

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

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DRURY LANE.

**DRURY LANE.—AUGUSTUS**  
HARRIS, Lessee and Manager.  
EVERY EVENING, at 7.55; 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.

LYCEUM.

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

ADELPHI.

**ADELPHI THEATRE.—Messrs. A. and S. GATTI, Sole Proprietors and Managers.** THIS EVENING, at 8 o'clock, **THE HARBOUR LIGHTS** (403rd time). Mr. William Terriss, Messrs. Garden, Maclean, Lyndal, Boleyn, Campbell, Russell, Wentworth, Travers, &c.; Messdames Millward, Achurch, C. Jecks, Leigh, Brennan, Carter, &c. At 7.15, **FAMILY JARS.** LAST MORNING PERFORMANCE (for the present) TO-MORROW (Saturday), at 2.

GAIETY.

**GAIETY THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, GEORGE EDWARDS.—EVERY EVENING, at 8, MONTE CRISTO JR.,** a Burlesque Melodrama in Three Acts, by Richard Henry. Produced by Charles Harris. Musical Director, Meyer Lutz. At 7.15, Farce. Doors open at 7. MORNING PERFORMANCE OF MONTE CRISTO JR., every Saturday, at 2.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.

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

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.

**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 Dream-play in two acts, by Savile Clarke, founded on Lewis Carroll's delightful Stories. Music by Walter Slaughter. New Scenery, Properties, and Dresses. Doors open 2.15, commence 2.30. Box-office 10 to 5 daily. Special reduced prices of admission for children under 12. Notwithstanding its great success, this delightful play CANNOT BE PERFORMED after Feb. 26.

STRAND.

**STRAND THEATRE.—FANNIE LESLIE.**—Songs and Dances.—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, Messdames West, Turner, Norman, and McNeill; Messrs. Stephens Parker, Beauchamp, Walker, Ward, Graham, Lewis, Warden, and J. A. Arnold will appear. At 7.50, BY SPECIAL REQUEST. Open at 7. Box-office open to 5. MORNING PERFORMANCE TO-morrow (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.; Messdames 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.—TO-NIGHT, at 9.** GLOBE THEATRE.

VAUDEVILLE.

**VAUDEVILLE.—THIS EVENING, at 8.30, SOPHIA** (233rd time), by Robert Buchanan. Messrs. THOMAS THORNE, Carleton, Thorne, Farquhar, Mellish, Grove, Wheatman, and LEONARD BOYNE; Messdames Larkin, Leclercq, Venne, Forsyth, and K. Rorke. At 7.45, **NEARLY SEVERED.** MATINEE every SATURDAY, at 2.30.

SAVOY.

**SAVOY.—R. D'OLY CARTE, Proprietor and Manager.—EVERY EVENING,** the New and Original Supernatural Opera, in Two Acts, by W. S. Gilbert and Arthur Sullivan, entitled **RUDDIGORE; OR, THE WITCH'S CURSE.** Messrs. G. Grossmith, R. Barrington, R. Temple, R. Lewis, and D. Lely; Messdames L. Braham, Jessie Bond, J. Findlay, and R. Brandram. Commence at 8.15. Doors open at 7.45. Box-office open from 9 A.M. till 11 P.M. Morning Performance every SATURDAY, at 2.30.

**SAVOY.—Mr. George Grossmith** having recovered from his severe illness will appear Every Evening and Saturday afternoon.

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 Courts, 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. HARR and Mr. KENDAL.** THIS EVENING, at 8.20, will be performed a New and Original Comedy in Three Acts, written by A. W. PINERO, called

THE HOBBY HORSE.

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

OLYMPIC.

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

PRINCESS'S.

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

CRITERION.

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

COMEDY.

**COMEDY THEATRE.—Sole Lessee, Miss MELNOTTE.—Enthusiastic Reception.** MYNHEER JAN.—Every Evening, at 8, a new Comic Opera, in 3 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. Marins; Miss Camille d'Arville, Mdm. Anadi, Miss Kate Munroe, Miss Amy Martin, Miss Emma Broughton, Miss Annie Wilson, Miss M. Richardson, Miss Alice Lethbridge, Miss Melnotte. The Dances arranged by Mons. J. Hansen (by kind permission of the directors of the Alhambra Theatre). Entirely New and Elaborate Scenery by Mr. T. E. Ryan. The Costumes executed by Mons. and Mdm. Alias, from designs by Lucien Besche. Armour and Jewellery by Mons. Lassalle. Augmented 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.

AVENUE.

**AVENUE.—ROBINSON CRUSOE.** Enormous success. 64th Time. TO-NIGHT, at 7.45. Burlesque Pantomime, supported by Mr. Arthur Roberts, Miss Wadman, and a most powerful company. Doors open 7.30. MORNING PERFORMANCE EVERY SATURDAY, at 2.

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 Lewes, and Mrs. John Wood will appear. Preceded, at 8.0, by **THE NETTLE.** Box-office open daily from 11 to 5. No fees.

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

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

OPERA COMIQUE.

**OPERA COMIQUE.—Lessee and Manager, F. J. HARRIS.—Miss Kate Vaughan's Comedy Company.—THIS EVENING, at 8.15, THE RIVALS.** In Act 2, Scene 3, a Gavotte will be danced. At 7.45 a farce, entitled **NED KNOWLES.** Doors open 7.15. MATINEE OF THE RIVALS, TO-MORROW (Saturday), at 2.15. The New Club Band has been specially engaged for this performance. Owing to the success which has attended THE RIVALS, the Revival of SHE STOOPS TO CONQUER will be POSTPONED until SATURDAY week, the 26th inst.

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

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**MDME. TUSSAUD'S EXHIBITION.** Latest addition, Grand Group representing the POPE LEO XIII. giving an audience at the Vatican, surrounded by Cardinals, Monsignors, Noble Guards, &c. Magnificent and imposing spectacle. Over 400 Portrait Models. Increased orchestra, 3 to 5 and 7.30 to 10. Admission 1s. Children under twelve, 6d. Extra Rooms, 6d. Open from 10 till 10.

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**FIRST SPRING MEETING** will take place on TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY, February 22nd and 23rd, 1887. Commencing at 1.30 P.M. each day.

Frequent Trains from Waterloo, Vauxhall, Clapham Junction, and other stations as advertised. A Special Train (for Members only) will leave Waterloo Station, from No. 6 Platform, at 12.15 each day. H.W.P.A. WILLIAMS.

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OFFICES OF THE INSTITUTIONS,  
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## HOTELS.

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## "EGYPTIAN BEAUTIES."

## "THE MOSLEM."

## "AU SOLEIL."

THE EGYPTIAN CIGARETTE AND FRENCH GOVERNMENT TOBACCOS COMPANY (Limited), of Yenidjeh, Cairo, and 86 and 88, LEADENHALL STREET, LONDON, having their own establishment at Yenidjeh, the centre of the DUBEC tobacco growing district, are able to secure the finest Tobacco growths; and, with the assistance of a large staff of skilled native workmen, are in a position to manufacture and import the finest brands of Egyptian Cigarettes.

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## THE ST. JAMES'S GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1887.

## IN PARLIAMENT YESTERDAY.

LORD DUNRAVEN'S explanation in the House of Lords yesterday evening was needless and uncalled for. He was not a Cabinet Minister, and therefore nobody held him in the least degree responsible for whatever policy the Government might choose to adopt. Even in his own department an Under-Secretary is not responsible for policy—in which he is not always consulted—though he may be as to the business, the work of the office. Of course an Under-Secretary is quite free to resign his post if he does not like the proceedings of the Cabinet, and it may even be honourable in him to do so; but in supposing that Parliament or the country needs an "explanation" from him in such a case is simply an immodest mistake.

On the present occasion, it will be observed, the mistake and the immodesty are very much heightened by the fact that Lord DUNRAVEN'S explanation had little or nothing to do with the department with which he is immediately concerned; nor does he allege any clear and specific act of impolicy on the part of the Cabinet which he is not expected to answer for. Lord DUNRAVEN objects not to what his chiefs have done, but to what they have left undone which in his opinion they ought to have done; but, more particularly, he objects to what he thinks they are going to do. He intimated that he did not like the coercion which it was supposed the Government meant to apply to Ireland; maintaining, in advance of all such measures of "coercion," that their necessity might have been avoided if the existing laws had been put in operation. That the existing law has not been enforced as it ought to have been in the case cited by Lord DUNRAVEN must be conceded; but as to the extension of the law, he might have waited to form a judgment till he had learned definitely what it was to be. But it was to the foreign policy of his chiefs that Lord DUNRAVEN applied his powers of "thought-reading" most earnestly; and having done so, he acquaints the House of Lords and the country that he cannot agree with what he has no complete knowledge of or what certainly remains undeveloped. He has made up his mind, however, as Lord RANDOLPH CHURCHILL did, that there is nothing in the condition of foreign affairs to prevent a reduction of the estimates, or to render any such reduction injudicious. Not that he knows what the estimates are, or what Mr. GOSCHEN'S Budget will be. Only, in reliance on his own guess at what the foreign policy of the Government will turn out to be, and confident in his own judgment as to what it should be, and what the other European Powers are doing and will do, he concurs with Lord RANDOLPH CHURCHILL in thinking that we should reduce the Estimates for the Services without asking where the money can be spared. In short, Lord DUNRAVEN'S speech might be epitomized in the words, "I say ditto to Lord RANDOLPH CHURCHILL." Of course he is quite entitled to say so if it pleases him to take that course. But he had not Lord RANDOLPH'S grounds to go upon either in resigning office or in making explanations of his reasons for retirement; and in one particular—i.e. when he wished to dissociate himself from the charge of being willing to sacrifice the coaling stations in his zeal for retrenchment—he went beyond the facts. He said that the charge was unjust as applied to Lord RANDOLPH himself. "I am aware," said Lord DUNRAVEN, that "the late Chancellor of the Exchequer has received a great deal of abuse on the ground that he had resigned his high position solely because he desired that sums of money voted for the express purpose should not be expended in fortifying our coaling stations." But he had denied that statement, and yet "after he had done so an attack was made upon him precisely on the same ground. He distinctly stated that he resigned on the question whether there was or was not to be retrenchment, and not on the question of the coaling stations." True; but in the letter of resignation addressed by Lord RANDOLPH to the Prime Minister he said, "The War Estimates might be very considerably reduced if the policy of expenditure on the fortifications and guns and garrisons of military ports, mercantile ports, and coaling stations were abandoned or modified. But of this I see no chance; and, under the circumstances, I cannot continue to be responsible for the finances." That will do for answer on that point, we suppose.

And here, though there is much more to say, our remarks on Lord DUNRAVEN'S resignation and explanation must come to an end. It may be added, however, that his lordship was not improbably offended—as it was only natural he should be—at the talk of superseding him by Lord CADOGAN when the Ministry was rearranged; and a man so consciously clever might have felt some degree of irksomeness in finding, when that business was concluded, that Sir H. HOLLAND had been placed over his head.

Very good men have resigned office for reasons of this sort; but we have never yet heard of an Under-Secretary retiring on such grounds as were alleged by Lord DUNRAVEN yesterday afternoon.

We have left ourselves little space in which to speak of the proceedings in the House of Commons last night; but it will be enough to say that, contrary to expectation, they turned out to be eminently satisfactory. The debate on the alleged packing of juries in Ireland did not come off, after all; because, most fortunately, the Speaker had been supplied by Mr. SEXTON himself with an effectual means of barring it out. It had been forgotten by the whole conspiracy—by Mr. DILLWYN, by Mr. SHAW-LEFEVRE, by Mr. LABOUCHERE, by Mr. SEXTON himself—that a resolution calling attention to jury-packing had already been placed on the paper by the last-named gentleman himself; and according to the rules of the House the discussion of the subject could not be anticipated in the debate on the Address. So the little conspiracy hatched at the meeting of English and Irish Home Rulers on Wednesday came to the ground. Other attempts were made to prolong a wearisome and most obstructive debate, but one after another they were disposed of by the Speaker, who at last applied the cloture provision of the existing Procedure Rules. At one o'clock this morning the debate on the Address came to an end, amidst a scene of complete discomfiture for the Parnellites, English and foreign—to adopt Mr. GLADSTONE'S view of the relations of Great Britain and Ireland. Now the new Rules of Procedure are to come on for discussion, and they are to have precedence of all other business on the days on which they are set down by the Government. This was not agreed to without opposition, of course. But the point was carried; and we have now only to compliment Mr. SMITH on the temper and tact he displayed, not only in this little episode, but during the whole course of the troublesome debate that has come to an end at last.

## THE PROGRESS OF IRISH REBELLION.

SIXTY years ago the complete political emancipation of the Irish Catholics was opposed by some of the wisest men in England, and was regarded with distrust by the majority of educated people. Everybody knows why nevertheless it was carried. The Duke of Wellington induced a reluctant party to agree to it by the threat of civil war. He expressed the general sense of the country in his famous declaration to the House of Lords. It was felt that, objectionable as the measure was, a rebellion in Ireland was worse. The Act was passed, and fifty-six years later it was supplemented by a further measure which swamped the Irish electorate with a mass of ignorant voters of whom one in five cannot write his own name. The result has more than justified all those who argued that liberal institutions and democratic government were hopelessly unfitted for a people among whom the tyranny of the priest was only held in check by the tyranny of the demagogue. We cannot put back the hand on the dial. The Act of 1828 cannot be repealed, nor perhaps can that of 1885. But the two have led us to the very civil war which the first was destined to avert and the second was supposed to render impossible.

Most Englishmen, we are afraid, do not realize what is the actual situation in Ireland. Disorder there is nothing new; outrage is a too familiar tale. We are told that at the present moment outrages are no more numerous than they have been at most periods since Mr. Gladstone came back to office in 1880. It may be so; but there is no comfort to be got from the fact. The individual acts of violence are fewer because sedition and discontent have taken another form, which is, in plain words, that of rebellion. The heads of the temporal tyranny and the spiritual tyranny in Ireland—the League and the Church—have joined their forces to wage open war upon the Government. When we say war we are not speaking metaphorically. There is literally a Secession revolt in progress, and one that is being waged by all the methods customary in such cases, not excluding that of armed resistance. The Plan of Campaign may, perhaps, be considered no more than a development of the No Rent movement; but when the confederates of Dillon and O'Brien actually incite armed mobs to attack the police—when their obscure but not unauthorized followers are engaged in little battles with the Government forces on the road-side—we are in presence of a rising, and nothing else.

But that is not the whole of the matter. According to latest reports, we have come to this: The heads of the Roman Catholic Church are now inciting the people to acts which every civilized Government in the world regards as those of rebellion. Archbishop Walsh tells Irish Catholics that they must support the "Campaign" swindle, and obstruct the administration of justice because the Crown will not try criminals before a jury that will not return a just verdict. His colleague, Archbishop Croke, goes far beyond this. If the amazing letter which we publish elsewhere is genuine, this prelate urges his countrymen not to pay taxes. "On principle" he thinks that supplies should be refused to the lawful Government of the country. Do not let us be content, he insists, "to run the Plan of Campaign against bad landlords, and stop what they call their rent." Let us strike at the



Government directly. "Our money goes to fee and feed a gang of needy and voracious lawyers, to purchase bludgeons for policemen to be used in smashing the skulls of our people, and generally for the support of a foreign garrison or native slaves, who hate and despise everything Irish and every genuine Irishman. The policeman is pampered and paid, the patriot is persecuted. Our enforced taxes go to sustain the one; we must further freely tax ourselves to defend the other." In other words, "No Taxes," as well as "No Rent."

Such is the *mot d'ordre* of the Papal hierarchy in Ireland. Whether the Vatican does or does not privately approve of Archbishops Walsh and Croke is a matter of no importance to any one. They have not been disavowed or censured, and they therefore speak with the authority of the Church. This, then, is the state of affairs which may be commended to the earnest consideration of all Englishmen, and of that minority of Englishmen who, though they are Home Rulers, are not, we presume, prepared to become insurgents. The Power which sways the minds of the people of Ireland declares in the first place that it is right and laudable for good Catholics to disobey the temporal Sovereign and the authority of the law; it goes further and takes the first and the longest step to making that resistance effectual, by diverting the contributions levied to maintain government into a fund for overthrowing it. What more is needed? Could the rebel flag be displayed much more openly if there were Irish regiments in the field against the forces of the Crown? If this last catastrophe is to be averted, it will be only by recognizing that civil war has begun in Ireland and must be met by appropriate methods.

## NOTES.

Amid the Babel of rumours from abroad there is one highly important piece of intelligence, published by Reuter's company, which is, on the whole, the most trustworthy of the reporting agencies. It is said that the Bulgarian Regency have gone to the utmost limits of concession, and will entertain no more of M. Zankoff's propositions for converting the principality into a Russian province. On the other hand, if the "negotiations," as the attempt to frighten the Bulgarians into submission to Russia is called, should prove fruitless, the German Ambassador has warned the Regents to prepare for the worst. Failing a settlement, Russia will occupy Bulgaria, with the consent of Austria and Germany. This may be meant merely to intimidate the Regents; but it may also be intended seriously. Certainly the idea of a Russian occupation is once more gaining ground in Constantinople. Was it ever abandoned at St. Petersburg?

A semi-official Russian letter published in Vienna contains some interesting reflections on the prospect of peace or war in Europe. The writer considers it desirable in the interests of Russia that a war between Germany and France should be avoided, and that the best way to avoid it is to deter Germany from aggressive war by letting her perceive the warm friendship of Russia for France. But he does not think there is much prospect of peace. He admits that the rulers of Germany must be reluctant to fight, and must realize the risks attending a war with France. But he doubts if Bismarck will dare to let France grow constantly stronger and stronger. He suspects that the German Chancellor will feel the necessity for one more crushing blow against an enemy whom a few more years may render irresistible, before he leaves the protection of German unity and power in weaker hands than his own. This has been our own opinion for years past.

In every part of the Indian Empire, and of the Native States, the Jubilee is being celebrated with great enthusiasm and success. Native Princes and English Governors vie with one another in the multiplication of ceremonies, and in acts of bounty and clemency. Loyal addresses have been presented in great numbers; and it seems that the people at large are really taking part in the demonstration, and showing their sense of the blessings of English rule. It must be admitted that India is to be congratulated not only on the success of the Jubilee, but on the fact of getting the Jubilee over so early in the year. At home we must listen for some months to come to the fierce wrangling of rival jubilists; and the discussion of jubilee wells, jubilee museums, and jubilee graveyards will be occasionally varied by such jubilee expressions of disloyalty on the part of a few individuals as have lately found vent at Dundalk and Northampton.

