London News* says:—The Irish probate, under seal of the Principal Registry, Dublin, of the will (dated April 20, 1885) of Sir John F. T. Crampton, Bart., K.C.B., late of Bushey Park, Enniskerry, in the county of Wicklow, who died on December 5 last, granted to Philip C. Smyly, M.D., and William Burroughs Stanley, two of the surviving executors, was sealed in London on the 26th ult., the value of the personal estate in England and Ireland exceeding £104,000. Dated May 8, 1885, the will of the Honourable A. K. Digby, of 39, Belgrave-square, who died on December 13, at Longford Castle, Wilts, was proved on the 18th ult., the value of the personal estate amounting to over £26,000. The residue of his real and personal estate he leaves, as to one-half, to his sister, the Honourable Mary Theresa Digby, and the other half between his brothers, the Honourable Everard Charles Digby and the Honourable Gerard Fitzmaurice Digby. The will of Lady Margaret H. Bourke, late of Hampton Court Palace, who died on the 29th of December last, was proved on the 24th ult., the value of the personal estate amounting to upwards of £15,000. The will of Mr. Bartholomew S. R. Adam, who died on the 25th of November last at the Parliament Office, House of Lords, was proved on the 25th ult., the value of the personal estate exceeding £57,000.

## FRENCH COLONIAL POLICY.

The French Chamber yesterday disposed of the remaining clauses of the Budget of revenue. A clause was inserted, by 413 votes to 106, applying the French Customs' tariff from the 1st of June next to Cochin China, Cambodia, Annam, and Tong-king. The protectionist system is thus introduced for all imports not coming from France. In 1884 France sent only 9,000,000 fr. worth of goods to these countries, while other States sent 53,000,000 fr. worth. The new clause is expected to turn the tables on the cheap foreign producer, and give French goods a monopoly. The correspondent of the *Daily News* says:—

The French colonial ideas are just what they were in the time of Louis Quatorze, when there was a steadily pursued course of policy analogous to that of the Spanish Government in Spain, to make the greater part of the world enrich the French Treasury and support French manufacturers. This at bottom is the cause of all the tension between France and England, a tension greatly accentuated by the fact that M. Jules Ferry belongs by marriage to a great manufacturing family, which the Treaty of Frankfort turned out of Alsace. England has been wrong whenever the Foreign Office got into a controversy with the French Republic in muffling up her case too much. The press has followed suit. It should be remembered by our Secretaries of State for Foreign Affairs that their despatch-writers are no longer speaking to Academicians, who would split a hair in four, and who understand delicate allusions, but to the hurried and hard-working millions, who like plain issues, honest civil speech, and sound sense. They have not time to appreciate dexterous argument. If we want to keep friends with this nation we should take our stand upon a principle and a national necessity, free trade, and say, in courteous but firm words, English influence must be against France so long as she tries to extend her colonies for the purpose of securing monopolies by differential duties.

## ASCENSION ISLAND.

The *Army and Navy Gazette* understands that the abandonment of Ascension as a coaling station—and there are reasons for raising the question—has been under the consideration of the Government. That does not imply (the *Gazette* says) that there is any immediate decision arrived at.

## A MAN SHOT IN A RAILWAY CARRIAGE.

On the arrival of the 3.50 P.M. South-Eastern train from Charing-cross at Blackheath yesterday, a gentleman, whose name is stated to be Harrington, and who resided at Charlton, Kent, was found in a first-class carriage shot through the head. The injured man was conveyed with all haste to Guy's Hospital, where he expired between five and six o'clock. A revolver was found in the carriage.

## THE NEW ARMY RIFLE.

It is stated that the War Office Committee, appointed to consider the question of the adoption of a new rifle, held what was practically their last sitting yesterday, and have decided to recommend the Lee-Burton magazine rifle. The weapon has a bolt action and a small attachable magazine, which can be fixed just in front of the trigger-guard.

## MR. GLADSTONE ON IRISH HISTORY.

Mr. Gladstone, writing to a correspondent who wished to know the best books on the Irish question, recommends Lecky's "Leaders of Public Opinion," Swift McNeill on the Grattan Parliament and the means by which the Union was carried, O'Connell's Memoir on Ireland, and Goldwin Smith's Essays on Ireland and on Pitt. Mr. Gladstone adds that useful works on the history of Ireland since the Union are about to appear.

## CONVOCAION OF CANTERBURY.

In the Convocation of Canterbury yesterday the Bishops received a report on the administration of the Queen Anne's Bounty Fund, the principal point of which was that, being trustees of public contributions, the governors of the bounty could not lend money to clergymen upon lower terms than those now charged. The Lower House annulled the canon relating to marriages, so as to bring the hours mentioned in it into agreement with the statute law. The House of Laymen discussed the Church House scheme, upon which the Earl of Selborne expressed the opinion that the less said about it the better. The House, however, resolved to "hail with cordial satisfaction the scheme of the Church House as a means of extending and strengthening the action of the Church."

## THE MOBBS'S ESTATE.

A working man applied to Mr. Bushby, at Worship-street Police Court yesterday, for advice. He said he held a lease of a house in Bridport-place, Hoxton, on the Mobbs's estate; and on Thursday a person named Abrahams, who claimed to be the landlord—though by what right the applicant did not know—put in a d restraint for the ground-rent, which had not been paid for nine quarters and amounted to nine guineas. There had been considerable litigation about the estate, and the applicant really did not know who was the landlord. Mr. Abrahams certainly was not the landlord, and therefore he wanted a summons against him for illegal distress. Mr. Bushby said he could only grant a summons against a landlord for illegal distress; and, according to the applicant's own showing, Mr. Abrahams was not the landlord. The matter was therefore taken beyond his jurisdiction; and the only course open to the applicant was to bring an action for trespass. The applicant said he would get the advice of his lawyer and commence an action.

## THE ENGLISH CRICKETERS IN AUSTRALIA.

The English, who at the close of Thursday's play had made a total of 194 for the loss of seven wickets, against an Eighteen of Newcastle, continued their first innings yesterday. The weather was again showery, but the wicket continued in good condition. The venture closed for 236, against which the locals at the call of time put together 107 for the loss of fifteen wickets, so that a follow-on is probable. This result is mainly due to the excellent bowling of Briggs, Lohmann, and Barlow.

## A NOVEL WAGER.

At Newmarket yesterday afternoon, Mr. Bullpet, an old Oxford University man, undertook to walk a mile, run a mile, and ride a mile under eighteen minutes, for a wager of £300. A numerous company assembled to watch the feat, which was accomplished in 16 min. 57 4-5 sec. The time for each mile was—Walking, 8 min. 25 sec.; running, 6 min. 6 sec.; and riding, 2 min. 26 4-5 sec.

