

THE ST. JAMES'S GAZETTE

An Evening Review and Record of News.

No. 2095.—VOL. XIV.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1887.

PRICE ONE PENNY.

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

LYCEUM.
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** (46th time). Mr. William Terriss, Messrs. Garden, Maclean, Lyndal, Boleyn, Campbell, Russell, Wentworth, Travers, &c.; Mesdames Millward, Achurch, C. Jacks, Leigh, Brennan, Carter, &c. At 7.15, **FAMILY JARS.**

GAIETY.
GAIETY THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, GEORGE EDWARDS.—THIS 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, **DIMITY'S DILEMMA**, a new farce by Malcolm C. Salaman. 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 SEDGER, Lessee and Manager. EVERY EVENING, at 8.30, an original Comedy-Opera, entitled **DOROTHY**. By B. C. Stephenson and Alfred Cellier. Preceded, at 7.45, by **A HAPPY DAY**, by Richard Henry. Doors open 7.30.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.
ALICE IN WONDERLAND.—MR. EDGAR BRUCE'S MATINEES.—TO-DAY, 2.30, and EVERY DAY up to March 2nd, inclusive. **LAST NINE PERFORMANCES.** 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 Wednesday, March 2nd.

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

THE LODGERS.—TO-NIGHT, at 9.
GLOBE THEATRE.

VAUDEVILLE.—THIS EVENING, at 8.30, SOPHIA (25th time), by Robert Buchanan. Messrs. THOMAS THORNE, Carleton, Thorne, Farquhar, Melish, Grove, Wheatman, and LEONARD BOYNE; Mesdames Larkin, Leclercq, Venne, Forsyth, and K. Rorke. At 7.45, **NEARLY SEVERED.** MATINEE every SATURDAY, at 2.30.

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

SAVOY.
SAVOY.—R. D'O'LY CARTE, Proprietor and Manager.—EVERY EVENING, the New and Original Supernatural Opera, in Two Acts, by W. S. Gilbert and Arthur Sullivan, entitled **RUDDIGORE; OR, THE WITCH'S CURSE.** Messrs. G. Grossmith, R. Barrington, R. Temple, R. Lewis, and D. Lely; Mesdames L. Braham, Jessie Bond, J. Findlay, and R. Brandram. Commence at 8.30. Box-office open from 9 A.M. till 11 P.M. Morning Performance every SATURDAY, at 2.30.

SAVOY.—On and after THIS DAY the new Opera **RUDDIGORE** will commence at 8.30, and will be preceded at 7.40 by **THE CARP.** Doors open at 7.30.

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

ST. JAMES'S.
ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. HARR and Mr. KENDAL. THIS EVENING, at 8.30, will be performed a New and Original Comedy in Three Acts, written by A. W. PINERO, called **THE HOBBY-HORSE.**

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

OLYMPIC.
OLYMPIC.—MR. EDWARD TERRY'S SEASON.—At 9.15, THE CHURCHWARDEN; at 8.15, THE TWO BLINDS; at 8.25, HOME RULE. Doors open at 7.30; carriages to 4.5. 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.

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, Mesdames West, Turner, Norman, and McNeill; Messrs. Stephens, Parker, Beauchamp, Waller, Ward, Grahame, Lewis, Warden, and J. A. Arnold will appear. At 7.20, BY SPECIAL REQUEST. Open at 7. Box-office open 10 to 5. **MORNING PERFORMANCE** every SATURDAY, at 2.

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

COMEDY.
COMEDY THEATRE.—Sole Lessee, Miss MELNOTTE.—Enthusiastic reception of MYNHEER JAN.—Every Evening, at 8, the 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, Charles Ashford; Miss Camille d'Arville, Mme. Amadi, Miss Kate Munroe, Miss Amy Martin, Miss Emma Broughton, Miss Annie Wilson, Miss M. Richardson, Miss Alice Lethbridge, Miss Melnotte. The Dances arranged by Mons. J. Hansen (by kind permission of the directors of the Alhambra Theatre). Entirely New and Elaborate Scenery by Mr. T. E. Ryan. The Costumes executed by Mons. and Mme. 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.

COURT.
COURT THEATRE.—DANDY DICK.—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. Laug, and John Clayton; Misses Norreys, Laura Linden, Marie Lewes, and Mrs. John Wood will appear. At 8 o'clock, **THE NETTLE.** Miss Cudmore, Mr. Kerr. Box-office open daily from 11 to 5. No fees.

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

AVENUE.
AVENUE.—ROBINSON CRUSOE. Enormous success. 67th 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.

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. Owing to the success which has attended **THE RIVALS**, the Revival of **SHE STOOPS TO CONQUER** will be POSTPONED until SATURDAY NEXT, the 26th inst.

PARIS HIPPODROME at OLYMPIA.
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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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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.F.A. WILLIAMS.

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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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RETAIL DRAPERS.—Twenty necessitous Orphans of Retail Drapers are about to be admitted to the Warehousemen, Clerks, and Drapers' Schools (late the Warehousemen and Clerks' Schools), Caterham, Surrey, and others can now be nominated for election.

Applications to be made to the Secretary, 97, Chesham, London.

Contributions to the Retail Drapers' Fund are earnestly solicited by the Chairman of the Retail Drapers' Committee, Mr. Thomas Wallis, and by the Treasurer, Mr. John Snelgrove. Remittances to be made to the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Richard Jaques, 7, Holborn-circus, London, who will also be pleased to supply information.

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Invested Funds.....£2,485,955
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Claims and Surrenders paid exceed...8,000,000

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REVISED CONDITIONS OF ASSURANCE.—Foreign Residence and Travel.—All Policies already issued and to be issued after having been five years in force—the life assured not being engaged in any military, naval, or seafaring service, and of the age of thirty years and upwards—shall be relieved from all conditions as to foreign residence and travel.

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Prospectuses and further information to be obtained at the Head Office, or of any of the Agents.

CHARLES STEVENS,
Actuary and Secretary.

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Fire Premiums.....£577,000 | Life Premiums £191,000

Interest.....£132,000

Accumulated Funds.....£3,134,000

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NEW PROSPECTUS on application, showing REVISED RATES, CONDITIONS as to WHOLE WORLD and INDISPUTABLE POLICIES, &c.

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ADVANCES made without deductions, for short or long periods, in sums of £20 to £2,000, on personal security, furniture, stock-in-trade, reversions; also deeds, life policies, at 5 per cent., without mortgage expenses, from one to ten years. Prospectuses gratis, or post free on application (personal visit preferred).

First letter of applicant immediately attended to. Distance no object. Agentman sent direct from the bank to carry out all advances. Current accounts opened on usual terms. Interest allowed 4½ per cent. upon deposits, subject to 14 days' notice. EDWARD JOHNS, Manager.

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Cash Advances, from £10 to £500, at moderate rates. Bills discounted. Forms gratis.—57 and 58, Chancery-lane. JOHN STONE, Secretary.

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OUR EYES.

PITKEATHLY.—For Gout, Rheumatism, and the allied affections.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT.—This cooling Ointment perseveringly rubbed upon the skin is the most reliable remedy for overcoming all diseases of the throat and chest. Quinsy, relaxed tonsils, sore throat, swollen glands, ordinary catarrh, and bronchitis may be arrested as soon as discovered, and every symptom banished by Holloway's simple and effective treatment, which allays in an incredibly short time the distressing fever and teasing cough.

THE ST. JAMES'S GAZETTE.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1887.

THE NEW INTRIGUE.

LORD SALISBURY is expected to touch upon various topics at the Conservative meeting this afternoon; but there is one of them at least upon which he will be unable to say all that might be said with advantage. Foreign affairs have always to be dealt with by a man in his position with great caution; and it is not unlikely that he would be charged with "making party capital" if he exposed one of the most reckless and most unpatriotic moves in the whole history of politics: a move that is going on now. This we take upon ourselves to expound.

In these days of babblement and rabblement, few things political remain in memory long. But it ought to be well remembered that nothing sapped the confidence of sober men in Mr. GLADSTONE'S statesmanship more than his ignorant, impulsive, and unfortunate handling of foreign affairs. Renewing his Ministerial career in 1880 with the famous "Hands off!" cry, he blundered and bungled with such wonderful efficiency that, after many misfortunes, he was obliged at last to seize upon the poorest possible excuse for bolting from the mess he had got himself into with Russia. (June, 1885.) Meanwhile, the German Powers had all but broken with us—Prince BISMARCK, in particular, practically declining to have anything to do with him; France, with whom at one time he seemed disposed to make an alliance against all the world, had broken out in fresh and furious enmity against England; his own dear Russia was at the same time using him, bullying him, and laughing at him; and, while in Egypt he showed us in open field what his wisdom was in the management of foreign affairs, we had only to look about us in Europe to see that England had been placed in a position of hostile isolation. There was no Home Rule question at that time. The desire to get rid of Mr. GLADSTONE had more roots than one, indeed, and his ridiculous miscalculation in Irish affairs was amongst them. But it was because his disappearance from office relieved the country from threatening complications abroad that his downfall was so grateful; and it was the expectation that a steadier and wiser Conservative policy would give us peace that made Lord SALISBURY his most welcome successor.

And what happened? That expectation was amply fulfilled. With the return of the Conservatives to office the whole aspect of affairs abroad instantly changed for the better. The ever-darkening gloom of the preceding years passed away; to doubt succeeded confidence, to heaviness elasticity; and the change was felt not only in the spirits of the whole people, but in its commerce, its everyday life. Even the Gladstonians themselves were unable to deny that confidence in his foreign policy gave the new Prime Minister an enormous advantage over his predecessor, and one that it would be very difficult indeed to deprive him of.

Difficult, but not impossible. So, at any rate, some of Mr. GLADSTONE'S lieutenants seem to have thought; and of late they have applied themselves to the task with a recklessness of the most startling character. Their belief is that their party is gaining ground in the country; their expectation, that resolute persistence in the Home Rule propaganda will tell more and more upon a people wearying of Ireland and sick of the delays in settling the affairs of that country; the chances of their own return to office seem to them to be brightening every day; but still—still they have to reckon with the confidence of the nation in the Conservatives where foreign affairs are concerned. To destroy that confidence by any and every means is now their endeavour; and not only this, but something more. They are aiming at the destruction in the minds of foreign statesmen of all confidence in the ability of the Government to follow out any scheme of policy they may favour, or may be willing to agree upon. To paralyze the Government in its relations with foreign Powers; to persuade those Powers that it is not to be relied upon; to force them to shut England out from their calculations and combinations, as governed by helpless paralytics; in short, to reduce her to the condition in which she stood in Mr. GLADSTONE'S time, and then to ask whether she is better off under Conservative than under Gladstonian rule—this is the intention that prompted Mr. LABOUCHERE'S action the other day, and this is the aim of the whole Gladstonian party. Is it possible that they are really moved by a wish to see Bulgarian independence wrecked by the Kaulbarses and Nelidoffs of Russian diplomacy? Can it be imagined that these men—Liberals, Radicals, the only true friends of liberty—really wish to see the "rising nationalities" of South-Eastern Europe overrun with Russian despotism, and parcelled out in Russian satrapies? Nothing of the kind; no such disinterested and profitless villanies can they be imagined guilty of. But the shameful truth is that they are willing to assist Russia to this consumma-

tion of her beneficent interference in Bulgaria, if the gain to them is the exhibition to the world of a baffled and paralyzed Conservative policy. What may ensue for England herself if they succeed they also agree to put out of the question. That also is nothing to them at present. They look to their one immediate aim alone: which is to maim the efforts, to enfeeble, humiliate, and destroy this Government by any means whatever—even such desperate and ruinous means as this. Lucky they think themselves, probably, that they have men like Mr. LABOUCHERE to work the business—shameful to every honest Englishman it must seem that they choose to avail themselves of such help; for we see that while Mr. LABOUCHERE speaks they have not a word to say in reproof of the most infamously unpatriotic plot of modern times.

A SOLUTION FOR THE FISHERIES DISPUTE.

NEGOTIATIONS of a hopeful character have been opened between the Ottawa Cabinet, the Foreign Office, and the Washington Government, for a settlement of the fisheries dispute. It seems that the difficulties involved in the matter are to be referred to a mixed Commission similar in its composition to that which decided upon the fisheries award at Halifax in 1877. By this we understand that, a *modus vivendi* having been arranged between the Governments immediately interested, an international tribunal is to be constituted in order to determine the disputed interpretations of the Convention of 1818. Good. The longer this triangular controversy has gone on the more clear it has become that a friendly settlement can only be effected on the basis of mutual concessions. England will acquiesce in any arrangement which is satisfactory to Canada and the United States; and, although the positions maintained by the two Governments have seemed to be irreconcilable, if a sincere desire exists on both sides to adjust the difference, we may hope that a plan of settlement may yet be devised.

The problem is to find a solution which shall neither lessen the rights of Canada in her valuable fishings, and which shall, at the same time, secure to American deep-sea fishermen the facilities they require. The immediate dispute is of a strictly limited character. Since the beginning of last year American fishing-vessels have been excluded from Canadian ports, except when driven thither by stress of weather or to procure wood and water. What the Americans desire is that their deep-sea fishing-vessels, when duly authenticated, should be allowed to visit Canadian ports for the purpose of transshipping fish and of purchasing supplies, outfits, and bait. As is well-known to those acquainted with the whole fisheries question, a general concession of this kind would practically give up to American fishermen the use of the inshore fisheries also. The Canadian coast is indented with innumerable bays, creeks, and harbours; and the fleet of cruisers which would be necessary, under the circumstances contemplated, to prevent poaching within the inhibited three miles, would have to be almost as numerous as the bays, creeks and harbours they had to police. But the United States Government does not seek the above-named privileges in order to furnish Americans with opportunities for fishing in Canadian waters; and, if the concession could be granted in such a way as to prevent poaching, a settlement of the dispute would become possible.

A study of the chart of the deep-sea fishing-grounds in these latitudes will show that the object could be gained by throwing open two or three Canadian ports to American deep-sea fishing-vessels. By being allowed to obtain supplies and fishing outfits in certain specified ports, American fishermen genuinely engaged in deep-sea fishing would have nothing to complain of, while within these limits an effective supervision could be exercised by the Canadian authorities to guard against poaching and smuggling. The trade of the American fishing fleets would be a valuable consideration on the one hand, and the privilege of obtaining supplies near the fishing-grounds would be a great advantage on the other. Off the Atlantic coast of Nova Scotia, and parallel to that province, lie a range of extensive cod-fishing banks—namely, the Roseway, Le Haye, and Sambro banks, the Sable Island banks, the Middle Ground, Banquereau, and Canso and Misaine banks. This circumstance clearly points to Halifax as one of the ports that should be made free to American deep-sea fishing-vessels, while another might be near the entrance to the Gut of Canso. The Bradelle, Miscou, Orphan, and Green banks in the Gulf of St. Lawrence indicate Miramichi as another free port; and perhaps Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, might be added. This is all that would be required. The Magdalen Islands, which lie near the middle of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, are the centre of valuable and extensive deep-sea fishing-grounds; but under the Convention of 1818 citizens of the United States already enjoy the same fishing privileges on the coasts and shores of these islands as are enjoyed by British subjects. When the vexed "bay" question comes to be settled, if the Americans secure the right to fish in the Bay of Fundy, St. John, New Brunswick, might also be made a free port to American fishermen.

In an arrangement of this kind, no doubt, the balance of advantage would remain with the Americans; and the Canadians would have a right to expect some concession in return. Thus, the United States Government should consent to the appointment of a Commission to settle the fisheries question—so far, at least, as the interpretation of the Treaty of 1818 and the general question of "rights" are concerned. Canada would also have a right to expect that the United States should recognize the principles which obtain in regard to the North Atlantic fisheries as applicable to the North Pacific fisheries as well: a point which, if left unsettled, may easily become a fruitful source of disputes in the near future. Corresponding privileges to those which have been, or may be, extended to American fishermen on the Atlantic side of the continent

ought to be extended to British subjects on the Alaskan coasts and in the Aleutian archipelagoes. The proposals which have just been made by the Canadian Government show a willingness on its part to come to a reasonable arrangement; and all prudent people in the United States, as well as in this country, are of opinion that the whole matter should be amicably settled with the least possible delay.

NOTES.

"It is estimated that the Russian securities which have been bought back by Russia from the Berlin Bourse since the commencement of the year amount to more than 200,000,000 roubles." So we read in a telegram from St. Petersburg. If the statement is true, the Berlin Bourse should be congratulated on its great good fortune. But in all likelihood it is not true. Russian securities are in much need of support just now, and paragraphs of this sort do something to sustain a falling market. For speculation, Russian bonds may be all very well; but no prudent man would buy them or keep them for investment.

It is true, no doubt, that the Septennate did not furnish Prince Bismarck with the sole reason for the dissolution. The German Chancellor wants a new Parliament, not merely to obtain 40,000 men for seven years, but to get through his favourite measures of internal policy—the tobacco monopoly, for instance. This view of the matter is certainly held by some Germans who have good reason for knowing something about the Chancellor's policy. It seems strange, doubtless, that he should run the tremendous risks of the past few weeks in order to get a Parliament more favourable to his financial programme; but there is a probability that the explanation is correct. If so, it also seems probable that the Chancellor will be disappointed. The new Reichstag will doubtless vote the Septennate, even if the Opposition groups are in a majority. The Papal pressure on the Centre will ensure that result. But there are few indications that the Parliament as a whole will be any more inclined than its predecessor to support the domestic policy of Prince Bismarck.

Among the new rules which are perhaps least likely to be opposed is that which provides that the Committee and Report stage of the Address shall be discontinued. The exhibition in the House of Commons during the last three weeks will probably make it possible to carry some stringent amendments to this rule. There is much to be said for a proposed modification which has already been suggested in our pages. It might be the rule that "not more than one amendment may be moved on the motion for the Address, and that such amendment must imply a direct negative to the whole or to some definite particular of the policy enunciated in the Speech, conveying a vote of want of confidence in her Majesty's Government for the time being." There is no occasion to amend the Address at all unless any member or any party wants to impeach the policy of the Administration. In that case he may move a definite vote of censure, and the opportunity can be given him on the very first day of the session.

Can the *Standard* have any warrant for saying that the Government intend to "give between a fortnight and three weeks uninterruptedly to the New Rules," after which "they will be obliged to take a portion of the time of the House for the business of Supply?" For the sake of the Government and the country, it is sincerely to be hoped that the statement is a guess and an inaccurate one. Three weeks to be consumed in unbroken discussion on the way in which the House of Commons is to keep its own members in order! Meanwhile there is little reason to suppose that any progress will be made with the work for which the present Government was put into office. There would be another three weeks for Irish disaffection to swell, for disorder to pass yet further into the limits of rebellion, for Home Rulers to gain fresh confidence, and for Unionists to become discouraged. The worst of it is that the delay is unnecessary. The chief object of the new rules is to make it possible to get the Irish legislation of the Government through the House. But surely they could get a short and moderate Irish Bill passed in the three weeks, even under the existing rules. The Speaker is resolved not to permit the abuse of parliamentary procedure; and with the Unionist support the Government have a solid majority of a hundred votes. Could the Parnellites and the Gladstonians delay the new measure longer than its own authors have done by taking up a series of procedure proposals which will take weeks to debate?

A meeting of the inhabitants of Norwood was held on Saturday to consider the affairs of the Crystal Palace. The Palace has to pay about £27,000 a year as interest to its debenture-holders, and its net income for 1886 fell short of that sum by about £10,000. The discussion seems to have turned principally upon the possibility of obtaining a subvention from the nation, or of persuading the debenture-holders to forego some part of their rights. One speaker observed that the debenture-holders had been receiving their interest for a good many years, and "that the majority of them must now be of opinion that they have received it long enough." A gentleman who represented a large quantity of A and B debenture stock, and

who wished to discuss some practical reform in the management of the Palace, apparently failed to get a hearing. Yet that is the very point which ought to have been discussed. No doubt, it would be well to have a people's palace for South London. But if such a use of the Palace is feasible, it ought to be possible to make it pay. The question for the moment is how to make it pay.

The result of the Burnley election is greatly to be deplored. It should teach all Unionists that the work of making their fellow-countrymen realize the true nature of Mr. Gladstone's proposed legislation is not yet complete, and that the efforts which won the victory of 1886 must not be relaxed. It is, however, easy to exaggerate the importance of the Separatist victory. The figures should be compared, not only with those of the last election—which, owing to the position of Mr. Rylands, was of a very special character—but also with those of 1885. In 1885 the Conservatives were beaten by 747, about 9,000 electors voting. On Saturday 9,500 voted, and the Conservatives were beaten by 545. And in the meantime the Irish vote had been transferred from the Conservatives to the Radicals.

