

THE
ST. JAMES'S GAZETTE
An Evening Review and Record of News.

No. 2089.—VOL. XIV.

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CONTENTS.

LEADING ARTICLE:—	PAGE
DEFECTIVE WEAPONS.....	3
OCCASIONAL NOTES	4
MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES:—	
THE TROUBLES OF OUR OLDEST COLONY..	3
VALENTINES OF OLD.....	5
SCHOOL WORKSHOPS IN IRELAND.....	6
WANTED, A MEDICAL ASSISTANT.....	6
MUSIC	7
THE RAG TRADE AND INFECTIOUS DISEASE	14
LITERATURE:—	
PAUL DE SAINT-VICTOR	7
THE EVENING NEWS	8-12
LATEST TELEGRAMS	6
THE MONEY MARKET	6
TRADE AND FINANCE	13
THE MORNING PAPERS.....	14
STOCKS AND SHARES.....	15
BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.....	15

DRURY LANE.

DRURY LANE.—AUGUSTUS
HARRIS, Lessee and Manager.
EVERY EVENING, at 7.35; 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 7.35.

LYCEUM.

LYCEUM.—FAUST, EVERY EVEN-
ING, 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 (399th time). Mr. William Terriss, Messrs. Garden, Maclean, Lyndal, Boleyn, Campbell, Russell, Westworth, Travers, &c.; Mesdames Millward, Achurch, C. Jecks, Leigh, Brennan, Carter, &c. At 7.15, FAMILY JARS. MORNING PERFORMANCE Saturday next, 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 Delaporte, Sylvia Grey, Lottie Collins, McNulty, Barlow, Wilson, Beale, Ethel Selwyn; Messrs. Fred Leslie, E. J. Lonnens, G. Stone, W. Guise, A. Balfour, G. Honey, Charlie Ross. Musical Director, Meyer Lutz. At 7.30, No. 1 ROUND THE CORNER. Doors open at 7.15.

MORNING PERFORMANCE every
SATURDAY, at 2. Doors open 1.30.—
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 Collier. 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 (last two weeks), a Musical Drama 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 McNeill; Messrs. Yorke Stephens, H. Parker, J. Beauchamp, L. Waller, C. Ward, M. H. Grahame, 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. MORNING PERFORMANCE NEXT SATURDAY, at 2.

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

ST. JAMES'S.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—Lessees
and Managers, Mr. HARE and Mr. KENDAL.
THIS EVENING, at 8.30, 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
EVICITION. Misses Webster, Huntley; Mr.
Waring.—Box-office 10 till 5. Doors open 7.30.
Acting-Manager, Mr. Huy.

CRITERION.

CRITERION THEATRE.—Lessee and
Manager, Mr. CHARLES WYNNDHAM.
At 8, DAVID GARRICK. Mr. CHARLES
WYNNDHAM; 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
on SATURDAY next, at 3 o'clock. Doors open 2.30.

VAUDEVILLE.

VAUDEVILLE.—THIS EVENING, at
8.30, SOPHIA (299th time), by Robert
Bachanan. Messrs. THOMAS THORNE, Carle-
ton, Thorne, Farquhar, Mellish, Grove, Wheatman,
and LEONARD HONEY; Mesdames Larkin,
Leclercq, Venné, Forsyth, and K. Rorke. At
7.45, NEARLY SEVERED. MATINEE every
SATURDAY, at 2.30.

OLYMPIC.

OLYMPIC.—MR. EDWARD
TERRY'S SEASON.—At 8.15, THE
CHURCHWARDEN; at 8.30, THE TWO BLINDS;
at 8.45, HOME RULE. Doors open at 7.30; car-
riages 10.45. Seats can be booked at the Box-office
(no extra fee) from 10 to 5, and at the principal
libraries. MATINEE at 2.30 EVERY SATUR-
DAY.—Acting Manager, Mr. H. T. Brickwell.

OLYMPIC MATINEES.

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

COMEDY.

COMEDY THEATRE.—Sole Lessee,
Miss MELNOTTE.—MYNHEER JAN.—Pro-
duction TO-NIGHT, at 7.45, of 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 per-
mission of the directors of the Alhambra Theatre).
Entirely New and Elaborate Scenery by Mr. T. E.
Ryan. The Costumes executed by Mons. and
Mme. Alias, from designs by Lucien Besche.
Armour and Jewellery by Mons. Lassalle. Aug-
mented Band and Chorus, conducted by Mons.
Auguste Van Biene. Seats may be secured at the
Box-office, open from 10 to 5, and at all libraries.

ROYALTY.

ROYALTY THEATRE, DEAN-STREET
(two minutes' walk from Piccadilly-circus).—
Under the management of Mr. WILLIE EDWIN. TO-
NIGHT, at 8.45, MODERN WIVES, an adapta-
tion, by Ernest Warren, of "Le Bonheur Con-
jugal," with the following powerful cast: Messrs.
Willie Edouin, Lytton Sothorn, Morton Selten,
E. H. France, Edward Thirby; Mesdames E.
Branton, Olga Brandon, Marie Hudspeth, V.
Bennett, Eva Wilson, and Alice Atherton. Pre-
ceded by, at 7.45, THE COMING CLOWN.
Box-office 11 to 5. Doors open 7.30. Carriages 11.
MATINEE SATURDAY NEXT, 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 every
Saturday, at 2.30.—COURT THEATRE.

AVENUE.

AVENUE.—ROBINSON CRUSOE.
Enormous success. 60th Time. 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 PER-
FORMANCE EVERY SATURDAY, at 2.

SAVOY.

SAVOY.—R. D'OYLY CARTE, Pro-
prietor 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.

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Latest addition, Grand Group representing
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LIGURIA	4,688 ..	4,700 .. Mar. 31.
AUSTRAL	5,588 ..	7,000 .. April 14.
IBERIA	4,702 ..	4,200 .. April 28.
CHIMBORAZO	3,847 ..	3,000 .. May 12.
POTOSI	4,267 ..	3,500 .. May 26.

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ACKNOWLEDGED if addressed to the Treasurer, WM. FOWLER, Esq.;
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DR. T. J. BARNARDO, at the

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cisely, the following important stocks of WINES and
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legas. Port—13 pipes 11 hds. 26 qr.-casks, sundry
marks and shippers. Sherry—17 butts 22 hds. 8 qr.-
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95 qr.-casks 330 cases, Hennessy's, Vine Growers',
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gon's, and other brands. Jamaica Rum—31 pun-
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Lisbon Red Wine—12 hds. Cherry Brandy—31
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are prevented by the prevailing system of terror
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answer to the deputation which waited upon him
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Treasurer of your Committee, and I shall be exceed-
ingly glad to receive from my fellow-citizens and
others any donations or subscriptions which may be
confided to me to be applied in the judicious way
in which the Society distribute their funds in various
parts of Ireland. I trust that the result will be a
very large increase to your resources, and a corre-
sponding increase of prosperity to those people who
are now suffering so much at the hands of a tyran-
nical and un-English opposition."

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The EARL OF BANCROFT, Chairman.
The Right Hon. the Lord Mayor.
The Earl of Pembroke.
The Earl of Courtown.
The Lord Rowton, C.B.
The Lord Bramwell.
W. Morrison, M.P.
The Right Hon. A. M. Kavanagh.
Gen. Sir H. P. de Bathe, Bart.
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Donations will be received by the Lord Mayor, at
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THE ST. JAMES'S GAZETTE.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1887.

DEFECTIVE WEAPONS.

MANY questions were asked and answers given last week in both Houses of Parliament about the cutlasses and sword-bayonets issued to some of her Majesty's ships. The War Office and the Admiralty are not in agreement as to the quality of these weapons. It appears that the only duty of the Admiralty in the matter is to decide on the pattern of the weapons they require. The War Office is then called upon to supply the necessary number of them; and it seems to be admitted that the responsibility for the efficiency of the arms supplied rests with the War Office alone. The Admiralty has nothing to do with the business of testing them for quality. The War Office tries the steel and guarantees the weapons as sound, and the Admiralty accepts them without further question. It happened, however, that complaints had been made of the quality of the cutlasses in some ships; and careful examinations were made of all cutlasses on board the *Active*, the *Rover*, and the *Volage*, while further experiments were made on the *Indus* and the *Devastation*. These inquiries, which were carried out by officers on board the ships, revealed a most unsatisfactory state of things. Seventy-four weapons out of 105 were pronounced defective in the *Active*, 99 out of 105 in the *Rover*. The Admiralty satisfied itself that the unfitness of these weapons for use was proved, and complained to the War Office. The War Office, however, is "not prepared to accept" the statement that the weapons are defective. They have been in use a long time. They have stood many tests already; and especially in 1871 they stood a test of great severity. The War Office will accept no responsibility for the defectiveness of one of these weapons, unless it can be shown that it would not now stand the test which it stood in 1871. Stress was laid upon the undeniable fact that, however strong a sword or a bayonet may be, you break it if you try hard enough to do so.

What, then, were the actual tests to which the weapons supplied to the crews of our ships have been submitted? There are two which seem to have been most frequently used. One consisted in placing the point of the sword or cutlass on the deck and applying to the hilt a sufficient pressure to turn the point fifty degrees from the straight line. If after the pressure was removed the weapon remained permanently bent, it was condemned as defective. Again, weapons were bent over the knees, or in some cases bent with the hand only, not to an extravagant but to a moderate extent; and the bend was in many instances found to remain permanent. Now, if the test of 1871 was incapable of detecting the faults revealed by so simple an experiment, the conclusion appears to be that that test was inadequate. About a year ago the members of a Committee on Cavalry Swords desired to ascertain the practical usefulness of the weapons then in the hands of the troops stationed at the Albany Barracks. Eleven experiments were made upon the carcasses of a horse and two sheep. Out of eleven swords so tested, six were permanently bent and one was broken. It appeared that contact with a bone was fatal to these swords, which had been tested and passed by the authorities. Now it seems to us that this kind of rough-and-ready test is as likely as any more elaborate trial to ascertain the value of a sword for practical purposes. When the complaint is that an honest blow struck at a sheep's carcass renders a sword unserviceable, it is no answer to say that the test must be unfair because the proper tests have been already applied. Tests that would seem unfair to the authorities at home are not unlikely to be applied in actual warfare. In cutting down an opponent the English trooper cannot make sure of keeping clear of bone; and when a sword is "telescoped" at the first blow, it will be a very slight consolation to the disarmed soldier, in imminent danger of his life, to reflect that the trial to which his weapon was put must have been more severe than the test applied to it in 1871.

The officers of ships can have no sinister reason for forwarding sham complaints to the Admiralty; on the contrary, they have obvious reasons for not complaining unless there is just cause for doing so. The Admiralty, again, is not likely to endorse the complaints of officers, or to remonstrate with the War Office, without being convinced of their justice. Surely a practical man knows a worthless sword from a good one. An experienced officer who wanted to choose a sword could apply a few simple tests on the spot, which would necessarily have more weight with him than the fact that the sword was competent to pass the Government test of 1871. When complaints such as those which have lately been made reach the War Office, it is absurd for that department to assume an attitude of sceptical irritability. The facts are plain enough. The question for the War Office is how far the wrong which has been detected in three or four ships extends, and how the system under which such evils arise can be amended.

Were the weapons bought too cheap? Was the official test inadequate in some respects, though it might be severe in others? Was there any negligence among subordinates? These are important questions; but the most important questions of all are what proportion of our soldiers and sailors are actually furnished with weapons which will not bear the stress of actual warfare, and how this evil, wherever it exists, can be most promptly repaired. It is terrible to reflect that there may be lying in our naval and military stores not arms only but all sorts of equipments ready to be served out as occasion may require but unfit for use in active service. Some kinds of stores may never be tested by such experiments as revealed the weak points of the cutlasses and sword-bayonets. If the Department cannot answer for their soundness, their unsoundness will not be detected until it is disastrously realized on the march or in the field. This is no small matter; and the cruelties and the dangers involved should bring home to officials the absurdity of looking on a discovery of defective weapons as a ground for departmental squabbles and disputes as to the accuracy in detail of particular allegations.

THE TROUBLES OF OUR OLDEST COLONY.

BETWEEN France and Newfoundland, as between the United States and Canada, there is a fishery dispute of long standing the settlement of which seems to defy the resources of diplomacy. The present conflict between the Imperial and Newfoundland Governments in regard to the bait question is indirectly connected with this dispute; and the feeling against the French fishermen is very strong in Newfoundland. But it is questionable whether the prohibition of bait as an article of export is a good thing for the Newfoundlanders themselves; and the adoption of so desperate an expedient to get an advantage over their foreign rivals can only be set down to the deplorable condition of the fishing population.

It is a curious fact that the most backward of all British colonies is our oldest one. This is to be accounted for neither by climate, geographical position, nor lack of resources. Newfoundland fogs do not affect the salubrity of that extensive island. It forms the nearest point of communication between Europe and America. It possesses fishery, mineral, timber, and agricultural capabilities in no degree inferior to those of Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, or New Brunswick. Its supreme drawback is isolation—a drawback which could have been removed any time within the last twenty years by confederating with the Dominion of Canada. It is to a similar isolation that the Separatists would relegate Ireland—an isle which stands in much the same relation to the United Kingdom that Newfoundland does to British North America. To run a railway through Newfoundland, thereby reducing the Atlantic voyage to four or five days and putting Liverpool and New York within six or seven days' easy communication, is a project far older than the Canadian Pacific Railway. Yet Home Rule—that is to say, parochial independence—has been esteemed so precious by the "codocracy" that they have been content to be left out in the cold all this time, while the interoceanic railway project has become an accomplished fact. The parable of the bundle of sticks cannot be too often told, whether in reference to the United Kingdom or to the British North American colonies. The Newfoundlanders have tried to realize this railway project for themselves, and what has been the result? The Newfoundland Railway Company, which has a subsidy of £10,800 per annum from the Government for a period of thirty-five years besides a land grant aggregating 500,000 acres, defaulted in 1885 on the January coupons, and is at present in the hands of a receiver.

In other respects the condition of Newfoundland is equally deplorable. Out of a total population of less than 200,000 (of whom 61,000 are children), 60,500 are engaged in catching and curing fish; and of these it is not too much to say that they are little better than bondsmen. This is owing to the prevalence of the truck system, which grinds the population worse than the Hindoo money-lender grinds the ryot. Let the fishery season be good or bad, poverty remains the normal condition of the tens of thousands engaged in the industry.

That widespread discontent exists in Newfoundland has long been evident. And it is to be feared that the discontent is not of that healthy kind which inspires men to "get on somehow." Like the Irish, the Newfoundlanders attribute all their woes to secondary causes. At present, it is French bounty-fed competition which is ruining the Newfoundland markets; and the remedy for this is to prohibit the export of bait. The Imperial Government has refused assent to the Act passed by the Newfoundland Legislature last year prohibiting the export of bait; but, when the Legislature reassembles, it is pretty certain to re-enact the bait law, and to insist that the bait regulations are vital to the existence of Newfoundland. The root of the trouble is, of course, far deeper. With a growing population, the corresponding expansion of the colony in material prosperity has been checked by the narrow-mindedness that isolation breeds. They continue to stake their existence on cod, and cod alone. While there are 3,628 "merchants" in Newfoundland, there are only 1,685 farmers; yet the interior of the island is admirably adapted for raising every kind of farm produce. There are 1,500 lumbermen and 400 miners—two classes which might be increased largely. The "French shore" difficulty certainly interferes with the development of the mineral and timber industries; but were Newfoundland to consent to enter the Canadian confederation, that Gordian knot would speedily be cut.

A St. John's telegram states that the people of Newfoundland are at present discussing the expediency of confederation with Canada; and in a

political speech at Halifax, Nova Scotia, the other day, Sir Charles Tupper ventured to predict the early entry of that colony into the Dominion. The Newfoundlanders have been twenty years thinking over that step, and by just so many years are they behind the neighbouring colonists.

NOTES.

How much truth there may be in the report telegraphed from Bombay this morning we have yet to learn; but it is a very troublesome report as it stands. It is said that three thousand Chinese troops have crossed the Burmese frontier; and that Chinese messengers are pressing on the Shan States a demand that they should at once declare themselves allies or enemies of China. If this report is true, our difficulties in Burma, which there was every reason to believe had been well got under, are now augmented very seriously. But we have been led to believe that the English Government and the Chinese Government are on the best of terms, as there are many reasons why they should be. At the same time, however, nothing in the history of the last half-dozen years is more noteworthy than the attitude of self-assertion which the Chinese Government has taken up, at the instigation of that remarkable woman, the Empress.

Mr. Gladstone is still raving against the English (we beg pardon, the Southern English) and the Tories. The spectacle of this "old man eloquent" calling down curses on the heads of the great majority of his fellow-countrymen must be painful to the diminishing number of enthusiasts who once believed that he was as good as he was great. His talk is all of revenge. "They will have to pay heavily for the delay they have thought it wise to interpose before we reach a conclusion certain to be arrived at." The people referred to are the "Southern English," who happen to constitute three fourths of the population of these islands; and with Mr. Gladstone's threats of vengeance ringing in their ears they will probably take good care to avert a conclusion which is *not* "certain to be arrived at," even though it were true that the Scotch and the Welsh desired it as much as Mr. Gladstone. Let all Englishmen take note, once more, that Home Rule is wanted not only to please Ireland but to punish England.

The Mansion House Council which was formed last November have issued their final report. They show that the prelates and clergymen who very nearly managed to start another Mansion House Fund would have done a great deal of harm if they had been successful in the attempt. The conclusion of the council is that a central fund like that of last year is a very great mistake. Once again they insist on the demoralization and the disorganization produced by the Mansion House subscription. Everybody is agreed on that point now; that is to say, after the mischief has been done.

Messrs. Doulton and Co., the great potters, write to the newspapers to urge that the coal and wine dues should not be retained. They put the case fairly enough from their point of view, which is that of the manufacturers. They assure us that if the coal dues are abolished they will pay less for their coal. Consequently their business will be more flourishing, and they believe that they will be able to employ more "surplus labour." But is it worth while to stop the great works of the Metropolitan Board, which do constantly employ large numbers of working men, on the chance that some of them may ultimately pass into the service of a few London manufacturers? Again, Messrs. Doulton tell us that—

If the tax ceases the public would derive the full benefit of the change, by the natural operation of the laws of supply and demand, by the sure results of competition, and by the wholesome effect of that beneficial principle which ensures that the removal of any impost upon the free and unrestricted course of business tends to facilitate commerce generally and to give the ultimate advantage to the consumer.

This is quite according to the text-books, we know. But, somehow, things do not always work out according to the books; and there are abundant reasons for doubting whether they would do so in this case.