## FREE LIBRARIES IN LONDON.

The result of the polling of the ratepayers of St. Martin-in-the-Fields on the free library question was declared yesterday as follows:—Yes, 961; No, 389. Majority in favour of adopting the Free Libraries Act, 572.

## THE WEEKLY PAPERS.

## THE DEMORALIZATION OF THE GLADSTONIAN PARTY.

The *Economist* says that if the leaders of the Gladstonian party continue in their present course, they cannot but forfeit the respect of the country. All who love to see parties, whatever their principles, acting straightforwardly, and meeting their opponents on a clear and fair issue, all who hate what is disingenuous and equivocal in political controversy, are beginning to look with extreme dissatisfaction on the public utterances of the chiefs of the Opposition. It is no use to gloze over the situation. Their position is not an honest one, and they know themselves that it is not honest; and the country, if it does not know it already, will soon know it too. No one would have a right to call the English Home Rulers politically dishonest, however far they might go in their alliance with the Parnellites, merely because of that alliance. Let them if they like condemn all evictions, irrespective of the particular circumstances, as tyrannical and cruel. Let them adopt and defend the Plan of Campaign in its entirety as an act of war. Let them denounce, if they will, the Irish criminal trials as mere murders by unjust judges and perjured jurymen. If they do this, they may be called mistaken, revolutionary, anarchical, but their position could never be described as in essence disingenuous and insincere. All the *Economist* asks is, that the fight should be on a clear issue, and that the country should be asked to judge the question on its merits. Instead, every specious subterfuge, every irrelevant evasion, every sophistical perversion has been exhausted, which can be made to serve the double purpose of defending on the one hand the Parnellite attitude towards the evictions, the Plan of Campaign, and the alleged jury-packing, and on the other of keeping the Gladstonian party from being formally committed to any one of these things in case it should ever be necessary or convenient to repudiate them.

## MODERN POLITICS.

The *Saturday Review* says that modern politics, on both sides to a great extent, unluckily, but especially on the Liberal side, have ceased to have any foundation in reason whatever, and are ceasing to have even that quasi-rational foundation which consists in the acceptance of a particular political creed, and the maintenance of it without much further examination of details, but with fidelity as a whole. "Follow your leader," "Men, not measures," these are the mottoes of the modern Radical; and when the modern Radical finds a man who refuses to follow his leader in turning his back on his (and the leader's) principles, he rubs his astonished eyes and apostrophizes the steadfast true believer plaintively or injuriously, as the case may be, as a recreant who "goes over."

## EGYPT.

The *Spectator* declares that the materials for a native Government in Egypt, at once independent and decent, do not exist. It would have us go on with the present experiment until circumstances enabled us to rule more frankly; or, if that is impossible without too much hazard and loss, it would call on Europe to sanction the appointment of the ablest Prince discoverable (not excluding even Arabi, who did make a fighting army) and leave him to govern, with this one guarantee—that, if invaded by Europeans, we would defend him. That project might have a little hope in it; for an able Khedive might buy allies in the Soudan, and so stop invasion from the south, and then govern in the rude Oriental way. But in these elaborate paper arrangements the *Spectator* sees nothing except a preparation for future complications. Neutrality is a most amiable plan; but the world is not to be governed in the field of politics, any more than in the field of nature, by amiabilities. All the benevolence in the world will not enable you to make a house of sand; and Egypt is sand, needing strong compression before it can be used as building material.

## CULPABLE INACTION.

The *John Bull* believes that the public mind is simply amazed at the incredibly weak-kneed and feeble course at present pursued by the Ministry with respect to Ireland. With every inducement to adopt prompt and effective measures—the inducement afforded by the ever-increasing audacity of the anti-English conspiracy—the inducement afforded by the enthusiastic support of millions of loyal men—the Conservative Government still exhibits the utmost reluctance in dealing with the evils it was specially brought into power to destroy. It needs no prophet to foretell the results of culpable inaction such as this.

## FROM BRAWLING TO RIOTING.

The *Saturday Review* considers the rioting in London on Tuesday night very discreditable to the authorities. The affair is a repetition of last years riots in all the main features. The deduction to be drawn is so obvious that it should never need to be pointed out at all. The rowdies who collect at Clerkenwell Green or elsewhere to listen to the cowardly ranters who incite to disorder would confine themselves to bawling if they did not know that they could go further with a reasonable chance of impunity. As long as the police are compelled to stand by and "keep order," which means look on, till actual rioting has begun just out of sight, outbreaks of this kind may be expected to occur. The manifest remedy is to proclaim all such meetings. For months past there has ceased to be the smallest pretence for the belief, which was never honest at any time, that these mob-meetings had any real connection with the sufferings of genuine working people. They are simply collections of roughs on the outlook for horseplay and plunder, made at the summons of agitators who avow their wish to promote disorder. It is a shameful dereliction of duty on the part of those responsible for the peace of London that they should be allowed to take place at all.

## THE POPE AS A FACTOR IN THE EUROPEAN SITUATION.

The *Economist* observes that the Papacy has become once more a great factor in politics, and will be exposed to all the hatreds which political parties evoke, as well as to all the pressure which powerful monarchs and their Ministers know so well how to employ. Direct and very dangerous pressure was recently applied to the Pope by the French Government to make him yield in Chinese affairs, and now he has yielded also to Prince Bismarck, thereby earning no slight detestation within France. The *Economist* cannot believe it wise for the Papacy to place itself in such a situation, and it is still less wise for it to display so great an amount of worldly adroitness.

## MR. MORLEY IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The *Spectator* says that no one who heard Mr. Morley's speech on Tuesday could well have helped thinking that the one man who could best have replied to Mr. John Morley the Home Ruler, was Mr. John Morley the literary man. What an opportunity the latter Mr. Morley would once have thought it, to have had the chance of following the former Mr. Morley, and demolishing his speech with all the incisiveness, the hauteur, the literary *morgue*, which that accomplished writer displays! The *Spectator* then indicates the characteristics of the speech on which the finished writer would have fastened, and the arguments which he would have torn to shreds without exhibiting any plebeian self-gratu-

ation, or anything more than a touch of intellectual scorn. It ends by observing that Mr. John Morley the politician is sinking materially below the intellectual and political level of Mr. John Morley the author.