A gentleman in the City declined to pay his police-rate, on the ground that the police had not succeeded in securing his premises from burglary. The amount received in rates and taxes would be perceptibly diminished if every one might decide for himself whether he was getting his money's worth for what he was asked to pay. The recalcitrant ratepayer should take the earliest opportunity of removing to Limerick, where the rates are not even levied if the police force does not conduct itself according to the wishes of the majority. In England we are still very much behindhand in these matters.

A fruit-seller of Poplar has been in the habit, for the last five years (according to his own statement), of soliciting customers by beating a drum and blowing upon pipes. But the police have interfered with his musical exercises, and it has been explained to him that every time he "uses a noisy instrument for the purpose of hawking or selling" monkey-nuts, he renders himself liable to a fine not exceeding 40s. He based his defence on the immunity enjoyed by the drummers and pipers of the Salvation Army. In vain. The "fool of an Act" prohibits the use of musical instruments to promote the sale of monkey-nuts; but it says nothing about their use to promote blasphemy and fanaticism. The hawker must restrain himself in future to the employment of his vocal resources; and he had better get rid of his pipes and drum by selling them to some hysterical private or well-paid officer in the "Army," whom the law will allow to fill the streets with melody from morning till night.

Mr. Tritton, the President of the London Chamber of Commerce, frankly confesses in this morning's *Times* that nothing but the impossibility of finding the money for a suitable site elsewhere would have induced him to consent to the Imperial Institute being located at South Kensington. "Find us," he says, almost in so many words, "the additional £400,000 necessary for the City site, and it is not too late for the organizing committee to reconsider the question." As, therefore, it is the City in one form that insists that the Institute shall not be placed "in the wilds of South Kensington," while it is the City in another form that owns the only possible City site (namely, that upon the Embankment), it does not seem too much to hope that the City will in some way or other come forward and make it feasible for the Institute to establish itself in its proper place. It is no doubt true to say, as a member of its committee says this morning, that, if all the money goes for the site, nothing will be left for building, nothing for endowment. On the other hand, once the idea is well established and made popular, buildings can be added to and endowments can gradually accrue. If the Institute is established at South Kensington, it may have its buildings, its endowment, its officers; but there are grave reasons for fearing that it may be left without visitors.

Those who are unacquainted with the habits of London thieves are apt to imagine that they are as a rule clothed in coarse or shabby attire, with a generally rough "exterior." This is an entire mistake. The modern thief is often faultlessly dressed, and might be mistaken for a "masher," whom, indeed, he greatly resembles. Some curious evidence on this point was given in a case which came before the Marlborough-street Police Court on Saturday. A "well-dressed youth" was charged with attempting to steal a purse from the handbag of a lady. Two detectives, it appeared, became interested in the proceedings of a gang of young men "showily dressed," wearing kid-gloves and carrying silk umbrellas. After following the gang for some little time the intelligent officers were rewarded for their pains. A lady was seen approaching. The gang separated. Some of the fascinating young men walked before her, others behind her. On coming to a spot favourable for their operations they closed around her. One of them opened her handbag; and the prisoner, it was alleged, thrust his hand into it, but was unable to appropriate its contents, as the officers leaped forward and collared him on the spot—his companions ignominiously taking to their heels and effecting their escape. He was remanded; and, unless he can prove that

his intentions were as innocent as his appearance, he will probably have to lay aside his well-cut garments and kid-gloves for a time, and content himself with the prison-garb.

Mr. HEALY.—“We are laughing at the Crown, my lord.”—*Observer*, February 20.

“We are laughing at the Crown, my lord,”
Said Healy to the judge—
“We are laughing at the Crown;
So you really need not frown.
No disrespect to you, my lord—
We’re laughing at the Crown.”

“There was a time when England’s law
Was held in high renown,
And counsel spoke with some respect
To judges of the Crown.
But nowadays all that is changed;
And so in Dublin town
A counsellor may have his laugh,
If laughing at the Crown.
We’re laughing at the Crown, my lord—
We’re laughing at the Crown.”

Chorus of Home Rulers.

We’re laughing at the Crown,
And soon we’ll have it down.
We’re laughing at the Crown, my lord—
We’re laughing at the Crown.

G. W.

There is, it would seem, still some interesting anthropological discoveries to be made in Europe by an enterprising Gulliver. Professor Marazta, while voyaging in search of the marvellous, has found in a Pyrenean valley a race of little people none of whom are more than 4 ft. high, and who are known among their neighbours as Nanos. Judged by the standards of other nations, the Nanos are not beautiful; for they all have red hair, their eyes are oblique, their noses flat, and their teeth project, while their faces are as broad as they are long. But they greatly admire one another and never marry out of the clan. Education is not a feature of the Nano community. None of the Nanos can count; but most of them know their own names, and some can remember those of their parents.

Mr. Henniker Heaton, in a letter to the *Times*, gives an example of the facts on which he proposes to rely in moving his resolution for a Select Committee of inquiry on “postal anomalies.” According to information which Mr. Heaton has received from Antwerp a representative of a London firm recently visited that town with 80,000 patterns of cloth which he desired to post to all parts of Great Britain. By posting these patterns in Belgium instead of in England the firm made a net saving of £30 after all expenses of sending them out had been paid; and the gentleman who superintended the posting got a pleasant fortnight’s holiday for nothing. This transaction is only one out of many. Another firm have published an advertisement announcing their intention of posting 1,000,000 patterns in Belgium, and Mr. Heaton estimates the loss to the British Government by this system at no less than £2,000 per week.

One of the calumnies which Parnellite members have endeavoured to fix on their Irish opponents is that the presence of the men employed by the Cork Defence Union and of the extra police posted at the places where outrages have been numerous, has been injurious to public morality. This charge has been made with respect to Millstreet, in Kerry; and Canon Griffin, the parish priest of Millstreet, was appealed to by the chairman of the Defence Union as to the truth of the accusation. Canon Griffin, in his reply, denies that either the men of the Defence Union or the police have done anything to demoralize his parishioners. His parish has been demoralized; but the National League are solely responsible for the fact. Canon Griffin is one of that small number of priests who have consistently denounced the outrages and the League. He states that when censuring in his chapel the brutal outrage of Moonlighters for cutting the hair and tarring the head of a virtuous and respectable young girl, he stated that he would much prefer to see the young girls of his parish associating with the police than with those who gave them orders not to do so.

A Paris correspondent writes to us:—Two, if not three, *Memoirs* and *Souvenirs* are about to be published in Paris which will excite the liveliest interest in French if not in English literary circles. The first are the *Souvenirs* of M. Ferdinand de Lesseps. The *Grand Français* is about to bring out, dedicated to “mes enfants,” two volumes of recollections dating back for forty years and covering the time when he made rather a mess of his diplomatic mission to Rome as the Envoy of Louis Napoleon. M. de Lesseps has many amusing anecdotes to relate. But, though he is a member of the Academy, it is doubtful whether his book will have the literary value and charm of the *Memoirs* of the late Count de Falloux, which are also coming out in two volumes, and will contain much interesting information in regard to his relations with the late Bishop

Dupanloup, who was the leader of the ecclesiastical, as he himself was of the lay, element among the Gallicans who stood out against the doctrine of Papal Infallibility in 1870. M. de Falloux was not only a very able politician and accomplished writer, but he was one of the best types of the cultivated country gentleman, and his *Memoirs* are certain to be well worth reading. Interest of another kind attaches to the publication of Talleyrand’s *Memoirs*, which were to have appeared fifty years after his death—that is to say, in the course of 1888. But, though they were to be kept back for at least half a century, his heirs were left the option of increasing that period; and I learn from the gentleman with whom they are deposited, and whose advice will be followed by the Duchesse de Valençay and the rest of the family, that it is more than probable that they will not see the light for some little time longer. There does not seem to be any valid reason for this fresh delay, as all the people about whom Talleyrand may have said unpleasant things are long since dead and most of them forgotten.

SKETCHES IN A COLONIAL PARLIAMENT.

I.—THE HOUSE.

A COLONIAL Parliament is very much a replica of the Imperial Parliament. All the forms and ceremonies of the House of Commons have been transported to the House of Representatives or the Legislative Assembly of distant Australian colonies; so that an Englishman arriving fresh from his mother-country, and entering the popular assembly in Wellington, Melbourne, Sydney, or Adelaide, might well be deluded into imagining himself once more within the time-hallowed precincts of St. Stephen’s. There is the same pompous procession of the Speaker arrayed in his robe of office and preceded by the mace—somewhat more of a bauble than its English prototype. There is the same exclusion of strangers until after prayers: for prayers still obtain even in the most democratic and progressive colony. It may seem odd that this relic of feudalized antiquity, this remnant of frivolous superstition, et cetera, et cetera, should still exist (and may I say?) thrive in colonies as democratic as Victoria and New South Wales; but it does. The Premier may be a sceptic or a Jew or a Roman Catholic (I have known all three), and yet prayers do not vanish into the limbo of antiquated follies. Nor in smaller matters are colonies less imitative of their motherland. Like the M.P., the M.L.A. or the M.H.R. never crosses the “bee-line” of the Speaker without acknowledging the majesty of that personage by a bow—varying, as in the House of Commons, from a stiff disrespectful jerk of the upper vertebrae to a profound salaam. Questions and motions are put in the same way; the standing orders are much the same; and in general the rules and regulations of the one are close copies of the other. The similitude is discernible in the smallest details, even to the manner of lighting the House.

But though, as to formalities and customs, identical in much, colonial and imperial assemblies differ in some not unimportant particulars. The building of the Colonial House is as large, or almost as large, as that of the English House, though the number of members in the former is not a fifth of that in the latter; consequently, colonial legislators are better provided and equipped for their work of legislation. There are seats for all, and there is no necessity on a full night to take refuge in gallery or lobby. Each lolls, hat on or hat off, on his cushioned seat, or sprawls over the writing-table provided for his special convenience. The providence of the people is also shown in a more substantial way by an honorarium of from £200 to £300 per annum. Libraries he has; moreover, among which he wanders at his own sweet will. Scandalous tongues do say that a colonial legislator never deviates in the matter of literature from novel or Blue Book. One at least I wot of who, in anticipation of the visit of a great English personage to his house, ordered literature from his bookseller by the “ton.” But perhaps he prefers a stroll in the smoking promenade: and small blame to him; for Brown is prosing on the Woody Falls native reserves, and Smith is to follow with his scheme for a new loan for the Hanparakanin irrigation works. Let us leave him to his cigar, and go back to the House—not necessarily to listen, but to cast an eye round. The galleries are not full on such an uninteresting occasion, but there is a fair sprinkling of visitors, especially in the ladies’ gallery. The ladies are much better treated in a colonial House than they are in England. They are not skied, nor “cabined and confined” within glass walls, from whence they peer down upon their lords and masters like so many dream-land faces or other sweet phantoms of the young imagination. The ladies’ gallery faces the Speaker, and is consequently the best gallery in the House. They take their seats there with an air of proprietorship, and as who should say “Beware! Ere many days we shall be on the floor of the House.” It is their favourite resort in the afternoons. There are always more women than men on those occasions. Here they take their afternoon knitting or their afternoon sewing; here they all but take their afternoon tea.

The other galleries are more empty. The public gallery is quite empty this afternoon. A yawning honourable life-legislator is stretched lazily on a seat in the gallery devoted to the Upper House—the last rose of summer. The Speaker’s gallery has several occupants.

Let us look down upon the floor of the House. The faces are much the same as one sees in the House of Commons. There is a greater percentage of vulgarians, but not, of course, a greater number. There is the same listlessness, the same drowsiness, the same obstreperousness, a little more pronounced. The Speaker’s genuine Irish face wears a broad look of humour, indicating possibilities of licence which Mr. Peel would never permit. But he is a dignified Speaker for all that, and has a firm grip of his restless crew; and the twinkle in his eyes vanishes at once when he is calling an unruly member to order. At the far end of the House you may descry a few dusky forms seated together and somewhat isolated from the rest. These are the native members, representing native constituencies. An interpreter sits with them, and converses with them

occasionally in a low tone. Seated in a row before a table, they look not unlike four big children at school. The "childlike and bland" expression characteristic of most civilized savages sits on their faces too. On the faces of three of them only, however: for the fourth is a grizzled tattooed warrior, who in his old age has thrown away the sword for the pen, and only now exercises peacefully among the Pakehas, from time to time, the rhetorical skill with which he formerly roused against them the hostility of his tribe. What are his thoughts as he sits there in his easy-chair amid all the luxury the southern seas can provide? Are they thoughts of regret for the days of his youth, when a Maori was a Maori and not an ape of the Pakeha, and when there were wars and rumours of wars without end and an ever-present prospect of serving as the central dish on your neighbour's table? Or does he recognize the benefits brought in by the Pakeha, and has he advanced to a conception of the grand idea of Progress? Has he settled for himself any *summum bonum*? No one can tell; he keeps all these things to himself.

THEATRICAL LODGINGS.

A BULKY theatrical "Whitaker," the most useful feature of which is its lodgings list, is now published yearly by one of the London wig-makers. This is chiefly for the guidance of travelling companies: for one of the inconveniences of provincial tours, where a company is seldom more than a week in one place and often less, is the difficulty of obtaining suitable lodgings. I remember, for instance, a comic opera company's arriving in Wolverhampton one wet Sunday forenoon. From an hotel window I watched members of the chorus trudging the streets until far on in the evening—some of them with children—in the weary quest for accommodation. Some towns with a bad reputation for lodgings are never approached by the poorer members of a theatrical company without a sinking of the heart.

The worst towns from this point of view are those in which there is no theatre. An occasional company engages a hall in the town, probably playing there for only two nights. There is no one on the premises to say where lodgings are likely to be got; and actors know from experience that "unprofessional" landladies do not think it worth their while to take lodgers for a couple of nights. The "principals" can go to an hotel; but the subordinates, on thirty shillings a week, fare badly. This inconvenience is felt in comparatively large towns which may have companies with them nearly every week. Derby, for instance, only recently got a theatre. Formerly the theatrical representations were given in the Corn Exchange; cheeses being sold in the daytime in what were converted into dressing-rooms at night. In every town, however, where there is a theatre there are a number of householders whose occupation consists in lodging actors and actresses; nor is it nearly so precarious a mode of livelihood as might be thought. The landlady who is in the good graces of the local manager has no difficulty in letting her rooms for nearly every week in the year. Her "card" is generally to be found upon the wall near the stage-door, often with an "unsolicited testimonial" scribbled beneath by a grateful lodger.

Suppose a theatre company to have arrived by rail at their destination. If it is a week-day, the majority of them hurry at once to the theatre to inquire about apartments. It is probably a Sunday, however; for the trouble of lodgings-getting is so great that to arrive on a Monday afternoon is to prevent the possibility of a rehearsal. In this case some one from the theatre generally meets them at the station with the necessary information. As many as half of them are dependent on him. Others either trust to the guide-book already spoken of, or they have visited the town before and know where to apply. Perhaps one or two have written and engaged apartments beforehand, or the landlady, knowing of their approach, may have written to them. It is no unusual thing for a large number of actors and actresses to put up in the same house. The principals have their own sitting-room, of course, while those who get smaller salaries club together for economy's sake. A sufficient proof that the landladies find their occupation lucrative is that they have frequently more than one house. In Scotland you generally get a single room "complete in itself." It contains what they call up there a "coffin-bed"—that is to say, a bed in a press, the door of which is kept shut in the daytime. A chair serves for a wash-stand, and a cupboard becomes a chest of drawers.

Every theatrical landlady keeps a book in which her lodgers record their opinions of their rooms. I have looked over many of these, but never yet found an actor or actress courageous enough to be uncomplimentary; yet, next to their parts, their lodgings are the commonest grievance of players. Perhaps they write eulogistically because they are going away, or perhaps it is because they are creatures of custom. What strikes one most in looking over one of these "lodgers' books" is that every sort of player has written in them, from the most popular of comedians and tragedians of both sexes to the serio-comics and gymnasts of the music-halls. The rooms, one might say, have their ups and downs, for the well-known actor, who has them one week, is followed by "Jolly Joey Coon, the lightning-change artist, and Milly Lefroy (Mrs. C.), the dashing double-voiced songstress," who in their turn make way for a popular burlesque actress or the manager of a travelling company. Here is a specimen of these inscriptions:—

To all who apartments seek,
This is the seventh week
With Mrs. Davis at 22.
A royal welcome unto you
She'll give and every comfort too.

Signed,
Dear Mrs. Davis, your loving son and daughter,
TOM and KATE LOMAN (great success in panto).

"This is to certify," says another player, "that Frederick H. Sims, complimented by press and public on his marvellous impersonation of Lizard the miser, was O K in these apartments, and never do I wish for better." "Here we are again," writes a clown, "and jollier than ever

Second time with Mother Don, wishing you a merry Christmas and a bright New Year." Parodies of popular songs are common—as

Mrs. Roberts is the captain at 28
And a right good captain too.

The "slavey," again, is often referred to in terms of deep affection.

The player is always on good terms with "the people of the house." The landlady may be old enough to be his mother; but she is his "dear child" in an hour. The actress gossips in the kitchen about her parts—(I remember seeing one of our best-known comic-opera actresses in her landlady's kitchen peeling potatoes)—and gives the whole household "orders" for Saturday night. When the day of departure comes, there is kissing and hand-shaking all round and photographs are left behind. You may gauge a landlady's popularity by the number of photographs she has over her mantelpiece or in the album which is pretty sure to be found on a centre table. I have known an actress lend her landlady's daughter, after less than a week's acquaintance, a necklet said to be worth over a hundred pounds. On the other hand, the landlady "obliges" in many ways. She gets copies of the newspapers early in the morning—newspapers that may have "notices" in them—and slips them under bed-room doors. She prepares cosy suppers at midnight, and she does not expostulate when her lodgers come in very late. No actor thinks anything of ringing up another actor's landlady in the small hours of the morning, to ask her for a loaf or something else that his own landlady happens to be "out of;" and such light torments as these does she cheerfully endure.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE ORDER OF THE WHITE ROSE.

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

SIR,—The *Manchester Guardian* appears, according to you, to have compressed into a small space a variety of misstatements respecting the Order (not "Society") of the White Rose. These, with your permission, I would wish to contradict.

1. The Order of the White Rose did not take the Primrose League for its model, by reason of its having existed long before the Primrose League was invented.

2. The Order does not consist of Roman Catholic ladies; for many of its members are Anglican gentlemen, and more than half of those who have joined it belong to the Church of England.

3. Its members have no idea of setting forward the Church of Rome as the antidote to Socialism or Anarchism, nor has the Order any connection with any form of modern politics.

In one point, perhaps, the *Manchester Guardian* is right. The Order is ultra-loyal. Its objects, as set forth in one of its official documents are as follows:—"To keep in perpetual remembrance the sorrows and sufferings of the House of Stuart, and to encourage a belief in true kingship and its divine right." There are other and temporary objects of a purely historical and antiquarian nature which need not yet be specified.

As for what the *Manchester Guardian* says about a Princess of the House of Este, everybody knows that Mary Theresa, daughter of Prince Ferdinand of Modena and consort of Prince Ludwig of Bavaria, is the representative of the line of Charles I. I am not aware that the members of the Order have any immediate intention of offering her the Crown of England, or that she would accept it if they did.

I may add that the Order is in no sense a public society. It consists for the most part of descendants of Cavaliers and Jacobites, and the general public are not invited to join it; nor would they find admission thereto an easy matter.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

February 19.

COMPANION OF THE WHITE ROSE.

PERSIAN HYPERBOLE.

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

SIR,—The recent allusion to the Thames Tunnel calls to mind an early mention of it by the Persian Princes who visited this country fifty years ago, shortly after its completion. They describe it, with inimitable naïveté, as a contrivance "for making ships pass over the heads of the people." Surely no Oriental idea was ever so curiously at variance with a Western one, so entirely upside-down, as this. Not the least interesting part of the book is the enormous exaggeration of numbers. Thus, the entertainment at Lord Palmerston's cost 7,000 or 8,000 tomauns (£3,500 or £4,000); "because a sheep here is worth eight tomauns (£4), a melon ten tomauns, and a damask plum one tomaun." The clocks fixed on the walls of the churches in London "may be more than 500,000," and, being illuminated, "every person may see the fingers of the clocks from one mile distance." In the description of Windsor the Oriental flavour is very powerful. It is situated in a garden fifty-two miles in circumference, and surrounded by a wall of iron bars three yards and a half high. The park has forty gates. The carriage-roads are so finely paved that a person might take his repose on them. Gazelles, antelopes, and deer are here in thousands. The hill on which the palace is built is 2,000 yards in height. A royal prince informed them that it would require "more than ten years to see the third part of the splendour of the palace." Another day the Persian Princes go to Astley's, which they call "the opera of the horse." Fifty thousand ladies, "with charming faces like the moon," were present, "and the ray of their beauty gave a most powerful splendour to the place." "One hundred men were arranged one above the other, the feet of one on the head of another, and then they danced." At Woolwich the "dexterous artillerymen loaded and fired their cannons quicker than lightning and swifter than the wind—many thousand balls a minute, and not one missed its mark." At the "entertainment of Mr. R.," the "beautiful circle of the family" had "fine arms of jasmine colour, hair of ambergris odour, eyes of the gazelle, and conversations sweet as sugar-candy."—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

February 18.