The position of married men as regards income tax appears, in some respects, to be a hard one. Attention was called to the subject in the House of Commons last night by Captain Selwyn, who asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer whether, notwithstanding that a husband had no legal control over his wife's income, yet he was compelled to pay income tax on the joint incomes of himself and his wife, when together such incomes exceeded £150, although the separate income of each might be under £150. Mr. Goschen could not deny that the fact was as stated, but urged in excuse that, if the property of husband and wife were regarded as separate, a widow would have to pay probate duty as a stranger; and it was considered better in every respect that they should be treated as one

person. In old days husband and wife were looked upon as one person; but modern legislation has altered this state of affairs, and married women have now a control over their own property which gives them an independent position. It seems, under these circumstances, rather sharp practice to make husbands pay tax on incomes not their own, and, moreover, to utilize the wife's income for the purpose of bringing the unfortunate husband's within range of the tax.

When the obstructionists finally stood at bay last night, and resorted to every device by which the voting of the Address might be postponed, their numbers dwindled first to 80 and finally to 70. Mr. Conybeare, the English teller in the obstructive divisions, led but a small contingent of his fellow-countrymen, and the minority was practically of the same kind as in former Parliaments. The majority was nearly 300 in every case. The country will not fail to notice the character and dimensions of the body of members who interfered between the House and the transaction of business.

The latest method for increasing the receipts of a charitable gathering is an ingenious adaptation of an old custom. Mr. Gladstone sent to a charity bazaar at Spalding the trunk of a large tree which he had felled. This was cut up into strips for making picture frames, and the "relics" found a large sale, purchasers being eager and prices ruling high. This is certainly an improvement on the raffle, which is probably illegal, and on the sale of curates' photographs which do not always go off well; and at any subsequent bazaar a genuine relic of a great man will no doubt be found to prove a superior attraction. The custom of exhibiting relics, and selling pieces of them, is one of the oldest methods of extracting charitable donations from the faithful, and the return to this custom in modern times is a pleasing revival.

Not long ago a playwright explained that the reason why his drama was not a financial success was that the theatre it was played in could only hold £800 a week, while the weekly expenses somewhat exceeded that sum. This seems a rather hopeless arrangement; but it does not appear to be peculiar to England. Verdi's new opera is admitted to be a triumph of its kind, the Scala is a capacious as well as magnificent building, the prices charged are high, and the audiences are as large as they are enthusiastic; yet it is announced that financially the season must be a failure. The reason is not far to seek. The actor who plays Othello is paid £180 a night; Maurel, the Iago, £120; and Mdle. Pantaleoni, the Desdemona, £80. The weekly expenses are calculated at nearly £5,000, or £800 a representation.

Sir James Hannen does not see his way to making any rule for the prohibition, or even for the regulation, of the reports of divorce cases. The right of public access to the court during these cases, and the right to report what passes there, are not mere matters of procedure; and the powers which the judge has to make rules on certain specified matters do not enable him to infringe or modify these rights. The Judicature Act expressly forbids the hearing *in camera* of "proceedings to dissolve any marriage." Sir James Hannen is helpless unless the Legislature comes to his aid. But legislative action ought not to be necessary in this matter. Public opinion has of late been demoralized by the abundance of indecent literature which has been openly excused or patronized by persons of the highest position. But the demoralization need not be permanent; and if the public is able to distinguish what ought to be published from what ought not, and to make its opinion felt, the nuisance of indecent newspaper reports will probably be abated without the help of the law.

The strongest argument adduced in favour of the Ambleside Railway Bill was that there was a certain amount of feeling in its favour in the actual district, and that the working classes of the great Lancashire towns had expressed their wish to be within easy reach of Ambleside. It is difficult to see why a tourist, whether from Liverpool or London, should not be content with going by train to Windermere, and proceeding by road or lake to Ambleside. The argument pushed to its logical conclusion would justify a railway station at every picturesque spot on the lakes. For all the purposes of tourists Ambleside is quite accessible enough already, and the evidence that the railway was wanted for any other purposes was extremely slight. The House is perfectly competent to decide a question of this kind on its merits, and need not comply blindly with the wishes of the most numerous local petitioners. The Bill had a very narrow escape of being thrown out on the second reading, and it is to be hoped that it will be got rid of at some later stage.

The complacency with which Englishmen regard their own powerlessness in foreign affairs is a standing wonder to people on the Continent. The Germans are never tired of dwelling on the phenomenon. Thus a few days ago we find the London correspondent of one of the great German journals urging his readers not to forget that England, so far as international politics go, must be left out of calculation. Between her domestic embarrassments and her weakness nothing will induce England to move. The Brussels correspondent of the same newspaper is even more explicit. England's greatness, he says, is more an historical reminiscence



than an actual fact. He is not surprised that some of the English newspapers anxiously protest that England would not intervene to guard the neutrality of Belgium. How could England intervene, he asks? Our whole army, he says, will not amount to more than 200,000 men, of which 92,000 are in India, Egypt, and the colonies, and 20,000 exist only on paper. This leaves us with 90,000 men, and we have to guard our own coasts and provide against Irish disaffection. What could we do, one way or the other, in a European war? This is how shrewd and not unfriendly foreigners write of us. How long will it be before Englishmen really begin to understand that the effect of the most glorious "historic reminiscences" will not last for ever?

Mr. Irving has been talking to the representative of an American paper about the edition of Shakspeare at which he is working in collaboration with Mr. Frank Marshall. The feature of the work, which need not be looked for before the autumn, is that Shakspeare will be considered in it as a practical dramatist and actor rather than as a poet. This ought to provide something novel in the way of new readings. Mr. Irving is also of opinion that, despite the great amount of research already displayed by Shakspearian scholars in elucidation of the dramatist's life, something can still be done in that direction. He proposes, therefore, to call a meeting in the Lyceum on the 23rd of April, Shakspeare's birthday, of all interested persons, in order to raise enthusiasm and funds. Perhaps the former will be the more easily raised of the two.

The snub which M. Lockroy has just inflicted on the artistic and literary world at Paris has naturally caused no small indignation among those affected by it. A reporter of the *Voltaire* called upon Meissonier to ascertain how he took it, and found the painter perfectly furious. He showed the visitor a number of works on which he is engaged, and which he had intended sending to the art gallery of the Exhibition. He has reserved all his works of the last two years for the same purpose, so as to make his offering more complete and more worthy of the occasion—not for his own sake; for, as he said, his reputation is made. But he is so much hurt by the affront which the Minister of Commerce has thought proper to put upon himself and his *confrères* that he has quite made up his mind to keep his pictures at home and abstain from all participation in the Exhibition.

As was indicated in Miss Gordon Cumming's article which we printed a day or two ago, the production of petroleum in the Caucasus has increased enormously of late. For some time past the railway which connects Baku with the Black Sea and the tank-vessels which ply on the Volga have been inadequate to carry away the amazing quantities of oil produced by the petroleum springs. It is therefore proposed to construct an "oleoduct" and storage-tanks, on the model of those which have long been in successful operation in Pennsylvania; and a company with a capital of two millions sterling has just been formed for this purpose. The "oleoduct" will connect the shores of the Caspian with Batoum and Poti; and it is to have sufficient diameter to transport from six to seven millions of hectolitres of oil per annum—or rather every nine months, since three months have been allowed for periods of frost and for necessary repairs. After being pumped into gigantic receptacles, the oil will flow by reason of its own gravity into the storage-tanks at Batoum and Poti. The rapidity with which the petroleum of the Caucasus has come into demand in the European markets is very remarkable.

The Thames Tunnel, long regarded as one of the wonders of the world, took seventeen years in construction, and cost half a million sterling. A new company for connecting the City and the Borough by "underground" has, so the chairman tells us, completed a tunnel under the river in fifteen weeks, at a cost of little more than £20,000. The second tunnel, or rather tube (for that is really a more accurate description), is now being constructed alongside, and there is "no reason to suppose that it will take more time." So sanguine are the directors of success that they propose to apply for parliamentary powers to continue their subway from the Elephant and Castle, as at present authorized, a mile further west towards Brixton. A site has been secured for a City station close to King William's statue at London Bridge. But surely it is desirable not only in the interests of the shareholders but also of the potential travellers that the subway should be connected with the Metropolitan Railway. To bring a subway across the river and stop fifty yards short of the Monument Station on the "Underground" seems a serious mistake. The Inner Circle completion scheme has not been so conspicuous a success that the management are likely to refuse to avail themselves of any possible source of fresh traffic.

An unusually impressive scene took place in Tazewell Court House, Virginia, the other day. It arose out of the cross-examination of a witness named Baldwin by Colonel May, one of the counsel engaged in a criminal case. Baldwin being displeased at a question put to him, which he thought "reflected on his character," drew a pistol and announced his intention of "settling" Colonel May, who also produced from his pocket a pistol, with the view, if necessary, of settling Baldwin. The officers of the court, however, seized Baldwin, and thus prevented the proposed settlement. The next day Colonel May, in the course of a powerful speech, alluded to Baldwin, who

thereupon again drew his pistol and opened fire. The Colonel returned the fire. The whole audience in the court apparently joined in, and bullets were soon flying in all parts of the room. The Colonel received a ball in the leg; Captain Tines was shot in the arm, the Reverend E. H. Tilling in the scalp, and Mr. John H. Witten had his front teeth shot out. The judges alone preserved their self-possession, and, to their credit, took no part in the shooting. Colonel May, with admirable coolness, offered to continue his argument with the ball in his leg; but a physician who was present interfered, and the court adjourned. Many people, said the reporter, were glad after this that the trial was to end on the following day. Baldwin's conduct was viewed with general reprobation, as he contrived to get off unhurt by slinking into the jury-room.

## "MAKING A DO OF IT."

(BY AN EAST-ENDER.)

OF the means by which certain sections of the poor earn a scanty livelihood we have been told a great deal. We know how much, or rather how little, is paid per gross for match-box making; the prices paid by the sweaters in the slop-tailoring and shirt making trades; the trifling gains of street-hawkers; and the smallness of the average earnings of cas'alty labourers. From the "labour statistics" quoted by graphic writers on the poverty of the period the general reader can, of course, readily infer that the classes of poor in question *must* live hardly, alike as to dwellings, food, and clothing. But the association of ideas here is of living when in work—such work as it is. Of how the poor live under the circumstances in which knowledge would be most interesting and useful—that is to say, of how they contrive to exist when they earn nothing at all—the outer world has but a very vague idea. And for a sufficient reason: the poor themselves could scarcely tell you clearly and in detail how they live at such times. To obtain any definite notion on that point you must be in a position to observe for yourself, and that not in a merely passing way.

Take, for example, the case of the cas'alty labourer. When in work he earns only 16s. or 18s. a week, and even when trade is brisk he has no assured and continuous employment: a state of things which puts it out of his power to create a reserve fund for the proverbial rainy day. In times of trade depression the genuine cas'alty labourer—a very different personage from the habitual loafer who calls himself a cas'alty man—is one of the first and severest sufferers. In such times his out-of-work "spells" are frequent and prolonged; and when out of work he is soon face to face with the problem of how to live upon nothing a day. He has had no employment for six or seven weeks perhaps, and has a wife and four children, three of the latter being of school age and the fourth an infant. You can see that the man and his family look more hunger-pinched and more scantily clad every day. Still they are alive and going about; and though obviously on short commons, they can't have been quite without food. You know, too, that they must pay rent. They live in a tenement house, and the motto of the tenement landlord is, Pay or go. He does not stand on ceremony, and sometimes not even on the letter of the law, in the matter of eviction, and his tenants know it: accordingly, they contrive to pay their rents somehow. But if you ask the man, or even the woman, how it's done, and how they manage at the same time to get some supply of food, you will learn that they hardly know: they rub along as best they can, and "make a do of it somehow."

The art of making a do of it is the grand mystery of the poor, and it is one in which the women are the chief performers. When the out-of-work days come the wife is more than ready to turn her hand to anything she is capable of doing and can get to do. If strong, she will look for washing or charring; if weak, for slop needlework or the like. As she has not a regular "connection" in the one line, or is not a regular "hand" in the other, and there is an over-abundance of competition in both fields of labour, she cannot get full employment; but she will perhaps be able to earn sufficient to pay the rent—the first consideration. If cash earnings are not sufficient in amount for that purpose, they must be supplemented by pawning. That is the one point upon which poor people making a do of it can give you something like definite information. Of course, they will say, we are parting with the home; and though the whole pawnable value of the home is but trifling, they will produce quite a bundle of pawn-tickets in confirmation of the statement. They have to do their pawning thoughtfully, and on the principle of little and often. It is their one sure and ready resource, and they must not exhaust it rashly. If you look at the tickets you will see that they are for amounts running from sixpence to half a crown. There are few articles in the household of a cas'alty labourer that would singly be good for a loan of the last-named amount; and if you examine the make-up of the lots upon which the larger sums have been raised, you will find that "the home," as represented by pawn-tickets, includes wearing-apparel and bedding as well as furniture.

It is only the decent respectable poor, of course, who will strive to "make a do of it" on independent self-respecting lines; and, being decent and respectable, they are generally good for a little credit with the baker and the small "general" shopkeeper with whom they spend their ready-money at times when they are better off. The baker will let them have a loaf a day for a month, say, or sometimes even two loaves; while the keeper of the "general shop" will let them run credit to the extent of ten or twelve shillings. And when it is judiciously laid out in ounces of coffee, half-ounces of tea, quarters of a pound of sugar, ounces of butter, and pennyworths of treacle, cheese, pickles, and the like, it is wonderful what a lot of spending there is in ten or twelve shillings. The itinerant coal-merchant who serves them might be willing to let them have an occasional half-hundredweight on credit; but in out-of-work periods coals are in a great measure dispensed with as a luxury that cannot be afforded. Out of school-hours the children can do a bit of cinder-gathering or pick up stray scraps of wood, or the father in his travels



In search of work may come across such bits of wreckage as a few old barrel staves or the pieces of a broken package-case; and with materials of this kind the family will get such firing as comes to their share. The father may occasionally gain a few coppers as an odd-job man—which is a different thing from a cas'alty labourer. If there is a fall of snow, he may earn a trifle in clearing away; he may get a job to carry the box of some servant-girl to whose parents he is known and who is leaving or going to a place; he may be asked to help in a moving; or a local tradesman may engage him to carry a load that is too much for his errand boy. But an out-of-work labourer's chances in this way are few and far between; the regular odd-job men, who are a numerous and a very watchful class, taking care that very little in their own especial line slips through their fingers. It is rather in a negative than a positive way that the man assists in "making a do of it." If, when knocking about in quest of work, he falls in with a friend or former workmate, who stands him a more or less square meal—and such a slice of luck does occasionally befall him—it becomes a point of honour with him to draw more lightly on whatever food supply there may be at home. After all, however, the great point in making a do of it is to do with very little: to do with little or no firing and light in wintry weather; to go thinly clad and live chiefly on bread and tea; and, as from lapse of time credit shrinks, to live, perhaps, upon one scant meal a day, even of tea and bread.

When after a long spell out of work the cas'alty labourer gets into something like regular employment, life for him and his family is still very largely composed of "making a do of it." The debts of the out-of-work period have to be paid—if not from honesty then from policy, with a view to making credit good against a future time of need. That among such a class as the cas'alty-labourers there should be a certain bitterness of spirit in regard to existing social conditions and contrasts is but natural. But such bitterness of feeling as they do experience is not altogether directed against the rich. The point upon which they feel most bitter is the wholesale, and indeed almost exclusive, fashion in which charity intended for the decent struggling poor is secured by those whom they know to be the undeserving, though, seemingly, the subscribers to and distributors of the charities do not. Even here, however, there is a touch of relief. When the professional charity-hunters land a greater haul in "kind" than they know what to do with, they sell the surplus at a very cheap rate to their more respectable poor neighbours. And in this way a decent family that is making a do of it will sometimes come in for a comparatively abundant and luxurious meal.

#### THE DEVIL-WORSHIPPERS OF MESOPOTAMIA.

NOT far from Mosul, in Mesopotamia, there are a few Kurdish villages where one finds neither mosque nor minaret, synagogue nor medrash, church nor meeting-house. Moslems—saving an occasional Government official—are rarely seen there, travellers not at all. Ordinarily there is nothing in the appearance of these places or the people to attract the attention of wayfarers, apart from the white dresses of the women and the vests of the men. But one day in the year the villages assume quite a holiday aspect in preparation for a strange ceremony annually enacted there. The houses are plentifully decked with garlands of yellow flowers, and the people take up positions outside—the women in spotless gowns, the men with a twisted black cord round their necks. Then a procession of some thirty persons emerges from the residence of the "pir" or priest, and begins slowly to perambulate the village. In front march half a dozen weird-looking personages in long black robes and strange black head-gear; then come half a score of "kawals," in yellow mantles and white turbans, chanting religious hymns in an outlandish tongue; and behind them as many more, playing an accompaniment to the singers on reedy flutes and tambourines. Following these is the white-robed priest, bearing upon his shoulders a kind of epaulette, and holding aloft the bronze figure of a bird, guarded on either side by a fierce-looking Kurd with a perfect arsenal of small-arms about his person. In the rear rides the white-turbaned sheikh of the district, with a second batch of "black-heads" to wind up the procession. The party makes the round of the village, the people raising their hands towards the brazen bird as it passes, and then halts in front of the priest's house. Here a sheep is in readiness; it is cut open, and the heart is torn from it and thrown down at the feet of the black-robed figures. The procession then re-enters the dwelling, while the sheep is made ready for the pot; and, in honour of the day, the residents afterwards dine together as soon as their "stew" is ready. These Kurdish villagers are the "Yezidis" or "devil-worshippers" of Mesopotamia; and their annual procession—known as the "Showing of the King-Bird," the Melik Taous or "Peacock King"—is the only ceremonial of their mystic cult.

This strange sect is by no means confined to the vicinity of Mosul, though the hereditary religious head of the community resides there. There are numerous Yezidi villages in the country stretching from the Euphrates to Aleppo, and the devil-worshippers are found in Asiatic Russia as well as in Persia. They are all Kurds, and use only the Kurdish language in their homes. Once in the course of every year they are visited by their sheikh with the sacred "king-bird," but on all matters connected with their religion, their rites, and their traditions they preserve the most obstinate silence. Their deity is denominated "Khoda," and they reverence the devil; but the more immediate object of their worship is Adi, the son of Mussafer, who lived in the sixth century and in whom the deity became incarnate. For religious purposes they are formed into five clans or divisions, each under the rule of an ecclesiastical sheikh descended in a miraculous way from the prophet Adi. The saint was himself unmarried and had no children; but, in order that the Yezidis might not be without authoritative rulers, he created a son for himself who

subsequently had five others, the progenitors of the existing religious chiefs. These sheikhs are regarded as semi-divine, and are not allowed to marry out of their own line; in fact, intermarriage with a common Yezidi entails the punishment of death upon both parties. The chiefs assert that they are in possession of an inspired volume, called the "Jalao," and a commentary upon it by the prophet Adi, known as the "Mashafi Bashe" or "Black-Book;" but no stranger has ever yet set eyes on these works. They are forbidden to learn either reading or writing, excepting a single family which has charge of their sacred writings. The patriarch of the sect—like the "Kak" near Aleppo, and the Emir—is unable to read; but he claims for himself and his family the gifts of clairvoyance and second-sight, as well as the power of prophecy. The devil-worshippers accept no proselytes: "A Yezidi," they say, "must be born a Yezidi; he cannot be made." They have no ceremonial ablutions, or attach no importance to them, and are allowed to use nothing coloured blue. They will not sit down on a sofa having a blue tassel, or enter a room containing an article of furniture covered with blue cloth. Their religion prohibits them from serving as soldiers, though there appears to be nothing to prevent them from cutting throats on their own account. They baptize boys and girls; and, when old enough, every member has to make choice of a sister or brother who is to be his or her companion for eternity. Adultery, where consent is given, is lawful, and intercourse between the sexes is regulated by no conventional restraints. The sheikhs and their families, as well as the subordinate priests known as "pirs," are entirely supported by the voluntary gifts of the villagers, whom they visit regularly three times a year; such gifts being regarded in the light of offerings to the semi-divine prophet from whom their rulers claim descent. The Yezidis may everywhere be distinguished from the Moslem inhabitants of the country by the vests they wear closed up in the neck. They certainly bear a secret mark upon their persons, like some Indian sectaries; for they will never bare their breasts: and under no circumstances will a Yezidi ever utter the word "sheitan"—that is, "devil"—or in any way refer to the central object of his secret adoration.