#### THE BEER CRAZE.

The *Statist* remarks that the beer craze is out-Heroding all the extravagance of its predecessors. No matter what price may be put on one of these wildly run after properties, the public are sure to double it on themselves. The Guinness Company is not yet four months old, and its ordinary shares have been ballooned to a premium of 80 per cent. The Allsopp scheme is still in the cradle, and its ordinary shares are being dealt in at premiums of from 30 to 40 per cent. However cheap a property may be to start with, it can hardly be wise to stick 40 or 80 per cent. on its market value right away. The practical test of dividends, however, will bring everything to its true level.

#### SINGLE-LOADER OR REPEATER?

The *Saturday Review* remarks that, in settling the question whether the new rifle for the army is to be an improved single-loader or a repeater, account must be taken not only of the actual rapidity of fire but also of the moral qualities of our soldiers, and the way in which they trained. Fire-discipline—that is, the control and supervision exercised over troops in action by the officers and non-commissioned officers—is the thing nowadays. The present system of musketry instruction and field-firing is calculated to develop this fire-discipline to the utmost, for volley-firing is the very essence of the system. If soldiers are armed with magazine rifles, can they be trained to such a pitch of perfection as to fire careful volleys by word of command when exposed to a heavy fire at the last stages of an action? Will not the involuntary tendency be to keep up a terrifically heavy fire as long as cartridges remain in the magazine, which fire may very possibly be less effective than slower but well-directed volleys? When a man is armed with a repeater, the magazine of which can be emptied without lowering the rifle from the shoulder or removing the finger from the trigger-guard, is it not likely that one man, a little less cool than his comrades, may begin to fire without orders, and so set off all the others firing also? It may well be thought that, with a weapon which holds but one cartridge at a time, men will be more careful with their fire.

### THE MORNING PAPERS.

#### THE DUTY OF THE GOVERNMENT IN IRELAND.

The *Times* says that the division last night is a warning to the Gladstonians that it is not by tampering with "schemes of public plunder" that the reunion of the Liberal party is likely to be accomplished. We may not in all things approve the conduct of the present Government, though the Chief Secretary last night made a very fair defence of what had been done and offered very satisfactory pledges for the future; but the principles by which they are shaping their course are the securities of public freedom and national prosperity. The first duty of the Government is to maintain the law, the next is to adopt all reasonable measures for promoting progress and removing causes of conflict.

#### THE ATTITUDE OF THE ENGLISH HOME RULERS.

The *Standard* remarks that if there is no reason from the Unionist point of view to regret the division, every one who has at heart the maintenance of a healthy standard of public life has abundant reason to deplore the incidents of the debate. The English Liberals are paying a terrible penalty for the precarious enjoyment of the confidence of the Parnellites. The conduct of the Irish members needs no explanation; it was quite consistent with their previous action. But that statesmen of the stamp of Mr. H. H. Fowler should descend to the level of Mr. Redmond and Dr. Tanner is a symptom of the very worst import. On Thursday night Mr. Fowler offended grievously, not only against honourable opponents, but against every wholesome tradition of parliamentary life.

The *Daily Telegraph* says it looks very much as if Mr. Gladstone's lieutenant had ascertained, or had had reason to fear, that his party would not follow him in respectable strength, and that thereupon, instead of taking the proper and straightforward course of dissociating himself from the Parnellite attack on the Government, he decided to give it a sort of covert and semi-official support, or, in other words, to employ the authority without incurring the responsibility of a leader of the Opposition. Such tactics as these, conceived, as Sir Michael Hicks-Beach remarked in commenting on Mr. Gladstone's absence, with the sole object of embarrassing the Government, will not escape the reprobation of the country. The patriotic and constitutional course for the official Opposition to pursue would have been to await the promulgation of the Ministerial schemes before committing themselves to any action hostile to the Government. And most assuredly the last step which they should have taken is that of attacking Ministers under cover of an amendment from which their leader himself has pointedly withheld his vote, and which his lieutenant dares not call upon the party to support.

#### LAST NIGHT'S DIVISION.

The *Dublin Express* infers from Mr. Gladstone's abstention from the debate that there is a new departure, the nature of which is not yet apparent—something started between Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Parnell, and Mr. Chamberlain. "We are led to the conclusion that to all intents and purposes the Home Rule flag is hurled down for the present, and that Mr. Chamberlain and the leaders of the Home Rule party are now agreed with regard to a certain political programme of an agrarian character, or partly agrarian and partly political. If that be so, we will shortly see some startling developments."

The *Freeman's Journal* presumes that those who remember the debates of a few years ago, when an Irish motion was seldom supported by the votes of a dozen non-Irish members, will confess that the cause of Ireland has moved apace since then. The character of the majority shows how rapidly the House of Commons is approaching the condition of the French Chamber of Deputies, and becoming an aggregation of groups, with an increasing succession of unstable Ministries, set up and knocked down at the will of any section as new combinations are formed.

#### THE NEUTRALITY OF EGYPT.

The *Morning Post* is of opinion that the question of the neutrality of Egypt can only be solved by means of a conference. But to talk of a European Conference to settle such a question at a time in which the whole world is anxiously gazing on the East, and when any moment may bring tidings that the cannon is thundering on the Balkans or the Black Sea, is preposterous. Besides this, the *Morning Post* fails to see how the Sultan could view the project with any special satisfaction. It may be urged that his Majesty would rather consent to preserve a shadow of authority, and enjoy the annual tribute under the guarantee of the Powers, than lose all hold on what he considers the fairest province of his vast empire. But, on the other hand, it is clear that we should be asking the Sultan to renounce rights and privileges which are clearly demonstrated by the very presence of Moukhtar Pasha at Cairo. We have heard repeatedly that Turkey and France have asked our Government to fix a date for the evacuation of Egypt. One can hardly

believe that her Majesty's Ministers have ever contemplated giving a different answer from that contained in the many replies made in this country on public occasions. But if any hesitation has been felt in clearly explaining the intentions of England, the sooner this is done the better.

#### MR. BRIGHT'S LETTER.

The *Leeds Mercury* greatly deplores the tone of Mr. Bright's letter. It is with great pain that it notes the bitterness and the injustice of Mr. Bright's tone towards Mr. Gladstone himself. Who can doubt that the Home Rule cause would have been in an immeasurably better position to-day if Mr. Bright had thrown in his lot with Mr. Gladstone last year? And why is it that Mr. Bright has not done so? He himself has made it clear that it is his detestation of the crimes which have unhappily marked the course of the Home Rule agitation that has led him to take up his present attitude. If Mr. Parnell had been able to restrain the American dynamiters and persons of that stamp four or five years ago, he would probably now have had the sympathy and the active support of Mr. Bright and of many other Englishmen.