G.

MUSIC.

AN experiment which cannot be considered altogether new—since it had already been tried with success both at the Albert Palace and at the Covent Garden Concerts under the direction of Mr. Alfred Caldicott—was made at the Albert Palace on Saturday night with an oratorio performance. There is no country in the world where oratorio music is so much enjoyed as in England. The southern nations, who are unable to accept a gentleman in black clothes and a white cravat as a serious representative of Elijah or Judas Maccabeus, have ceased to care for sacred dramas since those dramas ceased to be acted. Even in Germany oratorios are not nearly so popular as in England; indeed, they are not popular there at all in the sense in which Handel's "Messiah" may be said to be so here; where the "Messiah" choruses are sung, whether by important vocal associations or small village-choirs, throughout the country. The true popularity of the "Messiah" was proved on Saturday evening at the Albert Palace, not only by the fulness of the attendance, but also and above all by the fulness of the attendance in the cheap places while the dearer ones were comparatively empty. A choir of five hundred had been announced; but apparently not half that number were present. The full orchestra, however, was tolerably efficient; and the solo singers were more than satisfactory—some, indeed, being of the first excellence. Miss Patti Winter sang the soprano music, Mdme. Antoinette Sterling the music of the contralto part; Mr. Tomes (a new-comer of great promise) was the tenor, and Mr. Watkin Mills the bass. The oratorio was performed under the direction of Mr. Carter, who seems to think, like the author—or, rather, compiler—of the words of the "Messiah," "that, though Handel has done well, he might and ought to have done much better;" for Mr. Carter changed the order of some of the pieces, and in particular placed the Hallelujah Chorus at the end not of the second but of the third part. The performance proved, in any case, what believers in the supreme popularity of music-halls would be unwilling to admit, that "The Messiah" at a shilling is as attractive a Saturday evening entertainment as could well be devised.

The director of the Symphony Concerts must have found by the result of last week's Wagner Concert that the best programmes of the day to follow are, indeed, those of Herr Richter. The number of concert-pieces derived from the musical substance of Wagner's operas—such, for example, as the "Fire Music," "The Departure of Wotan," the "Siegfried Idyll," the combination of pieces from "Tristan und Isolde," etc.—is not perhaps very great. But when these are supplemented by the various overtures, introductions, and preludes to Wagner's operas, besides the Tannhäuser March, the Ride of the Valkyries, and the Death March of Siegfried, we find that the number of concert pieces which Wagner's operas legitimately supply is something prodigious; and it may certainly be said that in England Wagner's music is better known by such performances than by representations at theatres. This is still more the case in France; where, at the great orchestral concerts of M. Pasdeloup and of M. Colonne, pieces of Wagnerian music have for years past been performed with the greatest success, though, up to this moment, no opera of Wagner's has ever been heard in France except "Tannhäuser" with its two unfortunate representations just twenty years ago.

The report set going from Vienna, that Verdi intends composing an opera on the subject of "King Lear" (it being at the same time alleged that Boito has finished two acts of the libretto) is not without foundation; but it is based only on the fact that Verdi thought of composing an opera on the subject of "King Lear" forty years ago, when he had undertaken to write a work specially for Her Majesty's Theatre. He abandoned the idea, however, and, instead of the "King Lear" of Shakspeare, took for the groundwork of his opera "The Robbers" of Schiller; the result being duly presented to the English public under the title of "I Masnadieri." Reference is made to the "King Lear" project in a recently issued biography of Verdi; and the Vienna report as to Verdi's intentions in the future is derived from a notion entertained by him in the distant past. What—according to his own statement, made to more than one personal friend just after the production of "Otello"—Verdi means to occupy himself with now is the composition of a musical comedy, based on one of Goldoni's plays; but neither Boito nor any one else has either finished or begun any part of the libretto. Verdi will, he says, compose his new opera simply for his own pleasure; and it is to be hoped that no one will frighten him prematurely by pointing out to him that he cannot be allowed to reserve pleasures of this kind for himself alone. Hitherto Verdi has composed very little light music; and his one professedly comic opera, composed at the beginning of his career, when he was suffering from a severe domestic affliction, met with no success. But his first serious opera was a failure; and that Verdi can compose bright graceful music of the most attractive kind is sufficiently shown by his treatment of the part of Oscar in "Un Ballo in Maschera." Probably, the next opera of universal interest produced at La Scala will be Boito's "Nerone," in which the author and composer deals with the life of Nero from the murder of his mother to the burning of Rome. Five acts based on this pleasing subject are already finished; but Boito is dissatisfied with the result, and intends to rewrite and even reconstruct the two last acts; so that, considering the careful deliberate manner in which the author of "Mefistofele" works, some considerable time is sure to pass before "Nerone" will be ready for production. Meanwhile, one of the most promising among the younger composers of Italy, Signor Puccini, is preparing an opera on the subject of Alfred de Musset's "Entre la Coupe et les Lèvres," which will doubtless be given to the world long before either the tragic opera of Boito or the comic one of Verdi. In France there is no dearth whatever of new operas; the only difficulty being, on the composer's side, to find opportunities of bringing them out. There is, however, as in other countries, a dearth of truly successful ones; and it is especially gratifying, therefore, to hear that Gounod—who some time since went to Rheims and to Rheims Cathedral in order to write a cantata on the subject of Joan of Arc—has now determined to make his favourite heroine the leading figure,

not of a cantata (a nondescript form for which the French have never had the least taste), but of an opera. Mermet and Verdi have both set the story of the Maid of Orleans to dramatic music; but in neither case with much success. Gounod, however, will have a better libretto to work upon than fell to the lot of either of his predecessors; and a great dramatic vocalist (if she can only be found) might make the same deep impression as Joan of Arc which was formerly made by Rachel in the French version of Schiller's play.

NEW NOVELS.*

"A DAUGHTER OF THE PEOPLE."

MISS CRAIK can always be counted upon to write a pleasant domestic story, marked by pretty sentiment and excellent taste, and not without a certain quiet humour. What her novels lack is variety and animation; her characters act and talk naturally, but within a very narrow circle of interest, and the tone of her work is subdued and even monotonous. Some readers may be tempted to set this down to the extreme goodness of her people. Trivial faults, mild selfishness, and errors of judgment, they may be guilty of; but of ordinary wickedness and every-day wrong-doing they know and feel nothing. Such innocence is, of course, delightful in itself, but needs exceptional treatment to be interesting in fiction. As a rule, unmixed goodness is about as amusing in a novel as the model child is in the nursery. In all the author's novels may be found admirable studies of character of both sexes, and her heroines are almost invariably noble-minded women, life-like too, but for all that not desirable companions on a long journey or a wet day. The present story is a fair example of Miss Craik's strength and weakness. Nothing can be more consistent than everybody's behaviour, nothing more natural and decorous. Nobody is to blame for anything; but circumstances are unkind, and urge them gently on a course which they resent at first and at last regard with complacency. A young artist, Michael Standish, goes to lodge in a farmhouse, and is waited upon by the farmer's granddaughter Leah. This "daughter of the people" is a handsome girl, and her simple dignity is well contrasted with the artist's unconscious vanity and patronage. The falling-in-love is done by very slow degrees, with many doubtful "Yeses" and "Noes" on Leah's part; but the proposal is made at last. A haughty mother and a worldly sister refuse to sanction such an unequal match; and Leah, heart-broken but firm in the conviction that such a union would be injurious to Michael, refuses to listen to his entreaties, and disappears. Michael, after a long search for Leah, goes to Italy, and there renews his acquaintance with a charming young lady—quite different from Leah, of course—with the usual result. Leah, following the fashionable prescription for an unhappy love affair, becomes a hospital nurse. This simple love-story is told with much delicacy and truth.

"VICTIMS."

From the name of Leah Josephs, the exceedingly handsome young woman to whom we have the honour of an introduction at the very first page, it might be expected that the scene of this story would be laid in the land of Haran (where the primordial Leah, daughter of Laban, lived) or, nearer home, in St. Mary Axe; but no—we fortunately have to take a trip to the "bel pays de Bretagne" (as the writer is pleased to put it), which is not a thousand miles from Mr. Robert Browning's picturesque and interesting "red-cotton-night-cap country." Opportunity might thus be easily found for introducing an "oncle à la mode de Bretagne," and for explaining that the phrase is not properly understood to be a circumlocutory description of a pawnbroker; but the writer resists this temptation. That French expressions and customs, however, should be freely employed for the purposes of the novel, is no more or less than was to be expected; but in neither case, it is a pleasure to state, does the novelist give examples of the French which is peculiar to the Bretons. On the other hand, we observe that Theo Gift slips into the common little mistake of describing a duel which was to continue till one of the combatants was killed as a duel "à la mort." Perhaps something very interesting might have been made out of Breton laws and customs; but they are passed over for the most part, in favour of the general laws and customs which regulate the marriages of M. Max O'Rell's compatriots. It is not the first time that the French marriage laws—which are probably found to work as well on the whole as any other—have served an English novelist as an excellent peg and a powerful lever; and they are almost invariably employed for the purpose of reducing true lovers to despair, and exciting the reader to antagonism on the one hand and indignant sympathy on the other. So, in the present instance, the "victims" are immolated upon the altar of the Gallic Hymen, with accessories of a most heart-rending description—involving tyranny, bigamousness rather than actual bigamy, homicide of the most determined character, delirium, and a protracted dissolution recorded with merciless circumstance. The most charming personage in the book is the fair Jewess already mentioned, whose portrait seems to have been intended by the novelist as honourable amends for the many caricatures which Christian ignorance and prejudice have scattered broadcast among the pages of romantic fiction. Artistically, the novelist errs in making Leah abandon her Judaism and become a sort of unattached unbaptized Christian; but if she ever had that interview with "Mr. Jones, the vicar," she probably relapsed into her original condition, in which she was a pattern to many Christians. Of course what is artistically an error may be highly satisfactory in all other respects. All the troubles in the story arise, be it observed in conclusion, from answering an advertisement—with the selfish object of learning French gratis and getting some "outdoor sketching," and with the less selfish but perhaps more irrational purpose of enabling an old gentleman to attend a meeting of the British Association.

* "A Daughter of the People." By Georgiana M. Craik (Mrs. A. W. May), Author of "Two Women," etc. Three vols. (London: Richard Bentley and Son.)
"Victims." By Theo Gift. Three vols. (London: Hurst and Blackett.)

THE ST. JAMES'S GAZETTE.

FOURTH EDITION.

THE BULGARIAN QUESTION.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

CONSTANTINOPLE, Feb. 21.—It is stated that one of the fresh proposals made by the Porte for the settlement of the Bulgarian question is that all the existing parties shall have an equal share in the government of the country, and should proceed by common accord to choose a Prince.

ENGLAND AND EGYPT.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

CAIRO, Feb. 21.—The official announcement made on Saturday last of the arrangement made by the Egyptian Government, with England's support, to avoid summoning the *corvée* is the subject of general comment in diplomatic circles here. Importance is attached to it, as, apart from the *corvée* question itself, it is the first time that England has openly assumed responsibility for an act of the Egyptian Government.

FRANCE, ITALY, AND MASSOWA.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

PARIS, Feb. 21.—A despatch received here from Cairo announces that M. Saumagne, French Consul at Massowa, has asked to be allowed to return to France on the ground of ill-health. It is stated that he will shortly leave Massowa, and will not be replaced for some time. It is semi-officially declared that M. Saumagne received most formal instructions from his Government to facilitate the settlement of the Italians at Massowa, and that all the newspaper reports to the contrary are unfounded.

FRANCE AND MOROCCO.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

PARIS, Feb. 21.—Several journals to-day state that the arrangement lately concluded between France and Morocco in no way aims at a modification of the frontier, but has merely for its object the adoption of measures for suppressing brigandage on the frontier.

WARLIKE PREPARATIONS.

The *Daily Telegraph* is informed that on Friday last five Governments of Continental Powers addressed telegraphic communications to manufacturers of ammunition in this country, requesting them to forward tenders forthwith for the supply of several millions of cartridges. It is also stated that the French Government has deemed it expedient to depart from its usual practice with respect to contracting for an annual supply of coal for the use of the navy, having recently solicited tenders—which, moreover, it is accepting—for a two years' supply.

The American newspapers give much prominence to what are described as war purchases of grain by Germany. It appears that one firm was asked for prices and samples of two hundred thousand bushels of oats. Both were furnished, but no sale has yet been concluded. Some business has been done with France, via Antwerp, and the ostentatious secrecy of the transaction and street-rumours have rounded out the story. A San Francisco despatch states that Messrs. Coleman and Company contracted with a New Zealand insurance company to insure their cargoes to England against war-risks, for one-fourth of one per cent., between June and December. The Germans, on seeking for similar insurance terms, were refused.

SIR W. HARCOURT ON THE ROUND TABLE CONFERENCE

Mr. James Birtles, president of the Barnsley Radical Association, who forwarded a resolution passed condemning the evictions at Glenbeigh, and protesting against any further coercion for Ireland, has received a letter from Sir William Harcourt. Replying to the expression of a hope that any concession of the main features of Mr. Gladstone's proposals would not be entertained at the Round Table Conference, Sir William says that, while labouring for the reunion of the Liberal party, they will not deviate from fundamental principles laid down by Mr. Gladstone.

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL.

It is announced that Lord Randolph Churchill's promised attendance at a Conservative demonstration in Birmingham will take place in Easter week.

CARDINAL NEWMAN.

To-day being the eighty-sixth birthday of Cardinal Newman, high mass was celebrated at the Oratory, Edgbaston, Birmingham, at eight o'clock. There was a crowded congregation. The Cardinal, who took part in the service, appeared to be in good health. Birthday presents and cards were received from all parts of Europe and from America.

THE BUDGET.

The Press Association learns on good authority that it is the present intention of the Government to bring forward the Estimates in the first week in April. Mr. Goschen hopes to be able to make his statement on the Budget on the first Monday in April.

SAMUEL ALLSOPP AND SONS (LIMITED).

We are informed that the examination of the 37,500 applications for shares, etc., in Samuel Allsopp and Sons (Limited), being all but completed, the letters of regret will be posted as rapidly as possible, and the allotment letters will follow without delay. Every exertion is being made to expedite the unprecedentedly heavy labour.

MEETING OF THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY.

A meeting of the Conservative party was held at the Foreign Office at two o'clock this afternoon, called, it is understood, for the purpose of taking into consideration the proposals of the Government with regard to the future business of the House of Commons. The first member of Parliament to arrive at the Foreign Office was Mr. Seager Hunt, who was quickly followed by Admiral Mayne, Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen, Mr. Macartney, Lord E. Hamilton, Lord Colville of Culross, Lord Ellenborough, Mr. W. H. Smith, Captain Selwyn, Mr. Sidney Herbert, Colonel Walrond, Mr. Fitzgerald, Lord Dunraven, Mr. Ashmead-Barlett, Mr. A. Forwood, and Mr. Akers-Douglas.

THE WELSH COLLIERY DISASTER.

It is now feared that the explosion at the Cwtch Colliery, Rhondda Valley, on Friday, has resulted in the loss of thirty-seven lives. It appears that there were as many as sixty-three men in the pit when the explosion occurred, and yesterday fifteen dead bodies had been brought to the surface, in addition to the eight which were recovered on Saturday. Inquiries made by relatives of the men leave no doubt that there are still fourteen others in the pit, and there is no hope that any of these will be found alive. Nine of the men are suffering from such serious injuries that their recovery is considered impossible. Telegrams have been received from the Home Secretary expressing regret and sympathy, and asking for full particulars as to the cause of the explosion. Some pit managers who have been down and made an investigation believe it to have had its origin in the firing of coal-dust. Thousands of people visited the pit yesterday.

A telegram from Pontypridd this morning states that up to a late hour last night twenty-three dead bodies had been brought up, including four just then discovered. The work of exploring was checked, as it was impossible to get past the falls. There are from twelve to sixteen men still unrecovered in the far end of the working face. The origin of the explosion is a matter of doubt; but the belief gains ground that it is due to blasting, which is usually performed between the ascent of the day men and the descent of the night men. The night-shift were fortunately delayed in going down by the fact that the usual "all right" report had not been received from the day-men. This precaution is rigidly enforced.

Mr. Rhys, coroner, opened the inquest this morning on the twenty-four bodies recovered. After evidence of identification had been given the inquest was adjourned till March 21. No other bodies had been recovered to-day up to noon.

THE STATE TRIAL IN DUBLIN.

The prosecution of Mr. Dillon and others was resumed in Dublin this morning, before Mr. Justice Murphy. At the sitting of the court the Solicitor-General called his lordship's attention to the fact that the traversers had been using Sunday for the purposes of furthering the conspiracy with which they were charged, and he again asked that the powers of the court should be enforced to compel their attendance from day to day in pursuance of their recognisances. Mr. Justice Murphy said he had no official cognizance of the traversers' actions outside the court. It had already been decided that, once they appeared and pleaded their attendance was not necessary until something arose requiring it. Mr. William O'Brien was the only traverser in attendance.

KIDNAPPING A WARD IN CHANCERY.

An extraordinary case of supposed kidnapping has occurred in Dublin. Ethel Roe, aged thirteen, living with her grandmother, at 27, Pembroke-road, Dublin, was, early on Saturday morning, found to be missing from her bed-room, where she slept alone, and nothing has been heard of her since. The hall-door, which had been left securely fastened on the previous night, was found to be open. It is believed that she must have been placed under the influence of a narcotic previous to her removal, as she is devotedly attached to her relatives. The child is a ward in Chancery and highly educated for her age. She is described as having a rosy complexion, long hair, and dark blue eyes. A reward has been offered for her recovery. Her father, who was a Protestant, is dead, and her mother, a Roman Catholic, is still living.

EXECUTION AT LINCOLN.

Richard Insole, aged twenty-four, a fisherman, was executed at Lincoln at nine o'clock this morning for the murder of his wife at Grimsby. The prisoner and his wife had lived apart, and Insole, becoming jealous, shot her with a revolver in her father's house. Berry was the executioner. Insole, since his condemnation, had paid great attention to the ministrations of the Bishop of Lincoln, who had frequently visited him; and also to the prison chaplain. The Bishop administered the sacrament to him yesterday morning, and was in attendance upon him from eight o'clock this morning until the arrival of Berry, a few minutes before nine. The prisoner, who remained calm while being pinioned, walked steadily to the scaffold, and placed himself under the beam. Death appeared to be instantaneous.

WORD COMPETITIONS.

At Clerkenwell County Court this morning, Judge Eddis had before him a case in which a solicitor's clerk named Villers, of Nunhead, sued the proprietors of the *Weekly News and Clerkenwell Chronicle* for £25, which he claimed as first prize in a word competition. Mr. W. Thompson, counsel for the plaintiff, was proceeding to show that his client had a greater number of English words in his list than had the prize winner, when his honour said it was a curious thing to ask a judge in a law court to decide as to what was or what was not an English word. He would not decide the case. The parties might go to the House of Lords if they liked. The competitors had elected to abide by the arbitrators' award, and, as there was an affidavit to the effect that the adjudicators had done their business to the best of their ability, there was nothing to complain of. He therefore declined to hear the case, and nonsuited the plaintiff, with costs.

PRIZE FIGHT.

The Penarth magistrates to-day remanded two men, named Moon and Donovan, on the charge of engaging in a prize-fight. The ring was pitched at St. Fagan's; but after nine rounds had been fought the police appeared. All present, however, escaped to Penarth, where the ring was again pitched. Just as the sponge was thrown up the police appeared. Moon and Donovan had been so fearfully punished that they were unable to escape.

MURDER BY MOONLIGHTERS IN IRELAND.

A Killarney correspondent telegraphs:—Another agrarian murder is reported. A water-bailiff and under-gamekeeper named Murphy, residing at Muckcross, was visited last night at his house on the slopes of the Mangerton Mountain by a gang of Moonlighters, who fired on him, wounding him so severely that he died within an hour. The deceased's nephew gave information at the Killarney Petty Sessions against a man who has now been arrested.

MR. GLADSTONE.

Mr. Gladstone left Penmaenmawr this morning for London. Before leaving he addressed the scholars at Penmaenmawr College. A number of people assembled at Colwyn Bay, Llandulas, and Rhyl to see his train pass, and by these he was warmly welcomed. At Rhyl three cheers were given for the Burnley victory, and a man shouted, "We licked the Unionists there, any way." Mr. Gladstone, who appeared at the carriage-window, said, "I think Wales will be proved to be in the right in regard to Ireland, and that before long; but you have a great deal to do in Wales." (Cheers; and shouts, "It will be done.") Mr. Gladstone: "I think so. (Renewed cheers.) The sooner it is done the better for everybody, and the only question is, when it is to be done. (Cheers.) It is only waste of time to put off the settlement of the Irish difficulty any longer." (Loud cheers, and a voice, "They agree with you at Burnley, sir.") At Chester there was another large crowd, and Mr. Gladstone had a very hearty reception.