From a well-informed correspondent in Italy we receive the following communication:—The situation is curiously complicated, not on account of the Ministerial crisis, but of the African skirmish and the love-making between the Vatican and Germany. Without going over the old ground to show which party approved the colonial policy and which did not, it suffices to say that all parties are of Gordon's opinion, "that evacuating means one thing and rattling another." With the possibilities, not to say probabilities, of a European war confronting them, the Italians do not desire to see a large portion of their troops engaged in Africa—especially because, according to the latest news, this is just what Russia does want. If it be true that 5,000 Abyssinians have been dispersed, the further fact, that twenty-three officers and 400 Italian soldiers have been killed and one officer and eighty soldiers wounded, proves that they fought valiantly: hence there is "no blot on the escutcheon" to be washed out. The worst of the complication is the obvious alliance between the Vatican and Germany, or, to speak correctly, between Leo XIII. and Bismarck. Until now many Italian patriots, religious men and Conservatives but by no means bigots or supporters of the temporal power, have maintained that the present Pope was a very different personage from Pío Nono content to reign as spiritual father and law-giver without much care

for the temporalities. Now, Cardinal Jacobini's letter to the Nuncio at Munich strongly suggests that the Pope is ready to give his right hand to support the Septennate Army Bill of Bismarck in exchange for the latter's left hand in support of the temporal power. This little episode strengthens the most advanced members of his Majesty's Opposition. Of these stand foremost Crispi, Nicotera, Baccarini, Zanardelli, and Cairoli. Just now the Paris press has been very busy with Crispi's name—first accusing him of being an Anglomaniac and a Gallophobe, and then, when he disclaimed the latter accusation, assuming that he also denies his English-alliance tendencies. The truth is that Crispi, while wishing well to France, more than ever desires a firm alliance with England.

"The crowd dispersed without the slightest breach of the peace." This is how the judicious reporter concludes his account of a meeting in Trafalgar-square—as much to our surprise as to our pleasure. The meeting was held to support Sir John Lubbock's Shop-Hours' Regulation Bill; and probably the promoters of that measure wish that the "United Society of Shop Assistants" had been less zealous. There was to have been a grand procession from Clerkenwell Green, and a huge mass-meeting by the Nelson column. But the procession consisted of a score or so of idlers, and the mass-meeting resembled the crowd round an open-air preacher in Hyde Park, only it was less numerous. The explanation probably is that the shop assistants have no wish to resort to rowdiness, even in appearance, in order to get the relief they ask for.

When Citizen Quelch, known to his intimates as the Tyrant-queller, assembles the Socialists of Bermondsey, he gets quite a large audience—almost as many as could be collected any day in London by a troupe of street acrobats. The citizen held forth at Bermondsey yesterday, both morning and evening, on behalf of his incarcerated brother Morris, who has been put in prison for making a row in a church. The Hat of Freedom—or the Cap of Liberty, if the expression is preferred—was sent round after Quelch had done. One and threepence was taken at morning service and ninepence-halfpenny in the evening. This shows how many enthusiastic Socialists there were in the crowds, and how prudent the authorities are to allow themselves to be bullied and defied by the Socialist leaders.

As an ingenious method of hampering the Irish Executive, Mr. Dillon's friends have subpoenaed the Irish Attorney-General, with a view to preventing him from holding a brief for the Crown. It is also suggested that the National party will thus prevent one of their enemies from earning a substantial fee as counsel in the case. How far the senior law officer of the Crown is an essential witness in the trial remains to be seen; but if the learned counsel is to be excluded from the performance of his proper duties for the purpose of gratifying his political opponents, some limit must be assigned to the right of subpoenaing witnesses or to the duty of answering the subpoena. It would not be impossible to serve the whole Bar with subpoenas, and so to incommode the progress of the trial. To what extent men of eminence, such as Cabinet Ministers, can safely refuse to comply with a subpoena is open to question and must depend on the facts of the case. But it is high time there was some reliable decision on the subject.

Mr. Goldwin Smith's letter is discouraging to Imperial Federationists. He assures us that the Canadians care nothing about the movement, and never will. On the latter point there is room for some doubt. But there can be no question that he is right in saying that the attempt to find an analogy between the Canadian Federation and the proposed Home Rule schemes, is ridiculous. To begin with, the Canadian Home Rulers are loyal; the Irish Home Rulers are disloyal. The Canadians did not seek the Dominion Act because it cut them off from a Power they hated; the Nationalists want a Home Rule Government for this purpose and hardly any other. Further, "the Dominion is a federal republic under monarchical forms, the States composing which are equal among themselves, are alike subject to a federal Legislature elected by them in common, have a written federal Constitution, and an independent tribunal to interpret it—namely, the Privy Council, without which their disputes would soon be fatal to their union." It is this independent authority of the Crown and the Imperial Parliament, overriding both the Provincial and Federal Legislatures, which has kept the Dominion together, in spite of much friction. But where is the external authority which could mediate in a dispute between the English and Irish Legislatures? Such a dispute could only be settled in one way. The weaker party would have to be forced to yield—by the sword if necessary.

In the new Life of Channing, says a correspondent, an Englishman who misplaced his h's is said to have "disturbed the fastidiousness of his hearers" at an important meeting. They are very particular about their h's in America, and one rarely detects one out of place. It was, however, my lot once, and only once, though I listened carefully for it at every church, theatre, and meeting that I attended. It was on this wise: I went to the museum in Washington where the "trophy" of the great war are collected. We were shown over by an excellent guide, a compound of clerk and porter. After looking at a great number of things, unattractive to me I confess, our man came to us with a flag in his hand. "You are English, gentlemen," he said, "and this will interest you; this was taken on the *Halabama*." I saw at once that my oppor-

tunity had come, and, clasping his arm, I said, "Where do you come from, my man?" "From Halfreton, in Derbyshire, sir," he said. So I was baffled again.

The late M. Raoul Duval was addicted to the particular form of exercise in which Mr. Gladstone is wont to indulge in his leisure hours. When staying at Vandeuil in the summer-time he was constantly to be seen roaming about the grounds, axe in hand, and he rarely passed a day without bringing a tree to the ground. Besides being a great swordsman, he was a "marvellous gymnast," we are told, and he once performed, in the presence of a circle of wondering friends, some of the more daring and difficult of Léotard's trapeze feats. His recent political evolution showed something of the same suppleness and flexibility in another sphere, though it will not compare for a moment with the latest feat of our own great master of political acrobatics.

The practice pursued by the Metropolitan Asylums Board of maintaining large medical and other staffs at hospitals under their control when epidemics are not prevalent was the subject of much talk at the meeting of the Board on Saturday. It was stated that eighteen small-pox patients had been under treatment in the last six months; and that, by reason of establishment charges, they had cost the metropolis no less than £420 each. It was, nevertheless, in the end decided, by a narrow majority on a division, to defer action in the matter until a report on the subject had been received from the General Purposes Committee. It is to be hoped that this committee will lose as little time as possible in making their report.

A new terror has been added to play-writing if dramatists can be held legally responsible for a piece's failure. English playwrights should watch the case of Dauvray v. Bronson Howard, which is down for hearing in New York. Mr. Howard, it appears, was commissioned by Miss Dauvray to write a comedy for her. He did so, and the piece was produced at the New York Lyceum, where it was a *fiasco*. Miss Dauvray now sues Mr. Howard for damages; arguing that he has not kept to his agreement, which was that the comedy was to be "a strong play" with a good part for herself. This, perhaps, is the result of the system known as "play-writing to order." Should Mr. Howard be mulcted in a heavy sum or sentenced to a term of imprisonment, it is conceivable that our plays might in future be better written.

"X" writes:—Your correspondent "S. P." will hear with interest of a case illustrating the difference between the treatment of debtors in England and Ireland. A brutal butcher has got judgment against me for the sum of £7 10s. "for meat supplied," and, as I am unable to obey, I have been committed to prison. No doubt we had the use of the meat, just as the tenants in Ireland who have adopted the Plan of Campaign had the use of the landlords' houses and lands. But just see the difference! Sir William Harcourt gets up in the House of Commons and praises the tenants who can pay and won't pay, and compares them to Hampden and the Boston men who started the War of Independence. Yet I who would pay if I could, but I can't through being out of employment and having a large family to keep, am clapped into gaol! There's something wrong here somewhere. I wish Sir William would explain it.

M. Johnson, of the *Figaro*, seems anxious to show that he is more French than the French, in spite of his British name. It is all very well for Mr. Gilbert and Sir Arthur Sullivan to explain the sailor's song in "Ruddigore" as being only what Artemus Ward calls "a Goak," and, what is more, a joke at the expense of England rather than France. The patriotic M. Johnson is not to be so mollified. He maintains that the lines about fighting a French fal-lal being like hitting of a gal "do not belong to the domain of pleasantry." Not being able to wipe out the insult in blood, M. Johnson is obliged to content himself with saying disagreeable things of his opponents. "Sir A. Sullivan," he says, "who asked for and obtained the Cross of the Legion of Honour, was less justified than any one in writing music, however poor, to the verses of Mr. Gilbert, however indifferent they may be." This is the graceful Gallic method of controversy; so superior to our coarse Saxon method, with its jokes which no Frenchman can understand.

Mr. Walter Gilbey writes to the papers deprecating our copying in England "the Continental system of Government *haras* or breeding studs—a system which is carried on at great expense, and is only suited to countries where there is a lack of private enterprise." And certainly Mr. Gilbey's figures seem to show that private enterprise has already undertaken to cope successfully enough with the dearth of horses in Great Britain. During the five years between 1877 and 1882 we imported over 90,000 horses as against only 21,000 exported. During the next five years, while the import fell to 55,000, the number exported rose to 34,000. Thus the imports decreased 33 per cent. and the exports increased nearly 50 per cent. But Mr. Gilbey is by no means a mere advocate of a policy of *laissez faire*. He has two methods to suggest in which he thinks the Government could encourage private breeding. The one, that the £5,000 a year now wasted on Queen's plates that "no longer attract the best, or even second-best, horses" should be devoted as prizes at the great shows for thorough-bred stallions, which should in turn be available

to farmers at cheap service-fees. The other, that Government should buy colts at two years old, instead of three to four as at present. As Mr. Gilbey points out, it would be better for a farmer to get £25 for two-year-olds than £45 two years later; while the Government, which can afford to lie out of its money, would on its side gain by getting the pick of the market. Even without Mr. Gilbey's name to recommend them, both proposals seem to us well worth consideration.

The point at which a proprietary club with residential chambers attached merges into a private hotel seems difficult to distinguish; and yet the distinction is one of importance for the purposes of the Inland Revenue. The owner of a private hotel has to take out a licence for which he must apply to the magistrates, and the magistrates will not grant such a licence unless the premises are open to all comers—a condition which is of course contrary to the very idea of a club. It seems that the amount of liberty allowed to strangers is the real test. Last Saturday the magistrate at the Westminster Police Court was called on to decide the point at the instance of the Excise authorities, one of whose officers had driven to a certain house called a residential club, in South Kensington, with luggage. Saying he was "recommended by a Mr. Johnston," he was at once made free of the house, where he lived in comfort for two days and introduced a friend. No doubt the magistrate was correct in this case in saying that the "club" only existed to evade the licensing laws; but it would not be difficult to imagine a case less easy of decision. The question is, When is a club not a club?

VALENTINES OF OLD.

THE allusions to St. Valentine's Day made by Chaucer, Lydgate, and other early English poets are familiar enough; but specimens of early valentines are not so generally found in descriptions of the festival and its customs. Here is one, written in 1476 by the daughter of a Norfolk knight to a neighbouring squire who had won her affections but was growing dissatisfied with the marriage portion her father was to bestow upon her. It begins, "Right reverend and worshipful, and my right well beloved Valentine." Then, in prose, the writer goes on to say that she is "out of health and unhappy" at her lover's avarice, and trusts "verily you will not leave me therefore.

And if ye command me to keep me true wherever I go,
I wis I will do all my might you to love;
And if my friends say that I do amiss,
They shall not me let so for to do.
Mine heart bids me ever more to love you
Truly over all earthly thing;
And if they be never so wroth,
I trust it shall be better in time coming."

Written at the foot of the effusion is the request, "I beseech you that this bill be not seen by none earthly creature save only yourself." It is gratifying to be able to add that the monetary difficulties were in due time arranged, and that the Norfolk squire became the lovesick lady's husband.

There is nothing to show that the lady in this case sent her lover a present with the valentine. It may not have been the fashion quite so early as that to do so; but the custom prevailed in the following century, the present usually taking the form of some article of personal decoration. In an inventory of Henry VIII.'s time we find "5 valentines of goldsmith's work." The custom of giving a present on this day probably arose in this way:—When a party of young men and women met together on St. Valentine's Eve, they would each write their names on a slip of paper and put the slips into two heaps, one containing the men's names and the other the women's. Drawing would then take place; a member of the party taking a slip first from one heap and then from the other. The two slips were now fastened together, and the parties so coupled became "valentines" for the evening at least, possibly often for longer. The part of the game which doubtless rendered it so popular with the lady players was that the man might relieve himself at once of his obligations as "valentine" by making a gift to the lady whose name was coupled with his. In the seventeenth century the game was most popular in the richest society in London; it may be guessed, therefore, how costly were the presents bestowed by men whose endeavour seems to have been to vie with each other in extravagance. A warrant dated in 1629, with Charles I.'s signature upon it, directs the payment to the King's jeweller of £25 "for a valentine of golde sett with 2 poynted diamonds and 38 smaller diamonds." In the reckless days of Charles II. Pepys notes that Miss Steuart, who subsequently became Duchess of Richmond, had two valentines: one which the Duke of York gave her was a jewel of about £800, and the other, given her by Lord Mandeville, was a ring worth £300. Pepys himself seems generally to have made his Valentine's Day present for about £5; his wife was often the recipient of a valuable piece of jewellery as a valentine. What form the King's valentines took at this time we do not know; but there is no reason to believe that he allowed himself to be outdone in the cost of his presents. Old Lady Wentworth, writing to her son in January, 1711, (rejoicing that the expenses of Christmas gifts were over) says:—"I remember King Charles II. did use to give New Year's gifts and vallentyes, but it was soe vast an expense they were bothe left ofe." James I. was not the kind of man one would fancy caring much about choosing or sending valentines. Yet on the 12th of February, 1621, the Marquess of Buckingham writes from Newmarket to Lord Cranfield, telling him to let the Lord Treasurer know that "the King's will is that, if either the Lord Steward, the Lord Chamberlain, or the Marquis of Hamilton, or any of the Council, do intend to trouble or wait on his Majesty at Newmarket to interrupt his choosing of valentines, you give them in his Majesty's name a prohibition."

SCHOOL WORKSHOPS IN IRELAND.

"THE Commissioners encourage industrial instruction in National schools in all suitable cases." So runs No. 8 of the "Rules and Regulations of the Commissioners of National Education in Ireland." But there cannot be many suitable cases, apparently. The only industrial operations taught in the schools are embroidery and other advanced kinds of needlework. However, we may discern symptoms of a better policy in the system of handicraft instruction lately introduced into the curriculum of the Marlborough-street Training College for Teachers, Dublin, and in the extension of that system to the pupils of the Dublin Central Model Schools. This, indeed, is an application of the Glasnevin principle to handicraft. First the teachers are taught, and then they go down to their schools and teach the children.

Carpentry and joinery are the chief "trades" engaged in. The accurate use of the saw, ability to prepare wood-surfaces, to make sound joints, to measure correctly (no easy matter), to sharpen and "set" tools—these are scraps of mechanical knowledge which would be of use to any man, and especially to the class from which the Irish elementary schoolboy is drawn. The instruction is carefully limited to matters which almost necessarily belong to every household; and when everything is learnt, it probably amounts to no more than a proficiency in making simple articles—such as clothes-pegs, a stool, or a box—and in mending ordinary breakages. Even the latter is no small gain. The proverb about "a stitch in time" ought to have a version to suit furniture. Then glazing, soldering, map-mounting, painting, locksmithing, and picture-framing are taught: and we wish we could add to them basket-weaving and straw-plaiting.

Next to the scope of the instruction comes the method by which it is given. A workshop has been erected, tools have been purchased, and classes organized. The first lesson is in the handling of tools; then the sharpening and use of them. The plane, the saw, the chisel, the hammer, the glue-pot, the square, and the mitre-box are taken up in the order named. Later on come the glazier's diamond and the soldering-iron. The articles made by the young men are described as generally somewhat rough, but none the less useful for all that; and the aim is to teach the men rather to do a badly-needed job with the rough or imperfect materials at hand than leave it undone because materials suitable in all respects cannot be procured. Happily "the handicraft class is extremely popular among the students; they go at their work each day with great zest and eagerness, and towards the end they show the utmost desire to secure certificates." Yet only one hour a week is allowed to each student for instruction and practice. One could wish more time were given them; for, at the two examinations which have been held, only 37 per cent. were able to obtain certificates. And the possession of a certificate means for the teacher that he can teach practical handicraft in his school, and earn 5s. for each pupil who passes satisfactorily at the end of the year.

Now we come to the schools, and take as an example the handicraft class which has been going on for a little more than a year in the Central Model Schools, Dublin. The pupils must belong to the fifth or sixth class and their instruction in handicraft extends over two years and is given for one hour on four mornings of the week. As the master, however, only takes half the boys at a time, they really get only two hours of instruction a week. The course is the same as in the training-college for teachers, and the success of the experiment is amazing. No paltry 37 per cent. of passes in the case of the Model School boys: they passed seventy-two of them out of seventy-nine. That means that practically all of them were fairly skilled in the use of a dozen of the commonest tools; that they could do any mechanical job about a house or farm; that they had acquired the habit of attending to things that wanted attendance; that all the mental, physical, and material advantages derivable from honest well-directed manual labour were placed within their grasp.

One is tempted to linger over the growth of this little class. Observe how cautiously the beginning was made. The fifth and sixth class pupils were brought together, and the nature of the intended instruction was explained to them. This must have been done with great tact, for the boys might easily have rebelled at the notion of being set to work like so many convicts. Instead of that, they took to the idea at once. They were told to consult their parents on the matter and bring word on a certain day. All brought a cordial assent save one, and he was the son of a police pensioner, who thought his boy "above shavings." But soon he too yielded to the general attraction. Then came the buying of tools and materials. "Bang went" £6 13s. 1d. for tools; then deal board, sawn up into ha'p'orths and penn'orths, had to be procured, with glue, nails, screws, hinges, locks, and what not. All this must have been glorious fun for the boys. At last the whole thing is in working order; and there it is to-day, an example that should be followed in every school in Ireland.

This is the opinion of the Marlborough-street professors, from whose report all the facts of this narration are drawn. They look forward to the time when handicraft instruction will become general in National schools, and suggest measures for the cheap supply of good tools and materials. Some of the remarks of the professors are too pleasant not to be quoted. "Even already there are plain indications that this handicraft instruction exercises a beneficial influence on the home-life of the children. Some tell how they put locks and hinges on doors or presses, others have put in panes of glass, put handles in brushes and hammers, screwed up loose door-handles, made or repaired dog-houses, repaired and painted garden-palings, etc. Some have made cricket-bats; and there seems to be a flourishing manufacture of home-made toys." Of course all this handiness will be of inestimable use to them in after-life, especially to such of them as may emigrate to the colonies. Handicraft, like walking, once learnt is never forgotten.

ROBERT DENNIS.

WANTED, A MEDICAL ASSISTANT.

(By A DOCTOR.)

Six years ago I bought a practice in the south-west of England at the usual price—a year's purchase. It was only worth buying because the post of medical attendant to two large collieries went with it, on two conditions: firstly, I had to marry; and, secondly, I must keep an assistant. This preference on the part of the public for married doctors is natural, but not perhaps always wise; for the bachelor is generally more of a professional enthusiast, and he does not require to be so particular about his bills. However, I fulfilled the first condition promptly. The second has not proved such an easy matter.