The most important personages—and the most highly venerated—in the hierarchy of the devil-worshippers are the brotherhood of ascetics whom the Moslem peasants designate the "Karabash" or black-heads. They are a kind of devotee or fakir, who dress entirely in black with a curious over-mantle of yellow which gives them a very uncanny appearance. They form a distinct class among the Yezidis, and take precedence of everybody. On the occasion of any public solemnity or religious ceremonial the Emir himself makes way for the "Karabash," whose hand he reverently kisses. These ascetics are usually of the sheikh families, and aspirants must be introduced by one already belonging to the brotherhood. For forty days prior to his initiation the novice has to live alone in a retreat specially appointed, and he fasts every day from morning till night. He must not speak a word during this period, and is not allowed to look upon a human face. None may go near him, saving the fakir or devotee who brings him his food each evening. When the time of probation has expired he is conducted to his village by six companions. The residents assemble in front of the priest's house, the "king-bird" is brought out, a sheep is slain, and the neophyte sprinkled with blood. Then, one by one, his brother fakirs dress him in the sombre garments of the order: a long black woollen gown, a vest that may be of any colour save blue, and black head-gear, which may not be of cotton and is bound to be the work of his own hands. Last of all he receives the symbolical "mahak" or "bridle," a cord that goes round his neck and is never afterwards, be the wearer living or dead, removed from its place. When travelling from village to village the Karabash carries suspended from his neck a "kashkul," or wooden bowl in which the well-disposed deposit any gifts intended for the order. The person of the fakir is sacred while alive, and when dead none may touch his body, excepting a member of the fakir fraternity—not the Emir, sheikh, or chief. His *confrères* take charge of the corpse, envelop it in a black cloth, and so inter it in certain caves allotted to them near a holy shrine. The ascetics are under the immediate orders of their own chief, the "Kak," who resides at a well-known "mâzar" or pilgrim resort not very far from Aleppo. He has also control of the "kawals" or Yezidi singers; who travel from village to village with the image of the sacred "bird-king," chanting hymns which they only know and which have been transmitted to them orally—so they assert—from their progenitors, who themselves served the prophet Adi.

In the secret cult of the Yezidis an important part is borne by the "Fakraya," an order of "female devotees" attached to the shrine of the saint near the Hakkariya Mountains. There are about fifty of them, in the charge of an elderly woman designated "Kabana" or chief of the fakiresses. A few are middle-aged persons, whose duty it is to trim the lamp of Adi and burn incense at his tomb every evening. The remainder are mostly well-favoured and comely young persons whose status is that of the "kadeshoth" attached in ancient times to the Temples of Baal and Astarte. Every year there is a great festival at the shrine, attended by numbers of Yezidis from every district where they live; and as the devil-worshippers have inherited the traditions of the ancient "love rituals" and the gnostic "agape" or "love-feasts," the existence of the "Fakraya" in connection with Yezidi worship is understood and accounted for. The morning ritual on the occasion of the yearly gathering is simple enough. In the shrine-chamber, a plain whitewashed hall, the "kawals" chant a few hymns; and the "farash" or keeper goes round with a large bowl of oil, in which a lighted wick is floating. The worshippers, in turn, hold their hands above the flame, stroke their faces gently, and then bend over to inhale the odour of the sacred light. But the secret ceremonies of the Yezidi sectaries are performed at night, in a cavern beneath the shrine, with subterranean passages leading in and out, carefully guarded by the "tshavish" or permanent officials of the place. Here, in total darkness and in the bowels of the earth, secure from all possibility of observation, they celebrate those mystic rites, designed to propitiate the arch-enemy of man, which have gained for the followers of Adi the designation of devil-worshippers and which no stranger has ever yet witnessed.



## NEW BOOKS AND NEW EDITIONS.

"Historic Towns: Exeter." By Edward A. Freeman. (Longmans and Co.) For this very genuine little bit of workmanship, so solid and so neat, one would be disposed to forgive Professor Freeman many political and orthographical vagaries. From the record of eighteen centuries he has extracted and classified pretty nearly every fact that a student of English history at large would care to remember about the ancient capital of the west—"the one city of Britain which beheld the paganism of the Roman but which never, save in one moment of foreign occupation, beheld the heathendom of the Teuton." Beside her other titles to fame, Exeter was pre-eminently the mother of brave men—e.g., of John Bridgeman, who in 1523 dared to speak twice in the House of Commons against the King's demands for money. It is sad to think that after a second rebuke from Wolsey the honourable member "never enjoyed himself, but returned to his lodgings, fell sick and died." In 1649 one finds the mayor, James Gould, "a person of low stature but of an undaunted courage," bidding successful defiance to the new republican Government. When the judges of assize came down "he slighted them and would not acknowledge their power;" and when they fined him he declined to pay. Thereupon "they troubled him in the Court of Exchequer;" but the proceedings ended in a *nolle prosequi*. The city seems to have treated its servants well. In 1564 Jeffrey Tothill, who represented Exeter in Parliament, received a pension of twenty marks over and above his regular wages. At the same time a purse with £20 in gold was sent to his colleague, Thomas Williams, as a sort of testimonial on the election of the latter to the Speakership. Then, and long before, the citizens were careful to bespeak the favour of the great by the methods deemed to be most effectual. Thus, in 1448, when a suit was pending between the Corporation and the Bishop, we hear of 17s. 6d. being spent "in vii piscibus vocatis congre missis domino Cancellario Angliæ;" and of a further investment of 2s. 8d. "in iiii piscibus vocatis crabbis missis eidem Cancellario." Ultimately the parties agreed to a compromise "by mene and mediation of Thomas Courtney, Erle of Devonshire, and of St William Bonville, Knight;" who shortly afterwards waged sanguinary warfare against each other, "the occasion whereof was about a dog." Even the dames of Exeter showed something of a militant spirit, by no means with the approval of their male relatives; Hoker—the uncle of the judicious divine—having handed down the name of Miss Frances Duffield as an awful warning to posterity. She not only "used unseemly terms and speeches unto the mayor," but "ran most violently upon him and strake him in the face." His worship had put her father in prison.

"Chronicles of the Coniston Family." By the Reverend E. G. Charlesworth. (Elliot Stock.) We confess to a doubt as to whether the title-page of the book before us can be said to fulfil the law of perfect ingenuousness. It does not tell the whole truth, which would have required the addition of some such words as "Part the First" or "First Series." As it is, the reader takes up the story without the slightest suspicion that he is dealing with more than a one-volume novel of commendably thin proportions, and only on the concluding page is he absolutely certified of a further instalment. Then, indeed, the author makes tardy amends, at once announcing a sequel and giving a summary of its contents; after which, it may be superfluous to add, that he seeks to interest us in certain types of character rather than in the changes and chances of an intricate plot. The principal incident is a murder of a sufficiently commonplace kind, and told in a disconnected manner which necessitates the aid of foot-notes. On the whole, however, they are folk one is glad to know, these squires and parsons—especially the latter, who have much "brave discourse" about old faiths and new. Among the lay sketches, one of the cleverest is that of the barrister and 'vert, as it is one of the kindest; though, for that matter, Mr. Charlesworth is seldom in any other than a mood of infinite benevolence. The ghost of his chief villain is even summoned to depose that there is no such thing as eternal punishment: one can but trust that "Helen's spirit," which is to appear in "Book II," will bring equally satisfactory news from another quarter.

Everybody cannot read Lieutenant von Huhn's interesting book about "The Struggle of the Bulgarians for their Independence." But those who want to see the question of Russian "rights" and Russian claims over Bulgaria discussed exhaustively but in brief compass should look at a little pamphlet called "La Bulgarie, et le Droit d'Intervention," reprinted from the *Revue Internationale*, by the well-known German publicist, Dr. F. H. Geffcken (Rome: Forzani. London: Trübner and Co.). After a lucid and scientific examination of the "Right of Intervention," as defined by international lawyers, Dr. Geffcken touches on the various recent treaties between Turkey and Russia, and finally shows that under the Treaty of Berlin Russia has no more pretension than any other signatory Power to interfere in the domestic affairs of Bulgaria; and, further, that neither Russia nor any other foreign State is authorized to prevent the Bulgarians freely electing a Prince to occupy the vacant throne. The Powers may refuse to acknowledge the candidate when chosen, but they have nothing whatever to do with the election. If the Regency and the Sobranje are "unconstitutional," it is a matter of Bulgarian domestic politics with which no foreign Government has any claim to meddle. Dr. Geffcken reminds us that some time before the kidnapping of the 21st of August, General Soboleff and General Kaulbars made an abortive attempt at a *coup d'état*; while in July of last year the Prince of Montenegro, on his return from St. Petersburg, stated that the Bulgarian throne would shortly be vacant. So much for the "rights" which accrue to Russia because of Prince Alexander's "deposition." On this, and indeed on the whole question, Dr. Geffcken's essay is well worth reading.

The "Stockbroker's Telegraph Code" (Fred. C. Mathieson and Son) is intended for use between stockbrokers and their clients either by telegraph or telephone. It contains code-words differing when sounded or written for all questions and answers relating to speculation, state of markets, prices, options, traffic returns, bullion, and the like. The words are arranged in strictly alphabetical order, and can be considerably varied so as to be understood only by those using the code.

## TRADE AND FINANCE.

This week's Bank of England return shows a very great accession of strength, the reserve having increased as much as £947,000, and now nearly reaching 15 millions, while the proportion to liabilities is as high as 51¼ per cent. In other words, the Bank now holds idle in its vaults more than 10s. for every sovereign for which it is liable. That is undoubtedly an extremely strong position, and one that in ordinary circumstances would fully warrant a reduction in the rate of discount; but the directors acted wisely in resisting the temptation; for no reduction in the Bank rate would give them a larger amount of business than they would get as matters are. The collection of the revenue is giving them the control of the outside market, and that control would rather be lessened than increased by a reduction in the Bank rate. The main point is that the whole stock of gold barely exceeds 22½ millions, although coin has been, as usual at this season, pouring back from the provinces; and during the long depression, agricultural and commercial, the coin circulation of the country has been greatly diminished. Trade is slowly improving; and if the danger of war were to pass away it is reasonably certain that the improvement would become very decided, and then there would be a large addition to the coin circulation, which would materially diminish the stock of gold held by the Bank. There would be, of course, the usual demands from abroad for gold, and the Bank would soon find itself in an extremely weak condition; while if war breaks out there may be such a serious drain of gold as would cause perturbation in the money market; and even with war the probability is that trade would continue to improve, and the coin circulation consequently increase. The revenue payments are, as we have said, rapidly giving the control of the outside market to the Bank. The Bank now holds nearly 6¼ millions of public deposits; while the "other deposits," in which, as our readers are aware, are included the bankers' balances—that is, the unemployed surplus at the disposal of the outside market—are under 22¼ millions. It is observable, too, that though the discount rate is barely 3¼ per cent.—indeed bills were discounted on Thursday as low as 3 1-16 per cent.—yet the Bank is lending upon bills at 4 per cent.; more than a quarter of a million having been lent during the week ended Wednesday night, while further loans were made on Thursday. The supply of loanable capital in the outside market is thus, it will be seen, running extremely short.

The stagnation on the Stock Exchange is going from bad to worse. Brokers and dealers declare that even two years ago, before the West Shore was purchased by the New York Central, and when depression of every kind was extreme, there was not such an utter absence of business as there is this week. Investors do not care to buy at a moment when everything is so uncertain; those who have decided upon changing their investments put off doing so till the results of the German elections are known, and those who have money lying idle likewise wait on the prospect of being able to buy later more advantageously. Speculators, of course, are deterred by the danger of war. Generally the impression prevails that somehow or other war will be avoided; that the present scare has been produced by Prince Bismarck as an electoral device, and that when the elections are over there will be a cessation of rumours and the newspaper articles which are causing so much uneasiness; but optimist though the City generally is, people cannot shut their eyes to the fact that the situation is most grave and critical, and speculators, therefore, recognize that the game is too risky to be renewed. The stagnation, then, extends to every department. It is as great in the American market as in the market for Foreign Government bonds, although one would think that America, being completely secure against attack, and being quite resolved not to meddle in European quarrels, cannot suffer from a European war. Nobody, of course, supposes that she will; but still people look for a general fall if war breaks out; and everybody is afraid to enter upon new ventures.

The market for Foreign Government bonds was extremely dull yesterday. Practically little or nothing was doing. The London Stock Exchange has kept aloof from the wild speculation originated in Berlin in Foreign Government bonds, and now that that speculation is likely to collapse it is less disposed than ever to join in it. Yet the Continental Bourses have proved so strong on many occasions that there is little disposition to sell speculatively here, or rather to go on selling speculatively, for already there is a large speculative account open for the fall in London in Foreign Government bonds. That account was opened, however, during the last couple of weeks in January and the first week of this month, and since then scarcely anything has been doing. The Continental Bourses at the close yesterday, however, became firmer, and quotations recovered here. French rose ¼, Italian ¾, Russians of 1873 rose ¼, Spanish 1-16, and Turkish bonds from 1-16 to ¼; but these movements were merely nominal; scarcely any business was done. In Home Railway stocks, the movements were irregular and business was equally absent. Grand Trunk of Canada stocks all declined, while there was an improvement in Mexican Railway stocks. American Railroad securities were dull and lifeless all day, the New York market having been itself inanimate the previous day, and the opening prices yesterday being telegraphed irregular.

The meeting of the Metropolitan District Company yesterday was of an unusually lively character. Prior to the meeting, a circular had been issued to the proprietors insinuating grave charges against the directors; and yesterday the first of those who signed the circular moved an amendment for the appointment of a committee of investigation. No attempt was made, however, to substantiate the charges, and both the chairman and the auditors indignantly denied that the accounts have ever been in any way manipulated. It was ascertained, too, that the holdings of the circularists were under £7,000 nominal, and that the spokesman has only lately acquired £200 Ordinary stock. After an elaborate defence by the chairman, the attack entirely collapsed, and the report and accounts were adopted with practical unanimity.

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THE ST. JAMES'S GAZETTE.  
FOURTH EDITION.

GERMANY AND FRANCE.  
ULTIMATUM TALKED OF.

The Vienna correspondent of the *Standard* says:—"I am assured on what I have reason to believe to be good authority, that the demand that France should pledge herself to neutrality in case of a war in the East, a demand which may serve as a *casus belli*, will be addressed by Germany to France before long. This entirely corresponds with what is said in the higher military circles in Vienna."

An Exchange Telegraph Company's despatch from Paris this morning says: The Vienna despatch in the *Standard* concerning the *casus belli* has been telegraphed here, and has caused a sensation in financial circles. It is regarded in the political world as an ingenious invention.

ITALIAN DECLARATION.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

ROME, Feb. 18.—The *Opinione* to-day, in a leading article, which has attracted much attention, gives a positive contradiction to the statements made by several Austrian newspapers that in entering into engagements with Germany Italy aimed at regaining possession of Savoy and Nice. "These assertions," says the *Opinione* "are falsehoods, and in saying so we give them their right name. It is not for Austrian newspapers to say what are the aspirations of Italy. There is not a single Italian who harbours sentiments hostile to France, or hopes to retake from her at a time of misfortune provinces which are legitimately hers. Italy's sole desire is that the balance of power in the Mediterranean shall not be threatened, and all States entertaining no designs in this respect may rely upon her loyal friendship. If ever France, drawn on by a bellicose current, should desire a war of revenge against Germany, she could not expect that Italy should be unmindful of her own interests. Even then, however, Italy would not forget her ancient friendship with France; and nothing would induce her to take an initiative directed against the integrity and prosperity of her neighbour."

MR. GLADSTONE AND MR. CHAMBERLAIN.—REPORTED  
RECONCILIATION.

The London correspondent of the *Newcastle Journal*, writing last night, says:—"I know nothing of the intentions of the Knights of the Round Table, but I can say positively that the prospects of a reunion between Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Chamberlain are growing much more easy. The reconciliation will not be brought about either by Sir William Harcourt or Mr. Morley. As a matter of fact, a reconciliation has really been effected. The member for Midlothian and the member for West Birmingham are to meet one day very soon at dinner at the house of a dignitary of the Church, who is well known as a dabbler in politics. A second dinner, to take place elsewhere, on neutral ground, is also in contemplation. It is evidently expected, in a particular social set, that the differences which exist between the late Prime Minister and Mr. Chamberlain will be all overcome within the next few weeks. Mr. Gladstone, I understand, is willing to make considerable concessions to the Radical Unionists."

THE DEBATE ON THE ADDRESS.

The discussion to-night upon Sir Richard Paget's amendment with regard to the condition of agriculture will, it is stated, be very brief. Amendments have, however, been placed upon the paper by Mr. Labouchere and others, and it is not thought, therefore, that the discussion on the report stage of the Address will be concluded before midnight. In any case, however, the Government are determined to conclude the discussion on the Address to-night.

DEATH OF THE NEW GOVERNOR OF HONG KONG.

Profound regret was felt in Aberdeen yesterday on the receipt of the news of the sudden death of Sir George Strahan, governor elect of Hong Kong, in the forty-ninth year of his age. He had just returned from Tasmania, and was waiting in London to be invested with the highest rank in the colonial orders, that of St. Michael and St. George, when he caught cold a week ago, and proceeded to Bournemouth previous to his departure for Hong Kong. Sir George was a native of Fraserburgh, Aberdeenshire.

A PRIMROSE LEAGUE MEETING BROKEN UP.

A determined attempt to break up a Primrose League meeting was made last night at Mannington, Dorset, by a number of agricultural labourers. Brickbats were thrown through the windows of the schoolroom in which the meeting was held; and a party of vocalists from Wimborne, who arrived in a cab, were chased back, stones and other missiles being thrown at the conveyance. Two ladies were seriously injured and several other persons hurt. Mr. Bond, M.P., had been announced to speak at the meeting, but did not arrive.