THE PLAN OF CAMPAIGN.

A meeting of the tenants of Lieutenant Bellew Bryan at Grangegeith, county Meath, who have adopted the Plan of Campaign, was held yesterday, at which about 3,000 persons attended, contingents coming from Drogheda, Navan, Kells, Nobber, Collon, Slane, and Drumconrath. Mr. Michael Davitt, Dr. Kenny, M.P., and others addressed the meeting. The tenants resolved not to pay any rent until they received 20 per cent. reduction. Mr. Davitt advocated Dr. Croke's "no tax" manifesto. He said the continuance of a Tory Government in office for any considerable length of time would either compel Ireland to adopt such a plan of national salvation or fall back upon the undisciplined methods of past resistance.

A SNOW BLOCK.

A Reuter's telegram from Constantinople says:—Communication between Rustchuk and Varna is at present blocked by snow. Three mails from Europe are now overdue and are not expected to arrive here until next Thursday.

THE VOLCANIC ERUPTION IN HAWAII.

A Reuter's telegram from Honolulu, dated the 6th of February, says:—The flow of lava from the crater of Mauna Loa has now ceased. The lava-stream had reached the sea a distance of twenty miles from the volcano. Shocks of earthquake were felt up to the 26th of January.

THE LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET.

A telegram from Liverpool at eleven o'clock to-day says:—The cotton market opened quiet with a good demand. Probable sales 10,000 bales. Prices on the spot are firm. Futures are steady, at Saturday's rates. The following transactions are reported for delivery:—March-April, 10-64d; April-May, 12-64d; June-July, 15-64d.

THIS DAY'S LONDON BETTING.

LINCOLNSHIRE HANDICAP.—100 to 7 agst Chislehurst (t and off), 100 to 6 agst Braw Lass (t; 20 to 1 t and w), 20 to 1 agst Pizarro (t and off), 20 to 1 agst St. George (off; 22 to 1 t and w), 30 to 1 agst Castor (off), 33 to 1 agst Cardinal Wolsey (t and off), 40 to 1 agst Middlethorpe (t and off), 50 to 1 agst Aughrim (t).

GRAND NATIONAL STEEPLECHASE.—8 to 1 agst Roquefort (t), 10 to 1 agst Spahi (t), 100 to 8 agst Too Good (off), 33 to 1 agst Etiquette (off).

THIS DAY'S MONEY MARKET.

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

There is a better feeling on the Stock Exchange this morning, as it is expected that the German elections will be favourable to the Government, and that in consequence there will be improvement on the Berlin Bourse. Therefore Foreign Government Bonds have opened somewhat higher. But the only business is on account of speculators for the fall, some of whom are buying back portions of what they have sold. In the other markets there is little change.

There is an active demand for short loans in the open market at 3½ to 3¾ per cent., while the rate of discount is 3½ per cent., the supply of bills being small.

Quarter-past Two.

There is a fairly good tendency in the Stock Exchange, but very little business, and the improvement in prices shown this morning has not quite been maintained. The English Funds are firm, however, and Consols show 1-16 per cent. advance. Home Railways are steady at a fractional improvement in some cases on expectation of better traffic returns. American Securities are firm in response to Saturday's improvement in New York, and Grand Trunk of Canada stocks are also slightly better. Mexican Railway stocks are rather harder in anticipation of to-morrow's traffic return. Foreign Government Securities opened firm, and continued so up to midday, but prices are now below the best on want of business.

The following are the changes as compared with Saturday's closing prices:—In the English Funds, Consols have advanced 1-16 for money and the account (March) to 100 13-16 to 100 15-16. Reduced and New Three per Cents. are unchanged at 101¼ to 101½, and New Two-and-a-Half per Cents. at 88¾ to 88½.

In Home Railways, Great Eastern has improved ¼, Great Western ½, Brighton A ¼, North-Western ½, North British ¼, North-Eastern ¾, and South-Eastern Deferred ½. In Canadian and Foreign Railways, Grand Trunk Ordinary has improved ½, the First Preference stock ¾, the Third ½, Canadian Pacific shares ¼, Mexican Ordinary ½, the First Preference ¼, and the Second ¼.

In Foreign Government Bonds, Egyptian State Domain has advanced ¼, the United ½, the Preference ½, the Daira Sanieh ¼, Hungarian Gold Rentes ½,

Italian of 1861 ¼, Mexican Old ½, Portuguese Three per Cents. ¾, Russian of 1871 ½, the 1872 ½, the 1873 7-16, and Spanish Four per Cents. 5-16.

In American Securities, Central Pacific shares have advanced ¾, Milwaukee ¼, Denver ¼, Louisville ¾, Erie ¾, Ontario ¾, Pennsylvania ¾, Reading ¾, Union Pacific ¼, and Wabash Preference ¾; but Erie Second Mortgage has fallen ¼, and Ohio ½.

The premium on gold at Buenos Ayres has fallen to 30.60 per cent.

The half-yearly report and accounts of the directors of the Dublin and Meath Railway Company shows an available balance of £4,385. The directors recommend a dividend of 2 per cent. per annum on the First Preference stock, carrying forward £3,093.

The half-yearly report and accounts of the Midland Great Western Railway (Ireland) show an available balance of £75,229. After payment of the dividends on the preference stock, amounting to £19,896, leaving a balance of £55,332, the directors recommend a dividend of 3¼ per cent. per annum on the consolidated stock, carrying forward £10,894.

The report of the directors of Spratt's Patent (Limited) states that the profit and loss account for the year, after providing for expenses of management, shows a balance of £29,026. After deducting the interim dividend of 18 per cent. per annum for the first six months of 1886 there remains a balance of £15,526. A dividend for the second six months is recommended at the rate of 20 per cent. per annum, leaving £526 to be carried forward. The debenture debt is stated to have been all paid off.

The Nevada Providence Gold Mines (Limited) is the title of a new undertaking, having a capital of £280,000, in shares of £1 each, of which 90,000 are taken by the vendors in part payment of the purchase. The company is formed for the purpose of purchasing and further developing the extensive and reputedly productive gold-mining properties situate on Deer Creek, about a mile and a quarter west of Nevada County, California. These mines comprise seven claims, called "Providence," covering 102 acres, and the "Williams," covering over 56 acres, which together have been worked by the present owners since 1870.

The prospectus is issued of the Grant Envelope Machine Company (Limited), having a capital of £75,000, in shares of £1 each. The company has been formed to acquire and develop for Great Britain, France, Belgium, Austria, Hungary, Germany, etc., all the patent rights of the "Grant Rotary Envelope Machine," an important and remarkable invention, said to enable the turning-out of as many envelopes per hour as three machines of the old form. The machine, by an ingenious combination, prints and embosses at the same time.

ENGLISH GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.		
Consols	100 13-16	100 15-16
Ditto Account (March) ..	100 13-16	100 15-16
Reduced Three per Cents ..	101 ¼	101 ½
New Three per Cents	101 ¼	101 ½
New Two-and-a-Half per Cents ..	88 ¾	88 ½
India Stock Four per Cent. ..	102 ¾	103 ¼
Ditto Three per Cent.	85 ¾	86 ¼
Ditto Four per Cent. Rupee Paper ..	70 ¾	70 ¾
Ditto 4½ per Cent. Rupee Paper ..	72 ¾	73
Bank of England Stock	297	299
Metropolitan 3½ per Cent. ..	107	107 ½

COLONIAL GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.		
Canada 4 per Cent. of 1910-35 ..	103 ¾	104 ½
N.S. Wales 4 p. C. of 1903-5-8-9-10 ..	101 ¾	102 ½
N. Zealand 4 p. C. Cons. Ins. ..	93 ¾	94 ½
Queensland 6 per Cent. 1891-95 ..	106	118
S. Australian 4 p. C. of 1894-1916 ..	98	100
Tasmanian 6 per Cent. of 1893-1901 ..	106	120
Victoria 4½ per Cent. of 1904 ..	105	107

AMERICAN SECURITIES.		
United States 4½ per Cent. Bonds ..	111	111 ½
Ditto Four per Cent.	113	113 ½
Virginia Funded Bonds	51	52
New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio First Mortgage Bonds ..	44 ¾	45 ¼
Central Pacific Shares	37 ¾	37 ¾
Chicago, Milwaukee, and St. Pau ..	93 ¾	93 ¾
Denver and Rio Grande Shares ..	25 ¾	25 ¾
Illinois Shares	131	132 xd
Lake Shore and Michigan Southern 100-dol. Shares ..	96 ¾	96 ¾
Louisville and Nashville 100-dol. Shares ..	62 ¾	63 ¾
New York Central Shares	115	115 ½
New York, Lake Erie, and Western 100-dol. Shares	31 ¾	34 ¾
Ditto Preference Six per Cent ..	72	73
Ditto Second Mortgage Bonds ..	100 ¾	100 ¾
New York, Ontario, and Western Shares	18	18 ¼
Ohio and Mississippi Shares ..	26 ¾	27
Oregon and California Seven per Cent. Preference Shares ..	18 ¾	19
Pennsylvania Shares	57 ¾	57 ¾
Philadelphia and Reading Share ..	19 ¾	19 ¾
Ditto General Mortgage Bonds ..	106 ¾	107
Union Pacific Shares	57 ¾	58
Wabash, St. Louis, and Pacific Ordinary Shares	17 ¾	17 ¾
Ditto 100-dol. Preference	29	29 ¾

BRITISH AND FOREIGN RAILWAY STOCKS.		
Caledonian	97	97 ¾
Great Eastern	65 ¾	65 ¾
Great Northern Ordinary	114	115
Ditto A	90 ¾	100 ¾
Great Western	135 ¾	136
Lancashire and Yorkshire	115 ¾	115 ¾
London and Brighton Ordinary ..	125	127
Ditto A	111 ¾	111 ¾
London, Chatham, & Dover Ord ..	21 ¾	21 ¾
Ditto 4½ per Cent. Preference ..	96 ¾	97
London and North-Western	103 ¾	103 ¾
London and South-Western	126	127
Manchester, Sheffield, & Lincoln ..	65	65
Ditto A	35	35 ¾
Metropolitan	108 ¾	109
Metropolitan District	38 ¾	35 ¾
Midland	124 ¾	125
North British	98 ¾	99
North-Eastern	151	151 ¾
North Staffordshire	90 ¾	91 ¾
South-Eastern Ordinary	124	125
Ditto Deferred	102 ¾	103 ¾
Grand Trunk of Canada Ordinary ..	123 ¾	123 ¾
Ditto First Preference Stock ..	73 ¾	74 ¾
Ditto Second Preference Stock ..	55	55 ¾
Ditto Third Preference Stock ..	28 ¾	29 ¾
Ditto Guaranteed	71 ¾	72 ¾
Canadian Pacific Shares	63	63 ¾
Buenos Ayres & Pac. 7 p.c. Shares ..	23 ¾	24 ¾
Ditto 7 p.c. Debentures	126	128
Lombardo-Venetian	7 ¾	7 ¾
Mexican Ordinary	52	52 ¾
Ditto Eight per Cent. First Pref ..	115 ¾	115 ¾
Ditto Six p. Cent. Second Pref ..	74 ¾	74 ¾
Ditto Six per Cent. Perpetual Debenture Stock	118	120

MISCELLANEOUS SHARES.		
Australian Agricultural	118	121
Anglo-Am. Brush Light (£3 paid) ..	2 ¾	2 ¾
Hudson's Bay	21 ¾	22 ¾
National Discount	10 ¾	11
Peninsular and Oriental Steam ..	61	63
Royal Mail Steam	37	39
Suez Canal	76 ¾	77 ¾

FOREIGN STOCK MARKETS.		
Argentine Six per Cent. of 1868 ..	100 ¾	101 ¾
Ditto Six per Cent. of 1871 ..	102	104
Ditto 6p. Cent. Hard Dol. Bond ..	71	72
Austrian Four p. Ct. Gold Rentes ..	85	87
Ditto Five per Cent. Silver	61 ¾	62 ¾
Brazilian Five per Cent. of 1865 ..	100	101
Ditto Five per Cent. of 1871 ..	98	99
Ditto Five per Cent. of 1875 ..	98	99
Ditto 4½ per Cent. of 1883 ..	90	91
Buenos Ayres Six per Cent. of 1871 ..	98 ¾	99 ¾
Ditto Six per Cent. of 1873 ..	97 ¾	98 ¾
Chilian 4½ per Cent. Conversion ..	91	99
Chinese Six p. Ct. of 1895, March ..	109	111
Ditto Six p. Cent. of 1895, Jun ..	107	109
Costa Rica 5 per Cent. Bonds A ..	66	67
Ditto B 4 p. Ct. now 5 p. Ct. 1888 ..	57	58
Egyptian Three p. Ct. Guaranteed ..	98 ¾	99
Ditto Five p. Ct. State Domain ..	91 ¾	91 ¾
Ditto Four per Cent. Unified ..	70 ¾	71
Ditto Five per Cent. Preference ..	94 ¾	94 ¾
Ditto Four p. Ct. Daira Sanieh ..	6 ¾	6 ¾
Entre Rios 6 p. Ct. 1886	19	90
Ditto 6 p. Ct. Ry. Mortgage ..	93	94
French Three per Cent. Rentes ..	76 ¾	77 ¾
Ditto 4½ per Cent. of 1872 ..	103 ¾	103 ¾
Greek Five per Cent. of 1873 ..	77 ¾	78 ¾
Ditto Five per Cent. of 1881 ..	57 ¾	58
Ditto Five per Cent. of 1884 ..	57	57 ¾
Hungarian Gold Rentes of 1881 ..	75 ¾	76
Italian Five per Cent. of 1861 ..	93 ¾	93 ¾
Mexican Old Three per Cent. ..	25 ¾	25 ¾
Ditto of 1864	11 ¾	12
Norwegian Four per Cent. of 1880 ..	102	104
Peruvian Six per Cent. of 1870 ..	13 ¾	14
Ditto Five per Cent. of 1872 ..	10 ¾	11 ¾
Portuguese Three per Cent. ..	52	52 ¾
Russian Five per Cent. of 1871 ..	91 ¾	93 ¾
Ditto Five per Cent. of 1872 ..	92	93
Ditto Five per Cent. of 1873 ..	92	92 ¾
Ditto 4½ per Cent. of 1875 ..	85	87
Santa Fe 5 p. Ct. N. C. Ry. Mort ..	89	99
Ditto 5 p. Ct. Extensions Mort ..	89	91
Spanish Four per Cent.	61 ¾	62
Ditto Two per Cent.	46 ¾	46 ¾
Swedish Four per Cent. of 1880 ..	102	104
Turkish Six per Cent. Group 1 ..	19 ¾	20 ¾
Ditto Nine per Cent.	2	13 ¾
Ditto Six & Five per Ct. .. 3 & 4	13 1-16	13 3-16
Ditto 4½ p.c. Tribute Loan of 1871 ..	68 ¾	69 ¾
Ditto Five per Cent. of 1854 ..	92	94
Ditto Five per Cent. Defence ..	80	80 ¾
Uruguay Unified Five p. Ct. of 1883 ..	47 ¾	47 ¾

BANKS.		
Anglo-Egyptian	15	16
City	18 ¾	19 ¾
Colonial	30	30
Consolidated	30 ¾	7 ¾
Imperial Ottoman	93-16	95-16
London and County	81	82 xd
London and Westminster	63	64
London Joint Stock	35 ¾	36 ¾
National Provincial (£12 paid) ..	49 ¾	50 ¾
Union of London	35 ¾	36 ¾
MINING SHARES.		
Cape Copper	21	23
Indian Consolidated	¾	1
Mason and Barry	7 ¾	7 ¾
Montana	7 ¾	8 ¾
Mysore Gold	6 ¾	6 ¾
Oreogum Gold	¾	1
Richmond Consolidated	4	4 ¾
Rio Tinto	10 ¾	10 ¾
St. John del Rey	29	32
Tharsis Sulphur	3 ¾	4
United Mexican	2 ¾	3 ¾

TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE SECURITIES.		
Anglo-American	32	32 ¾
Brazilian Submarine	10 ¾	10 ¾
Consolidated Telephone	¾	¾
Direct United States	7 ¾	8
Eastern	10 ¾	10 ¾
Eastern Extension	10 ¾	10 ¾
Globe Ordinary	4 ¾	4 ¾
Ditto Preference	11 ¾	11 ¾
India-rubber, Gutta-percha, and Telegraph Works	22	23
Oriental Telephone	3-16	5-16
Telegraph Construction	37 ¾	38 ¾
United Telephone	12 ¾	12 ¾
Western and Brazilian	7 ¾	7 ¾

TRAMWAY SHARES.		
Dublin	10 ¾	10 ¾ xd
Glasgow	12 ¾	13 ¾ xd
Liverpool Un. Tram. and Omnibus ..	10 ¾	11 ¾ xd
London	18 ¾	18 ¾
London Street	10 ¾	20 xd
North Metropolitan	20 ¾	20 ¾ xd

THE QUEEN AND THE JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS IN INDIA.

The Calcutta correspondent of the *Times* telegraphs:—The Viceroy having informed her Majesty of the enthusiastic manner in which the Jubilee has been celebrated throughout India by all classes of her subjects, she has been pleased to command the Viceroy to convey to the people of India her warmest thanks and her deep appreciation of their loyalty. The correspondent adds:—India is now quieting down to its normal state; but accounts of the rejoicings in more remote stations continue to pour in. These rejoicings for the most part are reproductions on a smaller scale of those of the capital—thanksgiving services among all religions and sects, processions, parades wherever troops are stationed, fireworks, and illuminations. Every district of British India and every native State have been jointly celebrating the occasion, and the most humble demonstrations have been characterized by the same enthusiasm and loyalty as animated the magnificent displays of the great cities.

RUSSIA AND AFGHANISTAN.

According to intelligence received at Bombay through native sources, some Russian officers, in company with some Bokharan officers and troopers, were recently seen in the vicinity of Kulfat, making surveys for a bridge across the Amoo Daria. The Governor of Afghan-Turkestan and the Ameer consequently apprehended that a Russian advance was contemplated upon Khulm or Tash-Kurgan, a place situated half-way between the important posts of Kunduz and Balkh. Reports are being persistently circulated that six Russian officers with a native escort have, with the knowledge of the Shah of Persia, arrived at Seistan from Katta-Kurgan, with the intention of crossing into Afghanistan, in disguise, by way of Herat. The *Times of India* publishes a telegram from Lahore stating that the Ameer of Afghanistan has issued a pamphlet describing the events connected with the Durbar at Rawul Pindie and the movements of the Russians on the northern frontier.

A Quetta telegram says:—In view of the possibility of political complications in Europe requiring a concentration of troops at Pishen and other places on the North-West frontier during the spring, the military officials are actively considering the requisite commissariat and transport arrangements.

THE EGYPTIAN QUESTION.

The Constantinople correspondent of the *Times* states that negotiations with regard to Egyptian affairs make no progress, and since the presentation by Sir H. D. Wolff of his Note, as previously telegraphed, no sittings have been held. In official Turkish circles it is rumoured with some insistence that the purport of Sir H. Wolff's Note having been submitted to the Porte's representatives abroad, replies have come to the effect that the proposed neutralization of Egypt is not considered a practical solution of the difficulty, and that foreign Powers generally entertain the opinion that it cannot be admitted. This coincides with the conclusions reached in official circles in Constantinople; neutralization being judged as only a disguised form of British protectorate.

A settlement has been arrived at in Cairo with regard to the question of the *corvée*. The Egyptian Government, after consulting the English Government, have decided not to summon the *corvée*, but to execute the works out of ordinary revenue, and endeavour to preserve financial equilibrium by recasting the Budget and making considerable reductions in several departments, more especially in the army and police. The *Times* correspondent writes:—

It may fairly be said of this arrangement that it is the best obtainable in face of the merely platonic support of the English Government and the obdurate hostility of the French. It requires considerable faith to believe in the possibility of ultimately avoiding an international commission, but this measure at least postpones it without submitting to dictation, which would be equally onerous. No doubt the measure considerably postpones the possibility of evacuation, for it increases discontent and decreases the forces for maintaining order. The fact that it avoids the *corvée* renders it generally popular; and, as it has been obtained by the action of the English Administration as against the French Government, it has created a good effect. The Egyptian Government have thanked the English for their assistance, which as regards Sir E. Baring is well deserved, but towards Downing-street shows gratitude for small mercies.

MR. GLADSTONE'S APPEAL TO IRISH PROTESTANTS.