### THE SALE OF BUTTERINE ETC. IN FRANCE.

The French Senate has passed, without making any alteration in it, the Bill which was recently carried in the Chamber of Deputies for punishing the frauds committed in the sale of butter, and the text of this Bill, which will become law in the course of a week or two, runs as follows:—

#### PART I.

Clause 1.—It is forbidden to expose for sale, to sell, to import or to export under the name of butter, margarine, oleomargarine, or any substance intended as a substitute for butter, as well as any mixture of margarine, fat oil, or other substances with butter, no matter how small the proportion of the mixture may be.

Clause 2.—Any person intentionally infringing this regulation will be liable to a term of imprisonment ranging from six days to six months, and to a fine of from fifty to three thousand francs. Any person selling such substances shall be held to have done so intentionally, unless he can give the name of the person from whom he obtained them.

Clause 3.—The substances or mixtures fraudulently offered for sale, sold, imported, or exported, which have remained in the possession of the delinquent shall be confiscated.

Clause 4.—The tribunals will be empowered to order that the convictions obtained shall be published in full or in part in the local papers, and also be placarded in the market of the town where the fraud was committed, as well as upon the doors of the house and shop of the delinquent—the whole at his expense.

Clause 5.—Should a second conviction be obtained within a twelvemonth, the maximum fine shall be inflicted.

#### PART II.

Concerning the sale, transport, and export of margarine, oleomargarine, and animal fat.

Clause 6.—All retail merchants of margarine, oleomargarine, or other substances or mixtures intended as substitutes for butter, shall inform the purchaser that the said substance or mixture is not butter, and shall deliver it to the purchaser in a vessel, basket, or other receptacle, having in large letters the words "margarine," "oleomargarine," or "animal fat."

Clause 7.—All wholesale manufacturers of or dealers in margarine, oleomargarine, and similar substances shall be bound to place them in barrels or firkins marked in the same way.

Clause 8.—The said manufacturers and dealers shall also be bound to have these words printed upon their bill-heads, and send out one of these with each parcel, and all carriers and parcel-delivery companies by land or water shall copy this designation on to their way-bills and ledgers.

Clause 9.—All persons infringing any of the three previous clauses shall be liable to an imprisonment of from six days to one month, and to a fine of from 25 fr. to 500 fr., or to one of these two penalties, at the discretion of the court.

Clause 10.—Should a second conviction be obtained within a twelvemonth, the maximum penalty shall be inflicted.

### PREACHERS IN LONDON TO-MORROW.

- ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL.—Morning, 10.30, Prebendary Reynolds; afternoon, 3.15, the Archdeacon of London; evening, 7.0, Dean Spence.
- WESTMINSTER ABBEY.—Morning, 10.0, the Dean of Gloucester; afternoon, 3.0, Archdeacon Farrar.
- ST. MARGARET'S, Westminster.—Morning, 11.0, Archdeacon Farrar; evening, 7.0, Rev. G. A. Bullen.
- CHAPEL ROYAL, WHITEHALL.—Morning, 11.0, Rev. J. W. Bennett; afternoon, 3.0, Rev. John Graves.
- CHAPEL ROYAL, ST. JAMES'S.—Noon, Canon Jacob.
- CHAPEL ROYAL, SAVOY.—Morning, 11.30, Rev. Henry White; evening, 7.0, Rev. A. G. Bowman.
- LINCOLN'S INN CHAPEL.—Morning, 11.0, Rev. Dr. Wace; afternoon, 3.0, Rev. C. J. Ball.
- GRAY'S INN CHAPEL.—Morning, 11.30, Rev. Dr. Stokoe.
- ROLLS CHAPEL, Chancery-lane.—Morning, 11.0, Rev. John Congreve.
- TEMPLE CHURCH.—Morning, 11.0, Rev. Dr. Vaughan; afternoon, 3.0, Rev. Dr. Ainger.
- ST. GEORGE'S CHAPEL, Albemarle-street.—Morning, 11.0, Rev. Francis Palmer.
- BERKELEY CHAPEL, Mayfair.—Morning, 11.30, and afternoon, 3.30 (Children's Service), Rev. T. Teignmouth Shore.
- CURZON CHAPEL, Mayfair.—Morning, 11.30, afternoon, 4.0, and evening, 7.0, Rev. Dr. Ker Gray.
- ST. PHILIP'S, Regent-street, Waterloo-place.—Morning, 11.15, Prebendary Kempe; afternoon, 4.0 (Lecture: "The Church and the Drama"), and evening, 7.0, Rev. Harry Jones.
- ST. NICHOLAS COLE ABBEY, Queen Victoria-street, E.C.—Morning, 11.45, Rev. T. Hancock; afternoon, 3.45, Rev. T. W. Shepard on "Greek Tragedy"; evening, 6.45, Rev. H. C. Shuttleworth.
- ST. BRIDE'S, Fleet-street.—Morning, 11.0, and evening, 7.0, Rev. E. C. Hawkins.
- ST. BOTOLPH'S, Bishopsgate.—Morning, 11.0, Rev. J. H. Smith; evening, 6.30, the Bishop of London.
- ST. HELEN'S, Bishopsgate.—Morning, 11.0, Rev. Dr. Cox.
- ALL HALLOWS' Barking, E.C.—Morning, 11.0, Rev. G. C. Fletcher; afternoon, 4.0, Rev. A. J. Mason; evening, 6.30, Rev. W. Bellars.
- ST. GEORGE'S, Botolph-lane.—Morning, 11.15, Canon MacColl; evening, 7.0, Rev. R. F. R. Conder.
- ST. GILES IN THE FIELDS.—Morning, 11.0, the Bishop of Rochester; afternoon, 3.30, Canon Venables (for men only).
- FRENCH PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE SAVOY, Bloomsbury-street.—Morning, 11.0, and afternoon, 3.0, Rev. A. A. Dupont.
- FOUNDLING CHAPEL.—Morning, 11.0, Rev. Dr. Momeie.
- PRO-CATHEDRAL, Kensington.—Morning, 11.0, Rev. Michael Fanning; evening, 7.0, Rev. Donald Skrimshire.
- FARM-STREET, Berkeley-square, W.—Morning, 11.0, Father Gavin; afternoon, 4.0, Father Galloway.
- ST. MARY'S, Moorfields.—Morning, 11.0, Monsignor Gilbe t.
- METROPOLITAN TABERNACLE, Newington Butts.—Morning, 11.0, and evening, 6.30, Rev. C. H. Spurgeon.
- BLOOMSBURY CHAPEL, Bloomsbury-street.—Morning, 11.0, and evening, 7.0, Rev. James Baillie.
- BELGRAVE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, Halkin-street West, Belgrave-square.—Morning, 11.0, Rev. W. Wright; evening, 7.0, Rev. Hugh Shearer.
- KENSINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, Allen-street.—Morning, 11.0, and evening, 7.0, Rev. Charles Moinet.
- PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, Regent-square.—Morning, 11.0, and evening, 7.0, Rev. J. Oswald Dykes.
- PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ENGLAND, Crouch-hill, N.—Morning, 11.0, and evening, 6.30, Rev. A. C. Murphy.
- SCOTTISH NATIONAL CHURCH, Crown-court, Covent-garden.—Morning, 11.0, Rev. A. M. Philip; evening, 6.30, Rev. J. P. Patterson.
- FALCON-SQUARE CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL, Aldersgate-street.—Morning, 11.0, and evening, 6.30, Rev. A. H. Storrow.
- PADDINGTON CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL, Marylebone-road.—Morning, 11.0, and evening, 7.0, Rev. G. D. Macgregor.
- WHITEFIELD'S TABERNACLE, Tottenham-court-road.—Morning, 11.0, and evening, 7.0, Rev. J. Jackson Wray.
- ITALIAN CHURCH, Hatton-garden, E.C.—Morning, 11.15, Rev. W. Gavin; afternoon, 4.15, Rev. D. Crescitelli (Italian); evening, 7.0, Rev. J. Redman.
- THE THEISTIC CHURCH, Swallow-street, Piccadilly.—Morning, 11.0, and evening, 7.0, Rev. C. Voysey.