Not that applicants for medical assistantships are not plentiful. In these six years I have had fifteen of them. I advertised in our two medical journals for my first one, and had fifty-three applications in the course of the week. Besides these letters, I had many others from friends of certain of the applicants urging the latter's claims. The photographs I gave to my wife to pass judgment on. It is customary in our profession when advertising for an assistant to ask candidates to enclose their photographs; personal interviews not being always convenient, and patients setting as much value on a doctor's appearance as on his "manner." One of the best men of my year has never been able to make a living out of medicine because he is humpbacked. Of course we return the photographs. I remember one of these applicants sent his father's portrait because he did not have one of himself: "I am considered to take after my father," he explained. Several were so anxious for the post that they came long distances to see me, paying their own expenses, though £60 and board was all I offered. (That, however, is considered a fair salary.)

My first assistant was one of those who saw me personally—a bright-looking Irishman, who, my wife thought, would be a pleasant man to have about the house; while as for me, I thought he had just the bluff hearty manner that would be most taking in a rather poverty-stricken neighbourhood. He turned out a very wild Irishman indeed, however; and his cheerfulness at death-beds was far too much of a good thing. As the great majority of our patients belonged to "clubs" and so got their medicine free, they demanded a great deal of doctoring; and I always warned my assistants against slighting their ailments, however imaginary these might be. Cough-mixtures are the great cure for such diseases, and so long as you get the bottles back the cost counts for nothing. I had one assistant with a perfect genius for concocting cough-mixtures of the most horribly nauseous taste but quite harmless. There was trouble between him and certain patients; he trying to disgust them with medicine, they seeming to like it better the nastier it was. My Irishman was too fond of blarney. He would gravely tell a patient that she was suffering from the Catastrophe-on-board-the-Bellerophon, or fear that it was a case of Evacuation-of-the-Equatorial-Provinces. For the first month he seemed to be well liked, and the patients were considerably impressed by the nature of their ailments. Of course he only talked in this way to the most ignorant, who were imagining illnesses because they belonged to clubs and wanted something for their money. He was a man well up in his work and very trustworthy in genuine cases of distress. One thing he forgot, however. These people did not understand that he was chaffing them when he said it was a case of Diana-of-the-Cross-ways; but they were so much impressed by the name that they remembered it, and boasted of their ailment to their friends. Thus my assistant's little jokes got to the ears of one of my rival practitioners, who made the most of them. After that the Irishman fell into bad odour, and I had to find a substitute. I heard a characteristic story of him not long ago. Last summer, while on a walking tour, he happened to be at hand when a man was accidentally shot by a sportsman. He removed the bullet, and the man was then conveyed to the nearest infirmary, where they did not know that the operation had already taken place. He called next day to see how the sufferer was getting on, and found the doctor probing vainly for the bullet. "The most extraordinary thing I ever heard of," he said: "where can the bullet be?" "Well," said my Irishman, "since you ask me, I believe it is in my waistcoat pocket."

My second assistant was more satisfactory, but he left me just as we were beginning to appreciate each other. That is the worst of a good medical assistant; he stays with you no time unless you take him into partnership. Yet hardly the worst either. The worst is when he starts in practice for himself in your neighbourhood as soon as you have given him a connection. This, of course, is very "unprofessional;" but it is sometimes done, and one of my assistants did it. The man who will take such an advantage of you will go further and "undersell" you. The gentleman I speak of made a fair practice for himself by charging 1s. 6d. a visit as against the half-crown of his neighbours. I had one assistant who was dubbed the "baby" doctor by the people whom he attended. He never knew why, and so was proud of the title, thinking it had been conferred upon him for his skill in midwifery cases. In reality he was so called originally because of his shortness of stature and painfully juvenile appearance. At least, his air of youth was painful to me; for many patients told me flatly that they would not be attended by a boy. In point of fact he was really nearly as old as myself. Of all my assistants the ones with "theories" were the most aggravating. The medical graduate generally does have theories, and it becomes the business of the first doctor in practice whom he assists to knock them out of him. One assistant of mine had nothing in his head but the relation between mind and body. It is a very interesting subject, but the hard-worked general practitioner has little time for philosophizing over it. No sooner, however, did this man enter upon a case than he began to inquire into the patient's private matters, and as soon as he heard of a broken-off love-match or loss of money he was ready to believe that that was the cause of the ailment, whatever it might happen to be.

One of the advantages—in many cases it might be written one of the few advantages—of keeping an assistant is that you can give him more

than his share of the night-work. After I had had experience of a few assistants I found it better to let them board outside than live in the house; but one, who was otherwise a capable man, had to be brought in because there was no getting him out of bed unless I was on the spot. He would answer the night-bell promptly enough, and promise to follow the ringer as soon as he had put on his clothes. He went straight to bed again, however, in order to get himself well awake before dressing, and generally fell asleep. A Scotchman whom I had for a short time was the antipodes of my wild Irishman. He was the most conscientious man I ever knew, and lost me a number of patients by being unnecessarily plain-spoken. Another trouble with assistants is that when they come to you they are generally unable to ride, sometimes not even to drive. They have lost me more than one good horse. I had one young fellow who left at the end of a fortnight because my practice was not sufficiently "social" for him. It was funny to think of a man coming among my colliers and paupers for "society." Of course these raw young men shake down into good practitioners in time; but it is no joke to have the training of some of them.

MUSIC.

To double the price of admission on Saturday to the Crystal Palace Concert was surely a mistake: as, indeed, was proved by the comparatively empty condition of the concert-room. At the usual charges there would, beyond doubt, have been a full attendance, for the programme was very attractive. For the first time at the Crystal Palace were to be performed two of the principal works produced at the Leeds Festival of last autumn: Mr. Mackenzie's "Story of Sayid" and Mr. Villiers Stanford's setting of "The Revenge" of Tennyson. Mr. Manns being still at Glasgow directing the Winter Concerts of that music-loving city, each of the two composers whose works were to be presented had been asked to direct his own composition. Mr. Stanford's choral ballad and Mr. Mackenzie's cantata had been bracketed together on previous occasions: and they were well suited for presentation at the same concert; the delicacy and refinement of the Oriental work (Oriental, at least, by its subject and often by the character of the melodies employed) and the intentional indispensable vigour of the thoroughly English one forming an agreeable contrast. Hitherto it had been the practice to accord the doubtful honour of precedence to Mr. Villiers Stanford's choral ballad, which, being short, ran the risk of being missed by a considerable number of concert-goers; the public, meanwhile, taking care to arrive in time for the longer and more important work. On Saturday "The Story of Sayid" was played first, and when it was at an end there was still plenty of time for hearing "The Revenge." With both cantata and "choral ballad" the Novello choir, which was again—as whenever one of the Leeds novelties is performed—at the Palace, is now thoroughly familiar; and it makes up in accuracy for what, compared with the Leeds choir, it wants in enthusiasm. No exception, however, of any kind could be taken on Saturday to the singing of the beautiful "Maidens' Chorus" in Mr. Mackenzie's work. It was simply perfect, and the impression made upon the audience was such as might have been expected. The "Solemn March," too, was loud'y and most deservedly applauded; nor, considering that the principal vocalists were Miss Annie Marriott, Mr. Barton McGuckin, and Mr. Vaughan-Edwards, can it be necessary to add that full justice was done to the solo parts. Mr. McGuckin was especially successful in the air "Where sets the sun," and Miss Annie Marriott, who sang the music of the Princess Ilmas for the first time, sang with great effect "First of his prophet's warriors he." This concert was the first of the after-Christmas series; or, rather, it was an extra concert—the first of those given after Christmas, but not included in the Crystal Palace series. Otherwise, as a matter of course, the ordinary charges would not have been doubled.

At the Symphony Concert of last week Miss Nettie Carpenter—a clever young American violinist, known not many years since as a successful player of show-pieces at Promenade Concerts—gave a highly finished performance of Max Bruch's concerto. She has been studying under that eminent master Señor Sarasate, and has profited by his tuition more even than might have been expected. Miss Carpenter may already be looked upon as one of the leaders in the army of female violinists that is gradually being formed. Another very interesting feature in the programme was Mr. Villiers Stanford's overture to the "Canterbury Pilgrims;" an opera written evidently under the influence of the "Meistersinger," which three years ago, at Drury Lane, gained from Mr. Carl Rosa's supporters a large measure of esteem, but failed to secure a run. If the very latest system of operatic construction should be generally adopted, and the overture (together with all *entr'acte* music) discarded as not sufficiently dramatic, not intimately enough connected with the subject which the composer is treating, concert-goers and music-lovers will be deprived of such interesting symphonic pieces as the just-mentioned overture to the "Canterbury Pilgrims," and of the fifty-years-old but still popular overture (by Nicolai) to "The Merry Wives of Windsor," which was also played. Numbers of operas might be cited which are not nearly so well known as their own overtures ("Der Freischütz," "Guillaume Tell," "Tannhäuser," for instance); while there are others (with "Fidelio," "Euryanthe," and "The Siege of Corinth" among them) which but for their overtures would not be known at all. At the Wagner Memorial Concert, announced by Mr. Henschel for to-morrow, orchestral preludes and other symphonic pieces from Wagner's operas will, as a matter of course, be included; and one of them not before heard—or at least not in this country—is a "study" for an overture to "Tristan und Isolde."

These remarks are suggested partly by the revival of the most lifelike part of Mr. Villiers Stanford's "Canterbury Pilgrims," partly by Signor Verdi's rigid abstention in "Otello" from all symphonic music alike before the opera as a whole and before each and all of its acts. It is true that

Verdi has not prefixed an overture to any of his operas, and that, with the exception of the very beautiful, very impressive movement for the violins which precedes "La Traviata," he has written no very remarkable orchestral introductions. But he never before set his face absolutely against these *hors d'œuvres*, as he doubtless considers them; though they may often be regarded not only as an agreeable but as a substantial part of the work itself.

PAUL DE SAINT-VICTOR.*

THE late M. Paul de Saint-Victor, though an interesting and, in his way, learned writer, was very little known in England. His collected essays, "Hommes et Dieux," were well received here, according to his biographer M. Delzant; but it may be said that the majority even of literary persons were ignorant of his works. As to his life, it was only understood that he knew Victor Hugo and Théophile Gautier well. M. Alidor Delzant has made a very curious study of the career and character of Paul de Saint-Victor. His book is not faultless, and he spells English with all the amusing inaccuracy of a Frenchman. For example, that pleasing fiend Puck becomes "Puch" with M. Delzant. To be sure, Paul de Saint-Victor himself had written or printed, "Evil, bee tow mi good."

Paul de Saint-Victor was born in 1825, and died in 1881. He came of a Creole family, which somehow left Scotland with James II. How a Creole family came to be settled in Scotland in 1688 is a great mystery. In 1844 Saint-Victor began to write in the French papers. In 1848 he became for a short time private secretary to Lamartine, and wrote official letters to minor poets, announcing that M. de Lamartine had read their books with deep emotion, but was sorry he could do nothing for them. Saint-Victor gave up politics when Lamartine fell, attached himself to the eccentric M. Barbey d'Aurevilly, and wrote in a paper, *La Mode*, which reminds one of Murger's "Echarpe d'Iris." At this time Maurice de Guérin (not really very like Mr. Matthew Arnold's Maurice de Guérin, but "a little gay") was the idol of Saint-Victor's literary fancy. Saint-Victor did not enter the vicious Bohemian circle, but was a man of *salons* and white gloves. Yet in society he was often absent, rude, and snubbing. He seems to have had the extraordinary sensitiveness of very proud and very shy men. However cordial over-night, he was cold and distant next morning. He quarrelled for seven long years with the brothers De Goncourt because they had said that the Greek classics were created to enable schoolmasters to earn their daily bread. The *mot* was silly enough, but it was still less wise to get angry over it. But Saint-Victor tolerated no banter of the classics. As he attributes the "innumerable smile of the sea-waves" to Homer, and quotes Juvenal incorrectly, we may doubt if his zeal was according to knowledge. He became a great ally of Théophile Gautier. Both admired Mlle. Alice Osy, who, however, says they were mere *dérivés*; they sonneted her, but *rien de plus*. This lady's confessions are so curious that future philologists will discover her real name to have been Alice Osée. There are several letters to a lady of position who "had goodnesses" for Paul. He nearly quarrelled with her because she did not care for Stendhal's novels. He certainly was very literary in his loves, though he used to wander through the *bal de l'Opéra* "comme un faune dans un bois." Then came a friendship with Victor Hugo, in which these excellent men outdid what had previously been achieved in mutual admiration. There was no reason why they should not admire each other, and say so in that astonishingly picturesque language with which they were familiar. Victor Hugo compares his own work to the building of the palace, and his friend's criticism to the hauling up of the banners.

Banners yellow, glorious, golden
On the roof that float and flow.

But, to continue Poe's lines,

This, all this, was in the olden
Times long ago!

and probably their conduct would now be blamed by the moral and censorious. The poet told the critic that his reviews were like the track of a flame of fire through the night and the darkness. "Les deux dons suprêmes, incubation et rayonnement, vous les avez," cries Olympio, and his gratitude is Olympian.

With the two De Goncourts Saint-Victor was for ever fighting and then burying the tomahawk. "Because I don't care for Homer as much as you do," said the amateur of the eighteenth century, "is that a reason why we should stare at each other like two stuffed owls?" The real phrase is "comme des chiens de faïence;" but the paraphrase seems more idiomatic. "Hommes et Dieux," a collection, revised and carefully edited, of newspaper articles, came out in 1866-67. Michelet and Victor Hugo received with raptures this brilliant book. A copy on large paper was illustrated for the author by Doré, Victor Hugo, Bida, Jules Breton, Harpignies, and many others. Could not M. Delzant publish these illustrations? "Hommes et Dieux" will always be Saint-Victor's chief title to remembrance. His "Deux Masques" is long, verbose, and padded with superfluities.

Saint-Victor was not a member of the Academy, though he was only opposed by MM. Mazade, Maxime Du Camp, Laboulaye, Wallon, and Ratisbonne. He was annoyed at his failure, his health forsook him, and he died. Perhaps people will say "the Academy killed him." Even if it did, one should not be so easily killed; but probably his malady was in any case fatal and inevitable. Fortunately M. Delzant means to republish more of Saint-Victor's essays, and then it will be possible to judge him better. He is a great rhetorician, a sincere amateur of art, and severe in all things literary, except in his rather Corinthian and explosive style.

* "Paul de Saint Victor." Par Alidor Delzant. (Paris: Lévy. London: Trübner and Co.)

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FOURTH EDITION.

FRESH TROUBLES IN BURMA.

A CHINESE INVASION.—ATTITUDE OF THE SHANS.

(CENTRAL NEWS TELEGRAM.)

BOMBAY, Monday.—A telegram has just reached Bombay reporting that 3,000 Chinese troops have crossed the frontier of Upper Burma and are massed at a point just within the boundary. The report further states that Chinese emissaries have proceeded to the frontier of the Shan States demanding in plain terms that the Shans shall choose between avowing themselves friends and allies of the Chinese Empire and declaring themselves the enemies of that country.

Theebaw Tsawbwa has declared himself a firm ally of the British, and will stand or fall with ourselves. The Shans, however, between fear and suspicion, are in a state of perplexity. They have before them proposals for alliance and submission from England, France, China, and Siam, in addition to the intrigues and persuasions of the adjoining Burmese races, who still hold out against British rule. There do not, however, appear to have been any overtures of recent date on the part of France.

A native leader, Prince Limbin, is now setting up an independent kingdom. This will temporarily add to the difficulties of the situation.

RUPTURE BETWEEN PORTUGAL AND ZANZIBAR.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.)

ZANZIBAR, Feb. 14.—The Governor-General of the Portuguese colony of Mozambique has formally demanded the cession of certain territory which was recognized by the Anglo-German agreement as belonging to the Sultan of Zanzibar. The Governor-General requested a definitive reply within twenty-four hours. The Sultan declared that he must refer the matter to the friendly Powers, whereupon the Portuguese flag was hauled down at the Consulate here. Diplomatic relations have been broken off between Portugal and Zanzibar, and some Portuguese war-vessels have left for Tungi, which they are reported to have threatened with bombardment.

THE IRISH PROSECUTIONS.—TRIAL TO-DAY.

At the Dublin Commission to-day, before Mr. Justice Murphy, proceedings were commenced against Mr. John Dillon, M.P., Mr. William O'Brien, Mr. Daniel Crilly, M.P., Mr. David Sheehy, M.P., and Mr. William Redmond, M.P., against whom the grand jury found true bills for having, to the injury of landlords, conspired to induce tenants, in breach of their contracts of tenancy, to refuse to pay the rents which they were and might become lawfully bound to pay. The Solicitor-General, Serjeant O'Brien, Mr. Gerard, Q.C., and Mr. Hart were for the Crown; Mr. Samuel Walker, Q.C. (who had been Attorney-General under Mr. Gladstone's Government), Mr. D. B. Sullivan, Mr. Adams, Mr. Healy, M.P., Mr. Leamy, and Mr. Harrington, M.P., were for the accused. The court was densely crowded. All the defendants were present with the exception of Mr. William Redmond, with reference to whose illness Dr. Kenny, M.P., gave evidence. On the defendants being asked to plead Mr. Walker applied for liberty to put in a plea in abatement, on the ground that the grand jury had not been summoned according to the statute, and that if they had been regularly summoned none of the twelve jurors would have been empanelled. The Solicitor-General replied that upon that issue of fact there must be a general verdict for the Crown. Mr. Justice Murphy said that when a man pleaded to a matter of fact judgment must be final, for every man was presumed to know whether the statement he made was true or false. The Solicitor-General said the plea was embarrassing, for it averred that no twelve men on the grand jury panel had been regularly summoned in the manner or form or in the rotation prescribed by the act. Was it admitted that the names of the jurors had been taken from the special jurors' book? Mr. Walker said it was. Mr. Serjeant O'Brien, for the Crown, said that whether they took it by plea or demurrer, the only point was as to whether the question of rotation applied to the summoning of the Grand Jury. Mr. Walker: Precisely. The Solicitor-General and Mr. Serjeant O'Brien then retired to consider the plea.

SIR HENRY WOLFF'S MISSION.

Mr. Stephen Williamson put the following on the notice-paper of the House of Commons on Thursday, it being arranged that the question should be asked to-night:—To ask the First Lord of the Treasury if his attention has been called to an article in the *St. James's Gazette*, which characterizes the mission of Sir Henry Drummond Wolff as "mysterious in its origin, and costly in its maintenance:" and, whether her Majesty's Government are considering the propriety of speedily putting an end to the very heavy burden on the taxpayers which Sir Henry Drummond Wolff's appointment imposes. In to-day's notice-paper the question appears in the following form:—To ask the First Lord of the Treasury whether her Majesty's Government are considering the propriety of speedily putting an end to the burden on the taxpayers which Sir Henry Drummond Wolff's mission imposes.

THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO BIRMINGHAM.

At a meeting to-day of the Birmingham Public Jubilee Committee, it was announced by the mayor that her Majesty had been compelled to alter the date of her visit to Birmingham, previously arranged for the 14th of May, to some date towards the end of March. Wednesday, the 23rd, was mentioned as probable.

ARREST OF SUPPOSED MOONLIGHTERS.