THE BURNLEY ELECTION.

The nomination of candidates for the representation of Burnley, vacant by the death of Mr. Rylands, took place this morning. The candidates are Mr. Thursby (Conservative), and Mr. Slagg (Gladstonian). The polling is to-morrow. The labour representatives in Parliament have issued a manifesto in which they say:—"Last night in the House of Commons the Tories and so-called Liberal Unionists voted solid against a motion declaring that the distress and want of employment among British working men required the immediate attention of Parliament. Working men of Burnley, you can judge for yourselves who are your friends—the Tories and their Liberal allies or the followers of Mr. Gladstone."

A "NO TAX" MANIFESTO ISSUED BY  
DR. CROKE.

Archbishop Croke, in forwarding £10 to the "State Trial Defence Fund," writes:—

I opposed a "No Rent" manifesto six years ago because, apart from other reasons, I thought it was inopportune and not likely to be generally acted on. Had a manifesto against paying taxes been issued at the time, I should certainly have supported it *on principle*. I am in precisely the same frame of mind just now. Our line of action as a people appears to me to be in this respect both suicidal and inconsistent. We pay taxes to a Government that uses them, not for the public good and in accordance with the declared wishes of the taxpayers, but in direct and deliberate opposition to them. We thus supply a stick to beat ourselves with; we put a whip into the hands of men who use it to lash and lacerate us. This is suicidal; and, in the presence of the actual state of things in Ireland just now, it is inconsistent besides. We run the Plan of Campaign against bad landlords and stop what they call their rent, and we make no move whatever against the Government that pays "horse, foot, and dragoons" for protecting them and enforcing their outrageous exactions. Our money goes to feed a gang of needy and voracious lawyers, to purchase bludgeons for policemen to be used in smashing the skulls of our people, and generally for the support of a foreign garrison or native slaves, who hate and despise everything Irish and every genuine Irishman. The policeman is pampered and paid, the patriot is persecuted. Our enforced taxes go to sustain the one; we must further freely tax ourselves to defend the other. How long, I ask, is this to be tolerated?

Referring to this letter, the *Freeman's Journal* says:—"Free government, as Burke said, is what people think so; and when a Government deliberately determines to play fast and loose with an entire nation, it only requires a word from one of its natural leaders, like Dr. Croke, to indicate in what way the oppressed can checkmate the oppressor."

DR. WALSH ON THE STATE TRIALS.

Accompanying a donation of £10 to the Defence Fund, Archbishop Walsh writes:—

I send you enclosed a cheque for £10, my subscription to the Defence Fund which I assume will at once be opened in your columns in response to the timely appeal from Mr. Gray published in this day's *Freeman's Journal*. I should gladly co-operate in any way in my power in an effort to secure, if it were possible, a fair trial for the traversers. But in the present instance a fair trial is no longer a matter of possibility. The first essential element of fairness—a fairly impanelled jury—is wanting. The jury before which John Dillon and his fellow-traversers are now arraigned in Green-street has not been fairly impanelled. It has been most unfairly packed. And as this most recent instance of jury-packing has been effected by the wholesale exclusion of Catholic jurors of the county Dublin, I send this subscription to the fund, not merely as a mark of my sympathy with the traversers, but as a protest which, as Archbishop of Dublin, I feel it my duty to make against the gross insult that has thus been inflicted on many upright, conscientious members of my flock.

MINISTERIAL WHIP.

A four-line Whip was issued this morning to Conservatives stating that questions of importance will be raised at the commencement of the sitting to-night, and requesting members to attend not later than five o'clock.

THE REVOLT AT NEW ROSS WORKHOUSE.

At the New Ross Workhouse rioting was continued till midnight, when it was suppressed. Twenty-eight inmates have been summoned for insubordination and twenty for assault; six have been arrested. Sixty extra police are on duty at the workhouse. The resident magistrate will hear the cases to-day. The vice-guardians and master are under police protection.

About a week ago (our Dublin correspondent telegraphs) Messrs. Wall and Nolan, the vice-guardians appointed by the Local Government Board to succeed the suspended guardians who defied the provisions of the poor law in distributing relief to evicted tenants, made an order prohibiting the mothers of illegitimate children from mixing with other inmates of the workhouse. When this order became known, the inmates became enraged; and about half-past eleven o'clock yesterday morning the bells of the workhouse began to ring and all the young women and girls of the house assembled in the hall, whence they proceeded in a body to the board-room, where they called for the "Dublin Castle Hacks." On finding that the vice-guardians were not in the board-room, they were returning again to the body of the house, when they espied the two vice-guardians in the carpenters' workshop, whither they had gone to ask tradesmen who resigned on Wednesday, at the bidding of the National League it is stated, to reconsider their decision. The females ran in a body towards the workshop, and the vice-guardians locked the door. The women broke the windows and then procured an iron bar and battered in the door, and rushed in and attacked the vice-guardians. Mr. M'Auliffe, the new master, attempted to keep the women back, but his appeals to them were of no avail. After nearly half an hour's fighting the vice-guardians made their escape, covered with wounds, and followed by over fifty of the inmates of the house, down along the streets leading from the workhouse. They tried to get into a house for refuge, but the people inside shut the door, and would not let them in. On nearing the police barracks the inmates stopped and went back to the workhouse, where Sergeant-Major M'Auliffe, the new master, was attacked by them and severely handled. Shortly after a force of thirty policemen arrived. The master identified some of the inmates, who dared the police to lay hands on them. The police retired after arresting six women, and the new master had to leave the workhouse and take lodgings in the town. While the inmates were assaulting the vice-guardians and the master they were cheering for the elected guardians and for the Plan of Campaign. This is a different Plan of Campaign from the one about which the prosecutions in Dublin are proceeding, and is one by which the dismissed guardians mean to collect the poor rates and distribute them to the persons whom the vice-guardians have cut off the relief lists. Since the arrival of the vice-guardians, the strongest opposition has been given to the payment of the rates, and as no rates were being paid the vice-guardians thought fit to lessen the supplies of the workhouse, an arrangement which caused a feeling of rebellion amongst the inmates. The resignation of the late master, Mr. Harrington, and the appointment by the vice-guardians of Sergeant-major M'Auliffe in his stead are also reasons for the outbreak of yesterday. On Wednesday night a bed in the workhouse was set on fire, and but for the timely intervention of the new master the whole building would have been burned to the ground.



## MR. GLADSTONE ON THE IRISH QUESTION.

Mr. Gladstone has written the following letter to Mr. Thomas Henry Webb, one of the proprietors of *North and South*, the organ of the Protestant Home Rule Association, published in Dublin:—

Hawarden, February 16.

Sir,—I have received the commencing numbers of *North and South*, and I have been reading them with great interest. Nothing can be more legitimate than the appeal to the Protestants of Ireland to return to and maintain the tradition of their sires. Strange as it may seem, I believe that a very large part of the English people, and no small number of their representatives in Parliament, are still ignorant of that elementary fact of Irish history that down to the time of the Union the Irish Protestants—nay, even the now too famous town and people of Belfast—were the most prominent supporters of Irish nationality. They have now the opportunity of supporting that nationality within safe and constitutional bounds, and of thereby giving peace to Ireland and great comfort and advantage to the whole of the United Kingdom. I am therefore constrained heartily to wish well to the efforts which you inform me that you intend to make.—I remain, etc.,

W. E. GLADSTONE.

## THE "JURY PACKING" QUESTION.

The Press Association says:—After the decision of the Speaker last night that Mr. Dillwyn could not move the adjournment of the House to discuss the question of alleged jury-packing in Ireland because Mr. Sexton had a notice on the paper for the 1st of March, of a resolution dealing with the same subject, the latter honourable member withdrew his notice. The same field soon, however, became occupied, as Mr. Gedge, the Conservative member for Stockport gave notice before the House rose that he would on the 1st of March "call attention to the present mode of framing the jury panel and selecting jurors in Ireland, and the reasons given for the same; and in connection therewith to the alleged jury-packing in past and pending cases. Mr. Sexton's notice had been in the following terms:—"To call attention to the purpose, method, and effects of the system of jury-packing pursued by agents of her Majesty's Government in Ireland."

## ALTCAR COURSEING MEETING.

The WATERLOO CUP, for 64 subscribers, at 25s. each; winner 500l., second 200l.; two dogs 50l. each, four dogs 30l. each, eight dogs 20l. each, sixteen dogs 10l. each; the Waterloo Purse and Waterloo Plate 360l. Total, 1,600l.

## THIRD ROUND.

CLAMOR beat SNOISTER: 6 to 4 on Clamor. Snoister was very fast from slips; but Clamor drew past as puss broke round at the drain, and soon took a long lead scoring rapidly. Snoister only got in for a weak point or two, the favourite well winning a long and stiff course.

DORINDA beat HUIC HOLLOA: 13 to 8 on Huic Holloa, who led several lengths and scored, when Dorinda got in and wrenching and killing, brought about an undecided. In the next trial the favourite led three lengths, but running very badly was well beaten.

FLUTTERING FERSEN beat LET-GO: 2 to 1 on Let-Go. Fluttering Fersen led three lengths and running with rare determination, hardly gave Let-Go a chance, Mr. Fawcett's bitch winning anyhow.

GREATER SCOT beat ALL ALONE: 3 to 1 on Greater Scot. The favourite won a long course very easily, doing nearly everything.

LONGEST DAY ran a bye (Miss GLENDYNE drawn lame).

HERSCHEL beat CHARMING BESS: 7 to 2 on Herschel, who led three lengths, and in good working trial won well.

JENNY JONES beat COUNTESS OF GAINSBOROUGH: 11 to 4 on Jenny Jones, who won well after a good trial.

DANDELEUR beat ALGAZAR: 9 to 4 on Dandeleur, who was led in the run up, but scored faster after and won well.

## FOURTH ROUND.

CLAMOR beat DORINDA. GREATER SCOT beat FLUTTERING FERSEN.

The WATERLOO PURSE of 215l., taken from the Cup Stakes, for the thirty-two dogs beaten in the first round of the Cup; winner, 75l.; second, 30l.; two dogs 15l. each; four dogs 10l. each; eight dogs 5l. each.

FIRST ROUND: Wagnerite ran a bye (Master Tom Harbison drawn amiss). Brixton beat Good. Busaco beat Eastern Light. Oraso beat Dawesmere. Birmingham beat Aurifer. Star of Loughton beat Bess-of-the-Nook. Barbican II. beat Pippo. Refresher beat Crown Point. Glaucus beat The Slut. Mereworth beat R. Halliday. Limbo beat Jonah. Meols Hero beat Princess Louise. Penalty ran a bye (Royal King drawn). Somerset Joe beat Facetious Nuits. Posada beat Cottage Nymph. Alec Ruby ran a bye (Millers Rab drawn).

The WATERLOO PLATE of 145l., taken from the Cup Stakes, for the sixteen dogs beaten in the first ties of the Cup; winner, 75l.; second, 30l.; two dogs 10l. each; four dogs 5l. each.

FIRST ROUND: Happy Omen beat Sorcerer. Sir Humphrey ran a bye (Countess Grace Darling drawn). Wimborne beat Burnswark. Jack the Baker beat Adèle. Head or Harp ran a bye (Hermes drawn lame). Sho'o ran a bye (Right About drawn). Felspar beat Manifesto. Harpstring beat Wapiti.

## THIS DAY'S MONEY MARKET.

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

The supply of money in the open market is short, and there is a good demand for it at 3½ per cent., while the rate for discount is 3½ to 3¼ per cent., the latter figure being for bills of short date.

## Quarter past Two.

A dull tendency was shown this morning in the Stock Markets, which is in certain departments passing off owing to the improved tone of the Continental Bourse reported in the midday telegrams. The English Funds are steady at the fractional decline at first shown. Home Railways were dull this morning on the disappointing revenue statement of the South-Eastern Company; but prices are now recovering in sympathy with the better tone of the foreign market. American Securities opened dull on yesterday's weak market in New York, and prices still show a reduction. Grand Trunk of Canada stocks have declined with them, and Mexican Railway issues are being realized to profit by the advance of the past few days, and prices accordingly show a decline. The movements in Foreign Securities have been generally more favourable since the foreign Bourse telegrams came to hand.

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

In the English Funds, Consols for money are unchanged at 100¼ to 100½; but the price for the account (March) has declined 1-16 to 100¼ to 100½, and Reduced Three per Cents. ½ to 101¼ to 101½. New Three and Two-and-a-Half per Cents. are unchanged at 101¼ to 101½ and 88¾ to 88½.

In Home Railways, Great Western has risen ½, and Midland ½; but South-Eastern Deferred has fallen ½. In Canadian Railways, Grand Trunk Ordinary

has fallen ½, the First Preference ¾, the Second ½, the Third ¾, the Guaranteed ¾, Canadian Pacific shares ¾, Mexican Ordinary ½, the First Preference ¾, and the Second ¾.

In Foreign Government Securities, French issues have improved ¼, Portuguese Three per Cents. ¼, Turkish Group I. ½, and Group II. ¾; but the Tribute Loan has declined ¼, the Defence ¼, and Egyptian Unified and Daira ¼ to ½.

In American Securities, New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio First Mortgage Bonds have fallen ¼, Central Pacific shares ¼, Milwaukee 1, Lake Shore ½, Louisville ¼, Erie ¼, the Second Mortgage ½, Pennsylvania ¼, Reading ½, and Wabash Preference ½.

The Eastern rates of exchange are:—Bombay, 1s. 5 27-32d.; Calcutta, 1s. 5 5d.; Hong Kong, 3s. 3½d.; and Shanghai, 4s. 7d.

A telegram from Liverpool at eleven o'clock to-day says:—The cotton market opened with a fair demand. Probable sales 10,000 bales. Prices on the spot are unchanged. Futures are steady, and have fallen one point with buyers thereat. The following transactions are reported for delivery:—June-July, 12-54d.

Yesterday's Bank of England return shows an increase of £749,315 in the coin and bullion, which now amount to £22,563,711. As gold amounting to £407,000 was received by the Bank during the week, about £342,000 must have returned from the internal circulation. Notes returned amounting to £198,210, and consequently the reserve increased £947,325. It now amounts to £14,916,541, and the proportion has risen 1¼ to 51¼ per cent. The "other securities" have increased £267,327, owing to applications for loans at the Bank. The "other deposits" have decreased £302,297, owing to the revenue payments, which have been large during the week. The public deposits have increased as much as £1,473,473. There is no change in the Government securities.

The prospectus is issued of the Allison Ranch Gold Mine (Limited), having a capital of £250,000, in £1 shares, of which 167,000 are now offered for public subscription. The company is formed for the purpose of purchasing and working the Allison Ranch Gold Mine, in Grass Valley, California, and other mines adjacent. The company proposes to acquire several properties mentioned in the prospectus; making a total, with the Allison Ranch, of about 324 acres. The additional properties are said to be developed only to a slight extent, but sufficiently to prove them auriferous beyond question.

The letters of allotment of the Catalinas Warehouses and Mole Company of Buenos Aires Six per Cent. Debenture Bonds were posted yesterday evening.