THE DIVISION ON MR. PARNELL'S AMENDMENT.

The following 248 members (including tellers) voted in the House of Commons last night in favour of Mr. Parnell's amendment to the Address:—

- Abraham, W. (Glam) Corbet, Wm. J. Harrington, T. Mason, Stephen Robinson, Thomas
Abraham, W. (Lim.) Cosham, Handel Hayden, Luke P. Mayne, Thomas Roe, Thomas
Acland, A. H. D. Cox, Joseph Richard Hayne, Charles S. Molloy, Bernard C. Rowlands, James
Acland, C. T. Dyke Cozens-Hardy, H. Healy, Maurice Montagu, Samuel Rowlands, W. B.
Allison, Robert A. Craig, James Morgan, Rt. Hon. G. Morgan, Rt. Hon. G. Rowntree, Joshua
Anderson, C. H. Craven, Joseph Holdin, Isaac Morgan, O.V. (Bat.) Russell, Sir Chas.
Asher, Alexander Crawford, D. Hooper, John Morley, Arnold Morley, Edward R.
Asquith, Herbert H. Crawford, William Howel, George Morley, Rt. Hon. J. Samuelson, Sir B.
Atherley-Jones, L. Cremer, W. R. Hoyle, Isaac Mundella, Rt. Hon. Schwann, Chas. E.
Austin, John Crilly, Daniel Hunter, Wm. Alex. Murphy, W. M. Neville, Ralph Sexton, Thomas
Balfour, Sir Geo. Crossley, Edward Illingworth, A. O'Brien, James F. Sheehan, J. D.
Balfour, Right Hon. J. B. Davies, Wm. Jacoby, James A. Nolan, J. Sheehy, David
Barran, John Dillon, John James, Hon. Walter O'Brien, James F. Shirley, Walter S.
Barry, John Dillwyn, L. L. Joicey, James O'Brien, Patrick Smith, Samuel
Biggar, Joseph Gillis Dadds, Joseph Jordan, Jeremiah O'Brien, P. J. Spencer, Hon. C. R.
Blake, John A. Duff, Robert Wm. Kay-Shuttleworth, O'Connor, A. Stack, John
Blake, Thomas Ellis, James Right Hon. Sir U. O'Connor, J. (Kerry) Stanhope, Hon. P.
Blane, Alexander Ellis, John E. Kennedy, E. J. O'Connor, J. (Tip.) Stansfeld, Rt. Hon. J.
Bolton, Joseph C. Ellis, Thomas E. Kenny, C. S. O'Connor, T. P. Stevenson, F. S.
Bolton, Thomas D. Esmond, Sir T. Kenny, Joseph E. O'Doherty, J. E. Storey, Samuel
Borlase, William C. Esslemont, Peter Kenny, Matthew J. O'Hanlon, Thomas Stuart, James
Bradlaugh, Charles Evershed, Sydney Kilcourse, Viscount O'Hea, Patrick Sullivan, Donal
Bright, Jacob Fenwick, Charles Labouchere, H. Lacaita, Charles S. Paulton, J. M.
Bright, W. L. Finucane, John Lator, Richard Peacock, Richard Sutherland, Angus
Broadhurst, Henry Flower, Cyril Lalor, Richard Pease, Alfred E. Tanner, Charles K.
Bruce, Alexander Flynn, James C. Lane, William J. Pease, Henry Fell Thomas, Alfred
Bruce, Hon. R. P. Foley, Patrick Jas. Lawson, H. L. W. Pease, Henry Fell Thomas, Alfred
Bryce, James Gans, J. Lawrence MacNeill, J. G. S. Potter, Thomas Power, P. J. Tuft, James
Buxton, Thomas Forster, Sir Charles MacNeill, J. G. S. Potter, Thomas Power, P. J. Tuft, James
Byrne, Garrett Fox, Dr. Joseph F. Fry, Theodores Fuller, George P. Lyell, Leonard M'Donald, W. A.
Campbell, Henry Gans, J. Lawrence MacNeill, J. G. S. Potter, Thomas Power, P. J. Tuft, James
Campbell, Rt. Hon. H. Gardner, Herbert MacNeill, J. G. S. Potter, Thomas Power, P. J. Tuft, James
Carew, James L. H. Gilhooly, James M'Cartan, Michael M'Carthy, J. H. M'Donald, P. T.
Chance, Patrick A. Gill, Henry Joseph M'Carthy, J. H. M'Donald, P. T. M'Donald, R. C.
Channing, Francis A. Gill, Thomas P. M'Carthy, J. H. M'Donald, P. T. M'Donald, R. C.
Childers, Rt. Hon. Hugh C. E. Grouley, Edward T. Graham, R. C. Gray, Edmund D.
Clancy, John Joseph Gully, William C. Grey, Sir Edward Gully, William C.
Cobb, Henry Peyton Gully, William C. Grey, Sir Edward Gully, William C.
Cohen, Arthur Haldane, R. B. Mahoney, Pierce Maitland, W. F.
Coleridge, Hon. E. Colman, J. James Mappin, Sir Fred. Marjoribanks, Rt.
Commins, A. Condon, Thomas J. Conolly, Laurence Conway, Michael Conybeare, C. A. V.