Late on Saturday night a party of supposed Moonlighters, some being disguised, were surprised by a police patrol near Brosna. On being challenged to surrender, some fled; but eight were captured without resistance, handcuffed, and taken to Listowel on Sunday. Captain Massy, resident magistrate, before whom they were brought, remanded them until Saturday next. No arms were found in their possession.

GREAT FIRE AT BATTERSEA.—EXCITING SCENES.

A serious fire broke out in Battersea early this morning. It originated in a boiler-house on the premises of Mr. Draper, firewood dealer, of Wellington-road, near the Albert Bridge. Fanned by the wind, the flames rapidly gained on the main portion of the building, and ultimately extended to the yard in which the wood was piled up in racks. For half an hour or more the flames raged without check, as, owing to the telephone being out of order, aid could only be obtained by means of a mounted messenger, and to the consequent delay is due much destruction which might doubtless have been prevented. When the first fire-engine—that stationed at Battersea—arrived the fire had gained a firm hold of the timber, and the engines which arrived in succession from the southern and western suburbs, were used for hours without much apparent effect. Abutting on Mr. Draper's premises are the stables in which the Earl of Shrewsbury's cab-horses—about 300 in number—are kept. Soon after the alarm had been given the stablemen fearing that the flames might spread to the stable loosed the horses from their stalls and they ran out into the streets. About a hundred of them becoming frightened at the noise of the engines at work, and the shouts of the crowd, immediately stampeded the streets in groups of from twelve to twenty, running wildly in all directions. They were, however, captured by the police and railway men, and lodged in the police-yard and adjacent stables. One horse on being liberated came into violent collision with a van standing outside the gates of the yard, and immediately dropped to the ground. It was found that its back was broken, and it was slaughtered. The fire burned fiercely until nearly eight o'clock, when it was partially subdued. At noon the wood stack was still burning, and seven land steamers and three floats were pouring water on the burning mass. The whole of Mr. Draper's stock of timber—which was estimated by some to be worth £10,000—was burned or rendered useless, and the greater part of a brick building, together with some machinery and implements, was destroyed. During the earlier part of the fire the illumination could be seen for miles around, and enormous crowds assembled. Panic prevailed for a time in the neighbourhood, and the people living in close proximity to the burning premises began to remove their goods for safety.

The official report thus describes the damage:—"A building of two floors, about 165 ft. by 30 ft. (used as engine and boiler house, chopping-rooms, and stores), and contents burned out and roof off, two stacks of firewood (one about 100 ft. by 80 ft., and 60 ft. high, and the other about 80 ft. by 80 ft., and 48 ft. high), and stock in yard partly destroyed; stables and dwelling-house adjoining and contents damaged by smoke and water." The roofs of some adjoining property have also been injured.

LATEST PARTICULARS.

The fire was still burning this afternoon, and although the engines have been constantly pouring immense volumes of water upon the burning mass, it is thought that none of the property can be saved. During the morning some narrow escapes occurred. About noon, the wind having dropped, dense clouds of smoke hung over the neighbourhood. The many thousands of persons congregated near the spot and on the temporary wooden bridge close by were almost without any warning enveloped in the black smoke, and a great rush was made from the bridge, the people fearing that they would be suffocated. Many elderly persons and young children were somewhat badly crushed. About noon a large corner of the stack nearest to the river fell, sending the sparks high into the air; and, if the wind had been blowing at that moment in the opposite direction, the consequences must have been appalling, as almost next door are large oil-works, which were themselves the scene of a conflagration a short time since. The damage is now estimated at £16,000.

THE HOXTON MURDER.

The officers of the Criminal Investigation Department have not up to the present time been successful in apprehending the man Currell. Early this morning a telegram was received from the Dartford police, stating that a man answering the description of Currell was found applying for lodgings at a common lodging-house and had been taken to the station pending inquiries. Detective-inspector Peel, in consequence of this information, has sent some persons to whom Currell is well known to see whether they can identify the man.

On Saturday morning a letter, which has been identified as being in the handwriting of the supposed murderer, was received by Mr. Morton, whose coat Currell stole from the house at Flask-walk, Hampstead, on his leaving on Thursday evening, and which was afterwards found to have been pawned for 5s. with Mr. Henry Lawrence, pawnbroker, of Upper-street, Islington, in the name of John Morton, of John-street, Islington. In this letter is enclosed the pawnbroker's duplicate for the stolen coat, while the writer states that if Mr. Morton would go to his aunt, Mrs. Thorne, of New-end-square, Hampstead, she would give him the money and interest to redeem the coat and that his aunt would pay the landlady, Mrs. Smith, what was owing for rent. The letter was given to the police. Currell when at his lodgings anxiously read the evening papers, and was noticed to cut something from them, and these are supposed to be the accounts of the particulars of the murder and his description. No one had any suspicion of Currell until after he had left the house. On Saturday morning a telegram was received that a man answering the description of Currell in every particular was seen in the Ladbroke-grove-road inquiring his way to Kensington, and that it was then close upon 3 A.M. A later telegram was received announcing that a man also answering to the description went into a refreshment-house at North Finchley, and that after having some refreshment he left and went in the direction of New Southgate, and, further, that for the purpose of disguising himself he had been shaved and wore spectacles. In the afternoon a rumour was circulated that the police had succeeded in apprehending Currell; but, upon inquiries being made, it was ascertained that a man giving the name of Currell had been taken in custody. This man, on the previous day, had gone into a watchmaker's shop and left a watch to be repaired; and, he giving the name of Currell, and as he resembled the description of the suspected murderer, instructions were given by Detective-inspector William Peel that if the man called he was to be detained and the police communicated with. On Saturday afternoon the man called for the watch, on which he was taken to the Dalston-lane police station, where, after being detained for some time, it was clearly shown that he was not the man wanted, and he was allowed to go. At Bow-street police station information was given that a man believed to be Currell had the previous evening attempted to pawn, at 52, Broad-street, Bloomsbury, a white metal oval snuff-box. Yesterday another telegram was received from Richmond stating that a man resembling Currell was seen there, and that when he noticed that some men were watching him he ran away and was lost sight of.

MR. GLADSTONE.

Mr. Gladstone will leave Hawarden Castle for London towards the end of this week. He will occupy Lord Aberdeen's town house for the session. Mr. Gladstone read both lessons at yesterday's morning service at Hawarden Church.

THE HIGH RIP GANG.

George Whitehead, belonging to the High Rip Gang, was sentenced this morning by Mr. Justice Hawkins at Liverpool to five years' penal servitude for stabbing a man on Aintree Racecourse. Mr. Justice Hawkins said he felt bound, in the interests of society, to pass a severe sentence.

LORD ANNESLEY'S DOWN TENANTRY.

Lord Annesley, in reply to petitions for a reduction of rent from over 3,000 of his county Down tenantry, writes from India, where he is now staying, stating that no reduction will be granted, and that if the rent be not immediately paid ejectment proceedings will be instituted. The tenantry intend to hold a mass meeting to discuss the matter.

THE STRIKES IN AMERICA.

A Reuter's telegram from New York says that the longshoremen and other labourers employed about the docks, who were ordered on Saturday by the Executive Committee of the Knights of Labour to return to work, insist upon doing so in a body, failing which they declare that they will resume the strike.

ALLEGED FRAUDS ON YOUNG FOREIGNERS.

At the Westminster Police Court to-day, a young man, who spoke English very imperfectly, applied to Mr. D'Eyncourt for advice. In November last he saw an advertisement in a Brussels paper for a young man who wished to enter a wine agent's office in the west of London, where the business would be taught. It was pointed out that it was a good opportunity to learn English, and a fixed salary and lodging were offered by the advertiser, who required a cash security of £50. The applicant entered into correspondence with the advertiser, and eventually he came to London and gave him £50, half of which he had saved and half borrowed. He was to be paid at the rate of 29s. per week, and get 6 per cent. for his money; but he could get nothing now—not even his salary. Since he had been in London the advertisements for young men with money had been continued in the Belgian papers, and several had come to London in consequence; but, finding how matters stood, they refused to pay anything to the advertisers, who had practically no business. Mr. D'Eyncourt said that, as the matter was presented to him, he had no jurisdiction, and the applicant must go to the county court and bring an action.

THIS DAY'S LONDON BETTING.

WATERLOO CUP.—100 to 8 agst Mr. Hornby's nomination (t and off), 100 to 7 agst Mr. Gladstone's (t and off), 25 to 1 agst Mr. Hyde's (t), 20 to 1 agst Mr. Clift's (t), 600 to 100 agst Miss Glendyne all in (off); 100 to 15 t and w.

LINCOLNSHIRE HANDICAP.—100 to 7 agst Loved One (t and off), 100 to 6 agst Chislehurst (t and off), 100 to 6 agst Corunna (off); 20 to 1 w), 25 to 1 agst Pizarro (t), 33 to 1 agst Cardinal Wolsey (t), 33 to 1 agst Gay Hermit (t), 33 to 1 agst King Monmouth (t).

GRAND NATIONAL STEEPCHASE.—9 to 1 agst Roquefort (t), 20 to 1 agst Belloa (t).

TWO THOUSAND GUINEAS.—6 to 1 agst Grandison (t).

DERBY.—100 to 6 agst Timothy (t).

Two four-line whips are issued this morning to Ministerialists. One is from Mr. Akers Douglas requesting the attendance of members not later than six o'clock this evening, as divisions are certain, and the other is issued by Messrs. Ewart and Johnston and Sir J. P. Corry in connection with the Belfast Main Drainage Bill.

Her Majesty has intimated her intention to become a patron of the National Hospital for the Paralyzed and Epileptic (Albany Memorial), Queen-square, and to send a donation to its funds.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer will be entertained to dinner on the 22nd inst. at the St. George's Club, Hanover-square, by Lord Bateman, the president of the club.

Edward Byrne, whose death, at the age of eighty-eight years, at Leeds, is announced, was the oldest known Waterloo pensioner.

It is stated that the Local Government Board are about to issue an order to all public vaccinators in the kingdom prescribing extra precautions to be taken with regard to the vaccination of children, and encouraging the use of calf lymph.

The Admiralty have issued instructions for H.M.S. *Acorn* to be commissioned on the 22nd inst. for service on the west coast of Africa.

A telegram from Sydney says that the Honourable W. B. Dalley has had a stroke of apoplexy, and is in a critical condition.

During the third day's play in the match between the English cricket team in Australia and Eighteen of Newcastle, the wicket was very treacherous, and eventually the Eighteen were got out for 135, and had to follow on. At the second attempt they lost thirteen wickets for 109 runs, and, consequently, the match was drawn, in favour of the Englishmen.

Mdme. Tussaud and Sons have set up a Papal group in one of their galleries. It contains portrait-models of Pope Leo XIII., Cardinals Newman and Manning, Monsignor Kopp, St. Francis with monks, Misericordia, Roman peasants, and a body of the famous Swiss Guard.

THIS DAY'S MONEY MARKET.

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

The demand for money in the open market is fair and short loans are quoted 2½ to 2¾ per cent., the rate of discount being firm at 2½ per cent. in consequence of Saturday's withdrawal of gold from the Bank.

Quarter past Two.

Business in the Stock Exchange is very quiet to-day in all departments, and the tendency of prices is a little irregular. Consols are steady and 1-16 per

cent. better for the account. Home Railways opened with a rather dull tendency and are now somewhat firmer; but there is no animation. American Securities were firm this morning to accord with Saturday's improvement in New York; but prices are not in all cases at their best points. Grand Trunk of Canada stocks opened slightly better, but have since fallen away, and are now flat. Mexican Railway stocks are steady but quiet. Foreign Government Securities are very inactive, but the tone is fairly good, although prices show little alteration.

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

In the English Funds, Consols for money are unchanged at 100½ to 100¾, but the price for the account (March) has advanced 1-16 to 100¾ to 100¾. Reduced and New Three per Cents. are unchanged at 101 to 101½, and New Two-and-a-Half per Cents. at 88¾ to 88¾.

In Home Railways, Great Eastern has improved ¼, Great Northern Ordinary ¼, London and Brighton A ¼, Midland ¼, and South-Eastern Deferred ¼; but Caledonian has declined ¼, and Metropolitan ¼. In Canadian and Foreign Railways, Grand Trunk Ordinary has declined ¼, the First Preference stock ¼, the Second ¼, the Third ¼, the Guaranteed ¼, and Canadian Pacific shares ¼; but Mexican Ordinary has improved ¼, the First Preference ¼, and the Second ¼.

In Foreign Government Bonds, Egyptian Unified has advanced ¼, Portuguese Three per Cents. ¼, Russian of 1873 ¼, Spanish Four per Cents. ¼, Turkish Defence ¼, and Uruguay Unified ¼.

In American Securities, Pennsylvania Bonds have advanced ¼, Milwaukee ¼, Lake Shore ¼, Louisville 1½, New York Central ¾, Erie ½, Ontario ¾, Ohio ½, Reading ½, and Union Pacific ½; but Denver has fallen ½, and Erie Second Mortgage ¼.

The return of the New York Associated Banks shows a continuance of activity in the demands for money, the loans and discounts having increased £1,280,000, while the cash is £160,000 less, at £23,360,000, or £3,720,000 more than the legal requirement of 25 per cent. of the net deposits. The net deposits have increased £840,000, and the specie has increased £20,000, while the legal tenders show a decrease of £180,000.

The London and River Plate Bank (Limited) notify that the subscription list for the Catalinas Warehouses and Mole Company of Buenos Aires six per cent. debenture bonds is closed to-day both for town and country.

ENGLISH GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.		FOREIGN STOCK MARKETS.	
Consols	100½ 100¾	Argentine Six per Cent. of 1868..	100½ 101½
Ditto Account (March) ..	100½ 100¾	Ditto Six per Cent. of 1871 ..	101 103
Reduced Three per Cents ..	101 101½	Ditto 6p. Cent. Hard Dol. Bond ..	71½ 72
New Three per Cents ..	101 101½	Austrian Four p. Ct. Gold Rentes ..	85 87
New Two-and-a-Half per Cents ..	88¾ 88¾	Ditto Five per Cent. Silver ..	62½ 63½
India Stock Four per Cent. ..	102½ 103	Brazilian Five per Cent. of 1865 ..	100 101
Ditto Three per Cent. ..	85¾ 86½	Ditto Five per Cent. of 1871 ..	98 99
Ditto Four per Cent. Rupee Paper ..	70¾ 71	Ditto Five per Cent. of 1875 ..	98 99
Ditto 4½ per Cent. Rupee Paper ..	73¾ 73¾	Ditto 4½ per Cent. of 1883 ..	90 91
Bank of England Stock ..	297 299	Buenos Ayres Six per Cent. of 187 ..	93½ 94½
Metropolitan 3½ per Cent. ..	107 107½	Ditto Six per Cents. of 1873 ..	97½ 98½
COLONIAL GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.		Chilian 4½ per Cent. Conversion ..	97½ 98½
Canada 4 per Cent. of 1910-35 ..	103½ 104½	Chinese Six p. Ct. of 1895, March ..	99 101
N.S. Wales 4 p. Ct. of 1903-5-8-9-10 ..	101½ 102½	Ditto Six p. Ct. of 1895, June ..	107 109
N. Zealand 4 p. Ct. Cons. Ins. ..	94½ 95½	Costa Rica 5 per Cent. Bonds A ..	67½ 68½
Queensland 6 per Cent. 1891-96 ..	106 118	Ditto B 4p. Ct. now 5p. Ct. 1885 ..	57½ 58½
S. Australian 4 p. Ct. of 1894-1916 ..	98 100	Egyptian Three p. Ct. Guaranteed ..	98½ 99
Tasmanian 6 per Cent. of 1893-1907 ..	106 120	Ditto Five p. Ct. Stat. Domain ..	90½ 91½
Victoria 4½ per Cent. of 1904 ..	105 107	Ditto Four per Cent. Unified ..	70¾ 70¾
AMERICAN SECURITIES.		Ditto Five per Cent. Preference ..	95½ 95½
United States 4½ per Cent. Bonds ..	111½ 111¾ xd	Ditto Four p. Ct. Daira Sanieh ..	67 67½
Ditto Four per Cent. ..	130¾ 131½	Entre Rios 6 p. Ct. 1886 ..	69 70
Virginia Funded Bonds ..	52 53	Ditto 6 p. Ct. Ry. Mortgage ..	93 94½
New York, Pennsylvania, and ..	45¾ 46¾	French Three per Cent. Rentes ..	75 76
Ohio First Mortgage Bonds ..	31¾ 32¾	Ditto 4½ per Cent. Rentes ..	105 105½
Central Pacific Shares ..	94¾ 94¾	Greek Five per Cent. of 1872 ..	77½ 78½
Chicago, Milwaukee, and St. Pau ..	94¾ 94¾	Ditto Five per Cent. of 1881 ..	57½ 57½
Denver and Rio Grande Shares ..	23¾ 23¾	Ditto Five per Cent. of 1881 ..	57½ 57½
Illinois Shares ..	132 133 xd	Hungarian Gold Rentes of 1881 ..	75½ 75½
Lake Shore and Michigan ..	95¾ 97	Italian Five per Cent. of 1861 ..	91½ 91½
Southern 100-dol. Shares ..	63 63¾	Mexican Old Three per Cent. ..	25½ 25½
Louisville and Nashville 100-dol ..	115¾ 116	Ditto of 1861 ..	11¾ 11¾
New York Central Shares ..	34¾ 35¾	Norwegian Four per Cent. of 1880 ..	102 104
New York, Lake Erie, & Western ..	73¾ 73¾	Peruvian Six per Cent. of 1870 ..	13½ 14
100-dol. Shares ..	101¾ 101¾	Ditto Five per Cent. of 1872 ..	10½ 11½
Ditto Preference Six per Cent ..	18 18¾	Portuguese Three per Cent. ..	51½ 51½
Ditto Second Mortgage Bonds ..	27½ 28	Russian Five per Cent. of 1871 ..	9½ 9½
New York, Ontario, and Western ..	18 18¾	Ditto Five per Cent. of 1872 ..	90 91
Shares ..	27½ 28	Ditto Five per Cent. of 1873 ..	90½ 90½
Ohio and Mississippi Shares ..	18¾ 19¾	Ditto 4½ per Cent. of 1875 ..	86½ 87½
Oregon and California Seven per ..	57½ 57½	Santa Fé 5 p. Ct. N. C. Ry. Mort ..	89 91
Cent. Preference Shares ..	19¾ 19¾	Ditto 5 p. Ct. Extensions Mort ..	60 61
Pennsylvania Shares ..	57½ 57½	Spanish Four per Cent. ..	60 61
Philadelphia and Reading Share ..	19¾ 19¾	Ditto Two per Cent. ..	46½ 46½
Ditto General Mortgage Bonds ..	103 104	Swedish Four per Cent. of 1880 ..	102 104
Union Pacific Shares ..	57¾ 58¾	Turkish Six per Cent. Group 1 ..	10½ 10½
Wabash, St. Louis, and Pacific ..	17 18	Ditto Nine per Cent. ..	13½ 13½
Ordinary Shares ..	29 29½	Ditto Six & Five per Ct. ..	12½ 12½
Ditto 100-dol. Preference ..	97 97½	Ditto 4½ p. Ct. Tribute Loan of 1871 ..	68½ 68½
BRITISH AND FOREIGN RAILWAY STOCKS.		Ditto Five per Cent. of 1854 ..	92 94
Caledonian ..	97 97½	Ditto Five per Cent. Defence ..	80½ 80½
Great Eastern ..	65¾ 65¾	Uruguay Unified Five p. Ct. of 1883 ..	46½ 47
Great Northern Ordinary ..	114½ 115½	BANKS	
Ditto A ..	99¾ 100¾	Anglo-Egyptian ..	15 16
Great Western ..	135¾ 136¾	City ..	18½ 19½
Lancashire and Yorkshire ..	115¾ 116¾	Colonial ..	31 32
London and Brighton Ordinary ..	125 127	Consolidated ..	34 35
Ditto A ..	111¾ 112¾	Imperial Ottoman ..	8 15-16 9 1-16
London, Chatham, & Dover Ord ..	21¾ 21¾	London and Country ..	81½ 82½
Ditto 4½ per Cent. Preference ..	96½ 97	London and Westminster ..	62 63
London and North-Western ..	163¾ 163¾	London Joint Stock ..	35½ 35½
London and South-Western ..	12½ 126½	National Provincial (Ld. paid) ..	49 50
Manchester, Sheffield, & Lincoln ..	65 66	Union of London ..	35 36
Ditto A ..	35¾ 36¾	MINING SHARES	
Metropolitan ..	108¾ 108¾	Cape Copper ..	21 23
Metropolitan District ..	38¾ 38¾	Indian Consolidated ..	15-16 1 1-16
Midland ..	125 125½	Mason and Barry ..	7 9-10 7 11-16
North British ..	98¾ 98¾	Montana ..	7½ 8
North-Eastern ..	150¾ 151¾	Mysore Gold ..	6½ 6½
North Staffordshire ..	90¾ 91¾	Oreogum Gold ..	7½ 7½
South-Eastern Ordinary ..	125½ 126½	Richmond Consolidated ..	4½ 4½
Ditto Deferred ..	103¾ 103¾	Rio Tinto ..	10 10-16 10 5-16
Grand Trunk of Canada Ordinary ..	12½ 12½	St. John del Rey ..	28 32
Ditto First Preference Stock ..	73½ 73½	Tharsis Sulphur ..	3½ 4
Ditto Second Preference Stock ..	54½ 54½	United Mexican ..	2½ 3½
Ditto Third Preference Stock ..	23¾ 23¾	TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE SECURITIES.	
Ditto Guaranteed ..	71¾ 71¾	Anglo-American ..	102½ 103½
Canadian Pacific Shares ..	63 63½	Brazilian Submarine ..	10½ 10½
Buenos Ayres & Pac. 7 p. Ct. Shares ..	23¾ 24¾	Consolidated Telephone ..	34 34
Ditto 7 p. Ct. Debentures ..	120 128	Direct United States ..	7¾ 8
Lombardo-Venetian ..	7½ 7½	Eastern Extension ..	10½ 10½
Mexican Ordinary ..	51¾ 51¾	Globe Ordinary ..	4½ 4½
Ditto Eight per Cent. First Pref ..	115 115½	Ditto Preference ..	11½ 11½
Ditto Six p. Cent. Second Pref ..	73¾ 73¾	India-rubber, Gutta-percha, and ..	23 24
Ditto Six per Cent. Perpetual ..	118 120	Telegraph Works ..	3 15 5-16
MISCELLANEOUS SHARES.		Oriental Telephone ..	38 39
Australian Agricultural ..	119 124	Telegraph Construction ..	12½ 12½
Anglo-Am. Brush Light (Ld. paid) ..	2 2½	United Telephone ..	7½ 7½
Hudson's Bay ..	22½ 22½	Western and Brazilian ..	7½ 7½
National Discount ..	10½ 11	TRAMWAY SHARES.	
Peninsular and Oriental Steam ..	62 64	Dublin ..	10½ 10½
Royal Mail Steam ..	37 39	Glasgow ..	12½ 13½ xd
Suez Canal ..	75¾ 76	Liverpool Un. Tram. and Omnibus ..	10½ 11½ xd