ENGLISH GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.		FOREIGN STOCK MARKETS.	
Consols .. .. .	100 ¾	Argentine Six per Cent. of 1868 ..	100 ¾
Ditto Account (March) ..	100 ¾	Ditto Six per Cent. of 1871 ..	102 ¼
Reduced Three per Cents ..	101 ¾	Ditto 6 p. Cent. Hard Dol. Bond ..	71 ¾
New Three per Cents ..	101 ¾	Austrian Four p. Ct. Gold Rentes ..	85 ½
New Two-and-a-Half per Cents ..	88 ¾	Ditto Five per Cent. Silver ..	61 ¾
India Stock Four per Cent. ..	103 ¾	Brazilian Five per Cent. of 1865 ..	100 ¼
Ditto Three per Cent. ..	85 ¾	Ditto Five per Cent. of 1871 ..	98 ½
Ditto Four per Ct. Rupee Paper ..	70 ¾	Ditto Five per Cent. of 1875 ..	98 ½
Ditto 4½ per Ct. Rupee Paper ..	72 ¾	Ditto 4½ per Cent. of 1883 ..	92 ½
Bank of England Stock ..	99 ¾	Buenos Ayres Six per Cent. of 187 ..	98 ¾
Metropolitan 3½ per Cent. ..	107 ¾	Ditto Six per Cents. of 1873 ..	97 ¾
COLONIAL GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.		Chilian 4½ per Cent. Conversion ..	95 ½
Canada 4 per Cent. of 1910-35 ..	103 ¾	Chinese Six p. Ct. of 1895, March ..	109 ½
N.S. Wales 4 p. Ct. of 1903-5-8-9-10 ..	101 ¾	Ditto Six p. Ct. of 1895, Jun ..	107 ½
N. Zealand 4 per Ct. Cons. Ins. ..	94 ¾	Costa Rica 5 per Cent. Bonds A ..	66 ½
Queensland 6 per Cent. 1891-96 ..	106 ½	Ditto B 4 p. Ct. now 5 p. Ct. 1888 ..	57 ½
S. Australian 4 p. Ct. of 1894-1916 ..	98 ½	Egyptian Three p. Ct. Guaranteed ..	98 ¾
Tasmanian 6 per Ct. of 1893-1901 ..	106 ½	Ditto Five p. Ct. State Domain ..	90 ½
Victoria 4½ per Cent. of 1904 ..	105 ½	Ditto Four per Cent. Unified ..	70 5-16
		Ditto Five per Cent. Preference ..	93 ¾
AMERICAN SECURITIES.		Ditto Four p. Ct. Daira Sanieh ..	67 ¾
United States 4½ per Cent. Bonds ..	111 ¾	Entre Rios 6 p. Ct. 1886 ..	89 ½
Ditto Four per Cent. ..	130 ¾	Ditto 6 p. Ct. Ry. Mortgage ..	93 ¾
Virginia Funded Bonds ..	52 ¾	French Three per Cent. Rentes ..	76 ¾
New York, Pennsylvania, and ..		Ditto 4½ per Cent. of 1872 ..	103 ¾
Ohio First Mortgage Bonds ..	44 ¾	Greek Five per Cent. of 1879 ..	77 ¾
Central Pacific Shares ..	37 ¾	Ditto Five per Cent. of 1881 ..	57 ¾
Chicago, Milwaukee, and St. Pau ..	92 ¾	Ditto Five per Cent. of 1884 ..	57 ¾
Denver and Rio Grande Shares ..	24 ¾	Hungarian Gold Rentes of 1881 ..	74 ¾
Illinois Shares ..	131 ¾	Italian Five per Cent. of 1891 ..	92 ¾
Lake Shore and Michigan ..		Mexican Old Three per Cent. ..	25 ¾
Southern 100-dol. Shares ..	95 ¾	Ditto of 1864 ..	11 ¾
Louisville and Nashville 100-dol. ..		Norwegian Four per Cent. of 1880 ..	102 ¼
Shares ..	62 ¾	Peruvian Six per Cent. of 1870 ..	13 ¾
New York Central Shares ..	115 ¾	Ditto Five per Cent. of 1872 ..	10 ¾
New York, Lake Erie, & Western ..		Portuguese Three per Cent. ..	51 ¾
100-dol. Shares ..	33 ¾	Russian Five per Cent. of 1871 ..	91 ¾
Ditto Preference Six per Cent ..	72 ¾	Ditto Five per Cent. of 1872 ..	91 ¾
Ditto Second Mortgage Bonds ..	100 ¾	Ditto Five per Cent. of 1873 ..	91 ¾
New York, Ontario, and Western ..		Ditto 4½ per Cent. of 1875 ..	85 ¾
Shares ..	13 ¾	Santa Fé 5 p. Ct. N. C. Ry. Mort ..	97 ¾
Ohio and Mississippi Shares ..	26 ¾	Ditto 5 p. Ct. Extensions Mort ..	89 ¾
Oregon and California Seven per ..		Spanish Four per Cent. ..	61 3-16
Cent. Preference Shares ..	18 ¾	Ditto Two per Cent. ..	46 ¾
Pennsylvania Shares ..	56 ¾	Swedish Four per Cent. of 1880 ..	102 ¼
Philadelphia and Reading Share ..	19 ¾	Turkish Six per Cent. Group 1 ..	20 ¼
Ditto General Mortgage Bonds ..	103 ¾	Ditto Nine per Cent. ..	13 ¾
Union Pacific Shares ..	55 ¾	Ditto Six & Five per Ct. ..	13 1-16
Wabash, St. Louis, and Pacific ..		Ditto 4½ p. Ct. Tribute Loan of 1871 ..	68 ¾
Ordinary Shares ..	16 ¾	Ditto Five per Cent. of 1854 ..	92 ¾
Ditto 100-dol. Preference ..	28 ¾	Ditto Five per Cent. Defence ..	70 ¾
		Uruguay Unified Five p. Ct. of 1883 ..	46 ¾
BRITISH AND FOREIGN RAILWAY STOCKS.		BANKS.	
Caledonian ..	96 ¾	Anglo-Egyptian ..	15 ¾
Great Eastern ..	65 ¾	City ..	18 ¾
Great Northern Ordinary ..	114 ½	Colonial ..	30 ¾
Ditto A ..	96 ¾	Consolidated ..	63 ¾
Great Western ..	135 ¾	Imperial Ottoman ..	9 ¾
Lancashire and Yorkshire ..	113 ¾	London and County ..	81 ¾
London and Brighton Ordinary ..	125 ¾	London and Westminster ..	63 ¾
Ditto A ..	110 ¾	London Joint Stock ..	35 ¾
London, Chatham, & Dover Ord ..	21 ¾	National Provincial (£12 paid) ..	49 ¾
Ditto 4½ per Cent. Preference ..	66 ¾	Union of London ..	35 ¾
London and North-Western ..	163 ¾		
London and South-Western ..	125 ¾	MINING SHARES.	
Manchester, Sheffield, & Lincoln ..	65 ¾	Cape Copper ..	22 ¾
Ditto A ..	35 ¾	Indian Consolidated ..	7 ¾
Metropolitan ..	108 ¾	Mason and Barry ..	7 ¾
Metropolitan District ..	38 ¾	Montana ..	7 ¾
Midland ..	125 ¾	Mysore Gold ..	68 ¾
North British ..	98 ¾	Oreogum Gold ..	13-16
North-Eastern ..	150 ¾	Richmond Consolidated ..	4 ¾
North Staffordshire ..	90 ¾	Rio Tinto ..	10 ¾
South-Eastern Ordinary ..	125 ¾	St. John del Rey ..	28 ¾
Ditto Deferred ..	102 ¾	Thariss Sulphur ..	3 ¾
Grand Trunk of Canada Ordinary ..	12 ¾	United Mexican ..	2 ¾
Ditto First Preference Stock ..	73 ¾	TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE SECURITIES.	
Ditto Second Preference Stock ..	54 ¾	Anglo American ..	32 ¾
Ditto Third Preference Stock ..	28 ¾	Brazilian Submarine ..	10 ¾
Ditto Guaranteed ..	72 ¾	Consolidated Telephone ..	3 ¾
Canadian Pacific Shares ..	61 ¾	Direct United States ..	7 ¾
Buenos Ayres & Pac. 7 p. Ct. Shares ..	23 ¾	Eastern ..	10 ¾
Ditto 7 p. Ct. Debentures ..	125 ¾	Eastern Extension ..	10 ¾
Lombardo-Venetian ..	7 ¾	Globe Ordinary ..	4 ¾
Mexican Ordinary ..	51 ¾	Ditto Preference ..	11 ¾
Ditto Eight per Cent. First Pref ..	115 ¾	India-rubber, Gutta-percha, and ..	21 ¾
Ditto Six p. Ct. Second Pref ..	73 ¾	Telegraph Works ..	3-16
Ditto Six per Cent. Perpetual ..	118 ¾	Oriental Telephone ..	3-16
Debt Stock ..	120 ¾	Telegraph Construction ..	38 ¾
MISCELLANEOUS SHARES.		United Telephone ..	12 ¾
Australian Agricultural ..	118 ¾	Western and Brazilian ..	7 ¾
Anglo-Am. Brush Light (£3 paid) ..	2 ¾	TRAMWAY SHARES.	
Hudson's Bay ..	21 ¾	Dublin ..	10 ¾
National Discount ..	10 ¾	Glasgow ..	13 ¾
Peninsular and Oriental Steam ..	61 ¾	Liverpool Un. Tram. and Omnibus ..	13 ¾
Royal Mail Steam ..	37 ¾	London ..	18 ¾
Suez Canal ..	70 ¾	London Street ..	29 ¾
		North Metropolitan ..	20 ¾



## A STORMY NIGHT IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

## SPECIAL REPORT.

When the House of Commons assembled at four o'clock yesterday afternoon the air was full of rumours as to the strange things that were to happen. It was intolerable, by general admission, that the debate on the Address should be carried on to very near the end of the fourth week of the session, and nearly everybody agreed, not only that something ought to be done, but that something would be done, to stop it. According to one story, the Government were to make a firm stand against any further prolongation of the debate, even if they were driven to accept all the inconveniences of an all-night sitting. Another report credited the Speaker with a resolute determination to protect the House against itself by flatly refusing to allow Mr. Dillwyn to move the adjournment. A third rumour—but this was circulated in an awe-struck whisper, and was only accepted by the sanguine or the credulous—was that there was to be no standing any more nonsense, and that the obstructive tendencies of Mr. Parnell and his Gladstonian allies, which have been so ingeniously developed for three whole weeks, were to be altogether crushed by the forcible application of the cloture. When Mr. John Dillon, who was supposed to be undergoing his trial in Dublin, was seen wandering about the lobby and in and out of the House with the restless activity of a stormy petrel, even the sceptical confessed that something unusual would probably happen, and that at least there would be "scenes;" but nobody quite believed that before the night was over all the many startling rumours in circulation would be justified by the facts.

The proceedings in the House began tamely enough. Considerably over an hour was spent in a fruitless attempt to wreck the Ambleside Railway Bill, and then followed the usual cross-examination of Ministers on a wide miscellany of topics, large and small. It was noticed as the long list of questions, over sixty in number, neared its end, that Mr. Dillwyn, the patriarchal member for Swansea, grew exceedingly restless, and fidgetted much in his seat, from which he rose every now and then with a sudden spring, as though impelled by some hidden jack-in-the-box movement, but sat down again on finding that he had failed to catch the Speaker's eye. While anxious to make some demonstration, he clearly approached his task with trepidation, as though he did not quite know what was to be the end of it—a state of mind which threw him into a highly wrought condition of nervous hurry. But at last his opportunity came, and he announced, with a precipitancy that bordered on the comic, that he wished to move the adjournment of the House in order to discuss "the irregularities that had taken place in a trial at law, whereby certain members of the House were prejudiced." This was the first move in the obstructive Plan of Campaign that had been arranged for the night; and the House waited breathlessly to see what would come of it. But the Speaker, who throughout a trying night showed a fixed firmness and resolution worthy of the best traditions of his high office, was equal to the occasion, and pointed out that he could not accept the motion, inasmuch as a motion on the same subject—the charge of "jury-packing" in the trial of such cases as that of Mr. Dillon—had already been placed upon the paper for future discussion by Mr. Sexton, and it is one of the "established and fundamental rules of debate" that when a motion has once been placed upon the paper its discussion cannot be anticipated. It was in vain that Mr. Sexton tried to draw the Speaker into a controversial argument on the point—the Chair had pronounced its ruling, and there was an end of the matter.

The next development of obstructive tactics came on the motion of the leader of the House that precedence should be given to the discussion of the new Procedure Rules whenever they are set down for consideration. This led to a piteous wail from the Welsh members, on the ground that the passing of the motion would destroy their chance of debating the disestablishment of the Church in Wales; and the discussion on this point was legitimate and regular enough, though carried on by some honourable members, and notably by Sir E. J. Reed, in a spirit of somewhat frenied indignation. But when it had been decided by 261 votes to 158 that no exception was to be made in the shape of granting facilities for bringing in the disestablishment debate—Mr. W. H. Smith pointing out that if any exception were made in one case it would be difficult to resist appeals on behalf of other equally important subjects—Mr. Parnell began, after his manner, to demand specially favourable terms for securing debates on Irish topics. With the view of securing this object, he wished to move an amendment, and submitted one, only to have it ruled out of order by the Speaker. In no way disturbed, Mr. Parnell, with remarkable industry and ingenuity, immediately constructed another; but that was rejected too. Still cool and businesslike, Mr. Parnell set to work and elaborated a third amendment, and this the Speaker could find no fault with and allowed to pass. This third and last amendment was one providing that the discussion on procedure should not have precedence on such Wednesdays as happened to have Irish Bills fixed for consideration, and on this precious proposal some hours were wasted. As the talk was purely and obviously obstructive, there is no need for attempting to indicate the course it took. That even the Parnellites themselves were not interested in it is sufficiently indicated by the fact that they did not stay to listen to it, but only took measures to keep a sufficient number of their supporters in attendance to ensure the continuity of the discussion. Indeed, the House grew so thin as the debate went on that one of Mr. Parnell's followers was impelled to get the assembly counted. It was noticeable, too, throughout the night that the Parnellites—though the spirit of obstruction raged as strongly within them as ever—had somehow lost the knack of utilizing it to the best advantage; and so tame a specimens of a purely dilatory debate they have never before produced. It seemed, indeed, as though they were embarrassed and handicapped by their alliances, and that the sad necessity, as allies of Mr. Gladstone and Sir William Harcourt, to "live cleanly and forswear sack," or rather to do their obstructing genteelly and as though nothing was further from their thoughts, had taken all

the spirit and the "go" out of them. It was, in truth, a dismal performance; and possibly it was from a spirit of pure compassion that Dr. Wallace, the member whom Edinburgh has preferred to Mr. Goschen, came to their assistance and showed them how even a Scottish member could be as obstructive as any. But Dr. Wallace unfortunately overrated his powers. He was willing enough to be obstructive; but he had not had the proper training, and really did not know how to do it, at least with reasonable skill. The lamentable result followed, that after he had twice been stopped by the Speaker for irrelevant wandering, he was arrested on a third meandering excursion, and told to resume his seat. Then, at half-past ten o'clock at night, Mr. Parnell's amendment was rejected by 242 votes to 107, and Mr. Smith's original motion was agreed to.

The way was now clear for the resumption of the debate on the Address. It is true that all the amendments to the Address upon the paper had been exhausted; but there was nothing to prevent somebody with a grievance from moving another without notice, and Mr. Dillon sprang up amid loud cheers from his friends to while away the time. The honourable gentleman confessed at the outset that under ordinary circumstances it would be "most improper and almost illegal" for a man upon his trial at Dublin to leave the court and come to Westminster to move an amendment to the Address; but the fact was that the circumstances were *not* ordinary, and he had to complain of the way in which his jury had been selected. The Speaker allowed him to make some headway with a passionate complaint which gave the Irish party great delight; but before he had got very far it was clear that he, like Mr. Dillwyn, wished to infringe on Mr. Sexton's motion about jury-packing, and the Speaker, amid a general and hearty burst of cheering from the great majority of the House, declared that this could not be permitted. Mr. Dillon was greatly taken aback; it had clearly never entered his imagination that *he*, with a personal grievance to complain of, could be cruelly "pulled up;" and it was in a tone almost of despair, with not a little wrath intermingled, that he brokenly said—"I hardly expected this. I am being tried at Dublin by a panel deliberately and maliciously packed by my enemies!" Of course there was a wild cheer from the Parnellites at this; but the Speaker pointed out with some sternness that this was "a deliberate violation" of the ruling of the Chair. Mr. Dillon then sought to get out of his difficulty by the plea that while Mr. Sexton's motion was aimed at "jury-packing," he only wanted to discuss "the striking of the panel," and he asked whether he could not move an amendment, "regretting the action of the Irish Executive in reference to the State trials now proceeding in Dublin." But the Speaker declined to be moved by this transparent attempt to evade his decision, and Mr. Dillon resumed his seat, declaring that, as he was not allowed to speak or to explain, he must "submit to silence." Of course the House, throughout this little scene, was in a state of considerable excitement, and there was a good deal of uproar. Mr. Arthur O'Connor moved the adjournment of the debate, and Mr. Bradlaugh, finding the occasion favourable for dramatic display and the skilful modulating of a well-trained voice, all but dropped a sympathetic tear over Mr. Dillon's wrongs, and avowed that what had happened would give "all right-minded men some cause for pain."

The motion for adjourning the debate was lost by 261 votes to 119; and then Mr. Cox, another Parnellite member, carried on the game by moving, with a brevity which showed some lack of special preparation for this particular task, a fresh amendment to the Address, drawing her Majesty's attention to "the distress existing amongst the working classes." On this the House might, and probably would, have been engaged till now, had not the Speaker determined to put an end to the intolerable waste of time. He allowed Mr. Arthur O'Connor and Mr. Blane to support the motion; but when Mr. Conybeare, of all people, got up to continue the discussion, the Speaker announced, amid loud and enthusiastic cheering, that the Address had been adequately discussed, and that it was "the evident sense of the House" that the question should now be put. On this the leader of the House at once made the formal motion for putting the question, which was carried by 291 votes to 81—the Gladstonians, as a rule, with a wholesome fear of the constituencies, fighting shy of the Parnellite lobby. Next, Mr. Cox's amendment was rejected by 283 to 84; and when Dr. Clark—another Scotch member, jealous, apparently, of the fame Dr. Wallace had acquired earlier in the evening—rose to begin the debate over again, the Speaker again brought the cloture into play, and it was enforced by 289 to 74. Finally, the Address was agreed to at one o'clock this morning by 283 to 70; and, though Mr. Sexton tried to resist the formal nomination of the Committee to draw up the report, he was not listened to, and an exciting night's proceedings came to an end without the additional scandal of an all-night sitting.

## ADMIRALTY CONTRACTS.

The report of the committee appointed by the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to inquire into the contracts of the Department will be presented to-day to their Lordships. The committee, having taken the evidence of the directors of the various Departments, believes that the purchasing of Admiralty supplies by a single officer—the Director of Contracts—is a good one. He should, however, have greater powers than at present. The committee alludes to the "many and grave defects" which it believes to exist in the general administration of the Admiralty. These defects chiefly arise from a want of co-operation between the Director of Contracts and the receivers, examiners, and users of the various articles supplied; thus a delay in furnishing specifications and patterns follows. When stores are purchased it is the business of the storekeeper to notify the fact to the principal officer of the Department for purposes of examination. These principal officers have so much other work that they relegate the duty of examination to subordinates, such as foremen, on whom is cast the responsibility of pronouncing on the quality of the goods delivered. The examination of stores should not be conducted by those into whose charge they pass when required for use. The matter of hulls and engines is so important that the committee refers to it at length. The committee is of opinion that the list of firms who have been called upon to tender for the supplies of many articles, especially coals, canvas, and timber, has been too limited. Novel machinery should not be allowed to be tested by the makers, persons in the service, at the public cost, and patents afterwards be taken out to the prejudice of the service. Conferences between the heads of the purchasing departments of the Admiralty, War, and India Offices would be of general benefit. It is further suggested that the heads of Departments should be held responsible for the correctness and sufficiency of the particulars furnished to the Director of Contracts.



## THE EUROPEAN SITUATION.

A semi-official letter from St. Petersburg, which was published at Vienna yesterday in the *Political Correspondence*, enters with rather startling frankness into Russia's reasons for not caring to hasten a solution of Eastern difficulties. It says Russia can wait, and had better wait, since patience will certainly enable her in the end to get her own way in the East:—

And she will get it the more surely (remarks the writer) if she have not to reckon with a victorious Germany; therefore it is to the manifest interest of Russia to prevent France from being again beaten. France must remain strong, to act as a counterpoise to Germany. Russia wants peace; but she thinks the best way to preserve it is by making it plainly known that she could not look on unmoved at any war of aggression undertaken by Germany. The sympathies for France in Russia have become national in intensity and in the generality of their expression. They are shown forth in the army, in the Civil Service, and in the press. The Government will not be carried away by them into making any compact with France, for this would be contrary to the prudence and the peaceful objects which it thinks good to pursue. The policy of Russia can only be to wait quietly and vigilantly upon events.

The writer then examines the chances of peace, and considers that they are small. While recognizing that the German Emperor and Prince Bismarck must pause before the tremendous risks of a war with France, he doubts whether the Chancellor will be able to withstand the idea that France will be much stronger in a few years than she is now, and that if he, Prince Bismarck, be then gone, Germany may be governed by hands less capable than his to carry his country through a perilous ordeal. In conclusion, the writer says that the Chancellor will almost certainly decide that his work is only half done so long as anything remains to do; and he will not reconcile himself to the thought of seeing the unity and power of Germany in jeopardy when the time comes for him to leave the world. The *Standard's* correspondent, referring to this letter, remarks:—

Never before was it stated so clearly that Russia intends to profit by a German-French conflict, that she awaits the favourable moment, and is ready either for co-operation with France, or, if Germany should again achieve a speedy triumph, to take advantage of the exhaustion of the two belligerents to seize upon Bulgaria and Constantinople. The waiting game is publicly proclaimed to be Russian policy, and the failure of the Constantinople negotiations is the first visible consequence of this policy; for it seems to be admitted on all sides that the negotiations have collapsed, virtually if not formally, and that any further meetings between the Porte, M. Zankoff, and the Bulgarian delegates is useless. Several Governments which at first believed in the sincerity of the Russian Government now confess their mistake, and are giving instructions to their representatives in Constantinople in this sense. The Porte is also alarmed and anxious to put an end to a comedy which was simply calculated to throw dust in the eyes of Turkey and blind her to dangers which require all her attention. Her eyes are at last open, thanks in a great degree to the activity displayed in Austria.