The majority who voted against the amendment was composed of the following 354 members (including tellers):—

- Addison, John E. W. Cranborne, Viscount Gunter, Col. Robert Lawrence, William Robinson, W.
Agg-Gardner, J. T. Cross, Herbert S. Lea, Thomas Robison B.
Ainslie, William J. Crossman, Sir W. B. Hall, Alexander W. Lechmere, Sir E. A. Rollet, Sir Albert K.
Allsopp, Hn. George Crossman, Sir W. B. Hall, Charles Leech, Elliott Ross, Alex. Henry
Ambrose, William Cubitt, Rt. Hon. G. Halsey, Thomas F. Leigh, T. W. Rothchild, Baron
Amherst, W. A. T. Currie, Sir Donald Hambro, Col. C. Hamilton, Col. C. E. Lewisham, Viscount
Anstruther, H. T. Curzon, Hon. G. Hamilton, Lord C. Lewisham, Viscount
Ashmead-Bartlett, E. Dalrymple, Charles Hamilton, Lord E. Long, W. H.
Baggallay, Ernest Davenport, H. T. Lord G. Low, Malcolm
Baillie, Sir J. R. Davenport, W. B. Hanbury, Gen. Sir E. Lowther, James W.
Balfour, Rt. Hon. A. J. De Cobain, E. S. W. Hanbury, Robt. W. Lubbock, Hon. W.
Balfour, Gerald W. De Lisle, Edwin Hanbury, Fredk. A. Lubbock, Sir John
Banes, Maj. G. E. De Worms, Baron H. Hardcastle, Edw. Macartney, W. G. E.
Baring, Viscount Dickson, Major A. Hardcastle, Frank Macartney, W. G. E.
Barnes, Alfred Dimisdale, Baron R. Hartington, M'q'sq of Macdonald, Right
Barry, A. H. S. Dixon, George Heathcote, Allan, Sir Hon. J. H. A.
Bartley, Geo. C. T. Dixon-Hartland, F. Heaton, John H. Maclean, J. M.
Bass, Hamar Dorington, Sir J. E. Hentoch, Capt. E. Maclure, John W.
Bates, Sir Edward Dugdale, J. S. Hensage, Rt. Hon. M'Callmont, Capt. J.
Beach, Rt. Hon. Sir Duncan, Col. Francis Herbert, Hon. S. M'Callmont, Capt. J.
Michael Hicks-Dyke, Right Hon. Hermon-Hodge, R. M'Garell-Hogg, Sir J.
Beauchamp, Henry F. Sir W. W. Hill, Lord A. W. Malcolin, J. W.
Beckett, E. W. Eaton, H. W. Hill, Lord A. W. Malcolin, J. W.
Beckett, William Edington, Viscount Hill, Colonel E. S. Malcolin, J. W.
Bevieve, Earl of Edwades-Moss, T. Elcho, Lord Hingley, Benjamin Manners, Richard
Bentinck, Rt. Hon. Elliot, Hn. Art. R. D. Elcho, Lord Hingley, Benjamin Manners, Richard
Bentinck, Lord H. C. Elliot, W. G. C. Elliot, Hon. Hugh Holloway, George
Bentinck, W. G. C. Elliot, Hon. Hugh Holmes, Right Hon.
Beresford, Lt. C. W. Elliot, Hon. Hugh Holloway, George Holmes, Right Hon.
Bethell, Commander Elton, C. J. Hugh
Bickford-Smith, W. Evelyn, William J. Hornby, W. H.
Biddulph, Michael Ewing, William Houldsworth, W. H.
Bigwood, J. Ewing, Sir A. O. Howard, John M.
Birbeck, Sir E. Eyre, Col. Henry Howard, Joseph
Blundell, Col. H. B. Fellows, W. Henry Morgan, Hon. F.
Bond, George H. Ferguson, Rt. Hon. Morrison, Walter
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BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

- BARCLAY, Mrs. G. W. W., at Coates-crescent, Edinburgh, Feb. 9 (prematurely—stillborn).
BLANDY, wife of Major William P., R.A., at Hong Kong, Jan. 8.
CASWELL, Mrs. Charles W., at Sunnyside, St. Margaret's, Twickenham, Feb. 3.
COLE, Mrs. George, at St. Peter's-road, Bournemouth, Feb. 9.
DE LA RUE, Mrs. Herbert, at Grosvenor-street, W., Feb. 10.
HEWITT, Mrs. T. H., at Schubert-road, Putney, Feb. 11.
MACFARLANE, Mrs. William A. C., Feb. 8.
PERCIVAL, Mrs. Alfred R., at Aspenden Lodge, Buntingford, Herts, Feb. 9.
RIEU, wife of Dr. Charles, at Woburn-square, Feb. 10.
SEALY, wife of Lieut.-Colonel, late Cheshire Regiment, at Bury House, Wick, near Bath, Feb. 7.
SMITH, Mrs. J. B., at The Granthams, Chiddingfold, Surrey, Feb. 10.
WATSON, Mrs. John, at Wallwood-road, Leytonstone, Essex, Feb. 7.
WILLIAMS, wife of Mr. J. R., of Monte Video, at Glenville, Wexford, Jan. 10.

MARRIAGES.

- BELL—LEWIS.—At the Catholic Church, Merthyr Tydfil, Walter F., son of Captain Bell, of Ynyson House, Merthyr Vale, to Margaret J., daughter of Mr. Henry W. Lewis, J.P., of Llwyn-y-Bos, Abercarn, Feb. 9.
BENNETT—RAW.—At St. Cyprian's, Durban, South Africa, John, son of Major Bennett, of East Griqualand, to Emma, daughter of the late Mr. R. Raw, Dec. 16.
BERRY—BALDWIN.—At St. Saviour's, Paddington, Dr. F. C. Berry, of Lynton, North Devon, son of the late Mr. Francis Berry, of Tullamore and Eglisk, King's County, to Charlotte M., daughter of the late Mr. G. T. Baldwin, of Fakenham, Norfolk, Feb. 8.
BREKTON—FOSTER.—At St. Bartholomew's, Southsea, Captain Edward Fitz G. Brekton, 1st Northamptonshire (4th) Regiment, son of the late Mr. William W. Brekton, Q.C., of Fitzwilliam-square, Dublin, to Fanny G., youngest daughter of Major-General E. H. H. Foster, late 10th Regiment and 18th Regimental District, Feb. 8.

DEATHS.