THE NEUTRALIZATION OF EGYPT.

A Cairo telegram says that the detailed statements made by the *Temps* and other newspapers regarding the proposals submitted by Sir H. D. Wolff to the Porte are incorrect. There is no question of abolishing the Capitulations, but merely of modifying them by enlarging the powers of the mixed tribunals and creating a body with whose co-operation new laws could be framed which would be binding on the tribunals without necessitating the assent of the seventeen Powers. In French circles especially the proposal that England should have the right to send troops through Egypt by land in time of war is strongly opposed.

The Constantinople correspondent of the *Times* states that no further progress has been made in the Egyptian negotiations since the presentation of Sir Henry Wolff's note. The prevailing rumour is that the fixing of the date for a withdrawal of the British troops is still the object desired by the Porte. The *Daily News* correspondent says:—

Sir H. D. Wolff's memorandum was submitted to the Sultan, but I am informed that considerable difficulty is caused by the fact that the Turkish language has no term equivalent to neutralization, and the idea seems to have been entertained in certain Turkish quarters that neutralization means independence. Until it can be satisfactorily shown that the English proposal is neither independence nor the equivalent for it, no further meeting is likely to take place. His Majesty has asked for a French copy of Sir H. D. Wolff's memorandum in order that he may carefully study the proposal. The local papers are forbidden to speak on the subject. Sir H. D. Wolff will have another meeting with the Grand Vizier early next week. Another point which is being carefully studied by the Porte is whether the neutrality of Egypt is compatible with the conditions of the Firman in 1841, and the subsequent one which regulates the position of the Sultan and the Khedive. This question has been submitted to the law officers of the Crown. If these points are settled satisfactorily there is every reason to believe that the Porte will welcome the proposal. It is probable that it will ask that the term for evacuation shall be fixed. In diplomatic circles here the proposals are regarded favourably.

The Continental newspapers are still discussing the new phase of the Egyptian question. The Paris *Temps* remarks that every one is agreed as to the necessity of protecting the Egyptian Government against revolutionary attempts, and of enabling Egypt to keep its financial engagements; but if there is agreement as to objects there is no accord as to means, or, rather, the question of means has not been discussed anywhere. The *Temps* ventures to open the discussion, and starts by assuming that the occupation is not a solution. "The English themselves feel this, and try to get out of a position in which they rashly became entangled. They must own that they have not heretofore done any lasting good work, and that their presence alone prevents Egypt from falling into a state of anarchy. To prolong their stay will not be to create a condition of things which will be able by its own inherent power to keep order when they evacuate the country. Mention has recently been made of neutralization; but were it practicable it would be out of harmony with the programme we sketched. Neutralization only affects the international situation of a country; it is not a means for promoting order and well-being."

The Vienna *Presse* publishes an angry article against England's policy in Egypt, accusing the British Government of aiming at the complete annexation of the country, and declaring that Austria, Germany, and Italy have every interest in preventing this. The *Presse* is Count Taaffe's organ; but this article (the *Times*' correspondent says) expresses only the opinions of its by no means Anglophile editor. The Austro-Hungarian Government has from the first recognized the usefulness of England's mission in Egypt, and has done nothing to thwart it. On this point it has been and remains in perfect accord with the German and Italian Governments. Should any proposals on the Egyptian question be made by the British Government they will not only encounter no opposition from the Cabinets of Vienna, Berlin, and Rome, but they will be considered in the most friendly spirit, and with the strongest predisposition to further them.

THE CONTEST AT BURNLEY.

At a meeting of the Burnley Liberal Three Hundred, held on Saturday evening, Mr. John Slagg was unanimously selected as the Gladstonian candidate. The following letter from Mr. Gladstone to Mr. W. Armistead was read:—

Hawarden Castle, Feb. 11th.

Dear Sir,—I saw with great pleasure that Mr. Slagg was to be your candidate, as I am aware of his ability and knowledge of business, and I do not doubt that the cause of Liberalism, with the Irish policy at the head and front of it, is with him in good hands. For the last twelve months we have been telling the English, Scotch, and the Welsh that their Parliament would continue paralyzed, and their business neglected, until it settles the Irish question. The Scotch and the Welsh believed us, but the Southern English did not, and they stopped the way. They will have to learn through experience. They will have to pay heavily for the delay they have thought it wise to interpose before we reach a conclusion certain to be arrived at, and we shall all have to pay with them. And, after the thing has been done, the Tories will begin to say and to believe they were all Home Rulers, as they now say they were all parliamentary reformers, and as, until quite lately, they said they were all free-traders. Costly playing with the national interests seems to be the main purpose for which they exist. With all the great questions of the past fifty or sixty years they have played for a certain time; and when they leave off playing with one they soon find another with which to play again. I hope that Burnley will give them a lesson in the election which now approaches; and I remain, dear Sir, your faithful servant,

W. E. GLADSTONE.

Lord Hartington has addressed the following letter to the chairman of the Burnley Unionist Committee:—

Devonshire House, Feb. 10.

Dear Sir,—For many reasons, I trust that you will allow me to express my deep sympathy with you and the constituency of Burnley in the loss you have sustained by the death of Mr. Rylands. I should have been most anxious that the constituency should be again represented by a Liberal Unionist, but that the extremely narrow majority by which, notwithstanding his great popularity and great local claims, Mr. Rylands maintained his seat at the last election shows that this can only be accomplished by possessing the strongest claims on the Liberal party. I understand you have seen Sir George Trevelyan, than whom, on account of his past services to the Liberal party, and his decided Liberal opinions, no stronger candidate could have been found, but that he has declined to come forward. It would probably be difficult to find another Liberal candidate holding Liberal Unionist opinions whose prospects would be equally good. The seat, however, should not be allowed to go by default, or be abandoned without an effort to the action of the party from which Mr. Rylands received such ungenerous treatment. I am informed that a Unionist candidate is prepared to contest the seat who, whilst supporting the present Government on Unionist principles, is willing to pledge himself to moderate policy of a Liberal and progressive character. Mr. Thursby has established a claim on the consideration of the Unionists of Burnley by the ungrudging and active support he gave to Mr. Rylands in the late contest, and he is well known and respected in the borough. Under these cir-

cumstances I hope that, in the interests of the cause of the Union, the Liberal Unionists of Burnley will give to Mr. Thursby such assurances of active support as will enable him to enter upon the contest with a good prospect of success.—I remain, yours sincerely,
HARTINGTON.

Mr. J. O. S. Thursby, son of the high sheriff, who unsuccessful contested the Clitheroe Division against Sir Ughtred Kay-Shuttleworth in 1885, was on Saturday night selected to come forward as the Conservative candidate. The Liberal Unionists decided the same night to give him their support. The register of voters this year contains 384 more electors than last year, and the Liberals assert that there is a considerable accession of Liberal and Irish voters on the new lists.

THE MINISTERIAL CRISIS IN ITALY.

Signor Depretis has received the King's commands to form a Cabinet. It is understood that he has assured himself beforehand of the co-operation of Count Robilant and Signor Magliani.

THE EXPECTED RISING IN AFGHANISTAN.

A report has reached Calcutta that a party of Ghilzais has raided into the Thul Valley and killed fifty persons. It is believed along the frontier that some date during next month has been fixed for a revival of the Ghilzai rising against the Ameer.

CHINA AND RUSSIA.

Private information received at St. Petersburg from the Kuldja frontier states that the Chinese Government is massing troops in Kashgar and Kuldja. Their number amounts already to thirty thousand men of all arms, which it is expected will be further increased. They are well drilled and armed. Great excitement prevails among the Mahomedan Taranjis in the Chinese portion of the Kuldja territory.

THE CAMPAIGN IN BURMA.

It is reported from Mandalay that the negotiations to induce the Woontho Tsawbwa to surrender have failed. The Tsawbwa is destroying the villages whose inhabitants are inclined to assist the British, and he has announced that he is organizing a large force to attack the British garrison at Woontho, and to destroy the town.

The political officer's report shows that the inhabitants of the Ruby Mines district possess no hereditary or proprietary rights to the mines, and that during King Theebaw's reign no settled method existed for working them. The report adds that should the Government consider it expedient to properly develop the Ruby Mines district, considerable and protracted trouble may be anticipated in overcoming the difficulties of climate, labour, and transport.

THE REPORTED MASSACRE OF EXPLORERS.

The Vienna Foreign Office has received a telegram from Cape Town discrediting the report that Dr. Holub and his companions had been massacred. The despatch, which is dated Cape Town, Saturday, says:—"Report not credited. Later account, dated Bamangwato, January 18, says that Dr. Holub and his party were expected the following week."

MAILS FOR AMERICA.

A correspondence has taken place between the Postmaster-General and Messrs. Henderson Brothers, of Glasgow, regarding the conveyance of American mails per Anchor Line steamship *City of Rome*. In accordance with the agreement entered into, this vessel will now carry all letters and newspapers specially superscribed *City of Rome*, and it has been arranged that the steamer, leaving Liverpool, will call at Queenstown to embark passengers and the mails.

MR. GLADSTONE AND THE CHURCH IN WALES.

A clergyman of the diocese of Bangor, who sent to Mr. Gladstone the returns of the religious census which was taken in the Principality last month, calling his attention to a fact which should afford him, "as a sincere and devoted member of the Church, the liveliest satisfaction, that they show that the Church, by a large majority, is the leading religious denomination in Wales," has received an acknowledgment from the right honourable gentleman, stating that he will examine the return "to the best of his ability."

NORTHAMPTON OPERA HOUSE DESTROYED BY FIRE.

The Northampton Opera House was almost wholly destroyed by a fire. The fire, which broke out at about midnight on Saturday, appears to have originated in the flues. It spread with such rapidity that the firemen were not able to subdue it until three hours had elapsed, when the stage, its accessories, the dressing-room, the galleries, and the decorated roof had been completely destroyed; the only part spared being the crush and refreshment rooms. The Opera House was built twelve years ago at a cost of £12,000.

SHOCKING COLLIERY ACCIDENT.

At Bettisfield Colliery, Flintshire, on Saturday evening, two men, named Roberts and Pritchard, who were working overtime, were descending the pit, when, through the failure of the machinery, they were precipitated to the bottom, a distance of 280 feet. The nature of the accident prevented descent by the same pit, but an exploring party soon reached the spot by way of a neighbouring pit, and they discovered the mutilated remains of the men. A crowd of several hundred people assembled on the pit-bank while the exploration was proceeding.

SOCIALIST DEMONSTRATION AT GLASGOW.

The east-end of Glasgow was yesterday afternoon the scene of excitement consequent upon a demonstration of Socialists intended to give the workers of the city an opportunity of expressing their sympathy with the Lanarkshire miners. The streets were cleared many times by mounted police, who were pelted with stones and other missiles. During a charge of the mounted police some of the people fell, and a boy was so severely trampled upon by a horse that he had to receive medical aid. Between 15,000 and 20,000 persons congregated, in obedience to a circular from the Socialist League, on Glasgow-green. Over 1,000 policemen were held in readiness in various parts of the city, the majority being stationed in a hall close to the place of meeting. The meeting passed off quietly, and the police cleared the streets. At night the city was quiet.

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

NATIONALIST MEETINGS.—DEFIANT SPEECHES.

Two Nationalist meetings which were to have been held yesterday, one at Loughrea and the other at Youghal, were proclaimed by the Government; but addresses were delivered at the former place by Mr. Davitt and at the latter by Dr. Tanner, M.P. The police were in force at both places. At Youghal Dr. Tanner addressed a meeting on the opposite side of the river to that on which the police were. The police, being unable to obtain boats, had to march back. Dr. Tanner, in the course of his speech, said: "If it happened that the Emergency men were put upon these farms, the people would take very good care to avoid them, and, as he told the people in Millstreet not long ago, they would avoid not only Emergency men, but the policemen who protected them. He would repeat his advice at Millstreet to the people in Youghal and its neighbourhood not to allow their wives and daughters to hold any intercourse whatever with the police."

Mr. William O'Brien addressed a meeting on the estate of Lord Clanrikarde. The principal meeting was at Woodford, a spot notorious for boycotting and evictions, and the Nationalists succeeded in evading the police, who, in large numbers, were out searching for them. The roads leading to Woodford were blocked with trees to prevent the cars of the police proceeding to that town. The moment the proclamation of the meeting at Loughrea and its neighbourhood was posted in the town, word was sent to the various parties around Woodford to the effect that if contingents turned up in that place instead of Loughrea they would find Mr. William O'Brien there to address them. The police were apparently ignorant of this plan, for early yesterday morning all the Woodford force, with the exception of the district inspector and four or five constables, started for Loughrea. The most effective arrangements were made to prevent the return of the police to Woodford until the meeting there was over. At various points on the line from Woodford to Loughrea stone barriers were erected across the roads, and after the policemen had passed in the morning the telegraph-wires were cut. Horsemen were out all night summoning the people to Woodford. Some of the contingents did not reach Woodford till late in the evening, the obstructions on the roads intended for the police having proved equally inconvenient to them; but they all arrived before Mr. O'Brien spoke. His speech was of an exceedingly defiant character. He said that, although he had to appear before a judge and jury in Dublin the next day, he could not resist the temptation of coming to Woodford to have a parting shot at the tyrant Lord Clanrikarde. He added:—

It is easy to understand why the Government and why Clanrikarde should be anxious to suppress the tidings that we bring here to-day, for those tidings are that another lord has come down from his throne and taken off his hat, or, rather, taken off his coronet, to the Plan of Campaign. (Cheers.) Another lord, a next-door neighbour of Clanrikarde, has surrendered what we will yet drag from Clanrikarde, if it cost us our last pound and the last breath in our bodies! When this agitation commenced, Lord Dunsandle, like Lord Clanrikarde, would not give a penny of abatement; but I struck a bargain yesterday with Lord Dunsandle's representative, by which he agreed to an all-round abatement of 20 per cent. on the judicial rents—remember, which were already at the valuation—(cheers)—and he agreed also to the reinstatement of all evicted tenants and to payment of all law costs (cheers); while actually to-morrow when I will be arraigned in Green-street as a conspirator I will be handing over to Lord Dunsandle a handsome cheque that will bring and restore harmony to a vast region of the country on just and moderate terms. (Cheers.) That is an awkward fact for Clanrikarde and for the Government—(cheers)—and I am not surprised that they should be anxious to hush it up. Why, with the huge reductions of rent already given on the Dunsandle property by the Land Courts, the reductions now given by him is more than you are asking Lord Clanrikarde to give on reduced rents here; and I defy his Tory Government to send their police and their soldiers here to sack and burn the homes of the people on the Clanrikarde property, because Clanrikarde's bad and miserly heart won't allow him to make the concession which Lord Dunsandle has made on the other side of the ditch. (Cheers.) No, the Government dare not touch Clanrikarde with a forty-foot pole. (Cheers.)

Mr. Davitt, after delivering a very defiant speech at Loughrea, proceeded, followed by a number of police, to Woodford, and met Mr. O'Brien half-way. Loughrea was illuminated at night, and bonfires blazed in the country. A band paraded the streets, and in an encounter between the police and one of the crowds, several persons were severely wounded. Some of the police were struck by stones. It is stated that when Mr. Davitt was served with a copy of the notice of proclamation of the meeting at Loughrea he threw it on the floor and trampled on it. This incident occurred in the Roman Catholic Bishop's house.

EXECUTION AT LEICESTER.