Another grave feature in the situation is noted by the Vienna correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph*, who remarks that the pace at which the different States are arming must, in one instance at least, shortly lead to national ruin. The condition of Russia is already one of extreme gravity. During the past year Russian export trade diminished every month in notable proportions. This state of affairs has been aggravated by the disastrous results of domestic trade, due principally to the unfavourable weather. Incalculable damage has already been done, and the outlook for the next harvest is about as bad as it can be. The present financial and commercial condition of Russia is calamitous, and there is absolutely no prospect of an improvement. How far the economical crisis may influence Russia's foreign policy it is difficult to say; but it looks very much as if the rulers of that country would soon be in the dilemma of choosing between a general crash at home and a foreign war.

## THE GERMAN ELECTIONS.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

BERLIN, Feb. 18.—The semi-official *North German Gazette* to-day, in again contradicting the report that a proclamation to the nation would be issued by the Emperor on the eve of the elections, says that the Imperial Chancellor, in reply to repeated inquiries whether a manifesto might be expected, recently declared that such a step would at the present time be inopportune, and could only be contemplated should the result of the elections be so unfavourable as to render necessary another dissolution of the Reichstag.

## THE SOCIETY OF THE WHITE ROSE.

The London correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian* writes:—The latest of the associations which takes more or less for its model the Primrose League is rather a remarkable one. It is the Society of the White Rose, and is composed of Roman Catholic ladies belonging almost exclusively to the aristocracy. It is only in process of formation, and its programme has not yet been formulated. But it is the belief of those who are engaged in the work of organization that the various revolutionary forces, such as Socialism and Anarchism, which are at present attacking society will destroy the British throne and Constitution unless the nation rallies round the Church of Rome. It is ostensibly to supply such a rallying point that this new league or association is being formed. Several of its members have, however, a subsidiary object. While ultra-loyal and attached to the Sovereign, they are yet afraid that the House of Hanover will be wrecked in the storm of revolution. In such an event they believe that the country will return to its allegiance to the Stuarts. They even believe that they have overcome the difficulty that notoriously exists of finding a representative of that dynasty in a princess of the Italian family of Este. Should the sad necessity arise in her lifetime, they are sanguine this lady will come forward as a candidate for the throne and be accepted by a despairing people.

## AN EAST-END SUICIDE.

A rumour which created considerable excitement was spread in east London last evening that murder of a wholesale character had been perpetrated at the German Club, 77, Christian-street, Commercial-road East. On inquiry, however, it was found that the steward, Henry Hermann, had shot himself with a revolver, and that no one else had been injured. The man was conveyed to the London Hospital where he died. Hermann was in the Spitalfields panic, and he frequently expressed regret that he was not one of the seventeen who were killed, as it would have put him out of his misery and perhaps have saved him an unpleasant job.

INDIGESTION.—The main cause of nervousness is indigestion, and that is caused by weakness of the stomach. No one can have sound nerves and good health without using Hop Bitters to strengthen the stomach, purify the blood, and keep the liver and kidneys active, to carry off all the poisonous and waste matter of the system. See Green Hop Cluster on Label, or you may be deceived.—[ADVT.]

## LAST NIGHT'S DIVISIONS.

The series of divisions, eight in all, which took place in the House of Commons during last night's sitting, occupy over fourteen pages of the minutes issued this morning. The first division—that on the Ambleside Railway Bill—was of no political significance, as is evidenced by the fact that Mr. J. W. Lowther and Mr. Labouchere were tellers for the majority, and Mr. Bryce and Mr. Howorth for the minority. All the subsequent divisions, however, presented points of political interest. The first of the political series was on the proposal of Mr. Henry Richard to exempt next Tuesday from the nights to be taken by the Government (in order, as it was understood, to bring on the motion for the disestablishment of the Church in Wales). The minority of 160, including tellers, which supported this was composed of 106 Gladstonian Liberals, including Sir William Harcourt, Mr. John Morley, Mr. Mundella, and Mr. Shaw-Lefevre, four Unionist Liberals, Sir Hussey Vivian, Messrs. Quilter, West, and Winterbotham, and fifty Nationalists. The majority of 263, also including tellers, was made up of 226 Conservatives, and the following thirty-seven Unionist Liberals:—Lord Hartington, Mr. Bright, Sir Henry James, Mr. Heneage, Mr. Caine, Mr. Sellar, Lord Baring, Lord Wolmer, Baron James de Rothschild, Sir Henry Havelock Allan, Sir Julian Goldsmid, Sir William Crossman, Sir Donald Currie, Sir John St. Aubyn, and Messrs. H. T. Anstruther, Barclay, H. F. Beaumont, Bickford-Smith, Biddulph, Caldwell, R. Chamberlain, Coghill, Courtney, G. Dixon, H. Elliot, Finlay, Gurdon, Hobhouse, Kenrick, Maskelyne, Mildmay, More, T. Russell, Sinclair, T. Sutherland, Thorburn, and Wodehouse. Mr. Parnell's amendment to exempt from the operation of Mr. Smith's motion Wednesdays upon which Bills relating to Ireland were set down was supported by sixty Gladstonian Liberals, including Mr. John Morley and Mr. Shaw-Lefevre, the remaining forty-nine members in the minority being Nationalists. The majority of 244 was composed of 217 Conservatives and twenty-seven Liberal-Unionists, among whom were Mr. Bright and Mr. Heneage; Lord Hartington, Sir Henry James, and Mr. Caine not voting. The division upon Mr. Arthur O'Connor's motion to adjourn the debate on the Address was next in order, and on this occasion the minority of 121 was composed of 70 Gladstonian Liberals and 51 Nationalists; the majority of 263 being made up of 228 Conservatives, 34 Unionist Liberals, and one Gladstonian Liberal—Mr. Whitbread. The first of the closure divisions came next; and in this the majority of 293 which supported Mr. Smith's motion, "That the question be now put," was composed of 234 Conservatives, 45 Unionist Liberals—Lord Hartington, Mr. Goschen, Mr. Chamberlain, Sir Henry James, Sir J. Lubbock, Mr. Heneage, Sir H. Havelock-Allan, Lord Baring, Lord Wolmer, Mr. Caine, Mr. Sellar, Sir John St. Aubyn, Sir Julian Goldsmid, Baron James de Rothschild, Lord Ebrington, Sir William Crossman, Sir Donald Currie, and Messrs. H. Anstruther, H. Beaumont, Bickford-Smith, Biddulph, A. H. Brown, Caldwell, R. Chamberlain, Coghill, Collings, A. Corbett, Courtney, A. Elliot, H. Elliot, Hobhouse, Kenrick, F. Maclean, Maskelyne, Mildmay, More, Quilter, T. Russell, Sinclair, T. Sutherland, Thorburn, Vernon, West, Winterbotham, and Wodehouse—and the following 14 Gladstonian Liberals: Mr. Arnold Morley, Mr. Asquith, Mr. Marjoribanks, Mr. Robert Spencer, and Messrs. T. Blake, R. P. Bruce, Coleridge, Fuller, Gully, M'Lagan, O. V. Morgan, C. S. Parker, Paulton, and Mr. Hanbury Tracy. The minority of 83 was made up of 51 Nationalists and 32 Gladstonian Liberals: Sir Wilfrid Lawson, Mr. Labouchere, Professor Stuart, Mr. Dillwyn, Mr. Picton, Dr. Wallace, Dr. Clark, and Messrs. Abraham (Glamorgan), Atherley-Jones, A. L. Brown, Cobb, Conybeare, W. Crawford, Cremer, J. E. Ellis, T. E. Ellis, Evershed, Fenwick, Graham, Seale-Hayne, Holden, W. H. James, M'Ewan, J. Rowlands, W. B. Rowlands, Rowntree, T. Shaw, P. Stanhope, Watt, Wayman, Will, and A. Williams. Little variation took place in the subsequent divisions, though there were slight changes in each.

## OPENING OF THE NEWFOUNDLAND LEGISLATURE.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

ST. JOHN'S, Feb. 17.—Sir William Des Voeux, the Governor, having met with an accident while skating, the Newfoundland Legislature was opened to-day by commission. The Governor's Speech on the occasion referred, among other things, to the failure of the fisheries, which it declared would, but for Government assistance, have resulted in widespread destitution. The resources of the colony would not be able to again bear such a strain. The revenue returns were below the estimate. Notice had been given to terminate the contract with the Allan Line of steamers for carrying the mails. Referring next to the action of the Imperial Government in disallowing the Bait Bill, the Speech announced it with extreme regret, as it had been regarded as the only available means of relieving the colony from the existing distress. From the tenor of the message from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, the Government inferred that a similar Bill would be permitted to take effect after the next season, and the Legislature would be asked to immediately re-enact it. The delay of a whole year would, however, cause very serious loss to Newfoundland; but as the Imperial Government had presumably acted in accordance with Imperial interests in disallowing the Bait Bill, the Government of Newfoundland contemplated making representations to that of Great Britain for certain concessions, in order that the whole of the burden might not fall on Newfoundland. The debate on the Address was then adjourned and the Bait Bill reintroduced.

## THE PORTE, ENGLAND, AND EGYPT.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

CONSTANTINOPLE, Feb. 18.—No further meeting between Sir H. D. Wolff and the representatives of the Porte has yet been fixed, as the Council of Ministers has not yet deliberated upon the proposals of the British Special Commissioner.

## TURKEY AND THE BULGARIAN QUESTION.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

CONSTANTINOPLE, Feb. 18.—The next meeting between the Bulgarian delegates and the Grand Vizier has been postponed until to-morrow. In consequence of the recommendation of a Special Commission appointed by the Porte which has had the Bulgarian question under consideration in two consecutive sittings, it is stated that at the next interview with the delegates the Porte will make fresh proposals with the object of facilitating an understanding between the Bulgarian Delegates, the Regency, and M. Zankoff.

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.]



## A LESSON FROM GERMANY.

The Berlin correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* writes:—"The following information respecting the manufacture and testing of the weapons supplied to the Germany army reaches me from a high authority. As a general rule all the army swords, sabres, and bayonets are made in Government factories. When, however, large numbers are required in a hurry, contracts are entered into with great manufacturers at Solingen and elsewhere. In these cases special provision is made in each contract, enabling Government experts and scientific officers to enter the factories at all times in order to report upon the quality of the material and workmanship employed in carrying out the Government orders. Every weapon, whether manufactured by State or private industry, is tested before it receives the Government stamp, which is only entrusted to army officers, each one of whom is held personally responsible for the proper testing of the weapons impressed by his stamp. With respect to swords and sabres the testing process is the following. The blades are brought in unmounted, examined for length and thickness, then bent according to certain fixed rules: two heavy right and left cuts are then struck at a wooden block with the edge, and two blows with the flat of each blade. Having passed these tests, the blades are stamped and laid aside to be mounted and finished. When mounted they are again tested for solidity of connection between blade and hilt. The testing of bayonets is equally severe and exhaustive. No inferior material or defective workmanship escapes the cognizance of the inspecting officers, who are specially chosen by the Ministry of War for their knowledge of all the physical and technical details connected with the material and fabrication of steel weapons. The rejected blades and bayonets are generally sold by the manufacturers to retail firms or to Governments which do not adopt precautionary measures for inspecting arms. Most of these weapons are sent abroad. The swords, etc., manufactured in German Government shops are paid for singly to each workman on delivery after having been tested and found perfect. Those rejected are not paid for. This system compels the workmen to be careful, and results in the production of a very high percentage of faultless weapons. I need scarcely add that none are passed which, to the minutest detail, do not fulfil the requirements of the Government standard."

## LORD DUNRAVEN'S RESIGNATION.

In the House of Lords last evening, Lord Dunraven gave an explanation of the circumstances in which he had resigned the office of Under-Secretary for the Colonies. He had not, he said, resigned on anything connected with the colonial policy of the Ministry; for though, in reference to the Canadian Fisheries question and other subjects, there were points in that policy of which he disapproved, he did not regard them as matters which would have justified him in resigning. Again, he did not view with affection the attitude of the Government in Ireland. He did not criticise their demand for measures to strengthen the law in that country, because the main point was to maintain law and order there; but he believed that the necessity for that demand might have been avoided by a prompt and firm administration of the existing law. That had not been the course of action in Ireland. The main cause of his resignation was the question of economy. He held that financial retrenchment must be insisted on by the Cabinet and not left to the heads of Departments; that it must be begun by a determination on the part of the Cabinet to have the public expenditure reduced. That was what had been felt by Lord Randolph Churchill. Our foreign policy ought to be as near as possible one of non-intervention; but for some years, in times of war and in times of rumours of war, our Estimates had gone up with an elasticity that, unfortunately, was not shared by the revenue, and having gone up they did not come down again. Either Mr. Goschen would exercise what he himself had described as "a ferocious guardianship over the public purse," or we must look for the immolation of another Chancellor of the Exchequer. He believed that the maintenance of the Union depended on the strength of the Tory party, and that it would be in a precarious position if it depended on coalitions or alliances. Lord Salisbury confessed that at the end of his noble friend's speech he was not much clearer than he had been at the beginning as to the causes which had led to his resignation. His noble friend had shown a capacity for thought-reading which might be very valuable in the future. He covered himself under the explanation of the late Chancellor of the Exchequer; but it was fair to Lord Randolph Churchill to say that he had seen the Estimates to which he objected, while Lord Dunraven had not, and he had seen the details of the legislation which the Cabinet intended to propose, while Lord Dunraven had not. Again, so far as he knew, the latter noble lord had not the same means of forming a judgment on their foreign policy. He very much regretted that Lord Dunraven had deprived them of the great value of his support; but he did not think the object of economy would be promoted by condemning the Estimates in gross and examining their items afterwards.

## THE HOXTON MURDER.

Thomas William Currell, who stands charged with the murder of Lydia Green at Hoxton on the 5th inst., was yesterday afternoon visited at Holloway Gaol by his solicitor, Mr. Newton, when the line of defence was agreed upon. Mr. Newton stated to an interviewer that he found the prisoner looking extremely well, and even cheerful. He seemed to be highly amused at the accounts in print which he showed to him of what he had been supposed to be doing since the date of Lydia Green's death. The whole of the statements that had appeared as to his midnight wanderings and stoppages at night beside a fire with the watchmen, at the open sewer that was undergoing reconstruction, he declared to be an absolute fabrication. Equally untrue was the story published that morning in a London daily paper describing the manner in which he kept himself alive by purchasing small portions of brawn and bread on several occasions at a shop in St. John-street-road. He asserted that from the time when he left Mrs. Smith's on the Thursday until his arrest (or, as he himself termed it, "surrender") on Tuesday morning, he was staying at other lodgings which he took at Hampstead, quite close to Flask-walk. It was there that he stayed on the same night that he left Mrs. Smith's, and there likewise he passed the night previous to giving himself up to the police. Further, he added that the police description was altogether wrong in crediting him with having been in the army at any period in his career. He repudiated with emphasis the suggestion made in various quarters that he had been in concealment from the time of the perpetration of the murder. So far from having attempted to hide himself, on the very day following the one when he ascertained from the papers that he was the person suspected of the crime he proceeded straight to Scotland-yard, as already stated, with a view to revealing his identity, but failed to see the inspector. Mr. Newton called his attention to a statement published in a newspaper that morning to the effect that he (Currell) had written a letter to Mrs. Green, at 8, Bache-street, stating that he was very sorry for what he had done. The prisoner, when

the paragraph was read to him, expressed great indignation, and said that he had never sent to any member of the murdered woman's family any letter admitting his guilt. The letter was, he said, from beginning to end, a fabrication.

## THE CZAR AND THE PANSLAVISTS.

A report is circulated in St. Petersburg that the resignation of M. de Giers is imminent. A pamphlet has just been published in which his policy is severely attacked, and the appointment of Count Ignatieff warmly advocated. It is said that the pamphlet, which was printed in Paris, has been issued by the direction of M. Katkoff. If this were so (the *Daily News*' correspondent remarks) it would be of great significance, and it would then be no matter of surprise if the change which it advocates took place immediately. The Berlin correspondent of the same paper says:—"In political quarters here much attention is bestowed upon the contest of the two parties in Russia, the Panslavists, headed by M. Katkoff, and the party represented by M. de Giers. Although all the rumours about the position of the latter being critical are officially contradicted, apprehensions are expressed that at last perhaps M. Katkoff's influence may prevail." The correspondent of the *Morning Post* in the German capital says that a former Minister Plenipotentiary to the Court of St. Petersburg has thus described the situation in Russia:—

The Czar's authority and absolute dictatorship are no longer unbounded as they were formerly. His wishes are no longer law; but apparently nothing has changed, and I even remarked a smile on the lips of several of the newly appointed diplomatists when I expressed the opinion that the great autocrat had ceased to enjoy unlimited power over his vast empire. The revolutionary party, *la cinquième essence* of Panslavism, has swollen to immense proportions and overwhelming influence; and no important step is now taken without first considering what the revolutionary party will think about it. They have imposed their will on both the Czar and M. de Giers; and constituting, as they do, the only possible barrier against the Nihilists, they have acquired a preponderance which they freely use at present. We see, on the one hand, the Emperor Alexander wisely giving his support to M. de Giers—both of them, I believe, sincerely desirous that the peace of Europe should be maintained—and on the other hand the revolutionary party, composed even of grand dukes and high officials, openly instigating war, and availing themselves of every possible opportunity to set up their own authority. In the present state of things in Europe the maintenance of peace depends chiefly upon the support given by the Czar to M. de Giers. But how long the Emperor will be able to support him I cannot say. The day may not be far distant when the lately renewed assurances of the Czar to the Emperor William and Francis Joseph will have to give way before *raison d'état* of the greatest importance.

## THE SCOTCH MINERS' STRIKE.—AN INFLAMMATORY SPEECH.

The Lanarkshire miners held a mass-meeting yesterday afternoon at Bells-hill, and agreed to resume work only on the terms of an advance of 6d. a short day, and five days' work per week. Mr. Small, the secretary, condemned the action of the authorities in employing force against the men, and he advised the men that, instead of fasting and starving their wives and children, they should go in a body to the magistrates and ask to be fed. If the magistrates refused them, they ought to fill the prisons and workhouses. If this were done the masters would in a very short time go down on their knees and ask them for God's sake to return to their work. He assured them that dynamite was abroad, and that before many days the Scottish miners would raise a revolution such as was never seen in Scotland. The laws of the land were only to be obeyed in so far as they coincided with the dictates of a man's conscience. He was prepared to go to prison for fulfilling this doctrine.

## SAFETY OF DR. HOLUB.

A telegram has been received at Cape Town stating that Dr. Holub, the Austrian traveller, has arrived at Shoshong, in Bechuanaaland, in a destitute condition. It is added that Dr. Holub's camp between the Zambesi and Lake Bangwelo was attacked by the natives during his absence, and that Herr Zoldner was murdered.

## THE FISHERIES QUESTION.

It is stated in official circles in Ottawa that a Mixed Commission, similar to the Halifax Commission of 1877, will be appointed in order to settle the fisheries question and the international difficulties involved in the dispute.