Lord Brabourne, in a letter to the *Times*, challenges some recent allusions by Mr. Gladstone to Irish history. He says:—

Mr. Gladstone, in his letter to Mr. T. H. Webb, appeals to the Protestants of Ireland "to return to and maintain the traditions of their sires," and expresses his belief 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 were the most prominent supporters of Irish nationality." It is a thousand pities that whenever Mr. Gladstone is good enough to give us instruction in the "elementary facts of Irish history" he leaves untold something which is necessary to make the whole truth understood. So far as "Irish nationality" is intended to signify a separate Parliament for Ireland, the Irish Protestants had excellent reason for being "the most prominent supporters" of that Parliament. From 1691 to the time of the Union it was composed entirely of Protestants, until 1793 no Catholic could vote for its representatives, and a large number of the constituencies belonged to Protestant owners. The Parliament was a badge and a support of Protestant ascendancy, and one of the great reasons for the Union was that in a united Parliament Catholics would be more likely to be placed upon a footing of equality with their fellow-subjects. Though culpably delayed, this equality has been gradually obtained. It will be seen that the "nationality" of which the "sires" of Irish Protestants were among "the most prominent supporters" was something utterly different from that which is implied by the word to-day, and something which Mr. Gladstone's proposed legislation would certainly not restore.

THE SLAVE-TRADE IN THE SOUDAN.

Colonel Kitchener, who has returned to Suakim in the *Jaffarish*, has captured six dhows with contraband goods, valued at £2,000, all intended for slaves from the Soudan. He has (the *Times* correspondent says) had satisfactory interviews with the principal sheikhs, and hopes to open several Egyptian coast ports to legitimate trade. He purposes adopting active measures for the suppression of slavery and of contraband dealing, which is injuring all Egyptian trade and hinders the present pacific policy with the Soudan tribes. Colonel Kitchener's policy meets with general approval, and the suppression of slavery will have most beneficial results politically and morally. More cruisers are required for the efficient suppression of slavery and contraband trading.

FRANCE AND MADAGASCAR.

In consequence of the execution of the treaty between France and Madagascar, all the French troops have been recalled from the island, with the exception of four companies remaining at Diego Suarez. The Malagasy forces reoccupied the town of Tamatave on the 25th of January.

BURNLEY ELECTION.

The polling for Burnley to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. Rylands (Unionist Liberal) took place on Saturday, the candidates being Mr. Thursby (Conservative) and Mr. Slagg (Gladstonian Liberal). The poll was declared as follows:—

For Mr. J. Slagg (G L)	5026
„ Mr. J. O. S. Thursby (C)	4481
Majority.....	545

At the general election in 1885 Mr. Rylands (L) polled 4,866, and Mr. H. H. Wainwright (C) 4,199. The numbers polled at the election last summer were—Mr. Rylands (L U) 4,209, Mr. James Greenwood (G L) 4,166.

Placards were posted on Saturday, signed "Benjamin Picard, miners' agent," stating that he strongly urged all miners to vote for Mr. Slagg, and that the miners of England were watching their vote that day. There is no doubt that to the failure of the miners' vote, to the abstention of the Liberal Unionists, and to the new voters added to the register since last July, Mr. Thursby's defeat may be attributed. It is believed that the Irish voters to a man polled for Mr. Slagg.

SIR H. JAMES ON THE LAND QUESTION.

Mr. Arthur Arnold has received the following letter from Sir Henry James, M.P.:—

I am very glad to hear that you are about to place your views upon our land laws before my friends at Bury. I see but little hope of effecting any beneficial change in our system of land transfer or of substantially increasing the number of owners of land until we get rid of our pernicious system of settlement and entail. So long as land can be settled so that it may be the interest of tenants for life to care nothing for the future of the land or of those who occupy it, so long as land can be securely settled on persons unborn and who may be totally unfit to bear the responsibilities of their inheritance, the work of the reformer will be but of little avail. Knowing the principles on which the Free Land League is founded (though not agreeing in some details of its programme), I most sincerely wish it and you every success in the good work you have undertaken.

OUR ARMED CRUISERS.

The *Umbria*, one of the three Cunard Line steamers which the British Admiralty have taken up to act as armed cruisers in case of war, is now being fitted with platforms on her turtle-backs fore and aft, so that while continuing in the regular course of her trade she can be at once fitted with guns, should an emergency arise. This action of the Government has been very generally commended, as for a very moderate sum per annum as fee they are assured of the services of the fastest steamers in the British mercantile marine, should necessity require them. As a proof of these vessels' speed, we may mention that the *Etruria*, which left the bar of the Mersey at 4 P.M. on Saturday, the 12th inst., and the captain of which was specially reminded of his instructions to take the most southerly, and consequently the longest route, to avoid the numbers of icebergs and field-ice so frequently reported by other steamers, arrived at New York bar at six o'clock on Saturday morning, making the passage from Liverpool in 6 days 19 hours—a feat unprecedented in the history of steam navigation. Her average speed during the voyage was 19 knots per hour.

BRITISH AUTHORITY IN ZULULAND.

The authority of the Queen has, with the approval of her Majesty's Government and the acquiescence of the chiefs and people of Zululand, been extended over Eastern Zululand.

CREMATION.

A memorial, influentially signed, having been presented to the Leicester Town Council asking that provision might be made by the corporation for the disposing of the dead by cremation, a large committee has been appointed to consider and report to the council. It is understood that a decided majority of the committee are in favour of cremation; but it remains to be seen whether the providing of a crematory can be taken as being within the powers of the town council.

THE KING OF HOLLAND.

The seventieth birthday of King William of the Netherlands was celebrated throughout Holland on Saturday with much enthusiasm. A congratulatory telegram was received from Queen Victoria. In the afternoon the horses of the carriage in which were the Queen and Princess Wilhelmina took fright, and the coachman and postillion were thrown. The Queen and the Princess kept their seats until the horses were stopped, and then alighted, the crowd escorting them to the palace. Subsequently the royal family drove through the streets of the Hague to see the illuminations.

THE LATE DUKE OF ALBANY.

A medallion of the late Duke of Albany has been placed in Whippingham Church, Isle of Wight, by the Queen. It is executed in white marble, and the head, which is in profile, is surrounded by a wreath of oak-leaves, acorns, and thistles. The tablet bears the following inscription:—"To the loved memory of Leopold George Duncan Albert, Duke of Albany, Prince of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, who died at Cannes, in his thirty-first year, on March 28, 1884. 'All souls are Thine: we must not say That those are dead who pass away.' This monument is placed by his sorrowing mother, Queen Victoria, A.D. 1886."

DISTURBANCE IN THE CITY TEMPLE.

There was an unusual scene at the City Temple just before the commencement of evening service yesterday. A congregation of nearly three thousand filled the building, and Dr. Parker was on the point of entering the pulpit when a working man, standing on the west side, jumped on to the dais, and, flinging his cap on the ground, exclaimed in a powerful voice, "Behold, I come as a thief in the night." Instantly every face was turned upon the intruder; but no one approached him. Continuing in the same tone, the man shouted "Ye shall worship no other God but me;" and he struck the communion-table as he spoke several heavy blows, and then flung himself into the pastor's chair. Fortunately the congregation remained seated, there was no panic of any kind, and a constable hurriedly walked down the aisle from the Holborn entrance and drew the man out of the chair. The intruder passed out of the Temple without saying another word. At the door he was asked the reason for his conduct, when he simply replied "I was doing the work of Him or them that sent me." He was not charged by the officials, and he walked away.

Mdme. 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.]

ADrift ON AN ICEBERG.

An old whaler gives in a New York paper an interesting account of his experiences on an iceberg off Cape Horn. He and four other men were sent from their ship to kill, for food, two bears which they saw on an iceberg. Just after they had shot the bears a snow-storm came on suddenly and they lost sight of their ship. They rowed for the vessel, but, missing her, returned to the iceberg, where they cut a cavity in the ice for shelter from the storm, and then set to work to skin the bears.

Our real situation was scarcely referred to by any of us, although each man fully understood how desperate it was. We had biscuit sufficient to last the four for a week or ten days—that is, enough to sustain life for that length of time. If we were compelled to remain on the berg the bear-meat would be a godsend to us. Every man had this reflection; but no man gave utterance to his thoughts. We cracked jokes and tried to be cheerful, and, could a sixth man have looked in on us, he would have said we were enjoying ourselves immensely. The big skins were spread on the floor of our ice-cave, the carcasses cut up in handy pieces, and when darkness fell upon the ocean we lay down side by side without having eaten or drunk, and were soon asleep. I had knocked about in all sorts of crafts and had sailed in all seas, and peril was no new thing to me. When I lay down I had to admit to myself that the present situation had never been equalled, and I forced my thoughts into other channels. Had I begun figuring on our chances I should have gone wild. An hour before daylight we were aroused by such a shock and crash as made us believe that the heavens and the earth had come together. Then there came more grinding and crunching and crushing, and directly after that all was still except the howling of the gale, and we were driving along as quietly as before. "We've had a collision with another berg," explained the mate, "and I think all danger has passed." He advised us to return to our sleep; but every man had had enough, and every eye was wide open when the first signs of daylight appeared. The fall of snow was not so heavy, although we could not have seen a second berg as large as ours half a mile away; but the wind was blowing a living gale and held steady from the old quarter. The mate gave us leave to scatter for a look around, though warning us against taking any chances, and presently I found myself in his company as we walked part way along the length of the shelf and came to a spot upon which we could climb with a promise of a view to windward. By-and-by we looked out between two pinnacles and had a square look into the face of the storm. We were not yet at the top of the berg by any means, but had struck a sort of rift in the centre of it, and about 40 ft. above the sea. A more forbidding sight I never looked upon. The sea was in a perfect turmoil, flinging spray almost as high as our faces, and two other bergs, each seemingly as large as our own, were in sight through the haze. One was on what might be called our starboard bow, and the other on the starboard quarter, and the three of us were driving off to the west. "Nelson," said the mate, as we clambered part-way down and stopped to rest, "what do you think of our chances?" "Well, sir, it's a bad fix. We can't look for any change under three days at the least. I know the ship will look for us, but the pack-ice may drive down too heavy for her, or we may be too widely separated. However, we have the chance of being sighted by another whaler." "That's all true," he said in a gloomy voice, "and we must keep up our spirits. The most I fear just now is another collision." We scrambled down to the shelf, and thence along to the cave, where we found the other three. Every face was gloomy enough. We had been worn out aboard the whaler for want of sleep, and after a little we all began to doze, and then fell off into slumber, and it was after noon before we were aroused. Then it was by another grinding and crunching, and by feeling the wind shrieking about us, and we turned out to find that our berg was swinging around to the gale, while it was at the same time forcing its way through heavy pack-ice. In half an hour more our cave faced to windward, and the grinding was positively awful. The berg kept swinging, and by two o'clock we were again on the lee side; and now we could look right down on the tremendous struggle between our berg and the heavy ice which covered the sea for miles around us. The berg was driving faster than the ice, and nothing could check its progress. As it pushed steadily through the pack the grinding was as if thunderbolts were ripping through a forest. We did not swing but that once, though the gale did not break until midnight.

Just before dark they lighted their fire again and cooked some more meat; and that night they all slept soundly.

The next day dawned bright and clear, with the wind blowing from the south; and before noon the ice most exposed to the sun was thawing. We had a clear sky and could see for miles around us; and a grand sight it was. The pack-ice had mostly gone off to the west, but there were a score of big and little bergs in view. We kept the breakfast-fire going all day as a beacon-fire, smothering it down occasionally to make a black smoke, and we rambled about a good deal over the berg. We started up three white foxes; but, as we dared not use the muskets for fear that the concussion might work us harm, we made no captures. The night came on tranquil, with the wind going to the west and holding balmy, and we had nothing to disturb us. In the morning, as we were toasting our meat, we felt a tremendous quiver run through the berg, and next moment a good third of it split off with a terrible crash and floated away from us. The loss of this portion gave us a bad list to port, and for half an hour we were in momentary expectation of the berg capsizing. It floated steadily, however, and by-and-by we were reassured and began to walk about again, while the fire sent up a smoke which could be seen many miles away. It was about an hour after noon, and the mate was making ready to remove a thwart from the boat to use for kindling, when a steam whaler suddenly rounded a great berg to the south-east of us, and came into full view of one of the men who had just climbed up for a look-out. She had seen our smoke and had been working toward us for hours. An hour after she was first seen we were aboard of her, and it isn't for the purpose of exaggerating the perils of our adventure that I tell you we had not steamed two miles from that berg when it split in three portions with thunderous sounds, and every portion turned turtle. Our ship, as we afterward came to know, searched for us for the best part of a week, and then, feeling that we must have certainly been lost, put up her helm and was off to a new cruising-ground, while we were entered on the log-book as thousands of others have been.

DANGEROUS GUN PRACTICE.

The Clyde guardship *Ajax*, under the command of Captain Durrant, left anchorage off Greenock on Friday morning for Chatham, where she will undergo alterations. While passing down the Firth of Clyde, and when opposite Innellan, an occurrence of a most remarkable nature happened. It appears that in going down the crew of the *Ajax* were being exercised in big-gun drill, with the view of expending their quarterly allowance of ammunition. About half-past ten, at which time the *Ajax* was directly off Innellan, a shot from one of the guns of the vessel was seen to strike the water, and then ricochet towards the shore. It struck the ground immediately adjoining a villa, entering the earth about ten yards from the north-east gable-wall. The shot made a hole in the ground about 7 ft deep, and uprooted four large trees, breaking them in pieces and scattering the branches and fragments all over the roof of the building, as well as over the adjoining grounds, besides covering the roof of the house with stones. Every window in the house was broken, and great rents were made in the gable-walls; the house, in fact, being rendered uninhabitable. The force of the projectile, even after striking the ground and doing this considerable damage, was not yet spent, as the shot was carried about a quarter of a mile up the hill, afterwards rolling back for some distance. The adjoining dwelling also suffered to no little extent. A plumber who was employed at the house received injuries about the body, and a servant-girl had her hands cut. The Board school is in the vicinity

of the villa referred to, and at the time of the occurrence was filled with children. A slight deviation of the shot would have brought it into contact with this building. The *Ajax* people did not apparently notice the damage that had been done, because they went on with their firing; the other shots going in a more seaward direction.

THE BULGARIAN QUESTION.

Confirmatory rumours (the Constantinople correspondent of the *Times* says) are freely circulating in official quarters regarding the suspension of the Bulgarian negotiations, as reported last week.

The Porte, finding insurmountable difficulties in reconciling the parties engaged in the question, contemplates addressing a circular to the Great Powers, setting forth the efforts made to reach a settlement and the conditions put forward on both sides, and declaring its inability to persuade either of the contending parties to accept reasonable terms. In the circumstances the Porte would submit to the Great Powers that the only course left was to impose its decision on the Bulgarians by every means possible, and that, having exhausted all the means in its power to bring about a satisfactory solution without result, the Porte must decline all responsibility for whatever may happen in the Balkan Peninsula after the negotiations are broken off with the Bulgarians here. I have heard it mentioned that the Porte's last conditions were that the Regency should be remodelled by the admission of Zankoff, Stambouloff, and a third member who should be unconnected with any special party in the country, and that the appointment of a Minister of War should be put off until after the election of a new Prince.

The Vienna correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph*, with regard to the rumours representing the Austrian Government to have consented to a Russian occupation of Bulgaria, says he is in a position to state that they are completely void of foundation. The Austrian Government received some months ago a formal assurance from St. Petersburg that Russia did not intend to send troops to Bulgaria; and, in the interests of peace, they trust that Russia has not modified her intentions since.

Considerable importance is attached in Paris to a St. Petersburg letter in the *Nord*, which is regarded as emanating from M. de Giers. It says that Russia need not hasten the solution of the Bulgarian question, but has to fix her attention chiefly on near eventualities in the direction of the Rhine, which are destined to become the principal factors in the solution of the Bulgarian question.

The present current of opinion which exercises its influence on the Russian Government is not to conclude an alliance with France, because this would mean at once a European war; while national antipathies and the remembrance of the Treaty of Berlin do not favour a cordial understanding with Germany. This understanding could not be arrived at without Russia making concessions to the policy of Austria. A hostile attitude towards Germany would arm Austria against Russia. Russia desires the maintenance of peace and of the European equilibrium. For this, and for the purpose of playing a preponderating rôle in case of a Franco-German conflict, she must remain the unknown factor in the problem, and the only part for her to take is to prevent the ruin of France, and, therefore, not to enter into any engagement with Germany. Germany will then not act with the same assurance as in 1870, and not leave her eastern frontiers unoccupied with troops. Thus the French and German forces would be balanced; and the attention of Russia is directed to the Rhine, and not to the platonic negotiations which are carried on without any chance of success at Constantinople.

AN IRISH CATHOLIC BISHOP ON BOYCOTTING.

The Roman Catholic Bishop of Cloyne, in his Lenten pastoral, says that boycotting, as it has sometimes been employed to gratify private malice, or to injure rivals in business or trade, or to refuse the means of sepulture to the dead, is a manifest violation of the Eighth Commandment, and cannot be justified by any plea of political necessity or of usefulness for the attainment of any end; and, above all, the introduction of this system into the Church or school is utterly indefensible. The reductions demanded in rent are just, owing to the depression of prices, but should be sought for by just means.

IMPRISONMENT OF GERMAN EDITORS.

The editor of the *Berliner Tageblatt* has been sentenced to a month's imprisonment for reproducing the rumour as to the alleged wounding of Colonel von Villaume by the Czar. This is the third Berlin editor who has been sent to prison for the same offence, and the proscription list does not seem to be yet exhausted. This steady sacrifice of German journalists to the exacting spirit of Pan Slavism appears (the *Times*' Berlin correspondent remarks) to have but an unsatisfying effect at St. Petersburg, to judge from the ever-increasing anti-Teutonic tone of the Muscovite press and the rumours daily wafted hither from the Neva about the desire of Russia to mould Germany more to her will by entering into closer relations with France.

THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

A public meeting to consider the best means of improving the present position and prospects of the Crystal Palace was held in the theatre of the Palace on Saturday afternoon. A letter from Sir George Grove stated that he had received a communication from the Poet Laureate, in which he expressed the hope that the Palace might be preserved to the nation, and added that "Some Jubilee offering might make it a Royal Crystal Palace." Mr. T. L. Bristowe, M.P., who presided, said that £27,820 was annually required to pay the interest on the debentures, and he suggested that they might take a somewhat lower rate of interest. Resolutions affirming the necessity of preserving the Palace were adopted, and a committee of residents and tradesmen representing the Crystal Palace districts was appointed to devise a plan whereby the residents in the neighbourhood might engage to support it.

THE AMERICAN EXHIBITION AT EARL'S COURT.

The extent of the grounds occupied by the American Exhibition at Earl's Court, Kensington, is nearly twenty-three acres. With such ample accommodation the directors have been able to set aside nearly six acres for pleasure-grounds. These will be elaborately laid out in gravelled walks, and the flora will include all such American specimens as will stand the English climate. Here will be the music-stand, where two military bands will alternate in concerts of popular and classical music, pavilions for special exhibits, refreshments, etc., roller coasters, and a model of the celebrated American switch-back railway in Pennsylvania. Two performances daily will also be given by Buffalo Bill on the grounds of the Wild West, so that no lack of outdoor amusement will be found provided.

THE BURY MURDER.

Walter Wood, who is alleged to have murdered his wife Emma at Bury, on Wednesday afternoon, by cutting her throat with a knife, was apprehended on Saturday night at his mother's house, in Thynne-street, Bolton. Since the murder a close watch has been kept on the house, but Wood entered unseen. He had washed stains from his clothes. He made no answer to the charge.

THE NEW RULES OF PROCEDURE.

The House of Commons will this evening take into consideration the new Rules of Procedure. It has been decided that this business shall have precedence on all occasions on which it may be put upon the paper by the Government, until it is disposed of. The following is the first of the new rules, and, as it relates to the closure of debate, it is certain to lead to a long discussion:—

That at any time after a question has been proposed a motion may be made, if the consent of the Chair has been previously obtained, "That the question be now put." Such motion shall be put forthwith, and decided without amendment or debate. When the motion, "That the question be now put," has been carried, and the question consequent thereon has been decided, any further motion may be made (the consent of the Chair having been previously obtained) which may be requisite to bring to a decision any question already proposed from the Chair; and also if a clause be then under consideration, a motion may be made (with the consent of the Chair as aforesaid) that the question, that the clause stand part, or be added to the Bill be now put. Such motions shall be put forthwith, and decided without amendment or debate. Provided always that questions for the closure of debate shall not be decided in the affirmative, if a division be taken, unless it shall appear by the numbers declared from the Chair, that such motion was supported by more than 200 members, or was opposed by less than 40 members, and supported by more than 100 members.