Thomas Bloxham, aged sixty-two, was executed this morning in Leicester Prison for the murder of his wife last November. The prisoner at the trial alleged that his wife committed suicide by agreement with him. He maintained an unconcerned demeanour until Saturday, when he was visited by several friends and his children. Yesterday he broke down; but this morning his spirits had revived, and he walked firmly to the scaffold, bidding the warders farewell just before the bolt was drawn. Berry, the executioner, allowed a drop of 4 ft. 6 in., and death was instantaneous. About three thousand persons assembled outside the gaol to see the black flag hoisted.

LONDON EVICTIONS AND IRISH EVICTIONS.

A metropolitan police magistrate writes to the *Times*:—"I do not know whether 'well-paid patriots' are generally aware that by 1 and 2 Vict., cap. 74, in the case of a tenant of any house or land held at will, or for a term not exceeding seven years, at a rent not exceeding £20 per year, the English landlord can, in a petty sessions or police court, recover the possession in twenty-one days. At the expiration of that time the police (not the sheriff) go in and remove ('by force, if needful') the tenant and his effects. There is not, as in Ireland, a readmission as 'care-taker' and power to redeem within six months. Out they go once for all, and their furniture is left in the street. There is not a day passes that I do not grant decrees of this kind, and yet we do not hear a murmur on the subject. What would be said in Ireland? P.S.—Under the Bills of Sale Acts it often happens that the whole savings of a life are swallowed up because default is made in paying the last instalment for furniture purchased; but who in this country complains?"

A NEW EXPLOSIVE.

According to a Berlin technical journal, experiments have recently been made at the artillery range near Cummersdorf with a new kind of mortar and a new explosive warranted to hold its own with General Boulanger's melenite. This explosive was used against a fortification constructed as exactly as possible on the model of one of the French frontier forts called Fort d'Arrêt, and in forty-eight hours it was "blown completely from the ground."

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

THE AGITATION IN THE BALKANS.

Authentic reports received in Constantinople from Salonica (the *Times* correspondent says) state that emissaries from Bulgaria and Eastern Roumelia are busily occupied in stirring up the population of Macedonia to revolt, and that several individuals arrested were found to be in possession of voluminous revolutionary papers, setting forth fabulous accounts of the sufferings of the Bulgarian population at the hands of the Turks; these documents being addressed to the Bulgarians by a central committee organized over the borders.

Reinforcements were at once sent to the agitated districts from the Salonica army corps and a state of siege was proclaimed at a council of war. Certain movements being also perceptible in the frontier districts, the Commander-in-Chief at Salonica has instructed the commanders of garrisons to be on the alert, and to use every means required by the circumstances. These premonitory symptoms are always observable when foreign political agents are at work, with a view of putting forward complaints regarding the alleged oppression of the Christian population by the Turkish authorities. The Bulgarian rising was brought about on the same system, and by massacres and atrocities incited and calculated upon by the same unscrupulous agents as furnishing a pretext for intervention. It is needless to indicate the quarter whence these incitements proceed.

RUSSIA AND CENTRAL ASIA.

Travellers from Batoum report that more than usual activity has been observable during the last month in the supply of troops from Russia Proper. These are pouring in night and day, and are immediately sent off by rail to Baku. A popular belief exists there that a movement is being prepared by Russia on the Central Asian side as a diversion of attention from her intended action in the south-east of Europe.

MR. GLADSTONE AND MR. PARNELL'S AMENDMENT.

One of the political correspondents of the *Leeds Mercury* writes:—As a good deal is being said regarding the refusal of Mr. Gladstone to take part in the debate on Mr. Parnell's amendment, it may be well to explain the reason for the course which he pursued. Mr. Gladstone, it is well known, has a strong constitutional objection to any amendments being moved on the Address which are not designed to secure the defeat of the Government of the day. Amendments not of this nature are, in his opinion, mere abstract resolutions, and the debate on the Address is not, he thinks, a proper occasion for moving them. It was on this strictly constitutional ground that the Liberal leader refused to have any part in the debate on Mr. Parnell's amendment. Before leaving town for Hawarden he declared emphatically that he would be no party to the moving of any amendment whatever upon the Address, and to this determination he adhered in spite of the strong pressure which was brought to bear upon him in order to induce him to make an exception in favour of Mr. Parnell's motion.

A WOMAN'S VENGEANCE BAULKED.

What might have proved a very tragical occurrence has been adroitly nipped in the bud by a Parisian chemist. An elegantly dressed young woman, wearing a thick veil over her face, went into a pharmaceutical establishment at Clichy on Saturday and asked for a phial of vitriol. The chemist, whose suspicions were aroused by the mysterious manner of his customer, asked her some questions, to which she returned evasive replies. He then gave her, instead of vitriol, a bottle of perfumed water, and directed a man to follow her and watch her movements. The man did so, and soon saw the woman take up her position at a street corner, phial in hand. After having carefully uncorked the bottle, she flung its contents with a yell of triumph in his face. The man received the perfumed water in his eyes; but, although it only made him smart for a moment, he roared like a bull of Bashan, and cried out that he was blinded for ever. Meanwhile, the emulor of Marie Beer, who thought she had inflicted a terrible punishment on her false-hearted Adonis, ran swiftly away, vainly pursued by some of the bystanders who had witnessed the scene. The chemist's man, however, set everybody's mind at ease by describing the pious fraud employed by his master for the prevention of another Parisian drama.

OFFENSIVE DIVORCE COURT REPORTS.

The Home Secretary recently communicated with Sir James Hannen with the object of originating some Rule of Court that would prevent the publication of offensive details of proceedings in the Divorce Court. The communication has been carefully considered by Sir James Hannen and Mr. Justice Butt, we believe, with the result that these judges have been unable to see their way to framing any Rule of Court in addition to the powers they already possess of hearing cases involving revolting details *in camera*.

A LIBERAL CONGREGATION.

From the "Year-Book of St. Mary Abbott, Kensington," we take the following remarkable figures:—The general balance-sheet shows a total revenue of £17,413. The endowment produced only £405, and, setting aside payments and deposits for schools, clubs, and the like, £12,469 was voluntarily given without any return. Of this, £662 went to poor parishes affiliated to Kensington, £1,113 to hospitals and dispensaries, and £2,201 to home mission work. The communicants at the parish church and its affiliated chapels were 2,156. It may be mentioned that the Attorney-General is a member of the choir.

GAMBLING AT NICE.

Telegrams from Nice announce that the Minister of the Interior, yielding to local pressure, has annulled the decision of the Prefect forbidding the well-known game of "Petits Chevaux." The directors of the Casino, on hearing that the lucrative pastime had been stopped, closed not only the Casino, but the theatre also. Evidently the time has come in France when either the whole force of the law of 1836 must be put in force against gambling, or it must be abrogated. Nice is full of clandestine gambling. The same remark, it is said, applies to every French pleasure-resort and to the Paris clubs as well.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

VALUABLE DISCOVERY for the HAIR.—If your hair is turning grey or white, or falling off, use "The Mexican Hair Renewer," for it will positively restore in every case Grey or White Hair to its original colour, without leaving the disagreeable smell of most "Restorers." It makes the hair charmingly beautiful, as well as promoting the growth of the hair on bald spots where the glands are not decayed. "The Mexican Hair Renewer" is sold by Chemists and Perfumers everywhere, at 3s. 6d. per bottle.

NOSE AND THROAT DISEASES. By GEORGE MOORE, M.D. Price 1s., or 12 stamps by post. London: JAMES EPPS and Co., 170, Piccadilly.

CLARKE'S World-famed BLOOD MIXTURE is warranted to cleanse the blood from all impurities, from whatever cause arising. For scrofula, scurvy, skin and blood diseases, and sores of all kinds its effects are marvellous. Thousands of testimonials. In bottles, 2s. 9d., and in cases containing six times the quantity, 11s. each, of Chemists everywhere.

COAL.—GEO. J. COCKERELL and CO.'S Best Coals, 24s. per ton, cash.—13, Cornhill, E.C.

JAPANESE ART CURIOS, rare Cabinets, vieux lac Bronzes, Ivories, old colour Blue and White &c. 71, KING-STREET, ST. JAMES'S, S.W.

THE GOVERNMENT AND THE VOLUNTEERS.

It is announced that the committee which has inquired into the financial position of the volunteer force will recommend to the Secretary for War an increase in the capitaion grant. The actual increase is not very large, being, indeed, only 5s. per efficient, making up the total to 35s.; and the payment of this in the case of infantry regiments will be made dependent upon an improved standard of musketry. Assuming that the force maintains its present total of about 220,000 efficient, the 5s. per man will increase the capitaion grant by about £55,000 a year. Beyond this, recognizing that in many corps the men have to go long distances, mostly by railway, in order to get target practice, it is proposed that a sum not exceeding 4s. per man shall be allowed for travelling expenses wherever the circumstances may warrant such an allowance. The number of corps which may have to claim the 4s. cannot be ascertained until the close of the shooting season, which is just beginning; but the addition of an extra 1s., making 6s. in all, to the engineer efficient, for whose training various stores have to be purchased by their officers, will increase the allowance in their case by nearly £500. There is to be an extra allowance to officers who have passed certain examinations, making it possible to earn £5 10s. a year for their corps instead of £4, and a good many of them £7. The committee have also recognized the expenses attending service with the marching columns which have received the commendation of the chiefs of the army, and have suggested that an allowance of 2s. per man be made for each day that a column is out under authority. Beyond this the report recommends that assistance shall be given towards providing all volunteers with great-coats and valise equipment. The exact sum these changes would add to the Army Estimates has been roughly calculated at about 10s. a head all round; so that, reckoning the number of efficient volunteers now at 221,000 officers and men, the actual increase will be about £110,000 a year.

THE HINDOOS AND THE JUBILEE.

Great preparations are being made in Calcutta for the celebration of the Queen's Jubilee. Among other interesting matters (the *Times* correspondent says) the high priest of Baidyanath, one of the most sacred Hindoo shrines of Lower Bengal, has issued an appeal exhorting Hindoos of all classes to give evidence of their loyalty in a befitting manner. This appeal, thousands of copies of which in Sanscrit and Bengalee have been printed for circulation, runs thus:—

May that great Empress under whose protection religious ceremonies have been practised without molestation for fifty years, may that august Empress, Victoria, live long! The lustre of her reign, which illumines the hollow vales of the wilderness and the concealed places, and which brightens the sight itself, has, like a second sun, made India blossom like the lotus, by dispelling the gloom of injustice originating from the severe tyranny of Mahomedanism. May the Empress Victoria, under whose kindness all her subjects have grown strong in the strength of religion and happiness, may she live a hundred years, with her sons and friends! May the Empress under whose influence uninterrupted peace reigns in India live long! It behoves you Aryans, one and all, to pray for long life for the Empress. May that Empress in whose empire men of science sing with delight the manifold blessings of telegraphs, railways, and other inventions, may the Empress whose moonlike deeds spread a halo of light far and wide, may the Empress Victoria be victorious! This is my constant prayer to Shiva.

Last Sunday, being an auspicious day according to the Hindoo calendar, was fixed as the beginning of the Jubilee celebration at Baidyanath. At noon the high priest, dressed in gorgeous robes, held a solemn service and offered a prayer in which he besought God to prolong her Majesty's life, so as to enable her to celebrate another jubilee fifty years hence.

THE ALBANY MEMORIAL CHURCH AT CANNES.

The Church of St. George, which has been erected at Cannes in memory of the Duke of Albany, was consecrated on Saturday afternoon by the Bishop of Gibraltar, in presence of the Prince of Wales, Prince George of Wales, Prince and Princess Hohenzollern, the Grand Duke and Duchess of Nassau, the Grand Duke and Duchess of Baden, and the leading residents, visitors, and officials. The weather was most unfavourable, being wet and intensely cold. The Bishop of Gibraltar preached, and the service closed with a hymn and the benediction. The site of the church was selected by the Prince of Wales, and is a beautiful spot on the Riviera—on a hill to the east of Cannes, close to the Villa Nevada, where the Duke died three years ago. Another memorial of the late Duke of Albany, in the form of a statue of St. George and the Dragon, is to be unveiled during the Prince of Wales's stay at Cannes. The Prince will remain there until the end of the month.

FASHIONS IN HAIR-DRESSING.

A writer on the fashions in the *Daily Telegraph* says:—There is no doubt that powder—hair-powder I mean—is gaining ground very much. Many women who would otherwise have recourse to divers "washes," to revive the colour time has blanched and improve the tint nature bestowed in the first place, adopt powder instead. A slight sprinkle brightens up grey hair and removes it from the common lot. I have been told that some women, desirous of jumping over the intermediate period of greyness, subvert their hair to the action of a discolouring acid (which is certainly brave of them), and then, with the addition of a little powder, they are transformed into the semblance of eighteenth-century marquises. Powdered grey or white hair, to look well, must be somewhat fancifully arranged, and therefore it is most suitable to the Parisienne, who is not at home to visitors before the normal visiting-hour, and is not expected to appear at the matutinal meal like a simple British matron. There is no doubt it is better suited to evening and evening dress than to morning and morning costumes, and at all times a certain amount of—to put it politely—oleaginous substance is necessary to keep the powder from falling. It is best to use a specially prepared "flour," as the barbers of the last century termed it, not ordinary powder, and this is to be had at all the Parisian perfumers'. Few flowers, save pink roses, look well in powdered hair; the best ornaments are a knot of ribbon and diamonds. These gems are the decoration *par excellence* this, as they were last, winter. Every woman of fashion will be wanting her share of the French crown jewels when they come to the hammer, and if we credit some accounts they will be quite a glut in the market next spring.

Good use is made by French hair-dressers just now of little puffings of tulle—white, very pale blue, pink, or yellow—gathered up into the shape of an aigrette, and doing duty for one, with a few loops of ribbon at the foot. Was there ever a more economical ornament? Half a yard of tulle illusion—a fresh bit each time. That it should maintain its erect position, it must be fastened to a strong hairpin, and thus arranged, with its attendant bows, it is placed nearly at the top of the head, an inch or so more on one side than the other. Small circular posies of flowers, with a few fronds of maidenhair, small green-

and-gold grasses, a spray or two of mimosa will also be combined with a puffing of tulle—a tiny billowy cloud as a background to the fronds, grasses, or golden spray. Gold and silver dandelion puffs and butterflies, too, are mounted with tulle. From the Japanese, who borrow so much from us, we have taken the idea of these butterflies, made of gauze and painted in close resemblance to nature. In the Japanese method, they are mounted on almost invisible wires, and seem as if they were hovering over the blossoms or the cloud of tulle beneath.

THE SOCIALISTS.

An unusually large meeting of members of the Social Democratic Federation and their friends was held yesterday forenoon at Camberwell Green. Mr. Martin, who presided, said he should open the meeting by referring to what he and others had read in the papers respecting the Queen's Jubilee. He said that on the day of the Queen's Jubilee the people ought to come out and celebrate it in a way peculiarly their own. Mr. Clifton spoke, and made a violent attack upon Mr. Bradlaugh, in whom he said the Socialists had long since lost faith. As far as could be ascertained from the Socialist leaders in South London yesterday, the idea of "church parades" had been given up, and they appeared to be unanimous in denouncing the Clerkenwell riots. Meetings of a nature similar to that held at Camberwell took place yesterday at Old Kent-road, Kennington-cross, Lambeth-walk, Peckham, and Battersea. In the evening the Bermondsey Socialists marched to the parish church. A considerable force of police was held in reserve in case of necessity. The Reverend C. D. Lawrence took part in the service; but the sermon was preached by a stranger on behalf of the Church of England Missionary Society. There was no hissing or interruption of any kind. Upon leaving the church the Socialists marched into Bermondsey-square and held a meeting, which was very largely attended. Mr. H. Quelch was the principal speaker. At the conclusion of a long address, ridiculing the sermon just preached, and denouncing the Reverend C. D. Lawrence and the Southwark magistrate who passed sentence on Morris, an appeal was made on behalf of the family of the latter. The result of the collection was 9½d., which Mr. Quelch said was a fine amount to help to keep them for three weeks.

THE MILITARY CONSPIRACY IN RUSSIA.

With regard to the military conspiracy recently discovered at St. Petersburg, it is stated that twenty-five cadets and officers in all have been arrested. The Academy of the Grand General Staff is compromised, and so are nearly all the military and naval schools. Several university students are also said to be implicated. The discovery has made a most painful impression on the Czar and the Court. It is positively stated that among those arrested are seven naval officers.

ST. GEORGE'S, HANOVER-SQUARE.

Mr. Goschen has issued an address thanking the electors of St. George's, Hanover-square, for returning him to the House of Commons. "It is worth while," he says, "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 an 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."

HOUND-POISONING IN IRELAND.

An outrage was perpetrated on Friday at Ballykennedy, near Ballingarry, in county Limerick. The county foxhounds, under Mr. Nugent Humble, met at the coverts in the neighbourhood, a large field of ladies and gentlemen being present. While they were engaged in drawing the fox it was perceived that the hounds—a number of them at least—had picked up poison, with the result that in a short time five or six of them lay dead on the field, and a few others of the pack were more or less suffering, though they will probably recover. The hunt was at once stopped. Last year several of the hounds were from time to time poisoned, and the opposition to hunting in the end became so annoying that it was given up. The master this year managed to get along with the hunt fairly well up to the present occurrence. It is understood that the hunt will now be finally abandoned, for the present at all events.

THE FRAUDULENT MARKING OF GOODS.

A deputation from Sheffield which waited upon Lord Stanley of Preston on Saturday, to ask for legislation against the fraudulent marking of goods, stated, among other things, that twenty tons of German goods had arrived in Sheffield in one day, to be re-marked as Sheffield manufacture. The President of the Board of Trade stated that the Government meant to introduce a Bill in Parliament throwing upon the possessors of fraudulently marked goods the onus of proving that they acquired them in good faith, and enabling prosecutions to be conducted by summary process.

THREE FISHERMEN DROWNED.

At Kingsgate, near Margate, on Saturday, three fishermen put out in a boat to assist a ketch in Broadstairs Harbour. While so engaged their boat capsized, and as a strong easterly wind was blowing they were all drowned. A boat was manned by the coastguards, but before they could get near the men had disappeared. An eyewitness states that the boat had only got out about a hundred yards from the shore when a big sea struck it, and the next instant the occupant's were struggling in the water. They disappeared in about one minute.

THE FORSTER MEMORIAL.

The committee formed to raise a memorial to the late Mr. W. E. Forster have issued a circular inviting the subscriptions of all who wish to do honour to the memory of the late statesman, and propose that the money should in the first instance be applied to the erection of a statue. Subscriptions should be sent to the Secretary of the Fund, at St. Margaret's Offices, Victoria-street, S.W.; or to Messrs. Dimsdale and Co., 50, Cornhill, E.C.

"THE INDIA LIST."

Messrs. W. H. Allen and Co., the publishers to the India Office, have just issued "The India List, Civil and Military," for the first half of 1887. In both departments the List furnishes a complete guide to the Indian Empire, and it is an indispensable reference-book for those who have official connection with our Eastern dependency.

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

THE FAT STOCK SHOW IN PARIS.