## FISH SUPPLY TO LONDON.

We learn that the South-Eastern Railway Company has now arranged, as regards fish from stations on the south-eastern coast—namely, Whitstable, Margate, Ramsgate, Deal, Walmer, Dover, Folkestone, Sandgate, Hythe, Appledore, Ham Street, Rye, Dungeness, and Hastings—that from and after the 1st of March next the rates to London, including delivery, shall be: By goods trains, for prime fish 40s. per ton, and offal 22s. 6d.; and by passenger trains, for prime fish 45s. per ton, and offal 35s.

## A THEATRICAL DISPUTE.

The case of Templeton v. Edwards came before the Lord Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Stephen yesterday. Mr. Gye moved on behalf of the plaintiff, Miss Fay Templeton, for a rule nisi calling upon the defendant, the lessee and manager of the Gaiety Theatre, to show cause why an injunction should not issue restraining him from preventing the plaintiff from performing the part of Fernand in the play of "Monte Cristo," or employing any one else to take the part. In November, 1886, an agreement was entered into under which Miss Templeton undertook to play the part in question at a salary of £15 a week, to include one matinee. The agreement provided that the plaintiff should play the part to the best of her ability and conform to all the rules and regulations of the theatre. The plaintiff's affidavit was to the effect that she had played the part to the best of her ability, and had never contravened the rules and regulations of the theatre. She had been well received by the audience, and the defendant had, she said, expressed satisfaction with her acting, and never made any complaint as to any breach of the rules and regulations. On the 5th of February the defendant asked her to resign, but gave no reason, and she declined. He then wrote to her to the effect that he confirmed the notice of dismissal he had given her in consequence of her unwillingness to conform to the rules and regulations of the theatre. The defendant subsequently informed her that her services would not be required after to-day (Friday), and that he had engaged Miss Barlow, who had rehearsed the part, in her place. Counsel therefore made the present application. Their lordships granted a rule nisi, and an interim injunction restraining the defendant till the argument of the rule.

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.]



## -AGRICULTURAL NOTES.

The dry days, frosty nights, and keen easterly winds are getting the ground into capital condition for spring ploughing. It is anticipated that rather more land than usual will be sown with spring wheat this season, and that the barley acreage will be reduced. Great dissatisfaction prevails among barley-growers, who find that sound malting samples, if "off colour," are only saleable at "feeding terms"—a difference of 5s. to 10s. per qr. from former years. The sharp weather of December and early January did no more than healthily retard the growth of the autumn wheat, which now presents a thoroughly satisfactory appearance, strong and regular and rather backward than forward—a failing on the right side with our variable and often bitter springs. Wheat that was sown in January is just appearing above the surface, and may suffer from the recent frosts; but the acreage put under wheat in January is always small. We are sorry to hear of frost-bitten roots, especially swedes; but farmers go on year after year losing valuable cattle-ood in this manner, and, if experience supplies no warning, little more can be said. All roots except parsnips ought to be raised and carefully stored before the period of frost arrives. There is still abundance of keep for stock; but the keen weather which a fine Candlemas has brought will cause a heavy drain on this abundance: so that, if we have a hard February, followed by a hard March, the reserves with which we find ourselves at Easter may be almost as scanty as they were last year. In such a case some recovery in the price of oats and feeding-barley might be anticipated. Both these staples are now extremely cheap.

The price of mutton is fairly maintained; but some authorities think that before Lady Day a great number of fat and store hoggets may be thrown upon the market, with the effect of lowering prices. Beef is already very depressed, the farmer getting a bare 6d. per lb. Nor does pork pay, a matter which is unfortunate for the allotment holder and the peasant proprietor, as well as the ordinary farmer. Wages range from 14s. to 15s. a week in most counties; but in Dorsetshire and other "cheap" districts 12s. only is paid. Still, the agricultural labourer has weathered the winter of 1886-87 better than was anticipated, and a spring increase of work is already at hand. The lambing season is making the shepherds' cares heavy; but, despite the cold weather, the ewes and their young are generally healthy; the bright days and clear bracing air, together with good choice of food, being in their favour.

The wheat markets have receded about 2s. per qr. since the end of January; for, although quotations in the ordinary lists do not show more than a shilling decline, the price to sell is at least 2s. worse from what it was three weeks ago. English wheat has owed the greater part of the fall to unsatisfactory condition. This evil, with the dry weather, is now disappearing to a great extent, but the exchanges are slow to recover value. Foreign wheat at the great ports is exceedingly hard to sell, but the choice of really good milling wheat is not so large as appears to be currently supposed. Holders of fine samples are mostly quite stiff in their demands. The war rumours which prevailed about a month ago led to an increase of American and South Russian shipments, so that, instead of strengthening the market, their effect has been of an exactly opposite character. Despite all that has been expedited since the new year, Europe and England are, in the way of grain reserves, singularly unprepared for war.

Crop prospects in California have improved, India hopes for a good harvest (though an increase in the acreage is now doubted), and Australia may have half a million quarters to ship between March and June; but the stocks in hand and the quantity of grain afloat do not, even when united, make up any satisfactory or reassuring total; while the deliveries of English farmers, after a brief revival, have again dropped to the level of a really bad year.

The Government estimate of British crop yields in 1886 generally confirms the estimates on which the principal private authorities had previously agreed. It is not the less valuable for this reason; in fact, it may be regarded as in one respect very satisfactory and useful to farmers and the corn trade. Men of business cannot wait to form their estimates until five months after harvest; and the whole character of the season's business may be said to be fixed by unofficial views and estimates published within a couple of months of harvest. To find these views eventually upheld by the Government returns from 14,000 parishes is therefore exceedingly reassuring as well as useful. The Government statistics show that Lincoln is still at the head of our wheat-growing counties. Yorkshire, by reason of its great area, occupies an important position; but wheat-growing in the great county has declined most seriously during the past decade. Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, and Cambridgeshire remain great growers of wheat; but Kent has given place to Sussex as the premier wheat county south of the Thames. With respect to barley, Norfolk is found to head the list of counties, Lincoln and Suffolk coming next. A singularly large production of barley is recorded in Northumberland. Oats, of course, are grown much more extensively in the west and north than in the east and south.

## BRITISH TRADE IN CHILI.

In a Foreign Office paper just issued, Mr. Thomas, Vice-Consul at Santiago, gives some reasons for the decline of British trade with Chili and suggestions for improving it. Mr. Thomas thinks the decline of British trade with Chili during the past twelve years is to be attributed to British manufacturers themselves. The Chilean Exhibition of 1875 was the commencement of a new era in the competition of foreign merchants and manufacturers who export goods etc. to Chili, and British manufacturers themselves have apparently not taken the trouble since then, Mr. Thomas says, to discover the means of competing with those of other countries, in Chili, in the importation and sale of articles which they can produce at the same price as their foreign competitors, if they would adopt the same systems, and not remain under the belief that nobody else can produce similar articles to theirs at the same cost. Other nations have proved the contrary in the most practical manner. British manufacturers, as a general rule, refuse and even fear to produce articles of ordinary use of inferior quality, irrespective of markets. This is to their moral, but not to their pecuniary advantage. It is well known nearly everywhere that British wares are superior in quality to similar articles produced by other countries, and that they are more durable; but for the same reason they are also more expensive. The great mass of consumers all over the world, being the poorer and uneducated classes, ignore this fact, and in consequence only purchase what is cheapest, irrespective of quality and the nationality of the goods they consume. The only remedy for this cause is that British manufacturers must decide to make special goods for given markets; they otherwise run the risk of being driven out of these altogether. Some information is given about the manufactures of Chili, where, Mr. Thomas says, there is a vast field for the employment of British capital in the establishment of numerous industries which would not only pay, but pay well.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

## THE IRISH LANDLORDS.

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

SIR,—The suggestion made in your paper of Thursday, that Irish landlords should combine to defeat the Plan of Campaign is most admirable. It rests with themselves to right their own wrongs, and they have the power to do so by a strong united effort.

It is strange that an "Irish Land Agent" should not be aware that a powerful association for the very object he recommends already exists: the Land Corporation of Ireland, presided over and managed by the chief landlords of Ireland and men of practical knowledge. In the hope that he and his friends will join it, I will add that its London office is at 4, Victoria-street, Westminster, and that its Irish office is at 12, Molesworth-street, Dublin.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

February 17.

F.

"S H E."

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

SIR,—It is very natural that your Kôr Korespondent (excuse the native play on proper names) should have been deceived into thinking that he had enjoyed an interview with She. But, as a matter of fact, Ayesha is really in Thibet, except when, as Mdme. Blavatsky, she occasionally appears in Anglo-Indian society.

The cause of your correspondent's mistake is obvious. When She came to that accident in the place of the Pillar of Fire, there was every chance of a revolution in Kôr. The Radical party (Reds, or Red-hot Pots) projected an attack on property, and were only stopped by a stratagem of old Bilali's. He swathed up one of his wives—a tall and handsome girl—in She's wardrobe, and (as the Ama-Hagger had never seen Ayesha's face) the public were and remain under the impression that She is at home, as usual. The new young lady ordered an instant hot-potting of all the Mutes: perhaps a superfluous precaution, as they were *dumb* mutes and could not write; but it is well to neglect nothing.

Bilali's only apprehension is that, if it comes to blasting anybody, Mrs. Bilali may not carry out the programme adequately. Meanwhile some excitement is caused by a threatened visit from M. Jules Verne, who demands a concession for working Kôr as a watering-place; and it is feared that international difficulties may arise, as Mr. Rider Haggard neglected to plant the union-jack at Kôr.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

Kôr, Feb. 16.

ONE WHO KNOWS.

## THE COAL, CORN, AND WINE DUES.

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

SIR,—In the *City Press* of the 12th inst. appeared a letter from Mr. Lloyd, honorary secretary of the Anti-Coal-Tax Committee, and in the *Daily Telegraph* of the 14th inst. a letter from Messrs. Doulton on the same subject. Now, after the declaration of the chairman of the Gas and Coke Company, Horseferry-road, that the abolition of the coal tax would not matter a fig to them, because the increased rates and lower price of coke would entail a heavy loss if they reduce the price of their gas, I am inclined to think that neither Mr. Lloyd nor Mr. Doulton has fairly weighed the matter. Mr. Doulton's premises are very extensive, and so must be those of a sugar-refiner who uses 900 tons of coal per week; and I question whether a fourpenny extra rate would not be nearly, if not quite, equal to the coal dues. But taking for granted that they would be the gainers by, say, £400 or £500, I would ask what is the number of manufacturers (within the area) whom the abolition of the coal dues would benefit as compared with the millions it would oppress? Would it benefit the poor class? No, because they would get their coal not a penny cheaper and their landlords would increase their rents to cover the extra rates they would have to pay. Would it benefit the middle and ratepaying class? No, because they would have an extra 4d. in the pound on their already heavy rates. The gas companies, whom one would naturally expect it would benefit, say No. Now, I am no believer in indirect taxation; but there is no rule without an exception, and I take it this tax is a fair exemplification of that fact. Again, look what an immense benefit it has been to the public at large, and to none more than to Messrs. Doulton and other large manufacturers, who used to have to pay heavily for carrying their goods over the bridges; while they pay nothing now except the ordinary rates to which all contribute, whether they have carts, carriages, or wagons, or not.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

February 17.

C. S. P.

## ANOTHER LIBERAL SECESSION.

The following letter has been sent to the Secretary of the Dorset Liberal Association by Captain Carr Stuart Glyn, a nephew of Lord Wolverton:—

Stanbridge Rectory, Wimborne, Feb. 11, 1887.

Dear Mr. Brennand,—I am sorry to see, from a report of the meeting of the Liberal Council at Dorchester on Tuesday, that I was put into office in the association. This compels me with much regret to decline to serve, for the same reason for which I withheld from attending the meeting—namely, that I cannot approve of the resolution which was carried at the Wimborne meeting, which resulted in the withdrawal (I may almost say the expulsion) of many influential Unionist members of the association, and, as I hold, good Liberals. Besides which, so long as the Plan of Campaign remains undenounced by the heads of the Liberal party, and also the principal leaders of the Irish party, I cannot support Home Rule with a Parliament in Ireland, by which the instigators of that illegal scheme are certain to be placed in power. I must, therefore, ask you to withdraw my name from the council and make public this letter, as my name has appeared in print as one of those elected.—Believe me, yours very truly,

CARR S. GLYN.



## THE MORNING PAPERS.

## LAST NIGHT IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The *Times* observes that the proceedings of the Parnellites and of a section of Mr. Gladstone's followers since the opening of the present session have enormously strengthened the case for restrictions on debate. The length, the barrenness, and the obstructive purpose of the debate have constituted a national scandal.

The *Standard* declares that if any argument were necessary to establish the crying need of some more cogent machinery for repressing the abuses of the existing privileges of debate, it would be found in the record of last night's proceedings. A more signal victory for the Government could not have been desired; and it is not the less valuable because the cause they represented was that of parliamentary efficiency and legislative progress.

The *Daily News* believes that many Englishmen will feel with the Irish members that Mr. Dillon was treated with some harshness last night. It does not understand the grounds on which he was stopped by the Speaker. It was a question of privilege, which has always hitherto been regarded as a sufficient reason for occupying the attention of the House. Time was not saved by this severe measure. It made Mr. Dillon's colleagues angry, and led to the scenes which followed.

The *Daily Telegraph* affirms without fear of contradiction from any impartial critic of the proceedings, that there was no real warrant in point of public utility for the discussions raised or attempted to be raised in the House of Commons, from the end of question-time yesterday afternoon until the final division on the Address at an early hour this morning. It is evident, the *Daily Telegraph* adds, that Scotch, Welsh, and probably not a few English members, are in little less need than their Irish colleagues of being taught the real purposes for which Parliament exists.

The *Morning Advertiser* remarks that the night was wasted as regards the business done; but a valuable lesson was taught. This was that the House of Commons is determined to rid itself of the incubus which has so long paralyzed its efficiency.

The *Leeds Mercury* finds it impossible not to regret the fact that the attempt to raise the question of the composition of the Irish juries in the House of Commons last night was not successful. The question is one of such importance and urgency that, alike for the sake of Ireland and of the Government, the sooner it is discussed the better.

The *Birmingham Post* acknowledges that much of last night's proceedings cannot be regarded as creditable to the House. A good deal of the talk about the invasion of the rights and privileges of private members was sheer nonsense, and some of it was unquestionably due to a desire to prevent any business from being proceeded with.

The *Liverpool Post* is of opinion that the country will be apt to regard it as a sign of weakness on the part of the Government that they should at this early stage in the session attempt not only to end the discussion on the Address, which has been long enough and wearisome enough, but also to monopolize the entire time of the House.

The *Sheffield Daily Telegraph* observes that that lower depth to which it was thought even Gladstonians could not sink has at length been reached. The alliance between the English Separatists and the Irish Parnellites is cemented by the combined resort to the last stage of outrageous obstruction.

The *Freeman's Journal* says that the Government need not hope to avoid hearing more than they like about the working of the "stand-by" system. Public attention in Great Britain is being fixed upon the doings of the Crown officials in Ireland; and when a debate is "burked" in the manner of last night, the effect is to intensify interest in the question at issue.

## LORD DUNRAVEN'S RESIGNATION.

The *Times* cannot blame Lord Dunraven for resigning if he found it impossible to work with the Government; but it cannot congratulate him on his explanation. He resigned for economical reasons alone; but when he comes to explain what those reasons are he is just as vague as was Lord Randolph Churchill, and his objections are just as intangible.

The *Standard* thinks it is time that a check should be given to the egotism of those newly fledged neophytes who, as soon as they are in office, seem to arrogate to themselves the right of overhauling the whole policy of the Government, and of inflicting any amount of inconvenience on those who are responsible for its efficiency, rather than forego the gratification of a single crotchet. Political modesty seems at a discount in these latter days. But if we cannot have modesty we must at least have subordination, or a fresh difficulty will be thrown in the way of parliamentary government, in addition to those by which it is already overburdened.

The *Daily News* remarks that a critic of Lord Dunraven's statement might suggest that it contained too many reasons rather than too few. Lord Salisbury's reply is a masterpiece of parliamentary ingenuity.

The *Manchester Courier* shares Lord Salisbury's inability to comprehend exactly why Lord Dunraven left his colleagues.

The *Manchester Examiner* says that Lord Dunraven may perhaps be solaced by the reflection that his secession from the Government will do it no immediate harm. He has gratified himself without hurting them. At the same time, it is another stone withdrawn from a rickety fabric.

## FRANCE AND GERMANY.

The *Times* believes that the relations between France and Germany must for a long time to come be the dominant factor in European politics. The triumph of Prince Bismarck's policy may possibly avert war for a time; but it is not in itself a peaceful policy, and its triumph, though probable enough as matters look at present, is not as yet assured. With France and Germany armed to the teeth and each fearing the other, war is almost at the mercy of an accident.

## HOW IRELAND IS GOVERNED.

The *Daily News* contends that the trials now going on in Dublin, and the jury-packing, which drew protests from Catholic and Protestant alike at Sligo, are proofs that if there is not one law for the Irishman and another for the Englishman, there is one kind of administration for Ireland and another for England; and that the liberties we boast on this side of St. George's Channel do not really extend to the sister-island. There is no hollow pretence in politics than the commonplace of Tories and Dissident Liberals that Ireland has all the liberties which are enjoyed by England. It has them all in theory; it has very few of them in practice.

"WARMTH AND NOURISHMENT."—In "The Commercial Organic Analysis," Vol. II., it says:—"Several qualities of Cod Liver Oil are:—Pale, used only in medicine; the purest has a pale yellow colour, never quite colourless unless artificially bleached; Light Brown, an after-yield of inferior quality, but still largely used in medicine; and Dark Brown, or Tanner's Oil." JENSEN'S COD LIVER OIL, sold everywhere in bottles, at 1s., 2s., 3s., 6d., and 6s. 6d., exactly corresponds to the above description of the purest or pale yellow. Trade-mark, an Iceberg, is on every wrapper.—[Advrt.]

## THE CULTIVATION OF ASPARAGUS.

A writer in the *Standard* says:—Among neglected crops that are profitable to grow in this country asparagus may, without doubt, be placed. It is not difficult to grow, and any farmer who has a field of good friable soil—heavy land will not do—may produce a crop that will bring in a great return per acre. The most delicious of all vegetables, to the taste of many people, asparagus is nearly always sold at what is practically a famine price to all but the wealthy. Bundles of stale "grass," as it is termed, may sometimes be bought cheaply enough; but they are not worth cooking, and it is seldom that a fair-sized dish of fresh asparagus can be obtained for less than half a crown. Now, there is no reason but want of enterprise for the scarcity which causes such high prices to prevail, even in the best of seasons. In a single district of Germany there are 25,000 acres planted with asparagus, and the crop is very extensively grown in France for export to this country as well as for a large home demand. The English garden system of growing it in raised beds is not the best, and, if it were, it would not be suitable for extensive culture. The French obtain far finer heads by growing asparagus in rows four feet apart, and two feet from root to root in the rows. There is no deep trenching to begin with, and no raised beds are required afterwards, unless in damp situations. Asparagus is grown on the flat, earth being simply drawn over the heads when they begin to emerge, to bleach them and to increase their thickness. The bleaching is carried to excess in France, and, chiefly for that reason, the flavour of English asparagus is greatly superior to that of French. The time to plant is when the crowns are starting, towards the end of March or the beginning of April. Two-year-old plants are best, and they should not be cut at all in the first year of growth, and not exhaustively in the next year. Any field of suitable soil that has been well manured for mangolds and ploughed for the last time would do for asparagus, and the spring cultivation might be the same as for mangolds. The great drawback is having to wait till the third season after planting before obtaining a profitable return; but after that the profit is very large. Probably in the second season sufficient heads to pay expenses might be cut without injury to the plants. It is simply a question of the strength of the plants, which may be promoted by liberal manuring, guano and salt being among the most valuable dressings. In France liquid manure is extensively employed during the growing season.

## BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

## BIRTHS.

**SONS.**  
GREEN, Mrs. William H., at Westbrook, Staines, Feb. 16.  
HAMMICK, wife of Captain Robert F., R.N., at Wellesley House, Devonport, Feb. 16.  
HENDERSON, Mrs. Henry, at Croydon-road, Anerley, Feb. 12.  
MACKENZIE, Mrs. Colin J., of Portmore, at Portmore, Peeblesshire, Feb. 16.  
SHARP, Mrs. Herbert, at Ridge-road, Stroud-green, N., Feb. 15.  
WHALE, Mrs. Alfred J., at Marlborough-road, Upper Holloway, N., Feb. 12.  
WYER, Mrs. M. K., at Bombay, Jan. 22.

**DAUGHTERS.**  
BACK, wife of Rev. Arthur J., at Cringleford Vicarage, Norwich, Feb. 15.  
FOSTER, Mrs. G. Carey, at Daleham-gardens, Hampstead, Feb. 12.  
HOLLEY, wife of Lieut.-Col. Edmund H., Royal Horse Artillery, at Lyndhurst-road, Exeter, Feb. 16.  
JESSOP, Mrs. George H., at Tulse-hill, Feb. 16.  
SMITH, Mrs. John C., at St. George's-road, Glasgow, Feb. 16.  
STEVENS, wife of Rev. H. Bingham, at Darenth Vicarage.  
WILLIAMS, Mrs. Leonard A. O., at Talgarth-road, West Kensington, W., Feb. 17.

## MARRIAGES.

BULLEY—BAZLEY.—At Hatherop Church, Gloucestershire, Frederic P. Bulley, son of the late President of Magdalen College, Oxford, to Annie C., daughter of Sir Thomas S. Bazley, Bart., Feb. 16.  
CRAIG—SWAD.—At the Parish Church, Kington, near Leicester, Mr. James Craig, B.A., M.B., Ch.M., of Clarendon Park, to Amy C., daughter of Mr. Edward H. Snood, M.R.C.S. and L.S.A. Eng., of Aylestone Park, formerly of Yoxall, Staffordshire, Feb. 16.  
GARDNER—BIRD.—At All Saints', Alrewas, Thomas Gardner, of Hornchurch, Essex, son of the late Mr. Thomas Gardner, of Mile-end, London, to Emma, daughter of Mr. Edward J. Bird, of Orgreave Hall, Lichfield, Feb. 16.  
LAWRENCE—YOUNG.—At St. John's, Paddington, Mr. William F. Lawrence, M.P., of Cowesfield House, Salisbury, to Caroline S., daughter of the late Mr. Charles B. Young, of Hyde Park-terrace, London, Feb. 16.

SPOKES—CORNER.—At Marylebone Parish Church, Russell, son of Sir Peter Spokes, to Jeanie, daughter of Mr. John Corner, of Albert-road, Regent's Park, Feb. 17.  
STOPFORD—KENNEDY.—At Holy Trinity, Brompton, Jemmett J., son of the late Archdeacon Stopford, to Constance L., daughter of the late Evory Kennedy, M.D., D.L., of Belgard, county Dublin, and Queensberry-place, S.W., Feb. 15.  
VYVYAN—WALKER.—At Christ Church, Lancaster-gate, Captain Courtenay B. Vyvyan, the Buffs, son of Rev. Sir Vyvyan Vyvyan, Bart., of Trelowarren, Cornwall, to Eva C. F., daughter of Major-General Edmund Walker, R.E., Feb. 17.  
WOOD—CARRINGTON.—At Christ Church, Lancaster-gate, Alexander J., son of Mr. Alexander Wood, of Croft House, Ovingham-on-Tyne, Northumberland, to Edith M., daughter of Mr. Charles Carrington, late of Sydney, N.S.W., Feb. 15.

## DEATHS.

ANDREW, Lydia J., daughter of Mr. John, at Ellington-street, N., Feb. 16.  
AYLMER, Ellen, widow of Mr. John, of Altadare, county Dublin, Ireland, at Rue des Vignes, Passy, Paris, aged 80, Feb. 13.  
BURNAND, Ada V., daughter of Mr. Arthur, at Brighton, aged 21, Feb. 15.  
CANE, Rev. Thomas C., J.P., at Brackenhurst, near Southwell, Notts, aged 86, Feb. 15.  
COLLIE, Elsie R., daughter of Alexander, M.D., at The Salterns, Parkstone, Dorset, Feb. 14.  
DICKINSON, Rev. Willoughby W., M.A., late Rector of Wolferton, Norfolk, at Lillington-avenue, Leamington, aged 71, Feb. 15.  
ELLIS, Harriette, wife of Colonel, late R.M., at King's-road, Guernsey, aged 55, Feb. 13.  
HOLDER, Helen, widow of Lieut.-Colonel, Scots Guards, at Cannes, aged 54, Feb. 15.  
JARV, Sarah, widow of Mr. William H., of Blofield Lodge, Norfolk, at Burlington House, aged 87, Feb. 13.  
LINDOW, Mr. Henry W., late 17th Lancers, of Hobart-place, Eaton-square, aged 62, Feb. 16.  
MUCKALT, Mary A., wife of Mr. Henry, at Wallington, aged 61, Feb. 15.

PEYTON, Mr. Thomas G., J.P., late Lieutenant-Colonel in Herefordshire Militia, of Barton Court, Colwall, Herefordshire, at Exmouth, South Devon, Feb. 4.  
PLUME, Rev. William H., Rector of the parish for forty-two years, at Framingham Pigot Rectory, near Norwich, aged 73, Feb. 4.  
SMITH, Mr. George T., at Gilston-road, South Kensington, Feb. 16.  
SOUTHGATE, Esther S., wife of Mr. John, at Leigham-court-road, Streatham, S.W., Feb. 16.  
SPETTIGUE, Mr. John, at Exmouth, aged 85, Feb. 11.  
TOWNSEND, Henrietta, daughter of the late Rev. Horatio, of Derry, Rosscarbery, at Weston Lodge, Clonakilty, county Cork, aged 80, Feb. 15.  
TRUMAN, Hugh B., son of the late Mr. John, at Haverstock-hill, aged 15, Feb. 14.  
WALKER, Commander Henry C., R.N., at High Stakesby, Whitby, aged 43, Feb. 16.  
WAY, Isabella, wife of Mr. Henry F., at Portland House, Tulse-hill, S.W., Feb. 15.  
WEBB, Eglantine M., daughter of Deputy Surgeon-General W. M., Medical Staff, at Ainslie-place, Edinburgh, aged 5, Feb. 15.

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## STOCKS AND SHARES.

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

## COLONIAL GOVERNMENT SECURITIES

Canada, Dominion of, 5p. ct. 1903	112	114
Do. ditto 4 p. ct. 1904-5-6-8	103½	104½
Cape of Good Hope 1890-1900	—	—
Do. ditto 1891	—	—
Do. 5 per cent. 1900	107	109
Do. 4½ per cent.	102	104
Do. ditto (June & Dec)	101	103
Natal 4½ per cent. (Mar. & Sept.)	101	103
Do. ditto 10-40	104	105
New South Wales, 1888 to 1894	101	107
Do. 5 per cent. 1895 to 1902	105	114
Do. 2 per cent. 1892 to 1893	105	107
New Zealand 6 per cent. 1891	106	108
Do. 5 per cent. 1914	110	112
Do. 5 per cent. Consols	102	104
Do. 6 p. cent., March 15, 1891	107	109
Do. ditto (June & Dec.)	106	108
Do. 4½ p. cent. 5-30, 1879-190	—	—
Do. ditto 10-40, 1888-1918	101	103
Do. ditto 1889	101	103
Quebec (Province of) 5 p. c. 1904	108	110
Do. ditto ditto 1906	108	110
Queensland 6 per cent. 1891-1896	106	118
Do. 4 per cent. 1913-1915	98	100
South Australian 6 p. c. 1891-1900	—	—
Do. ditto 1901-1918	115	130
Do. 5 per cent. 1911-1930	106	116
Do. 4 per cent. 1929	100	102
Do. ditto 1916	100	102
Straits Settlements Gov. 4½ p. c	103	105
Tasmanian 6 per cent. 1895	110	115
Do. 4 per cent. 1 July, 1908	99	102
Victoria 6 per cent. 1891	106	108
Do. 5 per cent. 1894	105	107
Do. 4 per cent. 1899-1901	101½	102½
Western Australian 4½ per cent.	105	107
Do. ditto 4 per cent.	101	102

## REGISTERED AND INSCRIBED STOCKS.

Canada 4 p. c. Stock Reg., 1904	103½	104½
Do. Loan for £4,000,000, 1910	103½	104½
C. of Good Hope 4 p. c. Stock Reg	97½	98½
Do. (Loan of 1883) Ins	98½	99½
Ceylon 4 p. c. Inscribed Stock	102	104
Natal 4 p. c. Consol. Stock Reg	96	97
New South Wales 4 p. c. Ins	106½	107½
Do. 3½ per cent. Stock Ins	93½	94½
Do. 3½ do. Stock, 1882	—	—
Queensland Stock Ins.	99	100
S. Australia (Loans of 1882-3-4)	100	102
Victoria 4 p. c. Railway Stock	102½	103½
Do. 1881, Inscribed Stock	102½	103½
Victoria 4 p. c. Loans of 1882, 1883, and 1884, do. 1908	104	105
W. Australia Loan of £525,000 Stock	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 1st Con. M.B	79	81
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	4½	4½
St. Louis Bridge 1st Pref. Stock	104	106
Do. 2nd Preferred Stock	52	54
Do. 1st Mortgage Gold Bonds	132	137
Union Pacific Railway 1st Mort.	116	118
Union Pacific Land Grant	100	105

## STERLING BONDS.

Allegheny Valley, 1910	131	133
Atlantic First Leased Lines Rental	—	—
Trust, 4 per cent. Mt. Debs	84	86
Baltimore and Ohio 6 p. c., 1902	120	122
Do. 6 per cent. 1910	124	126
Do. 5 per cent. 1877	110	112
Memphis and Ohio	116	119
N.Y.C. & Hudson River 6 p. cent	119	121
Pennsylvania General Mortgage	125	128
Do. Consolidated ditto	119	121
Pittsburg & Connellsville 6 p. c.	127	129
Union Pacific Rail. Omaha Bridge	123	128
United N. Jersey Ry. Canal 1894	110	112

## RAILWAYS.—BRITISH POSSESSIONS.

Atlantic and St. Lawrence 6 p. c.	139	141
Bombay, Baroda, & Central India	—	—
guaranteed 5 per cent.	160	163
Buffalo and Lake Huron	11½	12
Canada Central Five per Cent.	—	—
First Mortgage Bonds	108	110
Can. Pac. Stl. 5 p. c. First Mort	104	105
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
Do. Annuity B, 4½ per annum	24½	24½
Do. Def. Annuity Cap. Guar.	—	—
4 per cent.	116	119
Do. Irredeem. Deb. Stk. 4½ p. c	119	121
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
Do. ditto 4½ per cent.	120	123
Do. ditto 4½ per cent.	124	126
Melbourne and Hobson's Bay	—	—
United 5 per cent. Bonds	107	109
M. of Canada Sterling 1st Mort	—	—
gage	100	102
Do. (Con.) 5 per cent. 1st Mort	98	100
Nizam's State Railway Guarant	—	—
eed 5 per cent. Shares	106	108
N. of Canada 6 p. c. Pref. Stock	55	60
Do. 5 per cent. 1st Mortgage	105	107
Do. 3rd Pref. Bonds A and B	94	96
Do. 2nd North. Exten. 6 p. c.	104	105
Do. ditto 6 p. c. Impr. Mort.	104	105
Do. 4 per cent. Deb. Stock	83	85
Ont. & Quebec 5 p. c. Perp. Deb. St	109	110
Oude & Rohilkund 5 per cent.	125	125
Do. ditto 4 per cent. Deb. Stock	103	103
St. John and Maine	30	33
Scinde, Punjab, & Delhi 5 p. c	—	—
South Indian guar. 5 per cent.	125	127
Do. 4½ per cent. Deb. Stock	114	116
S. Mahatma Guar. 4 p. c. till 1889	101	103
Do. 4 per cent. Deb. Stock	106	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
Lon., Tilbury, & Southend Co.	135	139
Mersey	6	8
North London Consolidated	178	183
Rhymney	155	160

## RAILWAYS.—DEBENTURE STOCK.

Caledonian 4 per cent.	116	118
East London 6 per cent.	140	160
Do. 5 per cent.	110	120
Do. 6 per cent. 1874	90	110
Do. 6 per cent. 1875	60	90
Glasgow and S. West. 4 per cent	114	116
Great Eastern 4 per cent.	116	118
Do. A 5 per cent.	142	144
Do. B 67 redm., 5 p. c	132	134
Do. 4½ per cent.	129	131
Great Northern 4 p. c	115	117
Great Western 4 per cent.	119	121
Do. 4½ per cent.	122	124
Do. 4½ per cent.	132	134
Do. 5 per cent.	145	147
Lancashire and York, 4 per cent	117	119
London & Blackwall, 4½ per cent	120	122
London and Brighton, 4 per cent.	115	117
Do. Perpetual 4½ per cent.	129	131
London & Chatham Arb. ½ p. ct.	124	126
Do. ditto B 4½ per ct.	123	125
Do. ditto 4 per cent.	108	110
Do. ditto 1883	108	110
London & North-Western 4 p. ct	119	121
London & South-Western 4 p. ct.	118	120
Do. ditto 3½ p. ct.	102	104
London, Tilbury & 4 p. ct.	114	116
Manch. & Sheffield 4½ per cent.	128	130
Metropolitan 4 per cent.	115	117
Do. 4½ per cent.	126	128
Do. 3½ per cent.	98	100
Metropolitan District 6 per cent	157	160
Do. 4 per cent.	106	108
Midland 4 per cent.	118	120
North British 4 per cent.	115	117
Do. E. P. and D. B. 5 per cent	—	—
North-Eastern 4 per cent.	118	120
Do. 4½ per cent.	130	132
North London 4½ per cent.	131	133
North Staffordshire 4½ p. cent.	121	123
South-Eastern Perp. 4 per cent.	117	119
Do. ditto 5 per cent.	142	144
Taff Vale 4 per cent.	110	113

## FOREIGN RAILWAYS

Antwerp and Rotterdam	21	23
Bahia and San Francisco, g. 7 p. c	22½	24½
Brazilian Imperial Central Bahia	21½	23½
Do. 6 p. cent. Debenture Stock	111	113
Buenos Ayres Great Southern	128	130
Do. Extension	14½	14½
Do. 5 p. cent. Debenture Stock	118	120
Buenos Ayres and Ensenada Port	8	9
Do. 8 p. cent. Preference	13½	14½
Do. 5 p. cent. Deb. Stock	108	110
Buenos Ayres and Pacific Pref.	23½	24½
Buenos Ayres and Rosario Ord.	138	141
Do. ditto 7 p. c. Pref.	14½	15
Do. ditto 5 p. c. Deb. Stock	112	114
Central Argentine Limited	168	170
Do. 6 per cent. Debent. Stock	137	140
C. Uruguay of Montevideo, Lim	11½	11½
Do. 6 p. c. Deb. Stock	128	130
Conde d'Eu, Lim., g. 7 per cent	15	16
Copapo	38	42
Dutch Rhenish	16½	17½
Do. New	4	5
Do. ditto 1872	½	1
East Argentine, Lim., g. 7 per ct	101	103
Do. 6 per cent. Deb. Stock	111	113
Great Western of Brazil, g. 7 p. c	19	20
Do. 6 per cent. Deb. Stock	113	115
Imp. Brazilian, Natal, and N. Cruz	6½	7½
Lima, Limited	6	6½
Namur and Liège 14½ per annum	11	12
Do. 6 per Cent. Preference	25	27
N.-W. Uruguay 6 p. ct. 1st Pref	65	67
Do. ditto, 5 per cent. and Pref	43	45
Ottoman (Smyrna to Aidin)	11½	12
Prov. Orei-Vitebsk g. 5 per cent.	17	18
Recife and Sao Francisco g.	103	105
Riga and Dunaberg	14½	15½
Royal Sardinian	10½	10½
Do. Preference	10½	11½
Royal Swedish	3½	3½
Do. Preference	3½	3½
Sambre and Meuse	9½	10
Do. 5½ per Cent. Preference	11½	12
San Paulo Brazilian guar. 7½.	40	41
Do. 5½ p. c. Debenture Stock	130	132
Smyrna and Cassaba, Limited	22½	23½
Do. 7 per Cent. Preference	25½	26½
Southern Brazilian Rio Grande	—	—
Do. Sul Guaranteed 7 per cent	21½	22
Varna	2½	3½
West Flanders	10½	11½
Do. 5½ per cent. Preference	11	12
West. of Buenos Ayres 6 p. c. Bds	110	112
Do. do. 5 p. c. Mort. Deb.	99	100

## LAND COMPANIES.

Canada Company	83	86
Canada North-West Land	2½	3
Natal Land and Colonization	4	5
Newfoundland Land	½	½
Otago and Southland Investment	1½	2
Peel River Land	83	85
Scottish Australian Investment	195	205
South Australian	60	63
S. Austrin. Land Mort. & Agency	2½	2½
Van Diemen's Land	24	26

## TELEGRAPH SHARES.

Anglo-American Preferred	52	53
Do. Deferred	11	12
Cuba, Limited	11	11½
Do. 10 per cent. Preference	18	19
Eastern 4 per cent. Debent. Stock	101	103
Eastern Exten. 6 per cent. Debent.	104	107
Great Northern of Copenhagen	13½	13½
Indo-European, Limited	34	35
London P. Brazilian, 6 p. c. Deb.	100	103
Reuter's, Limited	6½	7½
Submarine	190	200
Do. Scrip	—	—
West India and Panama 1st Pref.	8½	9
Western Union of U.S. 1 M. Bonds	123	127

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The Syndicate Mine	—
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The New Idea Mine	60
The Golden Chain (No. 2) Mine	—
The Great Eastern	—
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