Among the amendments to this rule which have been put on the paper are several by Mr. Parnell. He proposes to except from the operation of the rule "any question arising on any Bill for increasing the stringency of the criminal law in Ireland," and also "Votes on Supply." He will move to leave out the words "if the consent of the Chair has been previously obtained." He intends also to move that "the closure shall not be applied unless the question has been discussed in the whole House for six hours, or in Committee for one hour, and has been replied to by at least four members." He will also propose to allow, if in the House two hours, and if in Committee half an hour, to debate whether the question shall be put. Mr. Parnell will also ask the House to raise the number of members by which the closure can be imposed by simple majority to 300. Mr. Wodehouse has put down an amendment fixing the requisite majority at not less than two to one. Mr. Gedge will propose that the closure should only be carried when supported by "a majority which consisted of not less than sixty members, and which bore to the minority the proportion of three or more to two." Colonel Nolan proposes an amendment whereby the motion for putting the question should be made by a member of the Government, and in the same paragraph he would leave out the words "if the consent of the Chair has been previously obtained."

Connected with the closure rule are proposals for altering the sittings of the House and interrupting debate. The House at present meets at four o'clock on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, and at twelve o'clock on Wednesdays. It adjourns at six o'clock on Wednesday night; but on the other days of the week its hour of adjournment is unfixed and uncertain. Towards the close of the session what are called morning sittings are adopted. The hour of meeting then is two o'clock (except on Wednesdays), and the sitting is suspended from seven till nine and then resumed, still without any fixed hour for ending. The Government are to ask the House to meet from two till half-past twelve, with an interval of an hour and a half—namely, from 7.30 till 9. Hitherto counts were apt to happen at nine o'clock; but now it is proposed that a quarter of an hour's grace shall be given before the Speaker counts. At present any member can, at question-time, move the adjournment of the House in order to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, provided thirty-nine other members will support him. The Government propose to dispense with this condition, and to require instead that the Speaker's consent shall be obtained, so that he, instead of the mover, will be constituted the judge as to whether the subject proposed to be discussed really does relate to a "definite matter of urgent public importance." The scheme contemplates the appointment of three Standing Committees similar in constitution to those appointed experimentally in 1883. There are several minor provisions designed with the view of simplifying or dispensing with certain formalities which, while they have ceased to serve any purpose, involve loss of time; and there is a proposal that after Whitsuntide private members' Bills shall be so arranged on the Order Book as to give priority to those most advanced.

It is stated that the leaders of the Opposition will propose that the Committee stages of all Bills, except Money Bills and Bills effecting changes in the constitution, shall be delegated to Standing Committees.

THE DILLON DEFENCE FUND.

The subscriptions to the Dillon Defence Fund now amount to nearly £400. It is headed this morning by the Roman Catholic Bishops of Clonfert and Achonry, and the *Freeman's Journal* publishes a number of letters approving of it.

ARREST OF AN AUSTRIAN OFFICER IN RUSSIA.

A Central News telegram from Vienna says:—The *Novoe Vremya* publishes a despatch from Moscow stating that an Austrian colonel, who is without his passport or strategic card, had been detained there. The journal expresses the opinion that he is an Austrian spy.

DEATH OF THE RECTOR OF SNELSTON.

The Reverend Alexander J. Ross, D.D., rector of Snelston, died in London on Friday evening, after a very short illness. He was a well-known Presbyterian minister in Brighton a generation ago, where he was the friend of Robertson and of Lady Byron, and was afterwards vicar of St. Philip's, Stepney, to which he was appointed by Bishop Tait, who ordained him when he left the Scotch communion. Dr. Ross was essentially a literary and social man, with a large knowledge of books, though not a voluminous writer, and wide sympathies with men which no want of courage hindered him from expressing. He will be much missed by a wide circle of friends. The funeral will take place to-morrow at Highgate Old Cemetery at 3.45.

VOLUNTEER SCHOOLS OF ARMS.

An Association of Schools of Arms of Metropolitan Volunteers has been formed, with the approval of Major-General Gipps, commanding the Home District, who has consented to be patron of the society; the Earl of Wemyss accepting the post of president. A committee has been appointed, to which each school of arms sends a representative, and the chairman has been elected *ex officio* a member of the executive council of the Royal Military Tournament, which has offered two bronze medals, with £5 attached to each—one for bayonet *v.* bayonet, the other for bayonet *v.* sword, to be competed for at an assault-arms to be held by the association at St. James's Hall on the 3rd of March, when there will also be a gymnastic display by the various schools. The Field-Marshal Commanding-in-Chief has signified his intention of being present and distributing the bronze medals and prizes.

THE GERMAN ELECTIONS.

The German elections take place to-day. A good many results, including those of the Berlin constituencies, will be known this evening, as the urns are closed at 6 P.M.; but the general opinion is (the *Times*' correspondent says) that the relative strength of the various parties will not be very much altered. It is probable that the Social Democrats will gain a few more seats; but the Clericals, who sway the balance of power in the Reichstag, are likely to return without any great diminution of their ranks. This being so, the Chancellor's only hope is that they will be divided in their political opinions, as far as the Army Bill, at least, is concerned; and this they are nearly certain to be, so that, no matter how the elections result, the passing of the Septennate is almost looked upon as a foregone conclusion.

ATTEMPT TO SUPPRESS AN IRISH MEETING.

The Government notice proclaiming a meeting of the Brooke tenantry, which was to have been held at Coolgreany yesterday, resulted in the holding of six meetings, instead of the one originally intended; Mr. John Dillon, M.P., as usual, being chief amongst those who defied the Government. Mr. Dillon and Mr. John Redmond, M.P., drove about on a car, and were pursued by police on another vehicle; but at a sharp turn of the road Mr. Dillon gave his pursuers the slip, and drove back to Castletown, where the first meeting was held. Mounted constables were also dodged in a like manner. Six meetings were held. Sir John Esmonde, M.P., rode about in hunting-dress at the head of a flying column of horsemen. Later in the day a meeting was held at Coolgreany, when the main body of police was away; the few constables present contenting themselves with taking the names of some of those present. Mr. Dillon, in the course of his speech, announced the result of the Burnley election, and said he was convinced that they would shortly be able to turn out the present base, contemptible Tory Government.

RIOT IN THE UNITED STATES.

A Reuter's telegram from New York says:—An attempt to run the street-cars in Cambridge, Massachusetts, yesterday resulted in a riot. A mob of about two thousand men assembled along the track and wrecked several cars. The police on attempting to restore order were stoned and otherwise maltreated. Several arrests, however, were effected. It is stated that the roof of a tenement along the tramway line on the South Boston-road has been converted into a regular arsenal of stones, with which the rioters will attack the cars, should running by night be recommenced.

"A GRAVE POST OFFICE SCANDAL."

Mr. J. Henniker Heaton mentions, in a letter to the *Times*, that the Government are being defrauded of £2,000 per week by the system of posting English parcels and letters in France and Belgium for England; and he appends a communication from a correspondent in Antwerp, who writes:—"A well-known London firm sent a man over here to post patterns of cloth to all parts of Great Britain, to the number of 80,000. The man in charge told me that after paying carriage here, his expenses, and enjoying a two weeks' holiday, he saved £30." Mr. Henniker Heaton is to ask in the House of Commons this afternoon whether the Postmaster-General will afford him an opportunity on an early day to move a resolution relative to postal contracts.

MYSTERIOUS DEATH.

Dr. George Danford Thomas held an inquest at the Hampstead Workhouse this morning concerning the death of Mr. James Jones, aged thirty-six, a gentleman of independent means, lately living at 1, Gayton-crescent, Hampstead, who was found dead early on Friday morning last near the Finchley-road Station of the Metropolitan and St. John's-wood Railway. From the evidence it appeared that the deceased, who was unmarried, suffered much from rheumatic gout. He had had some family troubles lately, and had been deceived as to an investment. He, however, appeared cheerful in mind. Last Thursday he left home to go to the Hampstead library, but did not return. Early on Friday he was found lying dead upon the railway near the Finchley-road Station, his head being very severely injured. His watch had stopped at 10.55. The jury returned a verdict that the deceased was found dead, but that there was not sufficient evidence to show how he came upon the line.

The Baroness Burdett-Coutts, president of the Westminster Committee of the Women's Jubilee Memorial to her Majesty for the borough of Westminster, will attend a meeting, to be held this evening in the Town Hall, Victoria-street, in furtherance of the object.

The Queen has been pleased to approve the appointment of Lord Balfour of Burleigh to be a Lord in Waiting to her Majesty, in the room of the Earl of Onslow, now Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Lord Haddington was removed on Saturday afternoon from the farmhouse of Eccles Tofts, Berwickshire, where he has been since the severe accident in the hunting-field on the 1st of February, to Langton House, near Duns, the seat of his brother, the Honourable Robert B. Hamilton. Lord Haddington is progressing favourably, though he is still very weak.

Colonel Brookfield, M.P. for the Rye Division of Sussex, is confined to his room through illness, but is progressing towards recovery.

A very faint comet was discovered by Mr. Barnard, of Nashville, Tennessee, on the 10th inst., in Right Ascension 8 h. 4 min., North Polar distance 106 deg. 10 min. The comet was moving rapidly in a north-westerly direction.

There will be a Special Communion Service in the Chapel Royal, Savoy, at eight o'clock to-morrow morning, on the occasion of the departure for Egypt of the Reverend R. Raikes Bromage, who has undertaken work in the Gordon College, Cairo.

Lady Cardwell died last night at her residence, 74, Eaton-square. She was the youngest daughter of the late Charles Stuart Parker, of Fairlie, Ayrshire. She was born in 1814, and married in 1838 to Edward (afterwards Viscount) Cardwell. She survived her husband only a year.

Mr. Montagu Williams was entertained by his friends at the Bar on Saturday evening, in the Holborn Restaurant, at a complimentary dinner in celebration of his appointment as a metropolitan police magistrate. Sir E. Clarke, Solicitor-General, presided.

The opening dinner of the National Conservative Club will be given on the 5th of March. The Duke of Abercorn will preside, and amongst those who will be present are: the Prime Minister, the Lord Chancellor, the Lord Chancellor of Ireland, the Home Secretary, the Secretary for India, the Postmaster-General, the Attorney-General, the Under-Secretary for the Colonies, and many members of both Houses.

TRADE AND FINANCE.

The monetary requirements of the open market having been to some extent satisfied during the early part of the week by advances obtained from the Bank of England, the demand for loans on Saturday was less active, although the rate was tolerably firm at 3 to 3½ per cent., while discount was quoted 3¼ per cent., with a moderate supply of bills offering. The Bank of England received £61,000 in gold, of which £41,000 was from Buenos Ayres and £20,000 from the Continent. To-morrow the Great Northern Railway dividend is payable and there is an instalment of £30 per cent. due on the last Argentine loan.

The stock markets on Saturday were in general steady, and in Foreign Government bonds in particular there was an advance. People expect that a majority for the German Army Bill will be elected to-day, and that in consequence the prospects of peace will improve. At all events, alarmist rumours will cease to circulate for the sake of influencing the voters. This alone, it is thought, will calm apprehensions and lead to an improvement in prices. Besides, the fortnightly Settlement will begin here on Wednesday; and as there is a large speculative account open for the fall in Foreign bonds, there is a desire on the part of some operators to buy back. The buying on Saturday was small; but in the stagnant state of the markets that has prevailed for some weeks a very small purchase or sale affects quotations. Jobbers find it difficult to get rid of stock, and therefore have as little as possible on their books. Consequently, in self-protection they put up prices when buying begins and put them down when selling sets in.

The return of the New York Banks issued on Saturday shows that the demands for money during the past week have been active, the loans and discounts having increased £360,000. The specie has diminished £380,000, and the legal tenders are £300,000 less, making a reduction in the cash of £680,000, the total being now £22,680,000, or £3,090,000 more than the legal requirement of 25 per cent. of the net deposits. The circulation has decreased £20,000, and the net deposits are £200,000 less.

The shareholders of the Metropolitan District Railway Company have wisely approved the recommendation of the directors to apply to Parliament for power to refer all questions relating to through-bookings, fares, and facilities to the travelling public in dispute between the two underground companies to the arbitration of the Railway Commissioners. The Bill has not yet received the sanction of the Metropolitan Company; but as the chairman of that company is on the Continent, and the negotiations are being carried on with one of his colleagues, there is reason to hope that counsels of wisdom and common-sense will prevail. The ceaseless litigation which has for years past been going on between the two companies is nothing short of a public scandal, and it is quite time that the shareholders forced their representatives to put an end to it. The legal expenses incurred in the past two or three years have been enormous, and there is no doubt that, but for them, the shareholders would have received a considerable addition to their dividends. But the question is not only one affecting the shareholders, it is one which affects very greatly the convenience of the travelling public. The Inner Circle line from the Mansion House Station to Aldgate, which cost a fabulous amount of money, was, it was supposed, to put an end to all the disputes between the joint-owners; but it has in reality proved an exceedingly discordant element. The rivalry of the two companies is such that people travelling to and from the City are seriously inconvenienced, and the shareholders, as we have said, suffer in the loss of dividends. It is quite time that this suicidal policy was put an end to.

A few days since we recorded the fact that the Universal Marine Insurance Company had decided to adopt to a limited extent the policy of mutual insurance—that is to say, that insurers should share in the profits made. This principle has been in force for some time among the China companies, with the result that the insurance business of Hong Kong and Shanghai has been all but lost by the English companies. The action taken by the Universal Company was, we understand, the subject of a conference of underwriters and representatives of Lloyd's held on Friday at the offices of the London Assurance Corporation, at which a committee was appointed to report upon the desirability or otherwise of adopting the mutual principle generally.

The India Council last week offered for tender 30 lakhs of rupees in bills upon the Presidency Treasuries and in telegraphic transfers, and it sold only 16 lakhs, all in telegraphic transfers. Applicants at 1s. 5 29-32d. per rupee were allotted the full amounts applied for. Subsequently, by special contract, the Council sold 2¼ lakhs in bills upon Calcutta and Bombay at 1s. 5 27-32d. per rupee, and 4 lakhs in telegraphic transfers on Calcutta at 1s. 5 29-32d. per rupee: altogether 6¼ lakhs, raising the total sales to 22¼ lakhs. The previous week 36 lakhs were sold by tender, from which it would appear that the demand for remittance is not so active as it was then. On the other hand, it is to be noted that the price is maintained. A week ago the bills were allotted at 1s. 5 13-16d. per rupee and the transfers at 1s. 5 5d. per rupee. In both cases the prices last week were a thirty-second of a penny per rupee higher than the week before. Although, then, the amounts sold are less, the price has been well maintained and seems to show that, though the demand for remittance is not quite so active for the moment, the falling-off is merely temporary.

We have received the ninth edition of the "Companies Acts, 1862 to 1883," by Anthony Pulbrook. (Effingham Wilson.) This little work is so well known as hardly to need a notice, and the fact that it is now in its ninth edition shows that it has been found useful. It gives the Companies Acts of 1862 to 1883, the Stannaries Act of 1869, the Life Insurance Companies Acts of 1870 and 1872, and the other Acts relating to joint-stock companies, with analytical references and a copious index, and much useful information relating to the rules and forms, and practical hints on the formation and management of a company.

THE UNIVERSITY CREWS.

The current month has not been favourable to the rowing fortunes of the Cambridge University Boat Club. They have been waiting since the early part of the term for Muttelbury to recover from a strain and to take his seat. He was expected to be able to do so by the middle of February, at latest; but the end of the month has all but arrived, and it is now announced that there is little or no hope of his being able to row at all this term. Walmsley, another of last year's crew, is also unable to row, under doctor's orders; and, thirdly, Fairbairn is laid up, but it is hoped only temporarily so. Meantime Flower, one of last year's crew, who hitherto had not been re-enlisted, has been able to join the boat. Maturin, of Pembroke, a new man, has been in and out of the boat, and at present the crew is made up without him. Orford, of King's, the most promising of all the new men, is also laid up, at all events for a time. Here are four of the best heavy-weights out of the boat (Fairbairn, Orford, Walmsley, and Muttelbury), and the two last-named seem hopelessly lost for the term. Altogether the Cambridge University Boat Club are so far decidedly out of luck. These various defections have caused repeated changes, and have effectually prevented the crew from obtaining their usual amount of practice over the deeper water of the Ely course. There are still five weeks of work left (dating from Saturday last), and this period is quite enough to enable any crew to fall together, if they have in them any of the necessary ingredients towards uniformity. The stroke set by Bristowe is good enough; there is plenty of room for improvement in Landale at No. 7; but of the other men now rowing no one seems to be much better adapted for the seat than he, unless it be Hannen; and the latter is too light for the post, especially with a stroke who only scales about the same weight (11 st.). The crew have been rowing in a racing-boat for some time past. The curves of the Cam at all times make it difficult to sit a light boat, compared to rowing on straight and deep water; and this drawback, coupled with the bad luck which has caused such repeated changes, will account for a certain amount of unsteadiness in the boat. The eight will reach Putney on or about the 9th of March. The order of rowing on the last three days of last week was: McKenna (Trinity Hall), bow; Hannen (Trinity Hall), 2; Gardner (Emmanuel), 3; Alexander (Jesus), 4; Flower (Clare), 5; Capron (First Trinity), 6; Landale (Trinity Hall), 7; and Bristowe (Trinity Hall), stroke. If Fairbairn and Orford can rejoin, two of the above will have to give way—probably Nos. 3 and 4. The chances are that both of the two required heavy-weights will be rowing again by the end of the month, at all events Fairbairn. When once the eight can be settled we shall expect to see a decided and probably rapid improvement in the go of the boat.

Oxford have been fortunately free from *contretemps* such as those which have so hampered the Cantab president. Only two old oars at the most are available this season, and they are rowing Nos. 5 and 6. Titherington, of Queen's, after some weeks of schooling at No. 6, behind Frere, of Brasenose, has been moved to stroke—and his fogleman has left the crew altogether. The crew are made up thus:—Holland (Brasenose), bow; Nickalls (Magdalen), No. 2; Cross (Hertford), No. 3; Parker (Brasenose), No. 4; Maclean jun. (New), No. 5; Wethered (Christ Church), No. 6; Williams (Corpus), No. 7; and Titherington, stroke. Rhodes, of Brasenose, is odd man, and on Saturday (as on sundry other days) he took Cross's seat at No. 3. Except as regards choice and feasibility of change between these two last-named oarsmen, the crew seem to be pretty well settled. They began to use a light boat on Tuesday and sat her fairly for a first essay. The men are rowing fairly together, and Titherington's stroke is promising as regards length and recovery—a little more grip of the water at the beginning is wanted. There is a good deal of the traditional swing, and a clean feather. As regards strength, Oxford are at present a good deal heavier than Cambridge; nearly 4 lb. per man more in the scale. When, however, Fairbairn and Orford can return, they will import just about as much extra weight as will make up the difference at present existing between the two teams. Oxford will spend a few days as guests at Abney House (Mr. Hammersley's) at the beginning of March, for practice over the Marlow water before going to the tideway. The coaching at Oxford has been chiefly carried on by Kindersley, an ex-president; and at Cambridge by various old oars, but lately by Donaldson, of Third Trinity. The latter has never rowed in a university crew, but has been asked to do so more than once; doctor's orders have always limited his rowing to college and Henley racing; but, as far as experience goes, he has seen quite enough rowing to make him a very competent coach. If he can have a turn of luck and can settle his crew with one or more of the absent heavy weights, he will be able to produce a very creditable crew by the middle of March; but at present luck and strength are undoubtedly on the side of Oxford.

The race will be rowed earlier than usual this year as regards the relative date of Easter—namely, on Saturday, March 26, about 3 P.M. The new moon falls on the evening of the 24th; so that for once the race will be rowed on a real spring-tide, instead of on the normal neaps which must inevitably attend any fixture of a Saturday before Passion Week (the old customary day). Spring-tides in the Thames are at their best about a day and a half after new or full moon—just about the 26th. If, therefore, there is no head-wind and the race starts on the best of the tide, the time this year should be shorter than that of any previous University match, though not necessarily faster than some of the recorded practice times of former years, when good tides and smooth water have been taken advantage of for a full-length trial. Hammersmith Bridge is still in an incomplete and unsatisfactory state; but since it was safely passed last year, we may hope for similar success this time. It will, as before, tend to make the Surrey station much the better at this part of the course.

SHROVE TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22nd, PANCAKE DAY. HOW TO MAKE PANCAKES. —If Pancakes are to be made as delicious as they ought to be, the following ingredients must be used in making them:—To half a pound of Flour, add two large teaspoonfuls of BORWICK'S BAKING POWDER—without this they cannot be well made—seasoned with a little salt. Mix these in a dry state, and add an egg beaten up, with ¼-pint of milk. Fry at once, with butter or lard. N.B. Tell your Grocer you must have BORWICK'S.—[Advrt.]

THE MORNING PAPERS.

THE BURNLEY ELECTION.