One of our Paris correspondents writes:—The fine collection of breeding stock which, as I described last week, had been on view in the Palais de l'Industrie, has made way for an equally large and not less admirable exhibition of fat stock; and I feel no hesitation in saying, after an experience of nearly fifteen years, that at each of these shows the level of merit has been raised a few points. I do not say that each year the winners of the champion prizes are better than they were a twelvemonth before; but, what is of far greater importance and value, the general quality of the animals exhibited is better. There used to be a few good bullocks standing out from a number of gaunt beasts with more bone and offal than meat upon their carcasses. Now, it is an exception to come across a beast which is not fairly level and which has the humps and indentations peculiar to the under-bred and ill-fatted animals of other days. The same remark applies to the sheep and pigs; and the improvement has been in a great measure due to the good done by these shows, of which this is the fifteenth that has been held on the Palais de l'Industrie; the previous exhibitions of fat stock taking place at Poissy and La Villette, which are the principal centres of the live and dead meat trade. There are no fewer than 356 entries of fat cattle at the present show, and the highest honours are taken by the native breeds; for while M. Bellard wins the Prix d'Honneur for the best ox or steer in the hall with a white Charolais steer, the equivalent prize for the best heifer or cow is taken by M. de Briet, with a dun cow of the Limousin breed. The steer, though barely four years old, scales 19 cwt. (live weight); while the cow, which is two months his senior, is barely 15 cwt., and her appearance is somewhat disfigured by the barbarous gilding of her horns. A feature special to the Paris show of fat stock is the class for lots of four oxen or fifteen sheep belonging to the same owner; and the principle is a very good one, as a better idea of the excellence of a herd or flock can be gained by the exhibition of several animals from it. There is a very large entry of oxen in this way, and the champion prize for the best is taken by Baron Desgravières with four beautiful steers of almost pure shorthorn blood. They come from the Department of the Mayenne, in which there is a native breed of cattle very similar to the shorthorn, which the late Count de Faloux, the publication of whose memoirs is anticipated with much interest, cultivated with so much success. The great decrease in the number of sheep throughout France accounts for the decrease in the entries at this and at other shows; and in this department of breeding the French are still to a great extent dependent upon English blood, the best flocks being nearly all made up of Leicesters and Southdowns. The winners of the two champion prizes for sheep are of these breeds, and the best pigs in the show are of the large white breed which the French call "Yorkshire."

TOBACCO CULTURE.

For many years (writes a contributor to the *Gardeners' Magazine*) I cultivated the whole of the tobacco we used for fumigating purposes. The seeds we obtained in the usual way from the London seedsman. A three-penny packet would produce plants enough for a quarter of an acre if necessary. We sowed the seeds about the middle of March or later, to have the plants a good size for planting out by the end of May. The seeds vegetate very freely on an ordinary hotbed, and when the plants are large enough they are pricked out in boxes, or in a frame about four inches between the plants. Good cultivation consists in taking care that the plants receive no check to their growth, either when they are pricked out or planted out. The ground where they are planted ought to be trenched eighteen inches deep, and plenty of good manure should be worked into it, as I do not know any grosser feeding plant than tobacco. When well grown the stems are as thick as a man's wrist, and solid enough to floor a bullock. We did not know at first how to obtain very large thick leaves, until instructed by an old negro in the art of "suckering" the plants. When they have grown about five feet high, and the flowers must be picked off and all the shoots formed at the axils of the leaves; the removal of these is "suckering" the plants. The leaves become of a deep green colour, very large and brittle. We began to harvest the large leaves when they changed to yellow near the base, and in order to dry them quickly the mid-ribs were removed. They were dried in the early vineries from whence the grapes had been removed; before they were dried too much we pounded them into flour-barrels, and the material kept good for two years. It was all used for fumigating purposes, and it is much safer and surer in its action than the best tobacco-paper. It is a very exhausting crop.

THE CRARAE QUARRY ACCIDENT.

The report of Colonel A. Ford on the circumstances attending the accident which occurred at Craræ Quarry, Loch Fyne, on the 25th of September last, has been published as a Blue Book. It will be remembered that a monster blast was fired at the quarry on the day mentioned, and that of those persons who entered the quarry afterwards to view the effects of the explosion seven lost their lives and upwards of thirty others were injured by the fumes of the fired gunpowder. It is obvious, Colonel Ford says, that "the atmosphere in which the visitors were standing had only just become poisonous when the occurrence took place. No doubt for a short period before this they had been breathing air which was distinctly hurtful; but it was still sufficiently pure to support life. Strange to say, no one appears to have perceived the injurious character of the air before it contained a fatal proportion of the poison, or, at any rate, to have attempted to leave the quarry on that ground. It may be assumed, therefore, that the proportion of gases which the atmosphere contained at the time its effects were first felt was very nearly the minimum proportion which would render it poisonous." Colonel Ford is of opinion that no blame whatever attaches to any one in respect of this accident, as no danger was expected.

THE MUSICAL PROFESSION.

A paper on "Our Art and Our Profession" was read by Mr. H. C. Banister before the National Society of Professional Musicians on Saturday evening. He urged his hearers to absorb the professor in the artist, and to endeavour to become all-round men in their art. In the musical profession there were very few all-round men, but plenty of half-trained teachers, and if young aspirants regretted that the profession was over-stocked, he would tell them that there was plenty of room at the top.

EXCAVATIONS AT DELPHI.

The Greek Government, according to the *Temps*, has just granted France permission to undertake excavations at Delphi on conditions similar to those applying to the German excavations at Olympia. Important historical and artistic remains will, it is expected, be discovered. M. de Mouy, M. de Montholon, and M. Eugène Guillaume have been seeking this permission, while the Americans had also been applying for it.

TRADE AND FINANCE.

The demands for money on Saturday, besides being swollen by the revenue payments, which rendered the market bare, were increased by the payment of the North-Eastern Railway dividend on the one hand and by the efflux of gold from the Bank for export on the other. The gold movements consisted of the withdrawal of £125,000 in sovereigns for Copenhagen, and the receipt of £5,000. This new destination for gold constitutes an additional argument against the reckless competition for bills, and should help to decide the Bank of England directors against yielding too readily to the dictates of the open market. Rates on Saturday were decidedly harder at 2½ to 3 per cent. for short loans and 2¼ to 2½ per cent. for discount.

The course of business in the Stock Exchange on Saturday was uninterrupted by any noteworthy incident, and the markets were characterized by dullness throughout the day. The opening was weak on the reported concentration of Russian troops on the Galician frontier, and the fall in Russian stocks which initiated the depression in other classes was based upon the unsatisfactory condition of Russian finance. Russian stocks fell ½ to 1 per cent., Egyptian Unified ¼, Italian ¼, Turkish Defence ¼, and French issues ½. Home Railways showed very little general movement, the declines being only to the extent of ¼ to ½ per cent. American securities, being inactive, had nothing much to support them, and prices gave way at the opening and continued dull. Erie descriptions, however, were exceptionally firm, on the favourable traffic and better prices in New York on Friday, when some large purchases were made. Other classes, however, were rather offered. Grand Trunk of Canada stocks fell away with American descriptions and closed at a decline, while Mexican Railway stocks closed without change after having been dull. The English Funds were dull, and Consols and New and Reduced declined 1-16 to ¼ per cent.

The speculation for the fall in the value of money is being carried on in spite of the threatening state of the Continent; and the expectation is now very general that the directors will lower their rate of discount next Thursday. The reserve will by that time have considerably increased, and it is urged that the directors would not be satisfied in maintaining a 4 per cent. rate when they have control of the market through their connection with the Government. Such considerations are all very well in ordinary times, but they should be allowed no weight at present. What the directors have to consider is the interest of the country, and it is clearly not to the interest of the country that the stock of gold should be allowed to remain as low as it is at present. There has been during the depression in trade and agriculture a great contraction in the coin circulation. If trade improves, as is now expected, there will be of course a considerable expansion of the coin circulation; and with such an expansion, the stock of gold held by the Bank must decrease. For that reason alone it is desirable to strengthen very considerably the Bank's stock. But, further, the Bank is being constantly drawn upon from all parts of the world for supplies of gold; and lastly, there is the danger that war may break out. Just now there is a more hopeful feeling respecting politics; but apprehensions may return and war itself may ensue. The directors have to guard against such an eventuality, and it is perfectly certain that if war does break out there will be a great demand for gold. There may be an utter crash on the Berlin Bourse; there will certainly be great loans issued, and subscriptions to these loans will take away gold, and the Bank may find itself in a very serious position if it does not now use the opportunity offered by its strong position to maintain the 4 per cent. rate.

The shareholders in the Universal Marine Insurance Company have, on the recommendation of the board of that company, agreed to adopt to a limited extent the mutual principle of insurance, by which those who insure with the company will share in the profits. This principle has been for some time past adopted by the China companies, with the result that the greater part of the insurance business of Hong Kong and Shanghai has been lost by the London companies, and it is especially with the view of recovering some of this business that the Universal Company has adopted mutual insurance. It is not intended to apply the principle to ship insurance, but only to cargoes. The whole of the interest on investments will be retained by the shareholders, together with £5,000 of the first profits made, and then the balance of net earnings will be divided between the insurers and the shareholders. On the basis of recent results this is how matters will stand: in the first place the interest on investments on the reduced capital is expected to yield £14,000 per annum; which will be increased to £19,000 by £5,000 of the first profits. This will, according to the experience of the last few years, leave a balance of profit amounting to £25,000, one-half of which would be retained by the shareholders, leaving £12,500 to those who introduce the business. If these results are borne out, the shareholders will still receive their 20 per cent. dividend, while building up the reserve fund by the addition of over £10,000 a year. The mutual principle has worked very well in regard to life assurance, and there is no reason why it should not be equally successfully applied to marine insurance.

The current issue of the *City Quarterly Magazine* opens with a short paper on the "Profits of the Last Boom," showing that in the last quarter of the past year there was a depreciation on 338 securities taken from each department of the Stock Exchange, amounting in the aggregate to 12 millions on a nominal value of £2,745,526,060. By far the largest drop was in Foreign Government bonds, amounting in the aggregate to 9½ millions. On the other hand there was an aggregate rise of just over 8 millions in British Government Funds. The general depreciation would, of course, have been much larger had the figures been carried up to the end of last month. The number also contains *inter alia* an article on "Two Political Comedians"—Lord Randolph Churchill and Mr. Chamberlain; a short paper advocating Imperial Federation, by Mr. R. L. Nash; a powerful argument against the retention of the coal dues; an article on loan agents and directors—omitting in the latter category some of the most prominent "guinea-pigs;" and "A Promoter's Story," by Mr. W. R. Lawson. The summarized Consular Reports continue to be a very useful feature of the publication.

THE MORNING PAPERS.

THE LETTERS OF MR. GLADSTONE AND LORD HARTINGTON.

The *Times* remarks that Lord Hartington's straightforward and businesslike letter supporting the claims of Mr. Thursby to succeed Mr. Rylands contrasts forcibly with Mr. Gladstone's letter in support of Mr. Slagg. Since letters from political leaders are the fashion, electors, it is to be presumed, draw some kind of conclusion from comparison of tone, temper, and style. The people of Burnley can hardly approach the subject dispassionately without seeing how entirely unworthy is Mr. Gladstone's letter, both in what it says and in what it leaves unsaid over the grave of an old and faithful supporter, of a man aspiring once more to direct the policy of a great country.

The *Standard* says that Mr. Gladstone's letter is a lesson in the art of putting a good face upon awkward or unpalatable facts, which we might all study with advantage. It is an ingenious idea, this of representing Mr. Gladstone engaged in the invasion and conquest of British paganism. He has advanced to the Trent, has obtained a lodgment in Wales. But there, for the present, his career is stayed. The barbarians—that is to say, the inhabitants of the metropolis and the most civilized and intelligent classes of the community—are as yet too many for him. But he will conquer in the long run, and then the vanquished will be the first to thank him, and wonder how they could have been blind so long to the blessings which his victory has brought them. This is a very pretty vision, and there is but one insuperable obstacle that the *Standard* knows of to the realization of it—these intractable and misguided Unionists have been acting with full knowledge of the subject on which they had to determine. They have not sinned in ignorance, from heedlessness, or from party spirit. No question of our time has been more thoroughly argued out or presented to the public in a greater variety of lights than the question of Home Rule. No controversy has been watched with closer attention, and none has exhibited such a convergence of men of all parties towards the same conclusion. If any judgment was ever pronounced on any public question deliberately and consciously, and with a full knowledge of all the issues involved in it, such was the judgment of the British people in favour of the maintenance of the Union.

The *Daily News* thinks that Lord Hartington's open advocacy of the Tory candidate should make the Liberals of Burnley close their ranks against treachery.

The *Daily Telegraph* is afraid that Mr. Gladstone, although he knows the east and the west, has hardly mastered the other points of the compass. Are the people of Liverpool "southern" English? Are Manchester and Salford, with their majority against Separation, also the south? Where is Birmingham? Is Lancashire not a northern county? Is not London representative of the whole United Kingdom—in fact, of the empire at large? Yet, ignoring the way in which all these great centres of population—these vast sections of the realm—have pronounced against his policy, he deprecates the resistance to repeal as a local manifestation of the "English of the south." Here we have presented to us something that approaches to Canning's *reductio ad absurdum*—the restoration of the Heptarchy. Ireland, Scotland, and Wales are to have Parliaments of their own; "south" England is to have a fourth; we require only three more—let us say the north, the midlands, and the eastern counties—to relapse into a septenary condition. It is to be hoped that Burnley will give the proper reply to this outline of advanced political schism.

THE ORDER OF BUSINESS IN PARLIAMENT.

The *Times* says there is no foundation whatever for the rumours which were rife yesterday to the effect that the Government intends to give precedence to measures for strengthening the law in Ireland. The reform of House of Commons procedure remains the first article in its programme, nor is it easy to conceive by what arguments any change in that respect could be supported. Whatever the urgency of Irish business, no time would be saved by taking it before the reform of procedure. In Mr. Gladstone's letter to Mr. Slagg, which betrays a good deal of irritation, we are distinctly threatened with the persistent use of obstruction to coerce the people of this country into adopting Mr. Gladstone's plans. This menace, thinly disguised as a prediction, indicates clearly enough the line of conduct which the Separatists intend to pursue as long as they can, and consequently the pressing importance of depriving them of their weapons as quickly as possible.

TRIAL BY JURY IN IRELAND.

The *Daily News* remarks that the Lord-Lieutenant and his advisers seem to forget that there are two ways of being partial. There is such a thing as partiality against the accused as well as partiality in their favour, and the elaborate precautions of the Crown lawyers in the case of Mr. Dillon and his friends seem not unlikely to end in filling the jury-box with twelve Tory merchants determined to find the traversers guilty, and no more capable of estimating the facts indifferently than twelve peasants of Galway. You can manipulate a jury so that it will find any verdict you want. But you cannot hocus into fairness. Selection, and dodging, and wholesale exclusion of Catholics may produce a jury which will find Nationalists guilty of any crime imputed to them, but not one in whose integrity and uprightness the public will feel any confidence whatever. If Ministers cannot trust jurors chosen from the ordinary panel in the regular way, they would do far better to take the bull by the horns and ask Parliament to suspend or abolish trial by jury in Ireland altogether.

THE DEBATE ON MR. PARNELL'S AMENDMENT.

The *Morning Post* cannot help thinking that one of the beneficial results of the recent debate is to open the eyes of a considerable number of Mr. Gladstone's supporters to the downward incline upon which they are so swiftly descending. It is no longer a question of the much or the little of the original Irish Home Rule Bill that Mr. Gladstone desires to preserve. All that those who are not Unionist Liberals have to determine is whether they are prepared to place Irishmen simply because they are Irishmen *supra leges*, or to enable them to attain a position which will be incompatible with the integrity of the United Kingdom. The debate which has just closed has placed this broad issue in a simple light, and we ought to be grateful to Mr. Parnell and his Gladstonian allies for having rendered this service to the country. Those who run may read, and only those who are prepared to trample under foot the intelligence with which they have been endowed can be in any doubt as to the course they should pursue.

THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE DEFECTIVE WEAPONS.

The *Times* declares that all this recrimination between the Departments about severe tests and unfair tests of weapons is merely so much dust thrown into the eyes of the public. The question is a very simple one. It requires no profound knowledge of metallurgy. Any armourer on board one of her Majesty's ships ought to be able to say whether a cutlass or sword-bayonet is fit for service or not. If a sword which can be bent across the knee remains bent when the pressure is removed, it is a bad sword, whatever the War Office may say, and whatever tests the wisecracks of the War Office may have applied to it in 1871. We expect the War Office to supply good swords; if the swords are bad it is no defence to say that they have satisfied

any number of bad tests. The test is made for the sword, not the sword for the test. If the swords pass the test and then fail, the only rational conclusion is that the test is bad, not that the sword is good. This is so obvious that it would hardly be worth stating if it were not that the War Office has deliberately chosen to base its defence on the very opposite principle. Of the two Departments involved in this ludicrous evasion of responsibility the War Office is clearly the more directly to blame. The Admiralty is rather the victim of official confidence and optimism. The War Office is incorrigible.

WANTED, A HERO!

The *Daily News* is convinced that the Civil Service is only to be reformed from within, and that the only person who can reform it is a Man. Wanted, a hero! It must be a life-long labour of one strong will, one practical and informed mind. Passionate protests in high places, such as that which made the nine days' wonder of the Christmas season, can do but little good. At best they only tell us what we all know. The Civil Service is not organized on business principles in its relation of pay to service or of promotion to merit. Who will organize it in that way? Every Civil Service in the world exhibits the same imperfections, and the American is probably no better than ours. Favouritism is but one cause of the evil. The profounder cause in that reform is not a commanding interest with anybody, and that, on the other hand, "liberalism" of treatment is a natural expectation on the part of those who have to do with the State. People hardly ever ask what the State can get a thing done for, but rather what it ought to give. There would be no harm in this if they would sometimes put the question in the negative form. What ought it not to give? This, honestly answered, would abolish most of the sinecures, and leave more for real merit on the one hand, and for the pocket of the nation on the other. The opportunity of acquiring the information and then acting upon it is the most splendid a public man could desire. But his gifts would have to be equal to his opportunities; and among them, if it may be so classified, should be the real business training which many of our public men so conspicuously lack. A railway manager with a free hand would probably set any public department on a thorough footing of economy and efficiency in a few months.

THE RAG TRADE AND INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The medical reports to the Local Government Board for the year 1886 have been issued. Among them is a report by Dr. H. F. Parsons on the manufacture of rag-flock in reference to the possible dissemination of infectious disease. The manufacture of rag-flock consists in the tearing up of rags into a fibrous material, used for the stuffing of beds and articles of furniture. It is carried on chiefly in the West Riding of Yorkshire, but also in Lancashire, Gloucestershire, and other countries. As to the sources whence rags are derived, Dr. Parsons says:—

Rags are imported into this country from almost every part of the world in which people are sufficiently civilized to wear clothing. I am informed, however, that at the present time the imports of foreign rags are comparatively small, as the low prices which they now fetch will not pay for freight. Those coming into the English market are principally from the continent of Europe. They are imported in largest quantities at the ports of Goole, Hull, London, and Liverpool. Foreign rags ordinarily are compressed by hydraulic presses into hard and compact bales before shipment. Other rags are collected in this country, along with waste substances of other kinds, by people commonly called "marine store dealers," from whom they pass, through the hands of rag merchants and brokers, into those of the manufacturers. A very dirty class of rags is collected from the dust-hills on which the refuse of London and other large towns is tipped. Rags of different primary classes, as cotton and woollen, are collected separately, and those of each class often undergo one or more sortings before they come into the hands of the manufacturers.