- AMBLER, Vincent, M.D., at Colville square, Bayswater, Feb. 6.
BIRKS, Mr. John F., at Carshalton, Surrey, aged 66, Feb. 8.
BLIGH, Alice M., wife of Mr. John S., at St. John's House, Sevenoaks, aged 32, Feb. 8.
COBB, Mr. John, at Sheldwich, near Faversham, aged 60, Feb. 9.
DENT, Eliza M., daughter of the late Rev. William, of Crosby Cote, near Northallerton, Yorkshire, at St. Leonards-on-Sea, Feb. 10.
DICKSON, Mr. William, of Alnwick, Northumberland, at West-end House, Pinner, aged 60, Feb. 11.
ELPHINSTONE, Sir Robert D. H., Bart., of Horn and Logie Elphinstone, at St. James's Hotel, Piccadilly, aged 45, Feb. 10.
EVORS, Mr. Alexander, late of Watford, Herts, at Forest-gate, aged 88, Feb. 3.
FALCONER, Mr. Adrian W. K., at Herne Bay, aged 49, Feb. 10.
GENTRY, Maria, wife of Mr. Henry, of Nightingale-road, Clapton, aged 74, Feb. 10.
GINGELL, Sarah C. B., wife of Mr. John, of Buckhurst-hill, aged 63, Feb. 9.
HART, Mr. Solomon A., of Montague-place, Russell-square, and Bury-street, St. Mary-axe, at the Armfield Hotel, Finsbury, aged 64, Feb. 9.

HUNTING APPOINTMENTS FOR NEXT WEEK.

- STAGHOUNDS.
HER MAJESTY'S.—Tuesday, Hare and Hounds, Red Hill, Denham; Fri., Hawthorne Hill—11.45.
DEVON AND SOMERSET.—Monday, Alderman's Barrow—10.45; Thursday, Marsh Bridge—10.30.
MID KENT.—Wednesday, Camden Arms, Pembury (for outlying deer); Saturday, Frittenden Bell—11.30.
ROTHSCHILD'S, LORD.—Monday, Aston Abbots; Thursday, Berryfield Gate—11.30.
FOXHOUNDS.
BEAUFORT'S, DUKE OF.—Monday, Avening; Tuesday, Tolldown; Wednesday, Highway Common; Friday, Didmarton; Sat., Yatton Keynell—11.
BERKELEY, OLD.—Monday, Chenies; Tuesday, Wigginton Common; Thursday, Hunton Bridge—11; Saturday, Holtspr Heath—11.30.
BERKSHIRE, OLD.—Monday, Knighton Crossing; Wednesday, Road Side Farm; Friday, Bampton Market Place—11.
CAMBRIDGESHIRE.—Monday, Harston; Tuesday, Great Staughton; Friday, Bourne Hall—11.
COTSWOLD.—Monday, Foston's Ash; Wednesday, Star Wood; Saturday, Colesborne House—11.
COTSWOLD, NORTH.—Tuesday, The Swan, Bengeworth; Thursday, Sudeley Hill; Saturday, Hinchwick.
COTTESMORE.—Monday, Corby Bircholme; Tuesday, Whadboro Cross roads; Thursday, Holywell Hall; Saturday, Riddlington—11.
CRAVEN.—Monday, Ashhouse, Barton Court; Wednesday, Hunt's Green; Friday, Rockley; Saturday, Hermitage—10.45.
CRAWLEY AND HORSHAM.—Monday, Roman Gate; Tuesday, Arundel; Friday, Dun Horse—11; Saturday, Hookland—11.15.
CUNARD'S, SIR E.—Monday, Saddington; Thursday, Slawston—11.
ESSEX, EAST.—Tuesday, Baythorn Hall; Thursday, Rivenhall Park Gate; Sat., Boreham—11.
ESSEX AND SUFFOLK.—Monday, Thorpe Street; Wednesday, Ardleigh Station; Friday, Oifton Chalk Pits—11.
ESSEX UNION.—Monday, Rayleigh; Tuesday, Dunton Blacksmiths; Thursday, Latchingdon Lion; Saturday, Dowham—11.
GARTH'S, MR.—Monday, Haines Hill; Wednesday, Newlands; Friday, Greywell Hill; Saturday, Thorpe Place—11.
GOODWOOD.—Monday, Saddlers Furze; Tuesday, Tangmere; Thursday, The Oaks; Saturday, Hainaker Hill—11.30.
H. H.—Monday, Colemore Church; Tuesday, Cheriton House; Thursday, London Lodge, Stratton; Friday, Alice Holt; Saturday, Golden Pot—11.
HERTFORDSHIRE.—Monday, Kimpton Mill; Wednesday, Sharpnose Grove; Friday, Bricke Wood; Saturday, Colney Heath—11.
HEYTHROP.—Monday, Boulter's Barn; Wednesday, Fox, North Aston; Friday, Mareson-in-Marsh; Saturday, Blenheim—10.45.
ISLE OF WIGHT.—Monday, Blackwater; Thursday, Tuppell—11.
KENT, EAST.—Monday, Black Mill, Barham; Wednesday, Hawkinge Mill; Friday, Bridge; Saturday, The Kennels—11.
KENT, WEST.—Monday, Redleaf and Ditton; Tuesday, Seal Chart; Thursday, Birling; Friday, Four Elms Hill; Saturday, Portobello—10.45.
KENT, WEST (WOODLAND).—Wednesday, Eridge Station; Saturday, Cousley Wood—11.15.
NORFOLK, WEST.—Monday, Sparle Mill—11; Wednesday, Runcton Hall—11.30; Friday, Shouldham Fairstead—11.
OAKLEY.—Monday, North Crawley; Tuesday, Knotting Fox; Thursday, Boughton House (by invitation); Saturday, Pertenhall—10.45.
OXON, SOUTH.—Monday, Nuneham; Friday, Red Lion, Britwell.
PUCKERIDGE.—Monday, Langley Green; Wednesday, Upwick Green; Saturday, Throcking—11.
PYTCHLEY, WOODLAND.—Monday, Dingley; Tuesday, Brigstock; Thursday, Boughton House; Saturday, Oundle Wood.
QUORN.—Monday, Quenby Hall; Tuesday, Kirby Muxloe; Friday, Six Hills; Sat., Wyal—11.
SOUTHDOWN.—Monday, Longford Bridge; Tuesday, Hadlow Down; Wednesday, East Dean; Friday, Shoreham Station; Saturday, Half Moon, Plumpton—11.
SUFFOLK.—Tuesday, Sicklesmere Toll Gate; Saturday, Elmwell Lion—11.
SURREY UNION.—Tuesday, Redlands, Dorking—11; Saturday, Vicarage, Cobham—10.45.
SUSSEX, EAST.—Monday, Sedlescombe Village; Thursday, Victoria Inn, Hollington; Saturday, Mountfield Court—11.30.
TADWORTH.—Tuesday, Saverne House; Thursday, Great Bedwyn; Saturday, Quarley Hill—11.
TICKHAM.—Monday, Doddington; Thursday, Halfway House, Challock—10.30; Saturday, Bredhurst—11.
VINE.—Tuesday, Popham Lane; Thursday, Hannington; Saturday, New Inn, Baughurst—10.45.
HARRIERS.
BERKSHIRE VALE.—Tuesday, Churn Railway Arch; Thursday, Roak; Saturday, Day's Lock—11.
CRAVEN.—Monday, Eshton Farm; Thursday, Halton Place—11.
EASTBOURNE.—Tuesday, Pevensey Bridge; Saturday, Eastdean—11 (weather permitting).

QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT £4 per CENT. INSCRIBED STOCK.

ISSUE of £2,500,000 Stock, in further part of a sum of £9,982,000, authorized to be raised by the Queensland Government Loan Act, No. 2, 1884.

REPAYABLE at par, 1st July, 1924. First dividend, being six months' interest, payable 1st July, 1887. Minimum price of issue £100 per cent.

THE GOVERNOR and COMPANY of the BANK of ENGLAND give notice that, on behalf of the agents appointed for raising and managing the loans of the colony, they are authorized to receive tenders for £2,500,000 of Queensland Government £4 per Cent. Incribed Stock, repayable at par on the 1st July, 1924.

This Stock will be in addition to, and will rank pari passu with, the Queensland Government £4 per Cent. Stock previously created, redeemable 1st July, 1924, the dividends on which are payable at the Bank of England half-yearly, on the 1st January and 1st July.

The first half-year's dividend on this issue, calculated upon the nominal amount of the Stock will be payable on the 1st July, 1887.

The books of the Stock are kept at the Bank of England, where all assignments and transfers are made; and holders of the Stock are able, on payment of the usual fees, to take out stock certificates to bearer with coupons attached, which certificates may be reinscribed into Stock at the will of the holder.

All transfers and stock certificates are free of stamp duty. Dividend warrants are transmitted by post if desired.

The loan is secured upon the consolidated revenues of the colony, and is issued for the following purposes:—Railways, immigration, improvement of harbours and rivers, electric telegraphs, loans to local bodies, water supply, &c., &c.

By the Act 40 and 41 Vic., ch. 59, the revenues of the colony alone will be liable in respect of this Stock and the dividends thereon, and the Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom and the Commissioners of her Majesty's Treasury will not be directly or indirectly liable or responsible for the payment of the stock or of the dividends thereon, or for any matter relating thereto.

Tenders may be for the whole or any part of the Stock, and must state what amount of money will be given for every £100 of Stock. Tenders for other than even hundreds of Stock, or at a price including fractions of a shilling other than sixpence, will not be accepted. Tenders are to be delivered at the Chief Cashier's Office, Bank of England, before Two o'clock, on FRIDAY, 13th February, 1887.

Tenders at different prices must be on separate forms. The amount of Stock applied for must be written on the outside of the tender.

The minimum price, below which no tender will be accepted, has been fixed at £100 for every £100 of Stock.

A deposit of 5 per cent. on the amount of Stock tendered for must be paid at the same office at the time of the delivery of the tender, and the deposit must not be enclosed in the tender. Where no allotment is made the deposit will be returned, and in case of partial allotment the balance of the deposit will be applied towards the first instalment.

In the event of the receipt of tenders at or above the minimum price for a larger amount of Stock than that proposed to be issued, the tenders at the lowest price accepted will be subject to a pro rata diminution.

The dates at which the further payments on account of the said Loan will be required are as follows:—

On Thursday, the 3rd March, 1887, so much of the amount tendered and accepted as, when added to the deposit, will leave £85 to be paid for each £100 of stock.

On Thursday, the 14th April, 1887, £20 per cent. On Wednesday, the 1st June, 1887, £20 per cent. On Thursday, the 7th July, 1887, £20 per cent. On Monday, the 2nd August, 1887, £25 per cent.

The instalments may be paid in full on or after 3rd March, 1887, under discount at the rate of 3 per cent. per annum. In case of default in the payment of any instalment at its proper date, the deposits and instalments previously paid will be liable to forfeiture.

Scrip certificates to bearer will be issued in exchange for the provisional receipts.

The Stock will be inscribed in the Bank-books on or after the 22nd August, 1887, but scrip paid up in full in anticipation may be inscribed forthwith.

Applications must be upon the printed forms, which may be obtained at the Chief Cashier's Office, Bank of England; of Messrs. Mullens, Marshall, and Co., 4, Lombard-street; and of the Agent-General for the Government of Queensland, 1, Westminster-chambers, Victoria-street, S.W.

Bank of England, 11th February, 1887.

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GENTLEMEN,—

I beg to offer you my best thanks for the honour you have done me in returning me to the House of Commons by so striking a majority. The trouble, the annoyance, and the loss of time which I regret to think has been caused to many of you by a needless contest have not been without a certain compensation.

It is worth while to have elicited from the electors of this great constituency so overwhelming a verdict in favour of the unity of the Kingdom. For personal reasons, I have felt some pain that Mr. Gladstone should have seen fit to approve any opposition to me, which, under the circumstances, was regarded by some of his best friends as vexatious; but on public grounds I cannot regret the course he has taken, for the small effect which his intervention has produced has served to emphasize the condemnation pronounced by the electors on the policy of which he is the most authoritative exponent. My special thanks are due to the numerous friends who kindly placed conveyances at my disposal on the day of the poll, and above all to the large body of volunteer workers, whose energetic and untiring exertions contributed so greatly to the splendid victory which has been achieved. I hope to take an early opportunity of personally thanking them. It will be my object to establish and maintain with my constituents the same cordial relations which existed between you and your late member, and to watch over the interests of all classes of the community.

I have the honour to remain, Gentlemen, Your obedient servant,

GEORGE J. BOSCHEN.

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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Association will be held in the Large Hall, Cannon-street Hotel, E.C., on THURSDAY, the 24th February instant, at 5 o'clock p.m.

The Share Transfer Register will be closed from the 15th to the 25th instant, both days inclusive. (By order)

JOHN E. BIGNALL, Secretary. 136, Queen Victoria-street, E.C., February 1st, 1887.

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SATURDAY, February 12, 1887.