The *Times* does not wish to minimize the importance of Mr. Slagg's achievement; but it was very well known, it observes, that the personal popularity of Mr. Rylands largely contributed to the Unionist victory last summer, and, in view of the very narrow majority then obtained, there was not much probability of holding the seat when a Conservative was opposed to a Liberal, and when the immediate danger of Mr. Gladstone's schemes had passed away. The Unionists, nevertheless, did exceedingly well.

The *Daily News* considers the Burnley election a brilliant success for the party which advocates a genuine and patriotic unity throughout the dominions of the Queen. It should stimulate Home Rulers to increased efforts in bringing home to the minds and consciences of Englishmen the true meaning of Ireland's just demand, which is also England's great opportunity. "The legitimate and excusable ignorance which was the principal cause of our defeat last summer is being rapidly dispelled. Before many months are over it will have vanished like a dream, under the influence of the Home Rule Union and other valuable agencies for the dissemination of accurate knowledge."

The *Morning Advertiser* says that the return of Mr. Slagg may be explained without giving to it the colour of an event which shows that the country is changing its mind. It will no doubt be paraded as such by the mouthpieces of the Gladstonian policy, but these are just now in the mood to make the most of small mercies.

HOW TO MAKE THE LAW RESPECTED IN IRELAND.

The *Daily Telegraph* acquits the Government of blame for the law's delay in the Dublin courts; but it holds them responsible for the failure of the police in particular evictions. It may be difficult to put down a mob in the crowded streets of a city or town, for the rioters are mixed up with the innocent citizens; but where a crowd collects on a remote hillside in order to obstruct an eviction all these have come with the intention to break the law. At present the sheriffs and the police endeavour to effect ejectments by stealth, and they retire when confronted by a stone-throwing mob. The more rational plan would be to advertise the intended operation, and to warn all persons to avoid the place, for the police if assailed would have to attack their assailants. One such proclamation firmly followed up would cause the Plan of Campaign to collapse like a house of cards. It will be well for Lord Salisbury to show, before he asks for new statutes, that he has executed the laws already existing.

THE PROPOSED NEW RULES.

The *Times* remarks that the proposed new rule for closing debate introduces two material changes: it removes the initiative from the Speaker, and it dispenses with the appeal to "the evident sense of the House." It has been found that the Speaker's regard for impartiality renders him slow to set the machinery of closure in motion, while his opportunities for ascertaining the evident sense of the House, when half the members may be in the lobbies or the library, are not remarkable. It is proposed that any member, at any time, may move "that the question be now put," subject to the previous consent of the Speaker, and that the decision shall be given at once without amendment or debate. The *Times* entertains much doubt whether the provision for obtaining the consent of the Chair is wise; it tends to throw upon the Speaker the same kind of responsibility which is now found to be too onerous for practical work. If, however, this restriction be withdrawn, some substitute for it must be devised; otherwise Mr. Biggar, Dr. Tanner, or Mr. Conybeare might occupy half the time of the House in calling for the closure and insisting upon dividing. It would probably be safe to intrust the duty to members of the Privy Council; though the mover and seconder of a motion might put in a claim for a similar privilege. The danger, however, of snap divisions cannot be left out of sight.

The *Standard* fears that Mr. Caine's amendment forbidding any member to speak for more than twenty minutes, unless he is a Privy Councillor or means to conclude with a motion, is too much of a self-denying ordinance to be passed by a House of Commons which, however disgusted for the time with the recent conduct of the Opposition, is still very tenacious of its liberties. If the first rule is passed in its integrity, the powers of obstruction ought to be seriously crippled, and if that is not sufficient to restore the efficiency of Parliament, the only alternative will be to discontinue all attempts at legislation which it is totally impossible to carry out, and for the Ministers of the day to content themselves with governing the country till the popular mind becomes thoroughly alive to the real nature of the situation. Then obstructionists will be dealt with in a different way.

The *Daily News* regards the adoption of the principle of the closure by the Conservative party as an act of public humiliation; but it is a kind of penance to which they must by this time have become accustomed. The *Daily News* never regarded the frothy declamation of the Conservatives upon the subject of what in 1882 they were pleased to call the "gag" as anything but a specimen of the factions nonsense which they talked upon almost every conceivable subject from 1880 to 1885. So far from being a check upon "freedom of debate," the closure is required to make debate possible, as distinguished from mere aimless loquacity.

OUR EMBARRASMENTS IN EGYPT.

The *Times*, in its remarks on the news from Egypt, observes that the miserable embarrassments in which we now find ourselves are the more provoking when we reflect that we owe them entirely to the infatuated mismanagement of Mr. Gladstone's Government. We might have simplified our own position, ensured the prosperity of Egypt, avoided national discredit and dishonour, saved large sums to the British taxpayer, and spared the lives of thousands of men, the victims of our vacillation. But under Mr. Gladstone's guidance opportunity after opportunity was wantonly flung away, and both Egypt and ourselves are now paying, and will long continue to pay, the penalty.

THE SITUATION IN EUROPE.

The *Standard* finds it difficult to believe that, if a Government majority is returned to the new Reichstag, the menace to European peace will thereby be averted. If the passing of the Army Bill were to have the effect of convincing the French people that they are merely wasting their money and squandering their energy in improving their army, strengthening their fortresses, and multiplying their warlike resources, since Germany is evidently determined always to keep pace with them in those respects, then one could understand the happy consequences likely to ensue from the Chancellor's triumph at the polls. But does any one believe that the French Government or the French people will be in any degree discouraged by a new Reichstag accepting the military septennate? However much Germany may arm, France will continue to arm also, in the hope either of outstripping its powerful neighbour or of being always ready to avail itself of any favourable occasion that may offer for assailing her. Even were Prince Bismarck in the heyday of life and energy it is hard to imagine that he would be willing to expose his country for an indefinite period to the trial whether France or Germany can suffer the larger load of taxation and military service. But, at his advanced age, the real parent of the unification of the Fatherland can scarcely participate without irri-

tation in the playing of a game that, to all appearance, is a losing one. A docile Reichstag and a somewhat larger army would not remove this objection. If Germany wants yet more soldiers, is it not in order that they may be used? Indeed, were there no other military Powers of consequence on the Continent save France and Germany, there is no doubt that the manifest determination of France to make itself stronger than Germany would, ere this, have been baffled by a peremptory summons from Berlin to desist from further armaments. But the extraordinary game of diplomatic skill that is still being played between Germany and Russia reminds us of the fact that there are other and most powerful military factors to be taken account of, besides the fighting capacity of Germany and the fighting capacity of France.

MODERN COMPOSERS OF CLASSICAL SONG.

At the Royal Institution, Albemarle-street, on Saturday, Mr. Carl Armbruster delivered the fifth and last of his course of lectures on "Modern Composers of Classical Song" before a large audience. The composers touched upon at this lecture were Adolf Jensen, Edouard Lassen, Franz von Holstein, Hector Berlioz, and Wagner; and valuable assistance by way of vocal illustration was given to Mr. Armbruster by Miss Pauline Cramer, soprano, and Mr. Herbert Thorndike, baritone. In particular, Jensen's "Marie," and Berlioz's "La Captive," the latter set to Victor Hugo's words, sung by Mr. Thorndike, and Wagner's "Schlaf ein, holdes Kind," sung by Miss Cramer, were loudly applauded. With regard to Jensen, the lecturer said that as a song composer he at first modelled himself in some degree upon Schumann; but later on developed greater independence. The characteristics of his work were melodious and charming, rich in colour, and tender in feeling and expression. Only about one-fourth of the songs composed by Lassen and Von Holstein could fairly lay claim to the title of "classical;" but the best compositions of the former were marked by melodiousness and appropriate accompaniments. Those of the latter were full of refinement and artistic tenderness, and his musical feeling would secure a lasting memory for his name. Turning next to Berlioz, he said that the execution of his songs was not perhaps so simple as it seemed; but the composer had carefully considered the nature and compass of the human voice, and his works were eminently "singable." The accompaniments were highly elaborate as a rule, and their character was quite as fine and poetical as the voice-parts. The number of Wagner's songs—apart from those in his operas—was even smaller than Berlioz's; but, regarding their character, there was little to be said except that they were masterpieces. In conclusion, the lecturer observed there was no doubt that in England instrumental music had vastly improved during the last ten or fifteen years; but no such improvement had taken place in respect to song. At the best concerts, where the highest classical instrumental music was heard and appreciated, the best places in the programme were often given to the most insipid and meaningless ditties; and what was most surprising was that the audiences, instead of expressing disapproval, generally applauded enthusiastically, while they sat cold and indifferent when, upon some extremely rare occasion, a singer who thought seriously about his or her profession sang a good classical song. The truth was that the best English modern composers had as yet written comparatively few songs, but preferred to labour in other directions.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

SONS.
CLARKE, Mrs. W. A., of Norwich, Feb. 17.
DUGDALE, wife of Rev. Sydney, at Crane-street, Salisbury, Feb. 17.
ELLIOTT, wife of Thomas, M.D., at Monson-place, Tunbridge Wells, Feb. 17.
FARNFIELD, Mrs. Herbert E., at Gresham-road, Brixton, S.W., Feb. 18.
HACK, Mrs. Sydney J., at Merrow, near Guildford, Feb. 17.
SUMNER, wife of Mr. Edmund, of Doctors'-commons, at The Knole, Eltham, Feb. 18.
WARDE, Mrs. Augustus W. F., at Ouray, Colorado, Jan. 24.
WATSON, Mrs. E. G., at Burlington-road, St. Stephen's-square, Feb. 18.

DAUGHTERS.

CROSS, Mrs. W. C., at Greenheys-road, Liverpool, Feb. 17.
FORDHAM, Mrs. Frederick, at Osbaldeston-road, Stoke Newington, N., Feb. 15.
MORGAN, Mrs. B. Ellis, of Aberystwith, Feb. 17 (twins).
MOUNTFORD, Mrs. Frederick G., at Devonshire-square, Bishopsgate, Feb. 19.
SEEDS, Mrs. J. M., at Glentil, Stanmore, Middlesex, Feb. 17.
TROTTER, wife of Rev. H. E., at Ardington Vicarage, Berks, Feb. 17.
WALKER, wife of Rev. James E., Curate-in-charge of All Saints', Bothen, at Stanley Villa, Stoke-on-Trent, Feb. 18.

MARRIAGES.

CORYTON—PARKER.—At the Parish Church, Cornwood, William, son of the late Mr. George E. Coryton, of Liss, Hants, to Evelyn A., daughter of Admiral George Parker, of Delamore, Devon, Feb. 15.
JONES—DEACON.—At the Parish Church, Hunsdon, Mr. Douglas Jones, of Shanghai, son of the late Captain Jones, 74th Regiment, to Florence, daughter of Mr. Albert Deacon, of Briggings Park, Hunsdon, Herts, Feb. 15.
WHITE-COOPER—MARTYN.—At the Parish Church of Long Melford, Suffolk, William G. O., son of the late Sir William White-Cooper, F.R.C.S., to Catherine C., daughter of Rev. Charles J. Martyn, R.D., Rector of Long Melford, and Hon. Chaplain to Her Majesty the Queen, Feb. 17.
WILLAN—WILLAN.—At St. Peter's, Aubourn, near Lincoln, Mr. Robert Willan, of Melbourne, Colony of Victoria, to Ada E., daughter of Rev. F. M. Willan, M.A., Vicar of Aubourn, Feb. 17.

DEATHS.

BREWSTER, Mr. Edwin F., late of White Noddy Hall, Essex, at Fellows-road, Hampstead, aged 68, Feb. 17.
BRUCE, Henry N. D., son of Rear-Admiral James M., aged 29, Jan. 13.
BUTT, Venerable Archdeacon Henry F., M.R.C.S., at Blenheim, N.Z., aged 70, Dec. 20.
ELSE, Mr. John, late of Salto, B.O., at Bedford, aged 51, Feb. 13.
FRYER, Marianne, wife of Mr. Charles E., Inspector of Fisheries, Board of Trade, at Merton-road, Wimbledon, Feb. 16.
GASKIN, Rev. Thomas, M.A., F.R.S., at Pittville Lawn, Cheltenham, aged 76, Feb. 17.
HALE, Sarah O., widow of Rev. William, Rector of Claverton, at Raby-place, Bath, aged 84, Feb. 17.
HURT, Cecilia N., daughter of the late Rev. John F., formerly rector of Bilborough and Strelley, county Notts, at Boulogne-sur-Mer, aged 37, Feb. 14.
KNIGHT, Caroline A. S., widow of Mr. Matthew, of Portville, Bridport, at Montpelier-terrace, Swansea, aged 82, Feb. 17.
LONDON, Cyprian H. B., infant son of Captain F. W. B., West Riding Regiment, C. and T. Staff, at Limassol, Cyprus, Feb. 2.
MACKINTOSH, Margaret, widow of Rev. Simon, D.D., of Aberdeen, at Windsor-road, Ealing, W., Feb. 13.
MEW, Mr. William B., of Polars, near Newport, I.W., at Ventnor, aged 66, Feb. 14.
PASTEUR, Elizabeth, widow of M. Charles E., at Avenue Victor Hugo, aged 88, Feb. 16.
TURNER, Mr. John T., at Littabourne, Pilton, Barnstaple, aged 79, Feb. 16.
TURNER, Mary M., daughter of the late Mr. Samuel, of Blackwall and Clapham-rise, at Angell-road, Brixton, Feb. 17.
WYLIE, Mr. William M., F.R.S.A., at Headington, Oxford, aged 76, Feb. 16.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

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

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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, 5 p. 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 p. ct. 1900 ..	107	109
Do. 4½ p. ct. ..	102	104
Do. ditto (June & Dec) ..	101	103
Natal 4½ p. ct. (Mar. & Sept.) ..	101	103
Do. 5 p. ct. 1900 ..	104	106
New South Wales, 1888 to 1894 ..	101	107
Do. 5 p. ct. 1895 to 1902 ..	103	114
Do. 2 p. ct. 1872 to 1893 ..	103	107
New Zealand 6 p. ct. 1891 ..	105	108
Do. 5 p. ct. 1904 ..	110	112
Do. 5 p. ct. Consols ..	102	104
Do. 6 p. ct. March 15, 1891 ..	107	109
Do. ditto (June & Dec) ..	105	108
Do. 4½ p. ct. 5-30, 1879-190 ..	—	—
Do. ditto 10-40, 1888-1913 ..	101	103
Do. ditto 1889 ..	101	103
Quebec (Province of) 5 p. c. 1901 ..	108	110
Do. ditto ditto 1906 ..	108	110
Queensland 6 p. ct. 1891-1896 ..	105	118
Do. 4 p. ct. 1913-1915 ..	98	100
South Australian 6 p. c. 1891-1900 ..	—	—
Do. ditto 1901-1913 ..	115	130
Do. 5 p. ct. 1911-1920 ..	106	116
Do. 4 p. ct. 1929 ..	100	102
Do. ditto 1916 ..	100	102
Straits Settlements Gov. 4½ p. c.	103	105
Tasmanian 6 p. ct. 1895 ..	110	115
Do. 4 p. ct. 1 July, 1908 ..	99	101
Victoria 6 p. ct. 1891 ..	106	108
Do. 5 p. ct. 1894 ..	105	107
Do. 4 p. ct. 1899-1901 ..	101½	102½
Western Australian 4½ p. ct. ..	105	107
Do. ditto 4 p. ct. ..	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 p. ct. Stock Ins.	93½	94½
Do. 3½ p. ct. Stock, 1882 ..	—	—
Queensland Stock Ins. ..	99	100
S. Australia (Loans of 1882-3-4) ..	100	101
Victoria 4 p. ct. Railway Loan	102½	103½
Do. 1881, Inscribed Stock ..	102½	103½
Victoria 4 p. ct. Loans of 1882,	104	105
1883, and 1884, do. 1903 ..	103½	104½
W. Australia Loan of £525,000 Stk.	103½	104½

AMERICAN SECURITIES.

Massachusetts 5 p. ct. 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. MB	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 ..	43	49
St. Louis Bridge 1st Pref. Stock	104	106
Ditto and Preferred Stock ..	52	54
Do. 1st Mortgage Gold Bonds	132	137
Union Pacific Railway 1st Mort.	116	118
Union Pacific Land Grant ..	100	105

STERLING BONDS.

Allegheny Valley, 1910 ..	131	133
Atlantic First Leased Lines Rental	—	—
Trust, 4 p. ct. M. Debts ..	84	86
Baltimore and Ohio 6 p. c., 1902	120	122
Ditto 6 p. ct. 1910 ..	124	126
Ditto 5 p. ct. 1877 ..	110	112
Memphis and Ohio ..	116	119
N.Y.C. & Hudson River 6 p. ct.	119	121
Pennsylvania General Mortgage	125	128
Ditto 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 p. ct. ..	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.	106	108
East Indian, Annuit A ..	22½	23
Ditto Annuit B, £1 per annum	24½	24½
Ditto Def. Annuit Cap. Guar.	—	—
4 p. ct. ..	116	119
Do. Irredeem. Deb. Stk. 4½ p. c.	119	121
Great Indian Peninsula Guarant.	—	—
teed Five per Cent. ..	144	147
Do. 4 p. ct. Deb. Stock ..	107	109
Hamilton & N. W. 1st M. 6 p. c.	106	108
Madras guaranteed 5 p. ct. ..	125	127
Ditto ditto 4½ p. ct. ..	118	122
Ditto ditto 4½ p. ct. ..	112	116
Melbourne and Hobson's Bay	—	—
United 5 p. ct. Bonds ..	107	109
M. of Canada Sterling 1st Mort.	—	—
gage ..	100	102
Do. (Con.) 5 p. ct. 1st Mort	98	100
Nizam's State Railway Guarant.	—	—
teed 5 p. ct. Shares ..	106	108
N. of Canada 6 p. c. Pref. Stock	55	60
Ditto 5 p. ct. 1st Mortgage	105	107
Ditto 3rd Pref. Bonds A and B	94	96
Ditto North. Exten. 6 p. c. ..	104	105
Ditto ditto 6 p. c. Impr. Mort.	104	105
Ditto 4 p. ct. Deb. Stock ..	82	84
Ont. & Quebec 5 p. c. Perp. Deb. St.	109	110
Oude & Rohilkundg. 5 p. ct. ..	125	127
Ditto 4 p. ct. Deb. Stock ..	106	108
St. John and Maine ..	30	33
Scinde, Punjab, & Delhi 5 p. c.	—	—
South Indian guar. 5 p. ct. ..	125	127
Ditto 4½ p. ct. Deb. Stock	114	116
Mahratta Guar. 4 p. c. till 1889	101	103
Ditto 4 p. ct. Deb. Stock	106	107
Tasmanian Main Line Debenture	—	—
4 p. ct. Stock ..	84	88
Toronto, Grey, and Bruce 4 p. ct.	83½	84½
Wellington, Grey, and Bruce 7	—	—
per cent. Bonds, 1st Mortgage	98	100

BRITISH RAILWAYS.

East London Consolidated ..	9	11
Furness Consolidated ..	103	106
Glasgow and South-Western Con.	101	103
Hull, Barnsley, and West Riding	—	—
Junction Shares ..	17	18
London, Tilbury, & Southend Co.	135	139
Mersey ..	6	8
North London Consolidated ..	178	183
Rhymney ..	155	160

RAILWAYS.—DEBENTURE STOCK.

Caledonian 4 p. ct. ..	116	118
East London 6 p. ct. ..	140	150
Ditto 5 p. ct. ..	110	120
Ditto 6 p. ct. 1874 ..	90	110
Ditto 6 p. ct. 1875 ..	60	90
Glasgow and S. West. 4 p. ct. ..	114	116
Great Eastern 4 p. ct. ..	116	118
Ditto A 5 p. ct. ..	142	144
Ditto B 67 redm., 5 p. c.	132	134
Ditto 4½ p. ct. ..	129	131
Great Northern 4 p. ct. ..	118	120
Great Western 4 p. ct. ..	118	120
Ditto 4½ p. ct. ..	122	124
Ditto 5 p. ct. ..	132	134
Lancashire and York, 4 p. ct.	117	119
London & Blackwall, 4½ p. ct.	120	122
London and Brighton, 4 p. ct.	115	117
Ditto Perpetual 4½ p. ct. ..	129	131
London & Chatham Arb. ½ p. ct.	124	126
Ditto ditto B 4½ p. ct. ..	123	125
Ditto ditto 4 p. ct. ..	108	110
Ditto ditto 1883 ..	108	110
London & North-Western 4 p. ct.	110	121
London & South-Western 4 p. ct.	118	120
Ditto ditto B 4 p. ct. ..	112	114
Ditto ditto 3½ p. ct. ..	102	104
London, Tilbury & 4 p. ct. ..	114	116
Manch. & Sheffield 4½ p. ct. ..	128	130
Metropolitan 4 p. ct. ..	115	117
Ditto 4½ p. ct. ..	126	128
Ditto 3½ p. ct. ..	98	100
Metropolitan District 6 p. ct.	157	160
Ditto 4 p. ct. ..	106	108
Midland 4 p. ct. ..	118	120
North British 4 p. ct. ..	115	117
Do. E. P. and D. B. 5 p. ct. ..	—	—
North-Eastern 4 p. ct. ..	118	120
Ditto 4½ p. ct. ..	130	132
North London 4½ p. ct. ..	131	133
North Staffordshire 4½ p. ct. ..	121	123
South-Eastern Perp. 4 p. ct. ..	117	119
Ditto ditto 5 p. ct. ..	142	144
Taff Vale 4 p. ct. ..	110	113

FOREIGN RAILWAYS.