Woollen rags go to the shoddy manufacturer. Sometimes, but not always, the rags, after being torn up for this purpose, are dyed; if not dyed, "pure" wool rags do not undergo any process of which it could be affirmed that it would with certainty destroy infectious matter, though it is probable that any such matter which they might contain, being attached to the surface as dirt, would be removed with the dust, or lose its activity by exposure to the air. The amount of dust in unwashed rags is considerable, varying from 25 to 50 per cent. of the rags used. Dr. Parsons gives an interesting account of the various methods of flock-making. It would appear, however, that very little attempt is made to cleanse the rags beyond removing the dust.

In Yorkshire the adoption of any process for the cleansing or purification of the rags before they are torn up appears to be exceptional, at any rate as regards the cheaper qualities of flock. In the west of England, on the other hand, where water is plentiful and a better class of flock is made, a large proportion of the flock is washed; at some mills, as those of the several Messrs. Grist, near Stroud, none but washed flocks are made. Some of the west of England manufacturers, however, have felt themselves, as they say, reluctantly compelled in these days of low prices and keen competition to manufacture unwashed flocks, in order to hold their ground against the Yorkshire makers. At the factories where the cheapest qualities of flocks are made some of the rags were seen to be very dirty, and all were ground up together. At some factories, however, exceptionally filthy rags are rejected. Rags are sometimes met with which are soiled with blood or excrement. The rags are often infested with fleas and mites; but other vermin are said not to be often met with. Washed flock is said to be less liable to be damaged by moths than that which contains the dirt.

Two Yorkshire manufacturers, Messrs. Robb, of Ossett, and Illingworth, of Batley, use in the case of inferior flocks a solution of a permanganate for damping the rags before tearing up; but this, Dr. Parsons says, is not likely in the quantity used to have much effect in the way of disinfection properly so called. Mr. Illingworth has also patented a machine for the disinfection of rags for flock-making by heat and sulphurous acid gas.

As regards the possibility of the transmission of infectious diseases by flock made from infected rags, Dr. Parsons has made inquiries of a number of medical officers of health in the rag-working district of the West Riding of Yorkshire and elsewhere, and of flock manufacturers, rag merchants, and upholsterers; also, in respect of the dust, of medical officers of health and manure merchants in the hop-growing counties. The result of these inquiries has been to show that, while workpeople engaged in the manufacture of flock suffer from certain symptoms produced by the irritation of inhaled dust, instances in which infectious disease had been contracted by them were scarcely to be met with. A few cases were heard of in which persons who had been handling woollen rags for shoddy-making had contracted small-pox or other infectious disorder; but the only case at a flock factory was attributed not to infected rags, but to the remaking of a flock-bed on which a small-pox patient had died. It appears that there is more danger of infection from rags used in paper-making (consisting chiefly of linen which may have been in contact with the body) than in those from which flock is made. While hesitating to make disinfection compulsory, Dr. Parsons recommends the following measures:—Vaccination and revaccination of rag-workers; ventilation, cleanliness, and avoidance of dust in rag factories; disinfection or purification of rags, preferably in the bale. The best disinfectant for the purpose is heat in the form of superheated steam, or hot moist air.

STOCKS AND SHARES.

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

COLONIAL GOVERNMENT SECURITIES

Canada, Dominion of, 5p. ct. 1903	112	114
Ditto, ditto 4 p. cent. 1904-5-6-8	104	105
Cape of Good Hope 1890-1900	—	—
Ditto 1891	—	—
Ditto 5 per cent. 1900	107	109
Ditto 4½ per cent.	102	104
Ditto ditto (June & Dec)	101	103
Natal 4½ p. cent. (Mar. & Sept.)	101	103
Ditto 5 per cent., 10-40	104	105
New South Wales, 1888 to 1894	101	107
Ditto 5 per cent. 1895 to 1902	105	114
Ditto 2 per cent. 1892 to 1895	105	107
New Zealand 6 per cent. 1891	105	108
Ditto 5 per cent. 1914	110	112
Ditto 5 per cent. Consols	102	104
Ditto 6 p. cent., March 15, 1891	107	109
Ditto ditto (June & Dec.)	106	108
Ditto 4½ p. cent. 5-30, 1897-190	—	—
Ditto ditto 10-40, 1888-1918	101	103
Ditto ditto 1889	101	103
Quebec (Province of) 5 p. c. 1904	108	110
Ditto ditto 1890	106	108
Queensland 6 per cent. 1891-1897	106	118
Ditto 4 per cent. 1913-1915	99	101
South Australian 6 p. c. 1891-1900	—	—
Ditto ditto 1901-1912	115	130
Ditto 5 per cent. 1911-1920	106	116
Ditto 4 per cent. 1920	100	102
Ditto ditto 1916	100	102
Straits Settlements Gov. 4½ p. c.	103	105
Tasmanian 6 per cent. 1895	110	115
Ditto 4 per cent. 1 July, 1905	99	101
Victoria 5 per cent. 1891	106	108
Ditto 5 per cent. 1894	105	108
Ditto 4 per cent. 1899-1901	101½	102½
Western Australian 4½ per cent.	105	107
Ditto ditto 4 per cent.	101	102

REGISTERED AND INSCRIBED STOCKS.

Canada 4 p. c. Stock Reg., 1904	104	105
Do. Loan for £4,000,000, 1910	103½	104½
C. of Good Hope 4 p. c. Stock Reg.	99½	100½
Do. (Loan of 1893) Ins.	99½	100½
Ceylon 4 p. c. Inscribed Stock	102½	103½
Natal 4 p. c. Consol. Stock Reg.	96	97
New South Wales 4 p. c. Ins.	97	98
Do. 3½ p. c. Stock Ins.	93½	94½
Do. 3½ p. c. Stock, 1883	—	—
Queensland Stock Ins.	99½	100½
S. Australia (Loans of 1882-3-4)	100½	101½
Victoria 4 p. c. Railway Loan	102½	103½
1887, Inscribed Stock	102½	103½
Victoria 4 p. c. Loans of 1882,	—	—
1883, and 1884, do. 1908	104	105
W. Australia Loan of £525,000 Stk.	103½	104½

AMERICAN SECURITIES.

Massachusetts 5 per cent. 1888	101	103
Atlantic First Leased Lines Rental	—	—
Trust	77	79
Baltimore & Potomac 1st Mn. Line	124	126
Central Pacific of California Six	—	—
per Cent. First Mortgage	116	118
Delaware and Hudson Canal	—	—
Mortgage Bonds, 1894	112	117
Denver & Rio Grande Consols	—	—
Lehigh Valley Con. Mortgage	131	135
New York Central and Hudson	—	—
River Seven per Cent. Mort.	133	138
New York, Pennsylvania and	—	—
Ohio Third Mortgage	4½	5½
Norfolk and Western Preferred	49	50
St. Louis Bridge 1st Pref. Stock	104	106
Ditto and Preferred Stock	52	54
Do. 1st Mortgage Gold Bonds	132	137
Union Pacific Railway 1st Mort.	116	118
Union Pacific Land Grant	100	105

RAILWAYS.—BRITISH POSSESSIONS.

Atlantic and St. Lawrence 6 p. c.	139	141
Bombay, Baroda, & Central India	—	—
guaranteed 5 per cent.	161	164
Buffalo and Lake Huron	11½	12
Canada Central Five per Cent.	—	—
First Mortgage Bonds	108	110
Can. Pac. Stl. 5 p. c. First Mort.	103½	104½
Chicago and Grand Trunk 6 p. c.	105	107
Demerara 7 p. c. Perpetual Pref.	138	142
Eastern Bengal 4 p. c. Guar. Deb. St.	116	118
East Indian, Annuity A.	22½	23
Ditto Annuity B, 1 per annum	24½	24½
Ditto Def. Annuity Cap. Guar.	—	—
4 per cent.	115	119
Do. Irredeem. Deb. Stk. 4½ p. c.	119	124
Great Indian Peninsula Guarant.	—	—
teed Five per Cent.	144	147
Do. 4 per Cent. Deb. Stock	107	109
Hamilton & N. W. 1st M. 6 p. c.	106	108
Madras guaranteed 5 per cent.	125	127
Ditto ditto 4½ per cent.	120	123
Ditto ditto 4½ per cent.	114	116
Melbourne and Hobson's Bay	—	—
United 5 per cent. Bonds	107	109
M. of Canada Sterling 1st Mort-	—	—
gage (Con.) 5 per cent. 1st Mort	100	102
Nizam's State Railway Guarant.	98	100
teed 5 per cent. Shares	106	108
N. of Canada 6 p. c. Pref. Stock	55	60
Ditto 5 per cent. 1st Mortgage	105	107
Ditto 3rd Pref. Bonds A and B	94	95
Ditto North. Exten. 6 p. c.	104	105
Ditto ditto 6 p. c. Impr. Mort.	104	105
Ditto 4 per cent. Deb. Stock	83	85
Ont. & Quebec 5 p. c. Perp. Deb. St.	109	110
Oude & Rohilkund 5 p. c. 1st	125	127
Ditto 4 per cent. Deb. Stock	106	108
St. John and Maine	30	33
Scinde, Punjab, & Delhi 5 p. c.	—	—
South Indian guar. 5 per cent.	125	127
Ditto 4½ per cent. Deb. Stock	114	116
S. Mahattra Guar. 4 p. c. till 1889	100	103
Ditto 4 per cent. Deb. Stock	105	107
Tasmanian Main Line Debenture	—	—
4 per cent. Stock	84	88
Toronto, Grey, and Bruce 4 per	—	—
cent. 1st Mortgage	84	85
Wellington, Grey, and Bruce 7	—	—
per cent. Bonds, 1st Mortgage	98	100

BRITISH RAILWAYS.

East London Consolidated	9	11
Furness Consolidated	103	106
Glasgow and South-Western Con.	101	103
Hull, Barnsley, and West Riding	—	—
Junction Shares	17	18
London, Tilbury, & Southend Co.	135	139
Mersey	6	8
North London Consolidated	178	183
Rhymney	160	165

RAILWAYS.—DEBENTURE STOCK.

Caledonian 4 per cent.	116	118
East London 6 per cent.	140	140
Ditto 5 per cent.	110	110
Ditto 6 per cent. 1874	90	110
Ditto 6 per cent. 1875	60	90
Glasgow and S. West. 4 per cent.	114	116
Great Eastern 4 per cent.	116	118
Ditto A 5 per cent.	142	144
Ditto B 6 p. redm., 5 p. c.	132	134
Ditto 4½ per cent.	—	—
Great Northern 4 p. c.	115	117
Great Western 4 per cent.	118	120
Ditto 4½ per cent.	122	124
Ditto 4½ per cent.	132	134
Ditto 5 per cent.	145	147
Lancashire and York, 4 per cent.	117	119
London and Blackwall, 4½ per cent.	120	122
Ditto Perpetual 4½ per cent.	115	117
London & Chatham Arb. ½ p. c.	124	125
Ditto ditto B 4½ p. c.	123	125
Ditto ditto 4 per cent.	108	110
Ditto ditto 1883	108	110
London & North-Western 4 p. c.	118	120
London & South-Western 4 p. c.	118	120
Ditto ditto B 4 p. c.	118	120
London, Tilbury & 3½ p. c.	102	104
Manch. & Sheffield 4½ per cent.	114	116
Metropolitan 4 per cent.	115	117
Ditto 4½ per cent.	126	128
Ditto 4½ per cent.	98	100
Metropolitan District 6 per cent.	155	158
Midland 4 per cent.	106	108
North British 4 per cent.	115	117
Do. E. P. and D. B. 5 per cent.	—	—
North-Eastern 4 per cent.	118	120
Ditto 4½ per cent.	130	132
North London 4½ per cent.	131	133
North Staffordshire 4½ p. c.	121	123
South-Eastern Perp. 4 per cent.	117	119
Ditto ditto 5 per cent.	142	144
Taff Vale 4 per cent.	110	113

FOREIGN RAILWAYS.

Antwerp and Rotterdam	21	23
Bahia and San Francisco, 6 p. c.	22½	23½
Brazilian Imperial Central Bahia	21½	21½
Ditto 6 p. c. Debenture Stock	110	112
Buenos Ayres Great Southern	158	160
Ditto Extension	14	14½
Ditto 5 p. c. Debenture Stock	118	120
Buenos Ayres and Ensenada Port	8	9
Ditto 8 p. c. Preference	13½	14½
Ditto 5 p. c. Deb. Stock	108	110
Buenos Ayres and Pacific Pref.	23½	24½
Buenos Ayres and Rosario Ord.	141	144
Ditto ditto 7 p. c. Pref.	14½	15
Ditto ditto 5 p. c. Deb. Stock	112	114
Central Argentine Limited	167	169
Ditto 6 per cent. Debent. Stock	137	140
C. Uruguay of Montevideo, Lim	11½	11½
Conde d'Eu, Lim., 6 p. c. Deb. Stock	129	131
Copiapu	25	26
Dutch Rhenish	38	42
Ditto New	16½	17½
Ditto ditto 1872	4	4½
East Argentine, Lim., 6 p. c.	101	103
Ditto 6 per cent. Deb. Stock	111	113
Great Western of Brazil 6 p. c.	19	20
Ditto 5 per cent. Deb. Stock	114	116
Imp. Brazilian, Natal, and N. Cruz	6	7
Lima, Limited	6½	6½
Namur and Liège 14 p. per annum	11	12
Ditto 6 per cent. Preference	25	27
N. W. Uruguay 6 p. c. 1st Pref	67	69
Ditto, ditto, 5 per cent. 2nd Pref	45	47
Ottoman (Smyrna to Aidin)	11½	11½
Prov. Oreil-Vitebsk 5 p. c.	27	28
Rio de Janeiro and Sao Francisco g.	103	105
Royal Sardinian	14½	15½
Ditto Preference	10	10½
Royal Swedish	103½	111½
Ditto Preference	3½	3½
Sambre and Meuse	9½	10
Ditto 5½ p. c. Preference	11½	12
San Paulo Brazilian guar. 7 p. c.	40	41
Ditto 5½ p. c. Debenture Stock	130	132
Smyrna and Cassaba, Limited	22	23
Ditto 7 per cent. Preference	26	26½
Southern Brazilian Rio Grande	—	—
Do Sul Guaranteed 7 per cent.	21½	22
Varna	2½	3½
West Flanders	10½	11½
Ditto 5½ p. c. Preference	11	12
West of Buenos Ayres 6 p. c. Bds	110	112
Do. 5 p. c. Mort. Deb.	93½	95½

LAND COMPANIES.

Canada Company	83	86
Canada North-West Land	2½	3
Natal Land and Colonization	4	5
Newfoundland Land	1½	2
Otago and Southland Investment	13½	14
Peel River Land	83	85
Scottish Australian Investment	195	205
South Australian	60	63
S. Austrin. Land Mort. & Agency	2½	2½
Van Diemen's Land	24	26

TELEGRAPH SHARES.

Anglo-American Preferred	53	54
Ditto Deferred	11½	12½
Cuba, Limited	11	11½
Ditto 10 per cent. Preference	17½	18½
Eastern 4 per cent. Debent. Stock	101	103
Eastern Exten. 6 per cent. Debent.	104	107
Great Northern of Copenhagen	13½	13½
Indo-European, Limited	34	35
London P. Brazilian, 6 p. c. Deb.	100	103
Reuter's, Limited	6½	7½
Submarine	190	200
Ditto Scrip	—	—
West India and Panama 1st Pref.	8½	9
Western Union of U.S. & M. Bonds	123	127

BANKS.

Agra, Limited	8½	9
Alliance, Limited	12	13
Anglo-Austrian	8	9
Anglo-Californian, Limited	10½	11½
Anglo-Foreign Banking, Limited	8½	9½
Anglo-Italian, 1866, Limited	5½	6½
Bank of Africa, Limited	5	6
Bank of Australasia	101	103
Bank of British Columbia	28	29
Ditto New Issue at 2 prem.	13½	14½
Bank of British North America	67	69
Bank of Constantinople	5	6
Bank of Egypt	28	30
Bank of New South Wales	64	66
Bank of New Zealand	23	24
Bank of Roumania	6	7
Bank of South Australia	25	27
Bank of Victoria	35	37
Central of London, Limited	10½	11½
Chart. of India, Aust., and China	22½	23½
Com. Bank of Australia, Lim.	18	19
Delhi and London, Limited	12	14
English Bank of Rio de Jan., Lim	13½	14½
English Bank of River Plate, Lim.	11½	12
Eng., Scottish, and Aust. Chart	32	33
Franco-Egyptian, issued at 5 pm.	—	—
German Bank of London, Lim.	11	12
Hong Kong & Shanghai Bk. Corp.	53	55
Imperial, Limited	17	18
International Bank of Lond. Lim.	14	15
Ionian	15	16
Lloyds, Barnett's, & Bosanquet, L.	22	23
London and Brazilian, Limited	17	18
London and Hanseatic, Limited	10	11
London and Provincial, Limited	13½	14
London and River Plate, Limited	16½	17½
London and San Francisco, Lim.	53½	54½
London and South-Western, Lim	22	23
London Bank of Mexico & South	—	—
America, Limited	3½	4½
London Chartered of Australia	22½	23½
London, Paris, and Am. Bank, L.	17	19
Mercantile Bank of River Plate, L.	2½	3
Merchant, Limited	2½	3½
National, Limited	—	—
National Bank of Australasia	9	9½
Nat. Bank of New Zealand, L.	14	14½
North-Eastern, Limited	5½	6½
Provincial of Ireland, Limited	19½	20½
Queensland National, Limited	12½	13
Standard of South Africa, Ld.	43½	44½
Union of Australia, Limited	60	68
Union of Spain and England, L	5	5½

GAS COMPANIES.

Commercial, New Stock	205	210
Continental Union Limited	38	40
European, Limited	21½	22½
Gas Light and Coke A, Ordinary	233	237
Imperial Continental	206	211
South Metropolitan A	297	302

CORPORATION STOCKS.

Met. B. of Works 3 p. c. Stock	98	98½
Com. of Sewers City London Scrip	100	101
Corp. of London Bonds, 1886-88	99½	100½
Ditto ditto 1891-95	100	101
Ditto 3 p. c. Bonds, 1912	96	98
Birmingham Corp. Stock, 1945	102½	103
Bristol Corp. Deb. 3½ p. c. Stock	100½	101½
Cardiff Corporation 3½ per cent.	97	97½
Glasgow Corporation 3½ per cent.	—	—
Hull Corporation Stock	100	101
Leeds, Corp. 4 p. c. Con. Deb. Stock	111	112
Liverpool Corp. 3½ p. c. Stock	103½	103½
Manchester Corp. 4 per cent.	116½	117½
Middlesbrough Corpora. 4½ p. c.	103	105
Newcastle Corp. 3½ per cent.	100	102
Nottingham Corp. Stock, 3 p. c.	86½	87½
Stockton Corp. 4½ p. c. Mort. 1908	103	105
Wolverhampton Corp. 3½ p. c. Stk	97½	98½

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