Antwerp and Rotterdam ..	21	23
Bahia and San Francisco, g. 7 p. c.	22½	23½
Brazilian Imperial Central Bahia	21½	22
Ditto 6 p. ct. Debenture Stock	111	113
Buenos Ayres Great Southern ..	158	160
Ditto Extension ..	14½	14½
Ditto 5 p. ct. Debenture Stock	118	120
Buenos Ayres and Ensenada Port	8	9
Ditto 8 p. ct. Preference ..	13½	14½
Ditto 5 p. ct. Deb. Stock	103	110
Buenos Ayres and Pacific Pref.	23½	24½
Buenos Ayres and Rosario Ord.	138	141
Ditto ditto 7 p. c. Pref. ..	14½	14½
Ditto ditto 5 p. c. Deb. Stock	112	114
Central Argentine Limited ..	168	170
Ditto 6 p. ct. Debent. Stock	137	140
C. Uruguay of Montevideo, Lim.	11	11½
Do. Perm. 6 p. c. Deb. Stock	128	130
Conde d'Eu, Lim., g. 7 p. ct.	15	16
Copapo ..	38	42
Dutch Rhenish ..	16½	17½
Ditto New ..	4	6
Ditto ditto 1872 ..	½	1
East Argentine, Lim., g. 7 p. ct.	101	103
Ditto 6 p. ct. Deb. Stock ..	111	113
Great Western of Brazil g. 7 p. c.	19	20
Ditto 6 p. ct. Deb. Stock ..	113	115
Imp. Brazilian, Natal, and N. Cruz,	6½	7½
Lima, Limited ..	6	6½
Namur and Liège 14½ p. annum	11½	12½
Ditto 6 p. ct. Preference ..	25	28
N.-W. Uruguay 6 p. ct. 1st Pref	67	69
Ditto, ditto, 5 p. ct. 2nd Pref	45	47
Ottoman (Smyrna to Aidin) ..	11½	12
Prov. Orel-Vitebsk g. 5 p. ct.	17	18
Recife and Sao Francisco g. ..	101	105
Riga and Dünaberg ..	14½	15½
Royal Sardinian ..	10	10½
Ditto Preference ..	10½	11½
Royal Swedish ..	3½	3½
Ditto Preference ..	3½	3½
Sambre and Meuse ..	9½	10½
Ditto 5½ p. ct. Preference	11½	12
San Paulo Brazilian guar. 7½ ..	40	41
Ditto 5½ p. c. Debenture Stock	130	132
Smyrna and Cassaba, Limited ..	23½	23½
Ditto 7 p. ct. Preference ..	25½	26½
Southern Brazilian Rio Grande	—	—
Do Sul Guaranteed 7 p. ct.	21½	22
Varna ..	2½	3½
West Flanders ..	10½	11½
Ditto 5½ p. ct. Preference ..	11½	12½
West. of Buenos Ayres 6 p. c. Bds	110	112
Do. do. 5 p. c. Mort. Deb.	99	100

LAND COMPANIES.

Canada Company ..	84	87
Canada North-West Land ..	2½	2½
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
Ditto Deferred ..	11	12
Cuba, Limited ..	11	11½
Ditto 10 p. ct. Preference ..	18	19
Eastern 4 p. ct. Debent. Stock	101	103
Eastern Exten. 6 p. ct. Debent.	104	107
Great Northern of Copenhagen ..	13½	13½
Indo-European, Limited ..	34	35
London P. Brazilian, 6 p. c. Deb.	100	103
Reuter's, Limited ..	6½	7½
Submarine ..	190	200
Ditto Scrip ..	—	—
West India and Panama 1st Pref.	8½	9
Western Union of U.S. 1 M. Bonds	123	127

ADVERTISEMENTS.

THE LIST OF APPLICATIONS will be OPENED THIS DAY, the 21st February, and CLOSED on or before THURSDAY, the 24th February, 1887.

THE GRANT ENVELOPE MACHINE COMPANY, LIMITED.

Incorporated under the Companies Acts, 1862-1883, by which the liability of the shareholder is limited.

Capital—£75,000, in 75,000 shares of £1 each, payable to be made as follows:—5s. on application; 5s. on allotment; 10s. 25th March, 1887.

DIRECTORS.

Walter Jameson Waterlow, Esq., of Messrs. Waterlow Brothers and Layton, Limited.
Joseph Richmond, Esq., Messrs. Joseph Richmond and Co., Engineers and Envelope Machine Manufacturers.
James Norris Pimm, Esq., Envelope Manufacturer, Garlick-hill, E.C.

Sir W. Guyer Hunter, K.C.M.G., M.P., Director of H.H. The Nizam's State Railways Company.
* Sidney Austin Grant, Esq., 40, Kirby-street, Hatton-garden, W.C.

* Will join Board after allotment.

BANKERS.

The London Joint Stock Bank, Limited, Princes-street, E.C.
Messrs. Ashurst, Morris, Crisp, and Co., 6, Old Jewry, E.C.

AUDITORS.

Messrs. Deloitte, Dever, Griffiths, and Co., 4, Lothbury, E.C.
Messrs. Laing and Cruickshank, 3, Drapers'-garden, E.C.

PROSPECTUS.

This Company has been formed to acquire and develop for Great Britain, France, Belgium, Austria-Hungary, Germany, &c., all the patent rights of the "Grant Envelope Machine," an important and remarkable mechanical invention, and one which will certainly revolutionize the envelope trade.

Hitherto all envelope machines have been made on the slow reciprocating or alternating principle, which was considered to be the only one adapted to the requirements of envelope manufacture, but which, however, is not only the cause of great waste in the material, but the machines themselves have comparatively short lives.

In the Grant machines these objections are effectually removed by the substitution of the rotary for the reciprocating principle. It is a well-known fact that no system of machinery, either for printing or for manufacturing paper, has ever been able to compete with the rotary; but up to the present time it has never been applied to envelope-making, so that its application by the inventor is an entirely new departure from any machinery hitherto constructed. The result is that a simple machine has been produced which works without any waste of material, produces an important saving in the cost of envelopes, and is of almost unlimited durability.

The rotary action also enables one of the machines to turn out as many envelopes per hour as three machines of the old form. It operates automatically, requires no skilled labour, and only one-fourth horsepower per machine.

In addition to these advantages the machine, by an ingenious combination of the mechanical arrangements, points and embosses at the same time, so that the blanks put in at one end are turned out at the other as complete envelopes, embossed, and printed as required. Notwithstanding the superior capacity and durability of these machines, they can be manufactured at a cost which will leave a large profit to the Company on the terms made with those who have already ordered them. The invention has received the approval of the leading envelope manufacturers and envelope machine experts, who are naturally the best judges of the value and importance of such a machine, and by whom it is conceded to be the most perfect mechanical device, and the most rapid, economical, and durable machine yet made.

It is estimated that about 25,000,000 of envelopes are made in Great Britain daily, with increasing demand; and it is believed that, in France, Belgium, Austria-Hungary, and Germany the output is fully 75,000,000. The daily capacity of one Grant envelope machine of ten hours, at nominal speed, is 100,000.

The number of envelope manufacturers in the United Kingdom alone, is estimated by Messrs. Richmond and Co., the engineers, to be 250, besides the large number of stationers and others who make envelopes, and the number of envelope-making machines, of various kinds, at present in use, probably exceeds 2,000; while a considerable proportion of the 26 to 30 millions of envelopes, estimated to be manufactured in this country alone, are made by hand. It can therefore be reasonably expected that the advantages offered by the Grant envelope machine will be availed of, not only in substitution for the machines now in use, but by others who have depended on the slower process by hand-making, and who will find it impossible to compete with the rapidity and cheapness secured by the Grant Machine.

The Directors propose to sell the machines at remunerative profits, with an annual royalty, and it is believed that the sales in this and other countries, and also (if thought advisable) the sale of the patent rights for foreign countries to separate companies, will be sufficient to enable this Company, within a comparatively short period, to pay dividends of from 15 to 20 per cent. to the shareholders, and to provide bonuses equal to the whole amount paid to the vendors.

A number of orders have already been secured from our most prominent envelope manufacturers, among whom are the following:—

Messrs. Waterlow and Sons, Limited, London-wall.

Messrs. Thos. De La Rue and Co., Bunhill-row, E.C.

Messrs. James Spicer and Sons, 50, Upper Thames-street.

Messrs. Millington and Sons, Budge-row.

Messrs. McCorquodale and Co., Limited, Change-alley.

Messrs. John Dickinson and Co., Limited, 65, Old Bailey.

Messrs. C. Goodall and Sons, Camden Works.

Messrs. Cowan and Co., Craigside Envelope Works, Edinburgh.

The Company does not propose to have any manufactory of its own for making the machines, as they will be made on reasonable terms by the present manufacturers of that class of machinery.

The machine can be seen in

CROSSE & BLACKWELL'S CALVES'-FEET JELLIES,

Of superior quality, in bottles ready for immediate use,

ORANGE, LEMON, PORT, CHAMPAGNE AND VANILLA FLAVOURS,
ARE SOLD BY ALL GROCERS, &c.

Notice that the names of CROSSE & BLACKWELL are on the labels.

The LIST will CLOSE for LONDON on the 24th inst., and for the Country on the following day.

NEVADA PROVIDENCE GOLD MINES, LIMITED.

Telegram just received from Grass Valley, California—"Results last fortnight twelve thousand dollars—Providence. (Signed) LAVIGNE DUPLAY."

Title Patents from the United States Government—equal to Freehold. Situation: Nevada County, California.

Net yearly profit, with only a 40-Stamp Mill, over £37,000.
Estimated immediate yearly profit, with the addition of a 50-Stamp Mill, £75,000.
Being over 26 per cent. on the Capital of the Company.

NEVADA PROVIDENCE GOLD MINES, LIMITED.

CAPITAL £280,000, in 280,000 shares of £1 each, of which 90,000 are taken by the Vendors in part payment of the purchase, and the balance is now offered for subscription; payable as follows:—2s. 6d. on application, 7s. 6d. on allotment, 5s. one month after allotment, and the balance as required, with two months' notice of each call.

DIRECTORS.

G. P. Simpson, Esq., M.E., Director of the East Arrevalo Mexican Mining Company, Limited, 5, Belsize Park Gardens, N.W.
D. R. Ratcliff, Esq., J.P., Chairman of Milner's Safe Company, Limited, 28, Finsbury-pavement, E.C.
W. Leigh Bernard, Esq., Barrister-at-Law, Director of the United States Gold Placers, Limited, 1, New-court, Lincoln's-inn, W.C.
A. Le Neve Foster, Esq., M.S.T.E., 65, Cadogan-square, S.W.
W. A. Ross, Esq. (late Colonial Secretary, Gold Coast), Brixton, Surrey.
Alex. R. Robertson, Esq., Director of Lady Franklin Mining Company, Dashwood House, New Broad-street, London, E.C.

BANKERS.

The London and Westminster Bank Limited, 41, Lothbury, E.C.

BROKERS.

Messrs. Brunton, Bourke and Co., 13, Finch-lane, E.C.

AUDITORS.

Messrs. Good, Daniels and Co., 57, Moorgate-street, E.C. (Chartered Accountants).

SOLICITORS.

Messrs. Rogers and Chave, 3 and 4, Great Winchester-street, E.C.

SECRETARY.

—Percy B. Schreiber, Esq.

CONSULTING ENGINEER.

Henry Dale, Esq., M.E., 40, Linden-gardens, Bayswater, W.

OFFICES.—60, Queen Victoria-street, E.C.

NEVADA PROVIDENCE GOLD MINES, LIMITED.

ABRIDGED PROSPECTUS.
This Company is formed for the purpose of purchasing and further developing the extensive and very productive Gold Mining Properties, situated on Deer Creek, about a mile and a quarter west of Nevada City, Nevada County, California.

These Mines comprise seven claims called the "Providence," covering 102 acres, and the "Williams," covering over 56 acres, making together about 158 acres, and have been worked by the present owners, with Captain Joseph Thomas as Manager of the works, since 1870.

There is a 40-stamp mill worked by reservoirs, and also steam machinery ready for immediate use should the water supply fail.

Three shafts have been sunk to the depth of 200, 800, and 1,100 feet respectively, and galleries to the extent of 13,000 feet have been opened, provided with ventilators, rails, &c., running to the shafts.

The mines are in full operation.
Reports have been made by Messrs. Lavigne and Duplay, M.E., Mr. R. H. Stretch, M.E., Mr. Melville Attwood, M.E. (who was specially recommended for the purpose by Mr. F. W. Rudier, Curator to the Museum of Practical Geology in London), and Messrs. John White and Con Reilly. Extracts from these reports accompany this Prospectus.

The profits taken from the books of the Mines, as shown in the reports of Mr. Stretch and Messrs. Lavigne and Duplay, are as follows:—
86,784 tons were extracted from 1882 to 1885, producing bullion 1,002,549 dols., which, after paying all working expenses, yield a net profit of 521,695 dols., being £108,686 sterling. This gives an annual net profit of £27,171.

From the 1st January to the 31st October, 1886, Mr. Lavigne's report shows the net profits to be £31,270, and, taking the average of the September and October months, the actual net profits are at the rate of over £37,000 for the year.

The present product is small in comparison with the results attainable upon the erection of an additional 50-stamp mill, which the Directors intend at once to put up, to work the ore in sight which on the "Providence Mine" Messrs. Lavigne and

Duplay and Mr. Melville Attwood report to be as follows:—

Ore in sight in the galleries, after deducting 6 dols. per ton for working expenses and 25 per cent. for loss of gold in the amalgamation process... \$3,216,500
Ore in sight in other parts of the Mine after making the same deduction as above... \$1,245,000
Mr. Melville Attwood, in his Report of May, 1886, values the reserves placed in sight since the above calculations of Messrs. Lavigne and Duplay were made, after making deductions as above, at 300,000

Giving the total net value of ore in sight at \$4,761,500 being about £1,000,000 sterling.
This is independent of the Williams Mine of 56 acres.

Upon the basis of profits already obtained, averaging £27,171 a year up to 1885, and the additional 50 Stamp Mill, bringing the total quantity of ore crushed to 200 tons a day, or 60,000 tons a year, the net annual profit would be £75,141, being over 26 per cent. on the capital of the Company.

The Directors, in justification of their recommending this property to investors, refer to the following Extract from Mr. Melville Attwood's Report of May last.

"I consider the 'Providence Mine' quite in its infancy. It would hardly be possible to find a property better situated for cheap and effective working. The climate is exceptionally good, water-power for the propulsion of machinery is cheap and ample, the outlet for tailings is all-sufficient, the locality is of easy access, being within a mile or two of railroad terminus. The recent discovery in the Ural Lode has, in my estimation, doubled the value of the Company's property. . . . The ore milling in six months gave an average return of \$13.41 per ton, being double the yield of Sierra Buttes Ore, and one-third more than the yield of 'St. John del Rey Mine,' Brazil."

The purchase price of the property is £240,000, payable £150,000 cash and £90,000 in fully paid shares.

Application will be made for an official Stock Exchange settlement and quotation.

The Company has provided out of its reserve working capital of 40,000 shares for the erection of a 40-stamp mill, which, according to the Engineer's estimate, should crush 100 tons per diem of ore, worth £10 per ton, equal to £1,000 per day.

"ALLISON RANCH" GOLD MINE (LIMITED).

By common repute the richest gold mine ever opened in the United States of America. (See Reports.)

Incorporated under the Companies Acts, 1862 to 1883. Capital £250,000, in 250,000 shares of £1 each, of which 157,000 shares are now offered for public subscription, payable as follows:—2s. on application, 6s. on allotment, 6s. in one month, and 6s. in two months.

DIRECTORS.
The Right Hon. the Earl of Gosford, K.P.
Colonel the Hon. E. B. Acheson, Guards' Club, S.W.
The Hon. Arthur Walsh, M.P., 35, Walton-street, Pont-street, S.W.
George Middleton Kiell, Esq., Dorking.
J. W. Hughes, Esq. (Messrs. Hughes, Chemery, and Co., London, Paris, and Hamburg).

BANKERS.
Messrs. Ransom, Bouvier, and Co., 1, Pall-mall East; Messrs. Roberts, Lubbock, and Co., 15, Lombard-street, E.C.

BROKERS.
Messrs. Cecil Drew and Walmisley, 27, Throgmorton-street, and Stock Exchange.

SOLICITORS.
Messrs. Powell and Burt, 29, St. Swinith's Lane, E.C.

Secretary (pro tem.)—Mr. George H. Newman.
Offices.—23, St. Swinith's-lane, E.C.

PROSPECTUS.

This Company is formed for the purpose of purchasing and working the famous "Allison Ranch" Gold Mine, situated in Grass Valley, California, and other mines adjacent.

In addition to the "Allison Ranch," the Company proposes to acquire the following adjacent properties:—

The Malone Mine, held under U.S. Patent, and comprising about 20 Acres	Held under the Mining Laws of the U.S., and comprising about 60 Acres
The Syndicate Mine	
The Golden Chain Mine	
The New Idea Mine	
The Golden Chain (No. 2) Mine	comprising about 200 Acres
The Great Eastern Mine	
The Labor Property (the mining rights only over this property), held under U.S. patent, and comprising about 250 Acres	

—making a total, with the "Allison Ranch" Gold Mine, of about 324 acres.

These additional properties are developed only to a slight extent, but sufficiently to prove them auriferous beyond question. Situated as they are in the richest mining district in America, and in the immediate neighbourhood of mines which have been developed to a depth of nearly 2,000 feet, and have

paid monthly dividends for years, there is no reason why they should not prove as rich as the "Allison Ranch" Mine.

The "Allison Ranch" Mine is probably the most celebrated gold mine in the United States of America, and has been the subject of numerous official reports and references in standard works on mining, all of an exceedingly favourable character.

It covers an area of over 44 acres, being about 1,619 feet long upon the lode line by 1,338 feet in width of surface ground, and is held under United States patent.

The vertical depth of the workings is only about 400 feet, and the levels average each way about 300 feet; the surrounding mines have been proved to hold gold to almost 2,000 feet deep, and are still yielding as well as ever. This moderate extent of development has produced, as nearly as may be, 4,000,000 dols., with a small and inefficient 12-stamp mill.

About £50,000 was taken from 2,300 tons.

Another run showed £40,000 per week for several weeks.

The present Company propose to erect a 40-stamp mill.

It will be seen from the different reports that the ore can be safely taken as averaging 2½ ounces (£10) per ton.

A 40-stamp mill can crush of this ore 2½ tons per stamp, or a total daily output of 100 tons, of the money value of £1,000 gross, or £900 net, making the annual income for dividends equal to £270,000. These figures are based upon the combined statements made by the following well-known mining engineers:—

Mr. James Bennallack, who has been employed in mining in Grass Valley for over 20 years.

Professor Silliman, a well-known authority on mining matters.

Professor Raymond, Commissioner of Mining Statistics, U.S.A.

Mr. Ross Browne, who refers to this mine in a report to the U.S. Treasury.

Mr. L. Chalmers, who has been engaged for the last 19 years in mining in California.

Mr. Wm. A. Skidmore, formerly special agent to the U.S. Mining Commission, and Secretary of the Hydraulic Mines Association.

Mr. J. A. Phillips, author of "The Mining and Metallurgy of Gold and Silver" and other works.

To properly appreciate this extraordinary mine it is necessary to read the reports, which are too voluminous to publish in a prospectus, but the following brief extracts from them will give an idea of their nature, and the complete reports will be furnished to any intending investor on application. Upon these reports all the statements contained in this prospectus are founded.

"The 'Allison Ranch' Gold Mine is one of the most productive in California. It has been worked with almost uniform profit for 10 years. The rock yields from 30 dols. to 150 dols. per ton."—Ross Browne.

"The mine contains the richest ore ever found in the Grass Valley Basin, by specimen or on average."—James Bennallack.

"The 'Allison Ranch' Gold Mine has obtained probably a more widespread fame than any other gold mine in California."—Professor Silliman.

"A good and permanent mine, and I know of no better venture in the State."—Professor Price.

—Vide Reports.

"My impression, derived from a long residence in Grass Valley, is that the 'Allison Ranch' Mine is the best mining venture in California."—Wm. A. Skidmore.

"It is a virgin mine, and from the small amount of work done on the upper levels, millions (dollars) were extracted, and by crude mining appliances."—James Bennallack.

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